FILE COPY

NORTH BY NORTHWEST

100

SHOOTING SCRIPT

Producer: Alfred Hitchcock

From the following writer:

Ernest Lahman

8-12-58

NORTH BY NORTHWEST

FADE IN: (BEFORE TITLE) EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DAY

A visually beautiful HIGH ANGLE SHOT of midtown Manhattan towards the end of an early October afternoon.

NARRATION

Would it not be strange, in a city of seven million people, if one man were <u>never</u> mistaken for another... if, with seven million pair of feet wandering through the canyons and corridors of the city, one pair of feet <u>never</u> by chance strayed into the wrong footsteps? (a pause) Strange, indeed.

MAIN TITLE AND MUSIC COME UP OVER SHOT.

CUT TO:

A SERIES OF STREET SCENES

Over them, THE CREDITS. These scenes should capture the tempo of Madison Avenue and Fifth Avenue in the Fifties. Streets swarming with smartly dressed people. Revolving doors of sleek new glass-andsteel office buildings spewing out streams of super-charged New Yorkers, hurrying for cabs and busses and subways and cocktail bars. Two bundleladen women fighting over a cab. A packed bus closing its doors in the face of an irate would-be passenger. A newsboy in front of the Independent Subway entrance. "Trouble in the Middle East! Evening papers! Get your trouble in the Middle East!"

INT. LOBBY OF OFFICE BUILDING - MADISON AVENUE

Four elevators in action. A starter keeping things humming. Doors close on an elevator. It starts up. Another elevator arrives at street

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1.

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level. THE LAST CREDIT FADES. The elevator doors open. Crowds pour out, and we HEAR a VOICE at the rear of the car even before the man is revealed to us by the off-going passengers. He is ROGER THORNHILL, tall, lean, faultlessly dressed (and far too criginal to be wearing the gray-flannel uniform of his kind). He has been dictating to his secretary, MAGGIE, an aging, unbeautiful woman who has accompanied him down in the elevator with pad and pencil in hand. She will have to scurry to keep up with his impatient stride when they leave the elevator and cross the lobby to the entrance.

> THORNHILL (dictating) ...Even if you accept the belief that a high Trendex automatically means a rising sales curve, which incidentally I do not accept... (to elevator starter) 'Night, Eddie.

STARTER Mr. Thornhill.

THORNHILL Say hello to the missus.

STARTER (sourly) We're not talking.

THORNHILL (to Maggie, continuing dictation as they cross lobby) My recommendation is still the same. Dash. Spread the good word in as many small time segments as we can grab ... (as he pauses at the newsstand, buys a paper) ... And let the opposition have their high ratings, while we cry about it all the way to the bank. (moving on) Why don't we colonize at the Colony one day next week for lunch? Let me hear from you, Sam. Happy thoughts. Etcetera... (they are at the entrance now) Better walk me to the Plaza.

11 CONT'D (2) MAGGIE (a weary moan) Walk?

THORNHILL Use your blood sugar. Come on.

He eases her through the door, follows her to the sidewalk.

EXT. STREET - TRUCKING SHOT

They start to walk west, Thornhill glancing at the newspaper as he goes.

THORNHILL

Next?

MAGGIE (consulting her pad) Gretchen Sabinson.

THORNHILL (grimaces) Send her a box of candy from Blum's. Ten dollars. The kind... you know... each piece wrapped in gold paper? She'll like that. She'll think she's eating money. Say: 'Darling, I count the days, the hours, the minutes--'

MAGGIE (interrupting) You sent that one last time.

THORNHILL Did I? Then just say: 'Something for your sweet tooth, honey... and all your other sweet parts.' (Maggie gives him a look and he winces) I know, I know.

MAGGIE Could we take a cab, Mr. Thornhill?

THORNHILL A couple of blocks?

MAGGIE You're late and I'm tired. •••

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11

(3)

CONT'D

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North By Northwest Chgs. 8-12-58 P.4 THORNHILL 12 I keep telling you, Maggie, CONTID you don't eat properly. (2)(steps off the curb, tries to flag a cab) Taxil... Taxil He is getting nowhere. Just then, a taxi pulls up before a man who has also been seeking one. Quickly Thornhill darts over and opens the door. THORNHILL (to the man) I have a sick woman here. Would you mind terribly? MAN (a little bewildered) Why no... I mean--THORNHILL (quickly) Thank you very much. He quickly bundles Maggie into the cab, follows her in and slams the door shut. MAN (still befuddled) Perfectly all right The cab pulls away. 37 INT. CAB - (PROCESS) 13 THORNHILL (to driver) First stop, the Plaza. Don't throw the flag. MAGGIE (looking back) Poor man. THORNHILL Poor man nothing. I made him a Good Samaritan. MAGGIE He knew you were lying.

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THORNHILL (opening up the newspaper again) In the world of advertising there is no such thing as a lie, Maggie. There is only The Expedient Exaggeration. Do I look a little heavyish to you? 13 CONT'D (2)

MAGG IE

What?

THORNHILL I <u>feel</u> heavyish. Put a note on my desk in the morning. "Think thin."

MAGGIE (writing) Think thin.

THORNHILL (to the driver) Make it the Fifty-ninth Street entrance, driver.

DRIVER

Okay.

THORNHILL (to Maggie, as he continues to peruse the newspaper) Soon as you get back to the office, call my mother, tell her about the theatre tickets for tonight. Dinner at Twenty One, seven o'clock. I'll have had two Martinis at the Oak Bar, so she needn't bother to sniff me.

MAGGIE She doesn't do <u>that</u>.

THORNHILL Like a bloodhound.

As the cab pulls up before the 59th St. entrance to the Plaza:

MAGGIE (reading from notes) Bigelow at ten-thirty is your first for tomorrow. You're due at the Skin Glow rehearsal at noon. Then lunch with Falcon and his wife -- North By Northwest Chgs. 9-22-58 P.6 THORNHILL (Luanding her money) Oh, yes. Where was thirt? MAGGIE Larry and Arnold's. Cme o'clock.

Thornhill has dropped his newspaper on the seat and is on his way out of the cal-

> MAGGIE Will you check in latar?

EXT. PLAZA HOTEL

14

15

THORNHILL (==>w out of the cab) Absolutely not. (to driver) Take this lady back where she belongs.

DRIVER

Right.

THORNHILL (to Maggie) Don't forget to call = mother right away.

MAGGIE I won't. Goodnight, Mr. Thornhill.

Thornhill slams the door and the cab starts away. Suddenly he remembers something, snaps his fingers, points after the cab.

> THORNHILL Wait a minute! You <u>can't</u> call her! She's at Mrs. --

He stops. The cab is already on its way. He stands there for a moment looking after it. Then he goes up the steps into the hotel.

INT. LOBBY PLAZA HOTEL

Thornhill glances at his wristwatch as he crosses the lobby to the Oak Bar.

INT. OAK BAR

Thornhill pauses in the entrance, looking about impatiently. The captain comes up to him.

CAPTAIN Evening, Mr. Thornhill.

THORNHILL Hello, Victor. I'm looking for Herman Weltner and two gentlemen --

CAPTAIN (pointing) Yes. Right over there.

THORNHILL

Oh yes.

Thornhill walks to a far corner of the room to the table where WELTNER, an Ivy-League costumed executive, is seated with a MR. NELSON and a MR. WADE, both of whom look like out-of-town sponsors, which they are.

> WELTNER (rising to his feet) Roger.

THORNHILL (shaking

his hand) Herman. Sorry I'm so late,

WELTNER (making introductions) This is Roger Thornhill. Fanning Nelson --

Nelson cups a hand to his ear.

THORNHILL (shaking his other hand) Delighted.

WELTNER And Larry Wade.

THORNHILL (shaking hands) How do you do, Mr. Wade?

WADE (indicating his drink) We've gotten a little head start here, Mr. Thornhill. 16

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THORNHILL Won't last for long.

16 CONT'D (2)

P.8

He sits down, looking about nervously.

WELTNER I was just telling Larry and Fanning here that you may be slow in starting but there's nobody faster down the homestretch. (noting Thornhill's nervousness) What's the matter, Roger? You've got the fidgets.

During the following, a bellboy will enter the room and move among the tables calling out: "Paging Mr. George Kaplan!" Standing in the entrance watching the bellboy's progress (and observed by us if we happen to be looking off into b.g.) are two rather unobtrusive-looking men:

THORNHILL

Something very silly. I told my secretary to call my mother, and I just remembered, she's not going to be able to reach her in time.

WELTNER

Why not?

THORNHILL Because she's playing bridge at the apartment of one of her cronies...

WELTNER . Your secretary?

THORNHILL

No. My mother. And it's one of those brand new apartments all wet paint and no telephone yet.

NELSON (cupping his ear) What was that?

Thornhill looks at him with astonishment.

BELLBOY (approaching) Paging Mr. George Kaplan!

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THORNHILL (musing) I think maybe if I send her a telegram	16 CONT'D (3)
BELLBOY (closer) Mr. George Kaplan!	
THORNHILL (signaling the boy) Boy - would you come here please?	
CUT TO:	
CLOSE ANGLE - THE TWO MEN STANDING IN ENTRANCE TO ROOM	17
They react with sudden interest, glance at each other, then look off again and see:	÷
POINT OF VIEW - FROM ENTRANCE	18
The bellboy moving up to Thornhill, whose table is well out of earshot of the entrance.	21
ж.	
CLOSE ANGLE - THE TABLE	19
Thornhill takes a pen and a long envelope from his inside pocket as he addresses the bellboy:	
THORNHILL Look, I've got to get a wire off immediately. Can you send it for me if I write it out for you?	
BELLBOY I'm not permitted to do that, sir, but if you'll follow me	
THORNHILL (to the others at the table) Will you excuse me for a moment?	
WADE Go right ahead.	
NELSON (cupping his ear) What was that?	

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North By Northwest **Chgs.** 8-12-58 P.10 Thornhill gives him a quick look. 19 CONT'D THORNHILL (to Weltner, (2) as he gets up) Herman, if you can scare up a double Martini WELTNER Sure thing. Thornhill walks off with the bellboy. NELSON (turning to Wade) Where's he going? WADE There's no telephone where his mother is playing bridge. NELSON (stares at him a moment) Why not? Now Wade gives him a look. 20 OUT OUTSIDE THE OAK BAR 21 Thornhill and the bellboy emerge from the room. BELLBOY (pointing) Right there, sir. THORNHILL (giving him a tip) Thanks. BELLBOY Thank you, sir. Thornhill starts toward the Western Union office, as the bellboy goes off in another direction. Suddenly the two "unobtrusive" men walk swiftly INTO the SHOT directly behind Thornhill. One of them, who we now see has a scar on the corner of his right eye, taps him on the shoulder. He pauses and turns. THORNHILL

Yes?

(2)

CONT'D

FIRST MAN (with a faint foreign accent) The car is waiting outside. You will walk between us saying nothing.

THORNHILL What are you talking about?

SECOND MAN (taking Thornhill's arm) Let's go.

THORNEILL Go where? Who are you?

FIRST MAN Mere errand boys, carrying concealed weapons. His is pointed at your heart, so please, no errors of judgement, I beg of you.

THORNHILL (pulling free) What is this - a joke or something?

SECOND MAN Yes. A joke. (he removes his hand from his pocket, shoves a gun into Thornhill's ribs) We will laugh in the car.

Thornhill stares at the man for a moment.

THORNHILL This is ridiculous.

The man nods toward the side entrance and Thornhill starts away, flanked on either side.

EXT. STREET

Thornhill emerges from the hotel to the sidewalk. The men take his arms and ease him inconspicuously past unnoticing passersby to a linguisine parked at the curb. They open the rear door, push Thornhill into the back seat and follow him in. A third man sitting behind the wheel immediately starts the car and pulls away.

INT. CAR - PROCESS

As the car moves east, Thornhill glances at the stony-faced men on either side of him. He is anxious, but does not want to show it.

> THORNHILL Don't tell me where we're going. Surprise me.

The men stare straight ahead, saying nothing.

THORNHILL Y'know, I left some people waiting for me back there in the Oak Bar, and they're going to think I'm awfully rude, going off like this. (he waits - no response) I mean, if you could let me off at a drugstore for a moment, I could call them and explain that I'm... (he glances at the men inquiringly) ...being...kidnapped? (no response) That is what's happening, isn't 1t?

No answer. His glance goes to the door handle. The car has stopped for a red light. Suddenly he lunges for the door and struggles to open it, as the two men watch him calmly. Apparently the door has special locks. It will not budge. Thornhill takes his seat again and point sheepishly to the door.

THORNHILL

Locked.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GLEN COVE ESTATE - DUSK

24

2471

The car approaches the entrance to a magnificent estate. On the open gate, a nameplate: TOWNSEND. The car turns into the driveway.

INT. CAR

Thornhill, flanked by the two men, is looking over his shoulder at the receding gates. He turns forward, looks at one of the men.

North By Northwest **Chgs.** 9-22-58 P.13 THORNHILL 24X1 Who's Townsend? CONT'D (2) No answer. He glances at the other man questioningly. More stony silence. THORNHILL Oh, really? Interesting. Then he looks out ahead. 24X2 MOVING POINT OF VIEW A curving, tree-lined driveway. Through the trees, a red-brick mansion. 25 OUT INT. CAR 26 Thornhill is still looking out. EXT. MAIN HOUSE 27 An impressive though considerably faded mansion of the early Twenties. The car swings around the circular driveway, pulls up before the entrance. Thornhill and the two men get out. One of the men (he of the scarred eye - his name is VALERIAN) accompanies Thornhill up the steps to the front door. The other man (LICHT) follows them and waits until the door opens before he moves away and follows a path to the rear of the house. After a moment, a stocky, gray-haired woman wearing the uniform of a HOUSEKEEPER opens the front door. Valerian walks Thornhill right in past her. 28 INT. HOUSE

Beyond the oval foyer, a curving marble staircase leads to a balcony, off which are many rooms. Above the balcony, a stained glass window. Everywhere, a kind of seedy grandeur.

> VALERIAN (to housekeeper) Where is he?

HOUSEKEEPER Upstairs, dressing. VALERIAN Tell him I'm here.

HOUSEKEEPER The dinner guests are expected.

VALERIAN (impatiently) Never mind. Say to him "Kaplan."

At this, the woman glances at Thornhill.

THORNHILL By the way - what are we having for dessert?

VALERIAN (to housekeeper) Is anyone in the library?

HOUSEKEE PER

No.

VALERIAN (to Thornhill, brusquely) This way.

He walks Thornhill to the library door, as the housekeeper goes upstairs.

INT. LIBRARY

Books, from floor to ceiling. And windows overlooking the rear lawn. In the distance, Long Island Sound. Valerian opens the door, gestures to Thornhill, who enters.

> VALERIAN (his hand on the key) You will wait here.

THORNHILL (indicating the shelves of books) Don't hurry. I'll catch up on my reading.

Valerian closes the door behind him. Immediately, Thornhill goes to the door to open it. Just as his hand reaches the knob, he HEARS the DOOR being LOCKED from the outside. He tries it anyway, then turns, glances around, walks to the desk, sees several magazines there: FIELD AND STREAM... NEWSWEEK...FORTUNE...ETC. In an INSERT, he and we see that the addressee on all of them is: "MR. LESTER TOWNSEND, Eavwood, Glen Cove, N.Y." Thornhill steps to a window, peers out.

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28 CONT'D (2)

BACK LAWN - THORNHILL'S POINT OF VIEW

A man is playing croquet all by himself in the fading light. His name is LEONARD. Later, we will see him at closer range and perhaps be slightly repelled. He is about thirty, but looks much younger, for he has a soft babyface, large eyes and hair that falls down over his forehead. His attitudes are unmistakably effeminate. Hurrying towards him is LICHT, the other abductor. In a brief pantomime, Licht apparently gives Leonard tidings, and they quickly go off together towards the house.

INT. LIBRARY

31

Seeing the back lawn now deserted, Thornhill tries to open the window to escape. It is locked. He unfastens the catch, raises the window, is about to climb out when he draws back and turns at the SOUND of the DOOR OPENING behind him. In walks a distinguished looking MAN of about forty, professorial in manner but definitely sexually attractive (to women), and only slightly sinister.

> MAN (affably) Good evening...

He holds out his hand. Thornhill takes it uncertainly.

THORNHILL Not a moment too soon.

MAN (scrutinizing him) Well - so...

THORNHILL Thank you. That explains everything.

MAN (still peering at him) ...Not what I expected - a little taller, a little more polished than the others...

THORNHILL (with bite) I'm so glad you're pleased, Mr. Townsend.

MAN (reacts, then smiles) ...But I'm afraid just as obvious.

THORNHILL Forgive me for being obvious, but what the devil is this all about? Why was I brought here?

MAN (wearily) Games?...Must we?

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> 31 CONT'D

(2)

THORNHILL

Not that I mind a slight case of abduction now and then, but I do have tickets to the theatre tonight and it was a show I was looking forward to and I get, well, kind of unreasonable about things like that.

MAN With such expert play-acting, you make this very room a theatre. (the man of the croquet wickets enters) Ah - Leonard. Have you met our distinguished guest?

LEONARD (staring at Thornhill) He's a well-tailored one, isn't he?

Thornhill gives him a look of distaste.

MAN

My secretary is a great admirer of your methods, Mr. Kaplan. Elusiveness, however misguided--

THORNHILL (interrupting) Wait a minute. Did you call me "Kaplan"?

MAN

Oh, I know you're a man of many names, but I'm perfectly willing to accept your current choice.

THORNHILL

Current choice? My name is Thornhill - Roger Thornhill - and it's never been anything else.

MAN

Of course...

Leonard starts to chuckle.

THORNHILL (smiling) Obviously your friends picked up the wrong package when they bundled me out here in the car.

MAN (tired of all this) Sit down, Mr. Kaplan, won't you?

THORNHILL (the smile fades) I told you: I'm not Kaplan, whoever he is. I'm Roger Thornhill of the Wadley and Rapp Agency, and unless you gentlemen happen to be

(continued)

(3)

CONTID

THORNAILL (cont'd) interested in advertising something, this meeting is going to turn out to be an enormous bust for all concerned.

There is a KNOCK on the door. It opens and a handsome WOMAN in her forties peers in.

WOMAN

Excuse me ---

MAN (politely)

Yea?

WOMAN The guests are here.

MAN

Look after them. I'll be with you in a few minutes.

THORNHILL (turning on her with sarcasm) Don't bother to set a place for me, Mrs. Townsend. I won't be staying for dinner.

She gives a flustered glance in the direction of the men, then hurriedly withdraws, and closes the door.

MAN (to Thornhill) Now - shall we get down to business?

THORNHIL I'm all for that.

MAN

Quite simply, I'd like you to tell me how much you know of our arrangements and - of course - how you've come by this information. Naturally, I don't expect to get this for nothing.

THORNHILL (with a sarcastic bow of the head) Of course not.

MAN

Don't misunderstand me. I don't really expect you to fall in with my suggestion, but the least I can do is afford you the opportunity of surviving the evening--

THORNHILL (frowns) Surviving the evening...?

(4)

CONTD

MAN

Now why don't you surprise me, Mr. Kaplan, and say "yes"?

THORNHILL I already told you--

LEONARD (interrupting) We know where you're headed for ...

THORNHILL (turning on him) I'm headed for the Winter Garden Theatre in New York, and I think I better get going.

He goes to the door, flings it open, sees Valerian standing there blocking the entrance. He turns.

> THORNHILL Townsend - you're making a serious mistake...

Leonard eases over and closes the door again as the MAN, walking to the desk, says:

> MAN This is not going to lead to a very happy conclusion, Mr. Kaplan --

THORNHILL

I'm not Kaplani

MAN

I do wish you would reconsider.

LEONARD

We also know your contact in Pittsburgh since Jason committed suicide.

THORNHILL (angrily) What contact? I've never even been in Pittsburgh.

The other man is at the desk, looking down at a piece of paper as he speaks quickly:

MAN

On June sixteenth, you checked into the Sherwyn Hotel in Pittsburgh as Mr. George Kaplan of Berkeley, California. A week later you registered at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia as Mr. George Kaplan of Pittsburgh. On August eleventh you stayed at the Statler in Boston. On August twenty-ninth George Kaplan of Boston registered at the Whittier in Detroit. At present, you are registered in room seven ninetysix at the Plaza Hotel in New York as Mr. George Kaplan of Detroit --

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CONTID (5)

THORNHILL (tersely) What else?

MAN

--In two days, you are due at the Ambassador East in Chicago --

THORNHILL

Oh?

MAN -- And then at the Sheraton-Johnson Hotel in Rapid City, South Dakota.

THORNHILL (shaking his head) Not me.

MAN

-- So you see, there is little sense in maintaining this fiction that you are deceiving us, any more than we are deceiving you, Mr. Kaplan.

Thornhill stares at him for a long moment, helplessly frustrated.

THORNHILL

I don't suppose it would do any good to show you a wallet full of identification cards, a driver's license, things like that?

LEONARD (shakes his head) They provide you with such good ones.

MAN (quietly) It's getting late. Do you intend to cooperate with us? I'd like a simple yes or no.

THORNHILL (completely exasperated) All right. A simple no. For the simple reason that I simply don't know what you're talking about.

MAN (turns to his secretary) Give Mr. Kaplan a drink, Leonard. (he turns to Thornhill) A pleasant journey, sir.

The man goes to the door, opens it, holds it open for a fraction. Valerian and Licht enter. The man leaves, closing the door behind him. Leonard opens a cabinet. Liquor bottles are seen. He turns to Thornhill.

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CONT'D

LEONARD

Scotch? Rye? Bourbon? Vodka?

THORNHILL Nothing. I'll just take a quick ride back to town.

LEONARD That has been arranged....

Thornhill glances at the deadpan faces of Valerian and Licht with growing apprehension.

LEONARD But first, a libation.

Leonard reaches into the cabinet, takes out a large bottle of whiskey. He holds it up.

LEONARD

Bourbon.

He moves toward Thornhill with the bottle.

THORNHILL You have some. I've had enough stimulation for one day.

LEONARD (gently) It will be easier if you take this yourself. Otherwise, it will be necessary for us to insist.

Thornhill's eyes widen. He points at the bottle.

THORNHILL The whole quart?

LEONARD Not a quart, Mr. Kaplan. It's only a fifth.

Thornhill makes a sudden move, tries to go past him to the door, but Valerian and Licht grab him, pin his arms behind him. As they do so, CAMERA DOLLIES in to a FULL HEAD AND SHOULDERS SHOT of Thornhill, who stares off screen. We HEAR the POP of the CCRK being drawn from the bottle. Then Leonard's hand comes up INTO THE SHOT holding an empty tumbler.

LEONARD'S VOICE (0.5.)

Cheers.

Now the bottle comes into shot and begins to fill the tumbler with bourbon before Thornhill's staring face.

DISSOLVE TO:

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EXT. HILL ROAD - NIGHT

Two cars are making their way along a winding, precipitous road. The lead car is a light colored open Mercedes Benz. Behind it is the limousine which brought Thornhill from the Plaza Botel to Glen Cove. We HEAR THORNHILL'S VOICE coming from the lead car in drunken song: "Somewhere I'll find you...sneak up behind you..." The two cars come to a stop at the top of the hill. The driver of the limousine gets out quickly and we see that it is Licht. He crosses over swiftly to the Mercedes Benz,

CLOSE ANGLE - THE MERCEDES BENZ

The driver of the Mercedes Benz - Valerian - is just getting out as Licht arrives.' Sitting in the Mercedes Benz, mumbling and singing drunkenly, is Thornhill.

> THOR NHILL (with gestures) G'night Mr. Townsend...Mizz Townsend... 'night...parting such sweet sorrow... (sings) "I've grown accustomed to your... bourbon..."

During this, the two men have held a brief, sharp exchange in a foreign tongue. Valerian takes a quick step toward the edge and sees:

POINT OF VIEW

The winding, descending, precipitous road ahead.

CLOSE ANGLE - THE MERCEDES BENZ

Valerian turns back and with the help of Licht hurriedly pulls Thornhill into the driver's seat. Then, as Licht runs to the limousine, Valerian gets into the Mercedes Benz beside Thornhill, reaches across and starts the motor.

> THORNHILL (mumbles) Don't worry about me, fellahs. I'll take the bus from here.

35

3521

INT. NERCEDES BENZ

Valerian releases the handbrake, pushes Thornhill back, takes the wheel and applies his left foot to the accelerator. As the car starts to move, Valerian glances ahead tensely.

POINT OF VIEW

The car is approaching a precipice.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

Valerian opens the door at his side and gets ready to jump. Just then, Thornhill, opening a bleary eye, begins to sense what is happening. He turns, puts both hands on Valerian and gives him a violent shove, saying thickly:

THORNHILL

You take the bus too.

Valerian falls out of the car. Thornhill grabs the wheel and turns it sharply.

EXT. MERCEDES BENZ

The outside wheels travel along the edge of the precipice.

THORNHILL AT WHEEL

Looks ahead, only slightly aware of his danger. He gives the wheel another wrench.

CLOSEUP - MERCEDES BENZ.

38x5

38X2

·38X4

The rear outside wheel is over the edge, spins in mid-air for a moment. Then the inner wheel gets a grip on the crumbling edge, and the car shoots forward. 38

38XI

38X2

	North By No Chgs.		P.23
CLOSEUP - THORNHILL AT WHEEL			38x6
He turns, glances back, sees:			
<.			
POINT OF VIEW			39
Valerian in the act of getting i moving limousine.	nto the alre	ady	
•			
EXT. MERCEDES BENZ			39X1
It picks up speed and goes caree winding, precipitous road.	ning down th	e	
			40 OUT-
THE LIMOUSINE - VALERIAN AND LICHT			41
in hot and angry pursuit.			
ž.	*:		
THE CHASE SEQUENCE			42
The Mercedes Benz can take the s more ease than the limousine. A too far gone to know that he sho fast. Consequently, he gets to hill and down to a main thorough lead. Naturally, we film this r follows, from many different ang Thornhill's delirious double-vis He will be killed if he is caugh killed if he keeps driving this little choice really, and on the doing eighty, weaving wildly thr suicidally over double lanes and to oncoming truck drivers. But limousine behind.	lso, Thornhi uldn't drive the foot of fare still i ide, and tha les, includi ion point of t, and he wi way. There highway now ough traffic giving hear	ll is that the n the t which ng view. ll be is very t, he is t, swerving t failure	

A POLICE CAR - TWO OFFICERS IN FRONT SEAT

The car is travelling along at a normal speed. Suddenly Thornhill's car comes dashing by. The officers react immediately, start in pursuit. 43

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INT. LIMOUSINE

Valerian and Licht see the police car, which is almost directly in front of them, take off after Thornhill. Valerian signals to Licht to slow down. Licht does so, and starts to make a U-turn.

THE MERCEDES BENZ

Thornhill tries desperately to keep his eyes in focus, his foot on the floorboard and his hands on the wheel. HORNS BLARE warningly as he comes perilously close to several headon crashes. In his rear-view mirror, he sees the headlights of the police car following and does not realize that it is no longer the limousine. The headlights are coming closer. Suddenly, almost too late, he sees ahead of him an elderly gentleman on a bicycle emerge from a side road. He slams on the brakes and the car comes to a screaming, wobbling stop. The bicyclist, oblivious, continues across.

SIDE ANGLE

As Thornhill's car comes to a final, jerking halt, the police car, with screaming brakes, hits Thornhill's rear. There is a CRUNCHING SOUND as the bonnet of the police car crumples like tin. There is a MOMENTARY SILENCE and then the sudden SCREAM of more BRAKES, and a third car smashes into the back of the police car, giving it a crumpled rear as well. Thornhill drunkenly leans out and looks behind to see what all the fuss is about. The two police, after forcing a door open, emerge, glowering. At the same time, the third driver is seen getting out of his car, somewhat bewildered, and starting forward.

DISSOLVE TO:

47 00

INT. GLEN COVE POLICE STATION ~ (NIGHT)

48

A LT. HAGERMAN is behind the desk. To his right is a radiophone transmitter-receiver, over which we HEAR the faint communications of cruising police cars and their patrol stations. A COMMOTION 44

45

Chgs. 10-10-58 P.26 is HEARD outside, and then one of the police-car 48 officers, a gentleman known as SERGEANT KLINGER, CONT'D escorts a wobbly Thornhill into the building. (2)

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THORNHILL (thickly) Thanks for the lift, fellahs.

KLINGER Lieutenant - I want this man examined for driving while intoxicated.

LIEUTENANT (looking at the swaying Thornhill) Really?

THORNHILL (to the lieutenant) They tried to kill me...He won't listen... Big house...They tried to kill me.

KLINGER (during above) All right. Let's just go inside...

THORNHILL (moving with him) Don't wanna go inside. Somebody call the police.

The Sergeant leads Thornhill by the arm into the courtroom.

INT. COURTROOM

49

A bleak room at this late hour of night.

KLINGER (indicating a chair) Sit down.

THORNHILL Don't wanna sit. Perfectly all right. (he falls into the seat) We'll throw the book at 'em. Kidnapping. Assault with gun...and bourbon...and sports car. We'll get 'em.

KLINGER. You'll be all right after a good night's sleep. We got a nice cell all made up and waiting. The other arresting officer, PATROLMAN WAGGONER, enters.

WAGGONER The car was just reported stolen.

KLINGER

Uh huh.

WAGGONER A Mrs. Babson up on Twining Road.

THORNHILL (getting unsteadily to his feet) Gotta call someone. Where's the phone?

KLINGER You're allowed one call. Right over here. (leads Thornhill to a nearby phone) Better make it your lawyer.

THORNHILL (to Klinger) Butterfield eight-one-oh-nine-eight.

KLINGER What am I -- a telephone operator?

THORNHILL (nodding) Yeah. Butterfield eight-one-oh-nine-eight.

Reluctantly, Klinger puts the call through. After a few moments:

KLINGER (to phone) Just a minute please....Here.

He hands the phone to Thornhill.

THORNHILL (to phone) Hello, Mother? This is your son, Roger Thornhill. (listens) Wait a minute. (to Klinger) Where am I? KLINGER Glen Cove Police Station.

North By worthwest Chgs. 10-10-58 P.28 THORNHILL (to phone) 49 Glen Cove Police Station ... CONTID (listens) (3) Now is that a nice thing to say, Mother? I have not been drinking again. But these two fellows poured a bottle of bourbon down my throat --(listens, shakes his head) They didn't give me a chaser ... No. (during above, DR. CROSS has entered. Klinger comes over. interrupts Thornhill) Wait a minute, Mother. (to Klinger) Not finished yet. KLINGER Yes you are. C'mon. THORNHILL (to phone) Gotta hang up now, Mother. You better get my lawyer right away and bail me out. KLINGER Tomorrow morning, tell her. THORNHILL (to phone) He says 'tomorrow morning!. (listens) I don't know. I'll ask him. (to Klinger) She wants to know who says. KLINGER Sergeant Emil Klinger THORNHILL (to phone) Sergeant Emil -(a double take at the Sergeant) Emil? (to phone) Sergeant Emil Klinger. (listens) No. I didn't believe it either. (listens) Don't worry. I'm all right, Mother. 'Nightie night. (he hangs up) That was Mother. Klinger leads him over to a table where Dr. Cross, a pleasant young physician, is waiting with medical

kit.

KLINGER (to Dr. Cross) Here's your man, Doctor.

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49

CONT'D (4)

Cross glances at Thornhill, indicates a chair. Thornhill collapses into it. Klinger and Patrolman Waggoner move into b.g. as silent observers. Cross takes out a questionnaire and a fountain pen, begins to fill out the form, quickly and perfunctorily.

> DR, CROSS What's your name?

THORNHILL Roger Thornhill. Don't believe we've met.

DR. CROSS

Address?

THORNHILL Eighty-four Sutton Place, Doctor, you listen to me --

DR. CROSS Were you operating the motor vehicle in question?

THORNHILL Admirably.

DR. CROSS Where were you going?

THORNHILL

No place. Just trying to get away from some fellahs who were trying to kill me. I've been trying to tell these --

DR. CROSS Where did you start from?

THORNHILL -Big house. I don't know where. Big house. And these fellahs --

DR. CROSS (interrupting) Stand up please, Mr; Thornhill...

THORNHILL (struggling to his feet) Sure

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(5)

CONT'D

DR. CROSS (throwing some coins on the floor) ...And pick up those coins,

THORNHILL (looking right at the money) What coins?

DR. CROSS (pointing to a white line on the floor) Never mind. Now I want you to walk that line.

THORNHILL (as he tries unsuccessfully to negotiate the line) At first I thought they were gonna hold me for ransom. They brought me to this house. Can't remember the guy's name right now. Think it was Kaplan. Yeah, George Kaplan --

He stops abruptly as he falls to the floor. Then, as he starts to get to his feet again:

DR. CROSS Ever have diabetes?

THORNHILL Never touch the stuff.

DR. CROSS Then you're not taking insulin.

THORNHILL Never touch the stuff.

DR. CROSS Have you used a mouthwash recently?

THORNHILL Never stuch the tuff.

DR. CROSS Stick out your tongue and say "ah".

THORNHILL Better move back...Ah-h-h!

DR. CROSS Have you been drinking?

THORNHILL Doctor - I am gassed.

CONT'D (6)

DR. CROSS What were you drinking?

THORNHILL Bourbon. They held me down and another guy --

DR. CROSS How much would you say you drank?

THORNHILL (holding his palms about a foot apart) About this much.

He starts toward a long table as:

DR. CROSS Mr. Thornhill - it is my opinion that you are definitely intoxicated... (as Thornhill lies down on the table) ...And I am now going to have to ask your permission to draw blood.

THORNHILL (a sleepy murmur) How disgusting.

DR. CROSS (reading very quickly from his questionnaire) "You may refuse to permit a blood test to be made, but if you do refuse, your license will be revoked. You have the right to notify a physician of your own choosing to administer this chemical test if you so prefer." (looking up) Is that understood, Mr. Thornhill?

(no response)

Mr. Thornhill?

Sergeant Klinger steps forward, puts a finger to his lips.

KLINGER

Shhh...

He looks down at Thornhill with mock tenderness. Now we SEE Thornhill. He is sleeping like a baby, with a little smile on his face.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. COURTROOM - NEXT MORNING

The judge, ANSON B. FLYNN, is staring coldly down at Thornhill, who, looking plenty the worse for a night in jail, stands between his attorney, VICTOR LARRABEE, and Sergeant Klinger. Seated behind

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(2)

them is Thornhill's mother, CLARA THORNHILL, a woman who has played so much bridge she is getting to CONT'D look like the Queen of Hearts. During the follow-ing, Thornhill turns, smiles at her feebly. She does not smile back:

> LARRABEE (speaking with ill-concealed distaste) -- It was at this point that Mr. Thornhill succeeded in escaping from his would-be assassins, and when they gave chase, he, naturally, had to drive as best he could under the, uh, circumstances. But unfortunately the, uh, circumstances were a little more than he could handle, and so, well, here we are.

THORNHILL (half aloud) But where are they?

The judge gives Thornhill a hard-eyed look, then turns to Larrabee.

> JUDGE Counsellor, how long have you known your client?

LARRABEE Seven years, Your Honor.

JUDGE

Do you know him to be a reasonable man?

LARRABEE

Absolutely.

In b.g., Mrs. Thornhill gives an audible sniff of scorn. Thornhill quickly turns and gives her an angry whisper.

THORNHILL

Motherl

JUDGE And do you believe there is some credence to this ... story?

THORNHILL (bridling)

Credence!

LARRABEE Well...yes, Your Honor. I mean if my client says that this is what happened, I am certain it must have ... (he shrugs) •••happened.

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(3)

CONT 'D

JUDGE Mm hmm.

(he turns to Klinger) Sergeant - I want this turned over to the County Detectives for investigation. I suggest you call them up and have them come over here immediately.

2 B 2

KLINGER (starting away) Right, Your Honor.

JUDGE Counsellor, I'm going to set this over for final disposition tomorrow night at seven-thirty, at which time I expect you and the defendant to be here and ready to go to trial. In the meantime, the County Detectives will determine whether his story has any basis in fact --

THORNHILL (indignantly) <u>Basis in fact</u>? I suppose if I were brought in here dead, you still wouldn't believe --

LARRABEE (interrupting) Now, Roger, wait a minute!

THORNHILL I mean, after all, Your Honor, would I make up such a story?

JUDGE That is precisely what we intend to find out, Mr. Thornhill.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GLEN COVE ROAD - DAY

The County Detectives Car, a plain black sedan, is cruising in the tree-lined "estate" area of Glen Cove.

INT. CAR

Two detectives are up front - LT. HARDING and CAPT. JUNKET. In the back seat, Thornhill is quietly arguing with his mother while Victor Larrabee listens in strained silence.

> THORNHILL ...Because any drinking I do to excess, Mother dear, can be attributed only to the bad example set by my immediate ancestors. You are not exactly, may I remind you, addicted to homogenized milk.

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Yes? . . THORNHILL Remember me? HOUSEKEEPER Yes, sir. THORNHILL (satisfied, but grim)

HOUSEKEEPER (pleasantly)

EXT. MAIN HOUSE

standing before her.

proceeds along the curving driveway and finally comes to a stop before the entrance to the main house.

Everyone in the car gets out. The detectives lead the way to the front door and ring the bell. Presently the door is opened by the housekeeper, who seems not at all perturbed to see the group

as it enters the estate through the open gates,

TRAVELLING SHOT - THE CAR

S . 78

THORNHILL (looking out) Yeah. That's it.

Here's the Townsend estate. Look

George Kaplan. CAPT. JUNKET (turning)

George.

familiar?

LARRABEE Now, now, Roger...

(she chuckles)

I support all her girl friends.

MRS. THORNHILL (scoffing) Not "Roger." You forget. It's

MRS. THORNHILL

Sometimes I wonder why I stand

THORNHILL

for your impertinences.

You wouldn't have to if you could learn to cheat at bridge. (an aside to Larrabee)

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...

52 CONT 'D (2)

53

North By Northwest **Chgs** 8-25-58 CAPT. JUNKET Is Mr. Townsend at home? HOUSEKEEPER No, I'm sorry, sir. He's left for the day. CAPT. JUNKET Mrs. Townsend? HOUSEKEEPER (after a pause) Who shall I tell her is calling? CAPT. JUNKET County detectives. HOUSEKEEPER (unperturbed) Come in please. She opens the door wider.

INT. HOUSE

They all enter.

HOUSEKEEFER This way please

She leads them to the library, opens the door for them and they enter.

INT. LIBRARY

THORNHILL This is the room.

HOUSEREEPER

CAPT, JUNKET

You do that.

The housekeeper withdraws, Thornhill points to the settee.

TRORNHILL There's the sofa. (going to the sofa) They spilled bourbon all over it. I'll show you the stains. 55

56

P.37

CONT'D (2)

He examines the seat cushion, frowns, turns the cushion over, frowns even more deeply. He looks up. Everyone is staring at him. He turns, looks about, spies the liquor cabinet.

> THORNHILL There's where they kept the liquor! Scotch and gin and vodka -- !

MRS. THORNHILL And bourbon.

Thornhill goes over, whips open the cabinet. It is filled with books. No liquor. Just books.

> MRS. THORNHILL I remember when it used to come in bottles.

Just then the handsome WOMAN of the night before enters, beaming graciously and talking very fast as she goes over to Thornhill.

> WOMAN Roger! Dear! (he straightens up, astounded) We were so worried about you! Did you get home all right? (she embraces him) Of course you did. Let me look at you. A little pink-eyed and fuzzy around the cheeks. But then, aren't we all? It was a dull party really, and you didn't miss a thing. But Lester was furious with himself for not seeing you home personally. (to Clara Thornhill) Let's see. You must be Roger's

mother. I'm so delighted to meet you. Roger's told us so much about you.

(to Larrabee) And you must be a policeman. You look like a policeman.

LARRABEE

I am Mr. Thornhill's attorney.

THORNHILL

I want everybody here to know that I never even <u>saw</u> this woman before last night! 56 CONT'D (2)

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The woman laughs good-naturedly at "Roger's charming joke." The detectives step forward.

56 CONT'D (3)

CAPT, JUNKET

Mrs. Townsend - I'm Captain Junket of the Nassau County Detectives, and this is Lieutenant Harding.

WOMAN

Row do you do?

LT. HARDING

Mafam.

WOMAN (to Thornhill) Oh, dear. You haven't gotten into trouble, Roger...?

MRS. THORNHILL Has he gotten into trouble. THOR NHILL Stop calling me "Roger":

CAPT. JUNKET

Mrs. Townsend - Mr. Thornhill was picked up last night driving while under the influence of alcohol, and incidentally, in a stolen car --

NOMAN

Stolen carl.

CAPT. JUNKET

-- belonging to a Mrs. Babson of Twining Road --

WOMAN

Roger, you said you were going to call a cab. You didn't borrow Laura's Mercedes?

THORNHILL (hopelessly) No, I <u>didn't...borrow</u>...Laura's... <u>Mercedes</u>.

CAPT, JUNKET

Mr. Thornhill has told us that he was brought to this house against his will last night and forcibly intoxicated by some friends of your husband and then set out on the road. Did you know anything about this?

The woman gives Thornhill a look of deep sympathy, then faces the detectives.

WOMAN

Well, now, Captain -- Roger was a bit tipsy when he arrived here by cab for dinner --

THORNHILL

She's lying!

WOMAN

-- And I'm afraid he became even worse as the evening wore on, ' and finally he told us he had to go home to sleep it off. I <u>knew</u> I should have served dinner earlier. Otherwise I can assure you the harmless little escapade with Mrs. Babson's car would never have happened.

THORNHILL (with sardonic admiration) What a performance!

WOMAN

Poor dear...

CAPT. JUNKET Mrs. Townsend -- does the name George Kaplan mean anything to you?

WOMAN (blankly) George Kaplan? No.

CAPT. JUNKET I didn't think so.

The detective already has his eye on the door and a quick departure.

THORNHILL (desperate now) What about her husband? He's the one you should be questioning!

CAPT. JUNKET (to the woman) Is there any place he can be reached?

WOMAN Why yes - the United Nations.

CAPT. JUNKET (impressed) The ... United ... Nations ... ? 56 CONT'D (4)

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WOMAN

He's addressing the General Assembly this afternoon.

The detective looks at Thornhill and his mouth tightens.

THORNHILL (at bay) All right - so he's addressing the General Assembly.

CAPT. JUNKET (to the woman) Sorry we had to bother you.

WOMAN No bother at all.

She leads the group toward the door.

THOR NHILL Wait a minute now....

They go out to the foyer.

THE FOYER

57

56

(5)

CONT'D

As Thornhill is hurried by his mother out of the library across the foyer, he HEARS:

WOMAN'S VOICE Will you be wanting to get in touch with my husband, Captain?

CAPT. JUNKET No, Mrs. Townsend - that won't be necessary.

THORNHILL D'you mean to say you're not going to do anything more about this?

MRS. THORNHILL (turns, fixes him with a look) Roger... (she shakes her head slowly) Pay the two dollars.

Thornhill gives her a look, then goes out the front door with her and the others.

.71

EXT. MAIN HOUSE

As the group goes down the steps and into the car, the woman stands at the door watching. She even waves once to Thornhill, who is in no mood to wave back. On the lawn near the entrance, a gardener in overalls is on his knees working over a flower bed. His back is to the entrance, and he does not turn to see the group leave the house. But now, as the car drives off, he gets to his feet, looks after the car, then turns into CAMERA. Beneath the overalls and the dirty face, we see Valerian.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PLAZA HOTEL - NEW YORK CITY - A FEW HOURS LATER

A cab pulls up before the hotel. Thornhill and his mother get out and cross the sidewalk to the entrance as:

> MRS. THORNHILL I don't see what you need <u>ne</u> along for.

THORNHILL (savagely) You lend me a certain air of respectability.

MRS. THORNHILL Don't be sarcastic, Roger.

They enter the hotel.

INT. LOBBY

60

Thornhill goes to the row of house phones saying:

THORNHILL Well, here goes. (he picks up a phone) Do you have a George Kaplan staying here. (a pause - then excitedly) That's right. Room seven ninetysix. Would you ring him please? (to his mother) It's true. He is registered here... 58

North By Northwest **Chgs.** 8-26-58 P.43 MRS. THORNHILL (bored) 60 That's nice. CONT'D (2) THORNHILL -8 ... And he's just the one to clear up this little ballet. (to phone) What?....Oh. I see. He didn't leave any word when he'd be back, did he?....Really? All right. Thank you. (he hangs up) That's funny. He hasn't answered his phone in two days.

MRS. THORNHILL Maybe he got locked in the bathroom.

Thornhill has been peering thoughtfully towards the desk, where people are getting their keys, mail, etc.

THORNHILL

Mother - I want you to go over to the desk, put on that sweet innocent look you do so well, and ask for the key to seven ninety-six.

MRS. THORNHILL Don't be ridiculous. I wouldn't do a thing like that.

THORNHILL (taking out a wad of bills) Ten dollars?

MRS. THORNHILL Not for all the money in the world.

THORNHILL

Fifty?

MRS. THORNHILL (taking the proffered money) You're disgraceful.

She starts toward the desk as Thornhill watches. DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR

61

Thornhill and his mother are walking toward the door to 796.

MRS. THORNHILL

Car theft... drunk driving... assaulting an officer... lying to a judate and new, house-breaking...

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THORNHILL

Not house-breaking, Mother. Hotelbreaking. There's a difference.

MRS. THORNHILL (gloomily) Of five to ten years.

They arrive at 796; he takes the key from her hand and looks about furtively. Then he inserts it in the lock. Just then, a chambermaid emerges from another room, sees him and calls out:

MAID

Just a minute please!

Thornhill nervously pulls the key from the lock, turns and waits tensely as she walks over to him.

MAID

Will you be wantin' me to change your beddin', sir?

THORNHILL (relieved) Well...yes... but not right now...

MAID

I was oney askin', sir, because the bed don't seem like it been slept in and I was just wonderin' if I still oughta keep changin' the linens, y'know?

THORNHILL Thank you very much for your interest.

MAID (smiling) You're welcome, sir.

She goes off down the corridor. Quickly Thornhill inserts the key in the lock, opens the door and leads his mother into the room.

INT. HOTEL ROOM

THORNHILL You see that? She thought I was Kaplan. I wonder 1f I look like Kaplan.

He glances about. There are twin beds, neatly made up, but the rest of the room looks livedin. There is an open suitcase on the floor with P.44 61

(2)

62

CONTID

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a few shirts and some soiled socks in it. On a chair is a three-day stack of well-read New York newspapers. The dresser top is strewn with masculine odds and ends -- an electric shaver, a pair of military brushes monogrammed "O.K.", a half-empty pint of Canadian Club, several scribbled reminders: "Call Wilson," "Laundry Friday," "Wire Ambassador East confirming reservation, "Mahdi of Pakistan." Also, there is a group picture torn from a newspaper. The caption is missing, but one of the faces has been ringed with red pencil. It is the face of the MAN of Glen Cove.

> THORNHILL Rmmm. Look who's here.

MRS. THORNHILL (glancing about) Where? Who?

THORNHILL Our friend who's assembling the General Assembly this afternoon.

He puts the picture down.

MRS. THORNHILL Roger - I think we should go.

As he goes to the night-table and presses a button marked "Chambermaid":

THORNHILL Don't be nervous, Mother.

MRS. THORNHILL I'm not nervous. I'll be late for the bridge club.

THORNHILL Good. You'll lose less than usual.

He goes to the bathroom and enters.

THE BATHROOM

There are toilet articles on the sink, on the glass shelf above it, and in the medicine cabinet. Thornhill takes the comb from the hairbrush on the shelf, inspects it, then replaces it. He returns to: 62 CONT'D (2)

P.45

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THE BEDROOM

THORNHILL

Bulletin. Mr. Kaplan has dandruff.

MRS. THORNHILL In that case, I think we'd better leave.

Just then, the DOOR BUZZER SOUNDS.

MRS. THORNHILL

Too late.

Thornhill goes to the door, opens it. The chambermaid stands there.

MAID You rang for me?

THORNHILL Come in a moment. (the maid enters) What's your name?

MAID Elsie, sir.

THORNHILL Elsie - do you know who I am?

MAID (giggles) Sure. You're Mr. Kaplan.

THORNHILL

When did we...when did you first see me, Elsie?

MAID Outside the door, out there in the hall, just a couple minutes ago. Don'tcha remember?

THORNHILL You mean that's the first time you ever laid eyes on me?

MAID Can I help it you're never around, Mr. Kaplan?

THORNHILL How do you know I am Mr. Kaplan?

P. .

64

CO: (2)

MAID (puzzled)

Huh?

THORNHILL How do you know I'm Mr. Kaplan?

MAID (giggles) Well, of <u>course</u> ya are. This is room seven ninety-six, isn't it? So - you're the gentleman in room seven ninety-six, aren't ya?

THORNHILL All right, Elsie.

MAID Will that be all, sir?

THORNHILL For the time being. Yes.

As the maid starts away, the DOOR BUZZER SOUNDS again. The maid opens the door and goes out past the VALET, who is seen standing there with a suit on a hanger.

VALET

Valet.

THORNHILL

Come in.

VALET (entering) Hang it in the closet, Mr. Kaplan?

THORNHILL

Please.

Thornhill exchanges a look with his mother as the valet opens the closet door, hangs the suit on the rack.

VALET

There we are. (Thornhill gives him a tip) Thank you, Mr. Kaplan.

THORNHILL By the way - when did I give you that suit?

VALET Last night. Around six.

8-13-58 P.45

THORNHILL

Did I give it to you personally?

VALET (smiles) Personally? No, Mr. Kaplan. You called down on the phone and described the suit to me and said it would be hanging in the closet. Like you always do. Anything wrong?

THORNHILL No, no. Just curious.

VALET (leaving) Okay. Nice meeting you, Mr. Kaplan.

He goes out. Thornhill steps to the closet, opens the door.

THORNHILL

I'm beginning to think nobody in this hotel has actually ever seen Kaplan.

MRS. THORNHILL Maybe he has his suits mended by Invisible Weavers.

There are several suits on the rack. Thornhill takes one out, tosses it on a chair, whips off his jacket, throws it on the bed, then takes the other jacket off the hanger and puts it on. He extends his arms. The sleeves are eight inches too short.

> MRS. THORNHILL (looking him over speculatively) I don't think that one does anything for you.

Thornhill takes the trousers from the hanger, holds them up in front of him. They are ludicrously short.

THORNHILL

Look at this. They've mistaken me for a man who is only five feet tall.

MRS. THORNHILL I've always told you to stand up straight.

64 CONT'D

(3)

64

(4)

CONT'D

Just then, the TELEPHONE on the night-table RINGS. Thornhill stares at it uncertainly. The phone RINGS again.

THORNHILL

Should I?

1¹² a 5

MRS. THORNHILL Certainly not.

So Thornhill goes over and picks up the receiver.

THORNHILL

Hello?

VALERIAN'S VOICE (through phone) It is good to find you in, Mr. Kaplan.

THORNHILL Who is this?

VALERIAN'S VOICE We met only last night and still you do not recognize my voice. I should feel offended --

THORNHILL Yeah - now I know who you are and I'm not Mr. Kaplan.

VALERIAN'S VOICE Of course not. You answer his telephone and you live in his hotel room, and yet you are not Mr. Kaplan. Nevertheless, we are pleased to find you in.

He clicks off.

THORNHILL Hello? -<u>Hello</u> Jiggling receiver frantically)

OFERATOR'S VOICE

THORNHILL Operator, this is Mr. Thorn-- Mr. Kaplan in seven-ninety-six. That call that just came through. Was that an <u>outside</u> call or from the lobby?

OPERATOR'S VOICE Just a minute, sir. I'll see

THORNHILL

Hurry! "

MRS. THORNHILL Who was it? THORNHILL 64 Only one of the men who tried to kill CONT'D me last night. (5)

MRS. THORNHILL Oh - we're back to that one, are we?

THORNHILL (jiggling the phone) Hello - operator!

OPERATOR'S VOICE Mr. Kaplan...

THORNHILL

Yes...

OPERATOR'S VOICE That call was made from the lobby, sir.

THORNHILL

It was...

(he hangs up, looks about desperately) The lobby. They're probably on their way up right now, Come on. We've got to get out of here.

He struggles into his jacket, picks up the newspaper clipping and stuffs it in his pocket.

MRS. THORNHILL (not at all excited)

I think I'd like to meet one of these killers.

He takes her by the arm, hurries her to the door.

THE CORRIDOR

65

66

As they emerge from the room, Thornhill looks about, sees no one, moves his mother swiftly to the nearby elevator. He presses the "DOWN" button, waits anxiously. Suddenly two elevators arrive simultaneously, one from above, the other from below. Just as Thornhill and his mother enter their elevator, Valerian and Licht step out of the other one, in time to see their quarry. Before the doors can close, they quickly follow Thornhill in.

INT. ELEVATOR

There are six passengers in the car, all of them of obvious refinement and sophistication: an elderly gentleman and his elderly wife; two fiftyish women; and another couple. Valerian and Licht are crowded close to Thornhill and his mother as the doors close and the elevator starts down. Thornhill taps her and indicates that these

66

CON

(2)

are the men who are after him. She glances at them and sees two men whose attitude seems to be quite innocuous. She turns back to Thornhill and smiles her disbelief. He frowns and nods his insistence. She turns to them again and smiles.

> MRS. THORNHILL You gentlemen aren't really trying to kill my son, are you?

The men look at her blankly, as the other passengers turn their heads in surprise. Valerian starts to smile, as he turns to Licht, who takes the cue and also begins to smile. Valerian turns toward the other occupants of the car and starts to chuckle. Relieved, they start to chuckle too. For a split second, Mrs. Thornhill is astonished at the effect of her remark. Then she too joins in the laughter. By now the laughter has built to a crescendo and the whole car is laughing, even the operator. In the center of all this stands a glowering Thornhill. The elevator comes to a stop.

OPERATOR Lobby, please. Watch your step.

Thornhill's expression immediately changes to one of furtive calculation. We HEAR the SOUND of the elevator DOOR OPENING and the outside lobby lights appear on his face. Valerian and Licht start to move out.

> THORNHILL (to both of them, politely) Excuse me. Ladies first, 1f you don't mind.

INT. LOBBY

66X

CAMERA is SHOOTING into the elevator. Thornhill turns and starts backing out of the car as he ushers the ladies out. The ladies, in pushing their way out, ease Valerian and Licht toward the rear. As Thornhill backs away, the CAMERA also RETREATS with him, but goes faster than he does. Thornhill is now far enough out to turn toward the CAMERA and start running toward the 59th Street entrance, the CAMERA PANNING with him.

ANOTHER ANGLE - INT. LOBBY

Thornhill is now running toward the CAMERA. Behind him we see Valerian and Licht pushing their way between the women, and just in front of them, Mrs. Thornhill, who is calling out:

> MRS. THORNHILL Roger - will you be home for dinner?

Thornhill dashes out of the SHOT.

EXT. PLAZA HOTEL

A man and woman are waiting for a taxi, which is just pulling up. As the doorman opens the door for them, Thornhill comes dashing out of the hotel, runs down the steps and jumps into the cab, past the astonished people. He slams the door shut and the cab starts to move off.

INT. CAB

DRIVER

Where to?

THORNH ILL

I don't know. Just keep going.

The driver shrugs. Thornhill turns, looks out of the back window. Over his shoulder we SEE Valerian and Licht dashing across the sidewalk and past the same startled couple and doorman into the next cab, which has just pulled up. Thornhill turns away, realizing he is still being followed, ponders the situation, then reaches into his pocket, takes out the torn newspaper photograph he had found in the hotel room and glances down at it thoughtfully. He looks up at the cab-driver.

> THORNHILL Take me to the United Nations.

DRIVER

Right.

THORNHILL The General Assembly Building.

DRIVER

Right.

66X3

67-70

THORNHILL I'm being followed. Can you do something about it?

DRIVER

Yes. I can.

THORNHILL

Do it.

The cab surges forward with a burst of speed.

DISSOLVE TO:

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CONT'D

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EXT. UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS - DAY

As seen from the north, a LONG HIGH ANGLE SHOT showing the General Assembly building in the foreground, the 39-story marble and glass Secretariat building beyond it, and in the background, the East River and the Brooklyn skyline. At the extreme right, a taxicab is seen pulling up at the curb near the main entrance to the General Assembly building.

CLOSE ANGLE - THE ENTRANCE

Thornhill gets out of the cab, goes into the building.

INT. LOBBY OF ASSEMBLY BLDG.

Thornhill crosses to the Information Desk. There are two girls stationed behind the desk, one of them a lovely Indian. She smiles at Thornhill.

> GIRL May I help you, sir?

THORNHILL Yes. Where would I find Mr. Lester Townsend?

GIRL (writing on a pad) Mr. Townsend of UNIPO. And did you have an appointment, sir?

THORNHILL I...uh...yes...uh...he expects me.

GIRL Your name, sir?

THORNHILL (hesitates) My name?

72

74

GIRL Yes, please.

THORNHILL Kaplan. George Kaplan.

GIRL One moment please.

She picks up a phone, starts to dial. Thornhill glances back toward the entrance door nervously.

EXT. STREET NEAR MAIN ENTRANCE

Another cab is seen pulling up to the curb. Valerian gets out and, addressing Licht inside, gestures as though telling him to have the cab wait across the street. As the cab pulls away Valerian starts up the steps to the main entrance of the General Assembly building.

INT. LOBBY

Thornhill is now receiving a slip of paper from the girl at the Information Desk, who is saying:

GIRL ...If you will give this to one of the attendants in the Public Lounge she will page him for you.

THORNHILL Thank you very much.

GIRL You're welcome, Mr. Kaplan.

Thornhill starts past the desk.

EXT. MAIN ENTRANCE

Valerian crosses the courtyard and starts through the main doors.

INT. LOBBY

Valerian enters and glances about. Then he walks in the direction of the Information Desk. 7511

75

75X2

75X3

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74 CONT'D (2)

INT. PUBLIC LOUNGE

Thornhill is just approaching the lounge. We enter with him, see the vast, high-ceilinged room with its high windows along the north wall looking out on the East River and the Queensboro Bridge in the distance. The lounge is crowded with delegates of all nations; there are many races, many different modes of dress. They sit on leather chairs and sofas sipping tea, or stand in small conversational groups with cocktails in hand. Others congregate at the bar at the east end of the room. Everywhere is the buzz of many different tongues. And over it, the CONTINUING SOUND of the PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM as three pretty attendants seated behind microphones near the telephone switchboard send out their calls:

> "Miss Knox of Ceylon... United States Secretary please... Mr. Mahdi, delegation of Pakistan, please call the Public Lounge... Mr. Craig of the Secretariat, kindly call your office... Mr. Bernatti of the Swiss Observers Office... Mr. Bernatti of the Swiss Observers Office...

Thornhill goes up to one of the attendants (a 26-year-old American girl), hands her the slip of paper.

THORNHILL Will you page Mr. Lester Townsend please?

ATTENDANT (consulting the slip) Certainly, Mr. Kaplan.

She picks up the microphone. We HEAR her voice over the p.a. system.

ATTENDANT

Mr. Townsend of UNIPO.... Mr. Townsend of UNIPO.... Please call at the communications desk of the Public Lounge.

Thornhill stands gazing about the crowded room waiting for Townsend to appear. Deep in b.g. we SEE Valerian enter. He stops as he sees Thornhill. There is a constant stream of activity at the communications desk. Several different people

emerge from the throng to walk over to the desk. Thornhill pays no attention to them, for none of them is the man he is seeking. Finally one caller - a distinguished looking gentleman of about sixty - leans over and speaks to the attendant, who then glances at Thornhill. 76 CONT'D (2)

ATTENDANT

Mr. Kaplan...

THORNHILL (turning)

Yes?

ATTENDANT Vou wished to see Mr. Townsend.

THORNHILL

Yes.

ATTENDANT (pointing) This is Mr. Townsend.

Thornhill looks at the strange man, blinks with puzzlement.

TOWNSEND How do you do, Mr. Kaplan?

He extends his hand.

THORNHILL (to attendant) This isn't Mr. Townsend.

TOWNSEND (smiling)

Yes it is.

He holds out his hand again. Thornhill shakes it dumbly.

THORNHILL There must be...some...mistake. Lester Townsend?

TOWNSEND (cheerfully) That's me. (as they stroll towards the windows) What can I do for you?

THORNHILL (still utterly bewildered) You're the Townsend who lives in Glen Cove?

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TOWNSEND

That's right. Are we neighbors?

76 CONT'D (3)

THORNHILL

A large red-brick house with a curving tree-lined driveway?

TOWNSEND (smiles) That's the one.

As they walk across the room, they pass a press photographer taking flashbulb shots of a West African group.

> THORNHILL Mr. Townsend, were you at home last night?

TOWNSEND You mean in Glen Cove?

THORNHILL

Үев.

TOWNSEND

No. I've been staying in my apartment in town for the past month. Always do when we're in session here.

THORNHILL What about Mrs. Townsend?

TOWNSEND (frowns) My wife has been dead for many years.

(Thornhill stares at him) Look here, Mr. Kaplan, what's this all about?

THORNHILL

Who are those people living in your house?

TOWNSEND

What people? The house is completely closed up. There's just a gardener and his wife living on the grounds. Now, Mr. Kaplan - suppose you tell me who you are and what you want. Thornhill takes the newspaper photograph from his pocket, starts to show it to Townsend.

76 CONT'D (4)

THORNHILL Do you know this man?

Townsend glances at the picture, then suddenly gasps and utters a strangled cry. His eyes widen and he sags against Thornhill, who puts his arms around him automatically to support him.

THORNHILL Here. What's wrong?

Townsend groans. His eyes flutter. Thornhill's right hand closes on the handle of a knife protruding from Townsend's back. Instinctively he grasps the knife, pulls it out. Townsend slumps to the floor, dead. Thornhill stands there in horror staring down at him, the bloody knife upraised in his hand. It has all happened so swiftly that nobody has actually seen the slaying. Valerian is seen hurrying away. A woman's voice is heard crying out: "Look!" A man's voice shouts: "What happened?" Thornhill looks up, sees a circle of horrified, angry faces staring at him. A woman points at him accusingly: "He did it! I saw him!" The group moves toward him slowly, threateningly. Another voice cries out: "Look out! He's got a knife!" Thornhill backs away slowly, dazed and confused.

> THORNHILL Wait a minute now... Listen to

> me... I had nothing to do with this...

VOICES Somebody do something!... I saw him!... Call the police!... Grab him!...

THORNHILL (frightened) Don't come any nearer! Get back!

There is a CLICK and a FLASH OF LIGHT. The press photographer has whipped his camera around and caught a perfect shot of the stunned Thornhill

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> 76 CONT'D

(5)

77

backing away from the fallen body with the bloody knife still clenched threateningly in his hand. Panic on his face, he drops the knife and flees from the room before the startled onlookers can make a move.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY - WASHINGTON, D.C. - EARLY EVENING

START CLOSE ON front page of a Washington evening paper featuring the incriminating photo of Thornhill in his "killer's" pose; above it, screamer headlines: "DIPLOMAT SLAIN AT U.N.; ASSASSIN ELUDES POLICE." A MAN'S VOICE is HEARD over the SHOT reading aloud what is obviously part of the news story. During this we PULL BACK to reveal a group of four men and one woman seated around a conference table. As the CAMERA leaves the INSERT of the newspaper and STARTS ITS RISE, we also catch a glimpse of official documents on which we SEE the words: "TOP SECRET."

> MAN'S VOICE (reading) "--The photograph has been tentatively identified as that of Roger Thornhill, a Manhattan advertising executive, indicating that the name George Kaplan, which he gave to an attendant in the General Assembly Building, was false. A possible motive for the slaying was suggested by the discovery that earlier today, Thornhill appeared in a Glen Cove, Long Island, police court on a charge of drunk driving with a stolen car, and in his defense charged that the murder victim, Mr. Townsend, had attempted to kill him the night before

The man puts the newspaper down on the table, looks up at the other people. Their ages vary from thirty-five to fifty; there is nothing about an Intelligence agent's appearance that distinguishes him from, say, a college professor or a stock broker or a reporter or a housewife. These people happen to be all of that, too. The gentleman who has been reading the newspaper, for example, is, among other things, a limmer of comic cartoons for the national magazines.

> CARTOONIST Brother...

STOCK BROKER What about that?

77 CONT'D (2)

HOUSEWIFE Does anybody <u>know</u> this Thornhill?

CARTOONIST

Not me.

STOCK BROKER Never heard of him.

HOUSEWIFE

Professor?

The Professor shakes his head negatively.

REPORTER

Apparently the poor sucker got mistaken for George Kaplan.

CARTOONIST

How could he be mistaken for George Kaplan when George Kaplan doesn't even exist?

REPORTER

Don't ask me how it happened, but obviously it happened. Vandamn's men must have grabbed him and tried to put him away, using Lester Townsend's house.

STOCK BROKER (nodding) And the unsuspecting Townsend winds up with a stray knife in his back.

REPORTER (shrugs) C'est la guerre.

CARTOONIST (shaking his head) It's so horribly sad. Why is it I feel like laughing?

HOUSEWIFE Never mind <u>that</u>. What are we going to do?

CARTOONIST

9.45 mar

Do?

HOUSEWIFE About Mr. Thornhill...

STOCK BROKER Good question. They look at each other uncertainly. Finally the mildest mannered of them all, the college professor, speaks up quietly, enunciating with elaborate preciseness.

77 CONT'D (3)

PROFESSOR We do...nothing.

HOUSEWI FE

Nothing?

PROFESSOR (getting up) That's right...nothing. (with a gesture) Oh, we could congratulate ourselves on a marvelous stroke of good fortune...

(he meets their puzzled stares with a delighted announcement:) Our non-existent decoy, George Kaplan - created to divert suspicion from our own Number One - has fortuitously become a <u>live</u> decoy.

HOUSEWIFE Yes, Professor. And how long do you think he's going to stay live?

PROFESSOR That's his problem.

STOCK BROKER What Mrs. Finley means ---

PROFESSOR (amused) I know what she means.

STOCK BROKER -- We can't just sit back calmly and wait to see who kills him first... Vandamm and company or the police.

PROFESSOR (forcefully) There's nothing we can do to save him without endangering Number One:

HOUSEWIFE Aren't we being just a wee bit callous?

The Professor's tolerant attitude vanishes.

of what the Professor has just said. HOUSEWIFE (softly, sadly) Goodbye, Mr. Thornhill...wherever you are. DISSOLVE TO:

the vast, bustling main lobby of the terminal. Police are seen entering from the 42nd Street side -- two lieutenants in uniform and two plainclothes

detectives. They look about, come to a stop, confer and then disperse. CANERA PANS slightly

to a phone booth. We SEE Thornhill inside, talking

There is a moment of embarrassed silence around the table as they all realize the unpleasant truth

others who went before.

slightest move to suggest that there is no such agent as George Kaplan give any hint to Vandamm that he's pursuing a decoy instead of our real Number One ... then Number One, working right under Vandamm's nose, will

and assassination, like the two

immediately face suspicion, exposure

All right then. If we make the

STOCK BROKER Nobody's denying that.

him, and move his prop belongings in and out of hotel rooms, for our own private amusement. We created George Kaplan and labored to convince Vandamm that this phantom was our own Number One, hot on his trail, for a <u>desperately</u>

PROFESSOR (passionately)

REPORTER

<u>important</u> reason.

Check.

PROFESSOR No, my dear woman, we are not being

callous. We did not invent our

non-existent man, and establish elaborate behaviour patterns for

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> 77 CONT'D (4)

79 OTT

on the phone.

80

THORNHILL (exasperated) But, Mother, I called the Plaza. Kaplan checked out and went to the Ambassador East in Chicago. That's why I'm ---

(he listens impatiently) I can't go to the police. Not yet. You saw the newspapers. My fingerprints are on the knife; I'm a drunk driver, a car thief and I murdered a man for revenge. I wouldn't have a chance, and I won't have until I find George Kaplan, who obviously knows what this is all about.

(listens again)

No, the train. It's safer. (enother interruption) Because there's no room to hide on a plane if someone should recognize me. You want me to jump off a moving plane?

(nods, then with angry sarcasm) Thank you so much, Mother.

There is a LOUD CLATTER as Mrs. Thornhill hangs up on him. Thornhill stares at the receiver a moment, then hangs up and pushes out of the booth.

INT. TERMINAL

As he emerges from the booth, he comes face to face with a large man who could be a detective. For a brief, tense moment they stare at each other, and then the man steps past him into the booth. Thornhill looks about cautiously, then starts walking across the lobby towards the ticket windows, CAMERA MOVING with him. Near the Information Booth, a man stands reading the center pages of the N.Y. POST. Thornhill sees the front page headlines: "MANHUNT ON FOR U.N. KILLER." This reminds him to take out dark glasses and put them on, which he does as he continues across the lobby and steps up to a PULLMAN TICKET WINDOW. A TICKET AGENT moves up to him, peers at the dark glasses.

AGENT

Yes?

Leaving in five minutes. THORNHILL (impatiently) I know. Come on. AGENT I think they're all sold out.

you got on the Twentieth Century.

AGENT (slowly)

THORNHILL

Give me a bedroom or whatever

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CONTID

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(2)

THORNHILL

Sold out?

AGENT You can always go coach.

THORNHILL No, I... I can't. When's the next train?

AGENT Nothing till ten. (peering at him) You're in a hurry, huh?

THORNHILL (sharply) Call them and see what you can do.

AGENT (still peering) Something wrong with your eyes?

THORNHILL Yes. They're sensitive to questions. Will you call them?

AGENT (still staring at him) Sure... sure...

REVERSE ANGLE - TICKET OFFICE

We are behind the agent, SHOOTING THROUGH THE WINDOW OPENING ON Thornhill. What we SEE (and Thornhill cannot) is that the agent is now looking down at a glossy photograph of Thornhill with knife in hand, obviously a police department copy of the original. He glances up at Thornhill again.

AGENT

Don't go away.

82 CONT'D (2)

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84

The agent walks away from the window, CAMERA MOVING with him. Out of Thornhill's line of sight in the rear of the ticket office, he picks up a phone, dials three times, waits, then -

> AGENT (softly, to phone) He's at Window Fifteen, upper level. Hurry.

He hangs up, swallows nervously, composes himself, steps to the ticket rack, takes down a ticket, returns to the window saying airily:

> AGENT You're in luck, mister --

He stops, stares. Nobody is at the window. He leans through, peers about. Thornhill is gone.

LONG SHOT - THE TERMINAL

Thornhill has withdrawn to a vantage point across the lobby. In distant b.g. the agent is seen pulling his head back in. In close f.g., Thornhill stands watching him, hidden by the intervening crowds. Now he sees two men - the police lieutenants hurrying up to the ticket window, conferring with the agent, then turning, looking about.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Thornhill turns away, moves swiftly toward the train-platform entrances, CANERA DOILYING with him. He SEES the sign above Track 29: TWENTIETH CENTURY LIMITED. He starts through the gate. A Guard stops him.

GUARD

Ticket?

THORNHILL I...uh...I'm just seeing some friends off.

He starts through. The guard grabs him.

Sorry. I'll have to know their name and space before I can let you through.

Thornhill looks back, sees the police running across the lobby toward the gate. He yanks his arm free, pushes the guard aside, goes through the gate and runs past the desk where train officials are verifying passenger space.

THE PLATFORM

GUARD'S VOICE (o.s.) Wait a minute! Come back here!

Thornhill continues to run, CAMERA MOVING with him. In b.g., the police reach the gate, confer with the guard. As Thornhill reaches the rear car of the waiting train, he turns, looks back. The police are coming after him. Up and down the platform, porters are calling out: "All Aboard!" Thornhill quickly boards the train.

INT. TRAIN

Thornhill hurries through a car, looks out of the window, takes his dark glasses off and sees the police running along the platform to enter the car up ahead. He turns, starts back. Another passenger is approaching. It is a lovely, smartlydressed GIRL of twenty-six. Thornhill tries to get past her. The aisle is narrow. She steps to one side. But he steps to the same side. He moves to the other side - just as she does.

GIRL

Sorry.

THORNHILL

My fault.

They move to the center - but in unison. Again an impasse.

THORNHILL

Sorry.

84 CONT'D (2)

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My fault.

Meanwhile, the police have boarded the train. Thornhill and the girl are getting nowhere, just blocking each other. The police come into view at the other end of the car. Momentarily distracted by an outgoing Redcap, they haven't spotted Thornhill yet. The girl sees the men, notices their uniforms, senser Thornhill's urgency. Thornhill catches her look, ducks into an open compartment filled with luggage but no passenger as yet, and pulls the door partially closed. The police .come running through the car.

GIRL (pointing) He went that way. I think he got off.

They follow her directions, continue on. The compartment door opens, Thornhill steps out, sees the coast is clear.

> THORNHILL Thank you very much.

GIRL Quite all right.

THORNHILL (lamely) Seven parking tickets.

GIRL

Oh.

She walks away. He looks after her. The view is quite attractive. The train starts moving. He peers out of the window.

THE PLATFORM

The police have been searching the platform. They turn, watch helplessly as the train pulls away.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. NY CENTRAL TRACKS - NIGHT

Somewhere along the Hudson River, the Twentieth Century Limited comes around a bend, speeds toward CAMERA and races by.

86 CONT'D (2)

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INT. CLUB CAR

A Pullman CONDUCTOR and his assistant are finishing up the business of collecting tickets and verifying pullman space. They move through the car, studying the passengers who sit there reading magazines and newspapers, recognizing most of them as naving handed over their tickets earlier. There is doubt about one passenger, an elderly woman.

> CONDUCTOR Do I have your ticket, madam?

> WOMAN Why yes. I gave it to you an hour ago.

CONDUCTOR And that space was....?

WOMAN Bedroom F. in Car eighteen-oh-one.

CONDUCTOR (consulting his chart) Thank you.

WOMAN (a little huffy) You're welcome.

The conductor and his assistant continue on until they come to a door labelled: "WASHROOM." The assistant tries the handle, finds the door unlocked, opens it slightly and peers in. Satisfied that the washroom is unoccupied, he closes the door, and the two men continue on.

After a moment, the washroom door opens, Thornhill peers out, then emerges and moves off in the opposite direction through the club car. As he passes a table, he sees an evening paper lying there with his own picture on the front page, face up. He stops, casually turns the paper over, and continues on towards the dining car.

INT. DINING CAR

As Thornhill enters from the next car, the STEWARD approaches him.

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CONT'D (2)

STEWARD Good evening, sir. Cne?

THORNHILL

Please.

The steward leads him into the dining area. It is fairly crowded. The GIRL is there, seated alone at a table for two. She is on dessert and coffee. Without a word, the steward leads Thornhill directly to her table and pulls out the chair for him. The girl looks up at Thornhill, smiles fleetingly. He returns the smile and sits down.

STEWARD Cocktail before dinner?

THORNHILL How about a Gibson?

STEWARD

Right away.

He goes off. Thornhill takes up the menu, studies it. The girl raises her eyes, studies <u>him</u>. He looks up, catches her glance. She quickly looks down. He glances down at the menu again, then looks up at her. She glances up, catches him, and he looks away. Now she looks away. Then they both look up at each other at the same time and meet head on. They smile.

> THORNHILL Well - here we are again.

> > GIRL

Yes.

THORNHILL (looking down at menu) Recommend anything?

GIRL The brook trout. A little "trouty" but quite goo'.

THORNHILL

Sold.

He writes out the order. A waiter brings his Gibson, takes the order and leaves. Thornhill glances about the dining car nervously, sees

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(or perhaps imagines hc sees) several people92staring at him.When he looks back at theCONT'Dgirl, he finds that she is scrutinizing him.(3)

THORNHILL I know. I look vaguely familiar to you.

GIRL

Yes.

THORNHILL You feel you've seen me somewhere before.

GIRL

Yes.

THORNHILL Funny how I have that effect on people wherever I go. Something about my face...

GIRL It's a nice face.

THOFNHILL You really think so?

GIRL I would never say it if I didn't.

THORNHILL Oh - you're that type.

GIRL

What type?

THORNHILL

Honest.

GIRL Not really.

THORNHILL Good. Honest women frighten me.

GIRL

Why?

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THORMHILL

I feel at a disadvantage with them.

92 CONT 'D (4)

GIRL

Because you're not honest with them.

THORNH ILL

Exactly.

GIRL Like that business about the seven parking tickets...

THORNHILL (stepping delicately past it) What I mean is: the moment I meet an attractive girl, I have to start pretending that I've no desire to make love to her.

GIRL

What makes you think you have to conceal it?

THORNHILL She might find the idea objectionable.

GIRL (provocatively) And then again, she might not.

THORNHILL Think how lucky I am to have been seated here.

GIRL Luck had nothing to do with it.

THORNHILL

Fate?

CONTID

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(5)

GIRL

I tipped the steward five dollars to seat you here if you should come in.

Thornhill looks at her for a long moment.

THORNHILL Is that a proposition?

She looks right back at him for an equally long moment.

GIRL

I never make love on an empty stomach.

THORNHILL You've already eaten.

GIRL But you haven't.

They continue to gaze at each other, and then the waiter brings dinner and sets it on the table. Thornhill goes to work on it.

> THORNHILL Don't you think it's time we were introduced?

> > GIRL

I'm Eve Kendall. Twenty-six and unmarried. Now you know everything.

THORNHILL

What do you do besides lure men to their doom on the New York Central?

EVE

I'm an industrial designer.

THORNHILL

Jack Phillips. Western sales manager of Kingby Electronics.

EVE (easily) No you're not. You're Roger Thornhill of Madison Avenue and you're wanted for murder on every front page in America. Don't be so modest.

THORNHILL

Oops.

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EVE 92 Don't worry. I won't say a word. CONT'D

THORNHILL

How come?

EVE I told you - it's a nice face.

THORNHILL Is that the only reason?

EVE (shrugs) It's going to be a long night...

THORNHILL (nods)

True.

EVE And I don't particularly like the book I've started...

THORNHILL

Ah.

EVE You know what I mean?

THORNHILL Oh - exactly.

Eve puts a cigarette between her lips, looks quite boldly into Thornhill's eyes as he takes a folder of matches from his pocket. She notices the match folder, takes it from him and examines it. (WE WILL SEE IT IN AN INSERT). On each side of the folder, three large letters: R O T.

> THORNHILL (explaining) My trademark -- rot.

> > EVE

Roger O. Thornhill. What's the O. for?

THORNHILL

Nothing.

He strikes a match to light her cigarette. (Meanwhile, the train has been slowing down as it approaches a station.) She takes his hand in hers and guides the flame to her cigarette, her hands lingering on his with an unmistakable intimacy that he finds downright delightful.

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CONTIL

THORNHILL

I'd invite you to my bedroom if I had a bedroom.

EVE

Roomette?

THORNHILL

Nothing - not even a ticket. I've been playing hide-and-seek with the pullman conductor ever since we left New York.

EVE How awkward for you.

THORNHILL No place to sleep.

EVE

I've got a large drawing-room all to myself.

THORNHILL That's not fair, is it?

EVE Drawing-room E, car thirty-nine-oh-one.

THORNHILL . A nice number.

Eve Easy to remember,

THORNHILL Thirty-nine-oh-one.

EVE

See?

THORNHILL I have no luggage.

EVE (looking out of the window)

So?

THORNHILL You wouldn't happen to have an extra pair of pajamas, would you?

She looks him right in the eye.

EVE Wouldn't I?

Then she puts money on her tab and gets to her 92 feet, as Thornhill stares up at her, slightly CONT'D awed. The train comes to a stop, (8)

EVE

Incidentally, I wouldn't order any dessert if I were you.

THORNHILL (pats his stomach) I get the message.

EVE

That wasn't quite what I meant. The train seems to be making an unscheduled stop, and I just saw two men getting out of a police car as we pulled into the station. They weren't smiling.

She walks away, and Thornhill looks out of the window. TWO DETECTIVES are seen hurrying along the platform to board the train. Thornhill puts some money on the table, gets to his feet and saunters out of the car in the direction Eve has taken. CAMERA PANS QWICKLY to the other end of the car, picks up the two detectives entering the dining area and looking about. The steward walks up to them, as the train starts moving again.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. EVE'S DRAWING-ROOM (LATER)

Eve is seated by the window with a book in her lap, apparently alone. Thornhill is nowhere to be seen. Sometime during the scene, the CAMERA will indicate to us that his MWFFLED VOICE is coming from behind the CLOSED UPPER BERTH, where he is locked in. Eve continues to glance at her book as she speaks.

> THORNHILL'S VOICE I think you better go out and tell those police to hurry.

EVE Patience is a virtue.

THOR NHILL'S VOICE So is breathing.

EVE Just lie still.

93

93 Contid

THORNHILL'S VOICE Do you have any olive oil?

EVE Olive oil?

THORNHILL'S VOICE I want to be packed in olive oil if I'm going to be a sardine.

The DOOR BUZZER SOUNDS. Eve remains seated, calls out in a loud voice:

EVE

Come in.

The door opens. The dining-car steward is seen in the corridor. He looks in at Eve, speaks apologetically.

> STEWARD I'm sorry to disturb you. Some gentlemen here would like to have a word with you.

> MAN'S VOICE (0.5.) Okay. Thanks.

The steward goes off, and the two detectives enter.

FIRST DETECTIVE Your name please?

EVE Eve Kendall. Who are you?

FIRST DETECTIVE (showing identification) State Police.

EVE Is anything wrong?

Meanwhile, the second detective is opening the closet door and the lavatory door and peering into every nook and cranny of the drawing-room.

> FIRST DETECTIVE There was a man seated at your table tonight in the dining car.

> > EVE

Yes.

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93

CONT'D (3)

FIRST DETECTIVE Friend of yours?

EVE I never saw him before.

FIRST DETECTIVE This the man?

He hands her a photograph. She takes it, studies it.

EVE Why yes. I think so. It's not a very clear picture.

FIRST DETECTIVE It's a wirephoto. We just got it from the New York police.

EVE

Police?

FIRST DETECTIVE He's wanted for murder.

EVE (getting up) Good heavens. No.

FIRST DETECTIVE We thought maybe he was in here with you.

EVE '

With me? I told you, I don't even know the man.

FIRST DETECTIVE The steward said you left the dining car together.

EVE We might have happened to leave at the same time but not together.

FIRST DETECTIVE What did you two talk about?

EVE

Talk about?

FIRST DETECTIVE Yeah. Your waiter said you were getting along pretty good with this Thornhill fellow.

EVE

Is that his name - Thornhill?

FIRST DETECTIVE Didn't he tell you?

EVE

No. Didn't tell me anything. All we did was chat...about different kinds of food...train travel versus plane travel...that sort of thing... rather innocuous, I must say, considering that he was a fugitive from justice. Who did he kill?

FIRST DETECTIVE He didn't say where he was going, did he?

EVE

No - I assumed Chicago. You think perhaps he got off when you got on?

FIRST DETECTIVE (rather grimly) Look - if you happen to catch sight of him again, Miss... uh --

EVE

Kendall.

FIRST DETECTIVE ... Will you let us know?

EVE

I'm going to bed soon, and I intend to lock my door, so I doubt if I'll be seeing him or anybody else tonight.

FIRST DETECTIVE

Well just in case you do - we'll be in the observation car at the rear of the train.

EVE

It's comforting to know that.

Disgruntled, the two men walk out.

EVE

Goodnight.

She closes the door, goes quickly to her handbag as she says:

93 CONT'D (4)

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EVE Still breathing?

93 CONTID (5)

THORNHILL'S VOICE (pleading weakly) Either hurry, or bring me a snorkel.

EVE (fumbling in her bag) I'm looking for that can opener I stole from the porter.

She takes out the key-like device which porters use to open pullman beds. She inserts it in the lock, turns it, and the upper berth crashes open, bouncing Thornhill into view.

EVE Hello there.

He sits up, heaves a sigh of relief, removes his sun-glasses from his pocket and stares sourly at them. They are smashed. He drops the pieces on the bed, then looks down at Eve and smiles with friendly puzzlement.

> EVE (during above) All clear.

THORNHILL Why are you so good to me?

She gazes up at him and smiles.

EVE Shall I climb up and tell you why?

EXT. TRAIN - LONG SHOT

As it speeds through the darkness.

CLOSE SHOT - THE DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE 95 As its HORN BLASTS four times. DISSOLVE TO:

INT. EVE'S DRAWING-ROOM - LATER

96

94

The upper berth is closed now. Eve and Thornhill are standing close together in the dark murmuring to each other between frequent kisses. We HEAR them more than see them, for they are revealed to us only by the passing lights outside the windows. Her back is against the wall near the light switches. He is standing directly in front of her, his hands at her waist. Her hands are at his shoulders, not helping not resisting.

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· EVE

You know, I've been thinking it's not safe for you to roam around Chicago looking for this George Kaplan you've been telling me about. You'll be picked up by the police the moment you show your face...

THORNHILL (kissing her) And it's such a nice face, too.

EVE (kissing him back) Don't you think it would be better if you stayed in my hotel room while <u>I</u> located Mr. Kaplan and brought him to you?

THORNHILL Can't let you get involved. Too dangerous.

EVE I'm a big girl.

THORNHILL (nibbling away) In all the right places, too.

EVE (responding with growing excitement) This is ridiculous. You <u>know</u> that, don't you?

THORNHILL (kissing her lips) Yes.

EVE I mean, we've hardly met.

THORNHILL That's right.

EVE

How do I know you aren'<u>t</u> a murderer?

THORNHILL (to her neck) You don't. 96 כידים (2)

EVE 96 Maybe you're planning to murder CONT 'D me, right here, tonight. (3) THORNHILL (working on her ear) Shall I? 6 M 15 M EVE (whispers) Yes...please do... This time her hands do help him, and it is a long kiss indeed. THORNHILL What's happening to us? EVE We're just strangers on a train. THORNHILL Beats flying, doesn't it? EVE We should stop. THORNHILL (continuing) Immediately. EVE I ought to know more about you. THORNHILL (kissing her) The rest is unimportant. EVE You're an advertising man, that's all I know. You've got taste in clothes...taste in food ---THORNHILL Taste in women. 🤌 (tasting her) I like your flavor. EVE And you're very clever with words. You can probably make them do anything for you...sell people things they don't need ... make women who in't know you fall in love with you... THORNHILL I'm beginning to think I'm underpaid.

96

CONT (4)

And then they come together slowly in a long kiss that might <u>never</u> have ended if the DOOR BUZZER hadn't SOUNDED. They break apart, look towards the door. Thornhill quickly steps inside the lavatory and closes the door, as Eve snaps on the overhead lights, goes to the other door, unlocks it and opens it. A PORTER is standing there.

> EVE (for Thornhill's ears) Oh - the porter. I suppose you want to make up my bed.

PORTER (entering) Yes, ma'am.

EVE (holding up the key) Is this yours? I found it on the floor.

PORTER Why yes, ma'am. I've been looking all over for it.

As the porter opens a lower berth and starts making up the bed, Eve takes up her handbag and says, for Thornhill's benefit.

> EVE ; I'll wait outside.

She starts to open her handbag as she goes out to the corridor.

INT. LAVATORY

Thornhill is looking at his face in the mirror and feeling his chin. He looks around at Eve's toiletries, sees a tiny ladies' safety razor and a tiny shaving brush. He picks the razor up and looks from it to himself in the mirror with blank expression. He gives a casual half turn as he HEARS the VOICES of Eve and the porter.

> EVE'S VOICE Thank you, porter.

PORTER'S VOICE Thank you, ma'am. Good night now.

EVE'S VOICE Good night. **99**

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North By Northwest 9-15-58 **P.8**3 Chgs. Then he HEARS the compartment door being closed 99 and locked, and a KNOCK on the lavatory door. CONTID (2) 34 34 - 32 EVE'S VOICE Come out, come out, wherever you are. Thornhill opens the door and steps out. 100 OUT INT. DRAWING ROOM 101 EVE (by way of explanation) The porter THORNBILL (noticing the open bed) Uh huh... (he snaps off the overhead lights) Now where were we? EVE (moving close) Here? THORNHILL (holding her) Ah. They kiss. THORNHILL (EULTEURS) I see he opened the bed. EVE Yes... THORNHILL Only one bed. EVE 1.25 Yes... THORNHILL I think it's a good omen. Don't you? EVE (sighs) Wonderful. THORNHILL Know what it means? EVE (dreamily) Anune . THORNHILL (softly) Tell me. EVE It means...that you... (she looks up at him) are aning to sleep on the floor ...

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North By Northwest Chgs. 10-10-58 P.84 He gives her a look. 101 CONT 'D THORNHILL (2) Here. Take your omen back. Eve kisses him gently on the lips, and as she presses her cheek against his, her expression sobers for a moment and her eyes turn to the door thoughtfully. • • 102 INT. TRAIN - ANOTHER CAR SHOOTING down the corridor, we SEE the porter moving away from us. In his right hand is a folded piece of white paper. 103 OUT CLOSER ANGLE - SIDE VIEW OF PORTER 10311 The CAMERA is now travelling with him. When he 💌 comes to a stop before the door of a drawing-room, the CAMERA CONTINUES to travel a bit while he presses the buzzer. CAMERA is now facing the porter. The door opens. We do not see the occupant. PORTER (holding out the piece of paper) A message from the lady in car thirty-nine-oh-one. A man's hand emerges and takes the note. The porter turns and moves away. 103X2INT. DRAWING-ROOM The man's hands unfold the note and it fills the screen. It says: "What do I do with him in the morning?" '(signed) "Eve." 940 a ²⁰ at 12 10373 FULL SHOT OF DRAWING-ROOM Leonard, the secretary of Glen Cove, is closing the door, turning and handing the note to his master, PHILLIP VANDAMM, the MAN whom Thornhill had mistakenly assumed at Glen Cove to be Lester Townsend. Over this, the SOUND of the DEISEL HCRN

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BLASTING four times. FADE OUT:

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FADE IN: TRAIN PLATFORM - INT. LA SALLE STREET STATION -CHICAGO - MORNING

The Twentieth Century Limited has come to the end of its run. MOVING CAMERA reveals passengers getting off, luggage being unloaded by pullman porters, Redcaps swarming over the platform, some of them boarding the train, others getting off with luggage in hand. And now CAMERA picks up the TWO DETECTIVES who boarded the train the night before. They are conferring with other plainclothesmen and uniformed police who have come to meet the train. The men disperse, eyeing the off-going passengers as they take up positions.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Eve is seen getting off the train. Behind her comes a Redcap carrying her luggage. As we DOLLY WITH THEM along the long, crowded platform towards the terminal, we see that, beneath the red hat and the uniform, the baggage-smasher Is really Thornhill.

CLOSE SHOT - THE TWO DETECTIVES

as they see Eve.

POINT OF VIEW - FROM DETECTIVES

Eve approaching, followed by her "Redcap."

MOVING SHOT - THORNHILL AND EVE.

Eve sees the detectives up ahead. She slows down, lets Thornhill draw abreast of her as they walk.

> EVE (sotto voce) Keep walking. I'll catch up.

2

THORNHILL

Yes, ma'am.

The two detectives step into her path. She stops. Thornhill continues on.

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105

106

107

108

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FIRST DETECTIVE Anything to report, Miss Kendall?

EVE (with enthusiasm) Why yes. I had a fine night's sleep.

FIRST DETECTIVE (shaking his head with annoyance) I mean did you happen to see the man we're looking for?

EVE

Mr. Thornycroft?

FIRST DETECTIVE Thornhill.

EVE Oh...No....I'm awfully sorry. (she smiles) But good luck to you both.

She walks away. The two detectives look after her with sour expression.

MOVING SHOT - WITH EVE AND THORNHILL

.

Eve catches up with her "Redcap", moves abreast of him as he struggles with the heavy luggage.

> EVE 3 How're we doing?

THORNHILL (exhausted) I may collapse any minute.

EVE Not yet. First we have to run the gauntlet. Look.

MOVING POINT OF VIEW - FROM EVE AND THORNHILL 110

Police are lined up along the platform up ahead, eyeing everyone who passes.

MOVING SHOT - WITH EVE AND THORNHILL

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They move right along under the very eyes of the police, talking to each other with a technique that would arouse the approval of any ventriloquist:

109

111

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THORNHILL (sweating) 111 I'm accustomed to having a load CONT'D on... What have you got in these bags? (2) EVE Bowling balls - naturally. THORNHILL Which one of these has my suit in it? EVE The small zippered affair underneath your right arm. THORNHILL That ought to do it a lot of good. EVE I'm sure Mr. Kaplan won't mind a few wrinkles. THORNHILL If he's still there. What time is it? · •. EVE Nine-thirty. THORNHILL He may have left his hotel room by now. ٤. ÷. EVE I'll call him for you as soon as we get inside the station. THORNHILL No. I'll do it. EVE Redcap in a phone booth? Slightly suspicious. THORNHILL All right. You know what to tell him? $\sim 10^{\circ}$ EVE . You want to see him right away. Terribly urgent. Matter of life and death. No explanations.

THORNHILL

Good.

North By Northwest Chgs. 10-10-58 P.88 EVE . 111 -CONT'E And while I'm calling, you change your clothes. (3) THORNHILL Where do you propose I do that - in Marshall Field's window? EVE I sort of had the Men's Room in mind. THORNHILL (gives her a look) Did you now. (pause) You're the smartest girl I ever spent the night with on a train. She glances at him with a slight smile. He gives her a sour look. 11121 CLOSEUP - EVE As she looks straight ahead again, her expression becomes thoughtful with a trace of distress. She turns her head slightly. 11122 EXT. PLATFORM In a MEDIUM SHOT, we now SEE the subject of Eve's troubled thoughts: Vandamm and Leonard, who are getting off their pullman car. They start to walk toward the CAMERA. CLOSEUP - EVE **JJJX**. She glances at Thornhill with a trace of sadness in her eyes. 1117 CLOSEUP - THORNHILL (FROM EVE'S POINT OF VIEW) With a cheerful eye cocked for any signs of

danger ahead.

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THE PLATFORM UP AHEAD (FROM THORNHILL'S POINT OF 111X5 VIEW) - MOVING SHOT

There are no police in sight.

TWO SHOT - THORNHILL AND EVE

THORNHILL Looks like we've made it.

SEMI-LONG SHOT - THE PLATFORM

There is a commotion around the steps of the car from which Eve and Thornhill alighted. On the top of the steps appears a hatless, middle-aged man in his underwear, socks and shoes. Behind him are two uniformed policemen pushing him down the steps to the platform. Our two detectives quickly step forward to question him. At the same time, the two uniformed police alight to the platform and complete the small knot of men surrounding the uniformless Redcap. For a moment we see the hapless Redcap gesticulating as he describes how he came to be in this state of undress. Then suddenly the police and detectives dash away and down the platform toward the main lobby, leaving the man standing there in his underwear.

CLOSE SHOT - THE REDCAP

He watches the departing police, then fishes out a few dollar bills from inside his underwear and counts them over.

INT. MAIN LOBBY - HIGH ANGLE SHOT

Much activity, many people, a profusion of Redcaps. If one of them is Thornhill, it is difficult to tell. Now we SEE the four minions of the law arriving in the lobby. They dash about, rounding up Redcaps, who submit to examination with much bewilderment. One detective whips off a Redcap's hat. Angrily the man snatches it back. Another detective spots a Redcap who is hurrying away, his back to CAMERA. He looks very much like Thornhill from the rear. The detective grabs him, whirls him

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112

111X8

111X7

111X6

around, and finds himself staring into a stunned, open mouthful of teeth that definitely do not answer to the description of Thornhill's.

INT. MEN'S ROOM

There is considerable activity here. At the row of wash basins stand three men. One is washing his hands, the other is scraping away at his chin with a straight razor, and the third man - Thornhill - is busily rubbing in a foamy lather which covers the lower half of his face. He is in his regular trousers by now, and his jacket hangs nearby. At his feet stands Eve's small zippered bag. The Redcap uniform is nowhere to be seen. Suddenly the door bursts open and our two detectives enter. Thornhill and the other men turn at the commotion, casually watch the detectives glancing about in search of their quarry. As Thornhill turns back to the mirror and continues to lather his face, we HEAR the SOUND of stall DOORS OPENING and BANGING CLOSED. Their mission unaccomplished, the detectives go out. Thornhill nonchalantly finishes his lathering, then looks down and picks up his razor, which, up to now, we have not seen. It is the tiny one belonging to Eve. He starts to draw it down his cheek, leaving the narrowest of lines down the lather. Then in the mirror he catches sight of the man with the straight razor staring at him in bewilderment.

112X1

112 -

(2) (2)

EXT. PHONE BOOTH IN MAIN LOBBY

We SEE Eve through the glass doors, listening to someone on the phone, writing on a memo pad and saying a few words of agreement. The CAMERA now begins to TRAVEL along the row of booths. We SEE various people at telephones. The CAMERA comes to a STOP outside another booth. Through the glass we SEE Leonard speaking. He seems to be issuing specific instructions, glances at his wristwatch once. After a pause, he hangs up.

EXT. ROW OF BOOTES

A RAKING SHOT of the line of booths, showing Eve in the f.g. booth through the glass in the act of hanging up. She folds the piece of paper as she rises and emerges from the booth, her head turned away from us. Simultaneously, the door of Leonard's booth opens and he steps out. Without looking at Eve, he crosses over to Vandamm, who is idly glancing at a magazine at the newsstand. Leonard murmurs something to him, and the two men move off. Now Eve turns, looks about, and reacts as she sees:

LONG SHOT - POINT OF VIEW

Thornhill, carrying Eve's small zippered bag, is walking with assumed nonchalance across the station. He gives a deliberate side glance in Eve's direction, meaning: "Follow me." 115X3 Of

112X4

112X5

P.91

112X2 OL

112AX2

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SEMI-LONG SHOT

08 a 🛞

Eve starts to move across the lobby after Thornhill.

CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL

He is just coming to a stop at a secluded spot behind a column. He turns and waits. After a few moments, Eve comes into the SHOT. She has assumed a much lighter air. He hands her the zippered bag and several baggage tickets.

> EVE What took you so long? THORNHILL Small razor. Big face. (glancing about warily) Did you get Kaplan?

Yes.

THORNHILL Good. What did he say?

EVE

EVE

He'll see you, but not at the hotel under any circumstances. He'll meet you on the outside.

THORNHILL

Where? When?

EVE

I've got it all written out for you. (she hands him the slip of

paper. He studies it as she talks)

You're to take the Greyhound Bus that leaves Chicago for Indianapolis at two and ask the driver to let you off at the Prairie Stop on Highway 41.

THORNHILL (reading) Prairie Stop...Highway 41...

EVE

About an hour-and-a-half's drive from Chicago.

112X6

113

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THORNHILL

I can rent a car.

EVE

No car. Mr. Kaplan said bus. He wants to be sure you're alone.

THORNHILL All right. What do I do when I get there?

EVE

Just stand beside the road and wait. He'll be there at three-thirty.

THORNHILL How will I know him?

EVE

He'll know you. You made the Chicago papers too.

THORNHILL

Ah.

.

EVE Have you got your watch set to Central time?

THORNHILL

Yes. (looking at her) What's the matter?

EVE

Matter?

THORNHILL

You. You seem... I don't know... tense.

EVE (turns away) You better go. Before the police run out of Redcaps.

THORNHILL We'll see each other again, won't we?

EVE (strained) Sometime... I'm sure...

THORNHILL (with tenderness) I never found a moment to thank you properly. : 113 CONT'D (2) THORNHILL But where will I find you?

I have to pick up my bags now ...

EVE (disturbed)

He takes hold of her, turns her to him.

Please go.

N.54

THORNHILL Please wait a minute...

She looks past him.

EVE They're coming.

Thornhill, unable to see over his shoulder because of the column behind him, gives half a glance and dashes off out of the SHOT. The CAMERA EASES OVER and SHOOTS past Eve's shoulder into the main lobby. There are no police, just a few desultory travellers. Eve turns into the CAMERA and looks after the departed Thornhill with an unhappy expression.

DISSOLVE TO:

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HELICOPTER SHOT - EXT. HIGHWAY 41 - (AFTER NOON)

We START CLOSE on a Greyhound bus, SHOOTING DOWN on it and TRAVELLING ALONG with it as it speeds in an easterly direction at 70 m.p.h. Gradually, CAMERA DRAWS AWAY from the bus, going higher but never losing sight of the vehicle, which recedes into the distance below and becomes a toy-like object on an endless ribbon of deserted highway that stretches across miles of flat prairie. Now the bus is slowing down. It is nearing a junction where a small dirt road coming from nowhere crosses the highway and continues on to nowhere. The bus stops. A man gets out. It is Thornhill. But to us he is only a tiny figure. The bus starts away, moves on out of sight. And now Thornhill stands alone beside the road - a tiny figure in the middle of nowhere. 114

113 CONT'D (3)

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ON THE GROUND - WITH THORNHILL - (MASTER SCENE)

115-115X

He glances about, studying his surroundings. The terrain is flat and treeless, even more desolate from this vantage point than it seemed from the air. Here and there patches of low-growing farm crops add some contour to the land. A hot sun beats down. UTTER SILENCE hangs heavily in the air. Thornhill glances at his wristwatch. It is 3:25.

In the distance, the FAINT HUM of a MOTOR VEHICLE is HEARD. Thornhill looks off to the west. The HUM GROWS LOUDER as the car draws nearer. Thornhill steps closer to the edge of the highway. A black sedan looms up, travelling at high speed. For a moment we are not sure it is not hurtling right at Thornhill. And then it ZOOMS past him, recedes into the distance, becoming a FAINT HUM, a tiny speck, and then SILENCE again.

Thornhill takes out a handkerchief, mops his face. He is beginning to sweat now. It could be from nervousness, as well as the heat. Another FAINT HUM, coming from the east, GROWING LOUDER AS he glances off and sees another distant speck becoming a speeding car, this one a closed convertible. Again, anticipation on Thornhill's face. Again, the vague uneasiness of indefinable danger approaching at high speed. And again, ZOOM - a cloud of dust - a car receding into the distance a FAINT HUM - and SILENCE.

His lips tighten. He glances at his watch again. He steps out into the middle of the highway, looks first in one direction, then the other. Nothing in sight. He loosens his tie, opens his shirt collar, looks up at the sun. Behind him, in the distance, another vehicle is HEARD approaching. He turns, looks off to the west. This one is a huge transcontinental moving van, ROARING TOWARD HIM at high speed. With quick apprehension he moves off the highway to the dusty side of the road as the van thunders past and disappears. Its FADING SOUND is replaced with a NEW SOUND, the CHUGGING of an OLD FLIVVER.

Thornhill looks off in the direction of the approaching SOUND, sees a flivver nearing the highway from the intersecting dirt road. When the car reaches the highway, it comes to a stop. A middle-aged woman is behind the wheel. Her passenger is a nondescript man of about fifty. He could certainly be a farmer. He gets out of the car. It makes a U-turn and drives off in the direction from which it came. Thornhill watches the man take up a position across the highway from him. The manuflances at Thornhill without visible interest, then looks off up the highway towards the east as though waiting for something to come along. 115-11-CONF'D (2)

Thornhill stares at the man, wondering if this is George Kaplan.

The man looks idly across the highwar at Thornhill, his face expressionless.

Thornhill wipes his face with his hardkerchief, never taking his eyes off the man across the highway. The FAINT SOUND of an APPROACHING FLANE has gradually come up over the scene. As the SOUNT GROWS LOUDER, Thornhill looks up to his left and sees a low-flying biplane approaching from the northwest. He watches it with mounting interest as it heads straight for the spot where he and the stranger face each other across the highway. Suddenly it is upon them, only a hundred feet above the ground, and then, like a giant bird, as Thornhill turns with the plane's passage, it flies over them and continues on. Thornhill stares after the plane, his back to the highway. When the plane has gone several hundred yards beyond the highway, it loses altitude, levels off only a few feet above the ground and begins to fly back and forth in straight lines parallel to the highway, letting loose a trail of Powdered dust from beneath its fuselage as it goes. Any farmer would recognize the operation as simple cropdusting.

Thornhill looks across the highway, sees that the stranger is watching the plane with tile interest. Thornhill's lips set with determination. He crosses over and goes up to the man.

THORNHILL

Hot day.

MAN

Seen worse.

THORNHILL Are you...uh...by any chance supposed to be meeting someone here?

MAN (still watching Maitine plane) Waitine for the bus. Due any minute.

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115-115X

CONLID (3)

THORNHILL

Oh...

MAN (idly) Some of them crop-duster pilots get rich, if they live long enough...

THORNHILL Then your name isn't... Kaplan.

MAN (glances at him) Can't say it is, 'cause it ain't. (he looks off up the highway) Well - here she comes, right on time.

Thornhill looks off to the east, sees a Greyhound bus approaching. The man peers off at the plane again, and frowns.

> MAN That's funny.

> > THORNHILL

What?

MAN That plane's dustin' crops where there ain't no crops.

Thornhill looks across at the droning plane with growing suspicion as the stranger steps out onto the highway and flags the bus to a stop. Thornhill turns toward the stranger as though to say something to him. But it is too late. The man has boarded the bus, its doors are closing and it is pulling away. Thornhill is alone again.

Almost immediately, he HEARS the PLANE ENGINE BEING GUNNED TO A HIGHER SPEED. He glances off sharply, sees the plane veering off its parallel course and heading towards him. He stands there wide-eyed, rooted to the spot. The plane roars on, a few feet off the ground. There are two men in the twin cockpits, goggled, unrecognizable, menacing. He yells out to them, but his voice is lost in the NOISE of the PLANE. In a moment it will be upon him and decapitate him. Desperately he drops to the ground and presses himself flat as the plane zooms over him with a great noise, almost combing his hair with a landing wheel. Thornhill scrambles to his feet, sees the plane banking and turning. He looks about wildly, sees a telephone pole and dashes for it as the plane comes at him again. He ducks behind the pole. The plane heads straight for him, veers to the right at the last moment. We HEAR two sharp CRACKS cf GUNFIRE mixed with the SOUND of THE ENGINE, as two bullets slam into the pole just above Thornhill's head.

Thornhill reacts to this new peril, sees the plane banking for another run at him. A car is specing along the highway from the west. Thornhill dashes out onto the road, tries to flag the car down but the driver ignores him and races by, leaving him exposed and vulnerable as the plane roars in on him. He dives into a ditch and rolls away as another series of SHOTS are HEARD and bullets race the ground that he has just occupied.

He gets to his feet, looks about, sees a cornfield about fifty yards from the highway, glances up Et the plane making its turn, and decides to make E dash for the cover of the tall-growing corn.

SHOOTING DOWN FROM A HELICOPTER about one hundred feet above the ground, we SEE Thornhill running towards the cornfield and the plane in pursuit.

SHOOTING FROM WITHIN THE CORNFIELD, we SEE Thorneill come crashing in, scuttling to the right and lying flat and motionless as we HEAR THE PLANE ZOOM COME HIM WITH A BURST OF GUNFIRE and bullets rip into the corn, but at a safe distance from Thornhill. He raises his head cautiously, gasping for breath as he HEARS THE PLANE MOVE OFF AND INTO ITS TURN.

SHOOTING DOWN FROM THE HELICOPTER, we SEE the pime levelling off and starting a run over the cornfield, which betrays no sign of the hidden Thornhill. Skinning over the top of the cornstalks, the plane gives forth no burst of gunfire now. Instead, it lets loose thick clouds of poisonous dust which settle down into the corn.

WITHIN THE CORNFIELD, Thornhill, still lying flat, begins to gasp and choke as the poisonous dust envelops him. Tears stream from his eyes but he does not dare move as he HEARS THE FLANE COMING OVER THE FIELD AGAIN. When the plane zooms by and another cloud of dust hits him, he jumps to his feet and crashes out into the open, half blinded and gasping for breath. Far off down the highwar to the right, he SEES a huge Diesel gasoline-tanker approaching. He starts running towards the highwar to intercept it. 115-115: Cont'd (4)

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SHOOTING FROM THE HELICOPTER, we SEE Thornhill dashing for the highway, the plane levelling off for another run at him, and the Diesel tanker speeding closer.

SHOOTING ACROSS THE HIGHWAY, we SEE Thornhill running and stumbling TOWARDS CAMERA, the plane closing in behind him, and the Diesel tanker approaching from the left. He dashes out into the middle of the highway and waves his arms wildly.

The Diesel tanker THUNDERS down the highway towards Thornhill, KLAXON BLASTING impatiently.

The plane speeds relentlessly towards Thornhill from the field bordering the highway.

Thornhill stands alone and helpless in the middle of the highway, waving his arms. The plane draws closer. The tanker is almost upon him. It isn't going to stop. He can HEAR THE KLAXON BLASTING him out of the way. There is nothing he can do. The plane has caught up with him. The tanker won't stop. It's got to stop. He hurls himself to the pavement directly in its path. There is a SCREAM OF BRAKES and SKIDDING TIRES, THE ROAR OF THE PLANE ENGINE and then a tremendous BOOM as the Diesel truck grinds to a stop inches from Thornhill's body just as the plane, hopelessly committed and caught unprepared by the sudden stop, slams into the travelling gasoline tanker and plane and gasoline explode into a great sheet of flame.

In the next few moments, all is confusion. Thornhill, unhurt, rolls out from under the wheels of the Diesel truck. The drivers clamber out of the front seat and drop to the highway. Black clouds of smoke billow up from the funeral pyre of the plane and its cremated occupants. We recognize the flaming body of one of the men in the plane. It is Licht, one of Thornhill's original abductors. An elderly open pick-up truck with a second-hand refrigerator standing in it, which has been approaching from the east, pulls up at the side of the road. Its driver, a farmer, jumps out and hurries toward the wreckage.

> FARMER What happened? What happened?

115-115X CONT'D (5)

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The Diesel truck drivers are too dazed to answer. Flames and smoke drive them all back. Thornhill, unnoticed, heads toward the unoccupied pick-up truck. Another car comes up from the west, stops, and its driver runs toward the other men. They stare, transfixed, at the holocaust. Suddenly, from behind them, they HEAR the PICK-UP TRUCK'S MOTOR STARTING. The farmer who owns the truck turns, and is startled to see his truck being driven away by an utter stranger.

FARMER

Heyl

He runs after the truck. But the stranger - who is Thornhill - steps harder on the accelerator and speeds off in the direction of Chicago.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MICHIGAN AVENUE, CHICAGO - (NIGHT)

The abandoned pick-up truck, with its lonely refrigerator, stands incongruously parked among some new and elegant cars. A patrolman has opened the door and is peering inside.

EXT. STREET NEAR HOTEL AMBASSADOR EAST

A police squad car is cruising slowly past the entrances to the Ambassador East and Ambassador West, which face each other' on opposite sides of the street. Inside the car, two police lieutenants glance about, eyes searching the area. CAMERA WHIPS to Thornhill, standing in an attitude of concealment inside the doorway of a darkened store as he watches the police car drive on. He looks quite dishevelled, and his suit would not pass muster at, say, Twenty One. Now he steps to the sidewalk and starts walking in the direction of the Ambassador East.

EXT. ENTRANCE HOTEL AMBASSADOR EAST

Thornhill approaches the hotel and enters.

INT. LOBBY HOTEL AMBASSADOR EAST

Thornhill crosses the lobby to the desk and waits for a clerk to come over.

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· 118

115111

115-115) CONT'D (6)

North By Northwest Chgs. 10-10-58 P.101 CLERK (eyeing him with 118 distaste) CONT'D (2) Yes? THORNHILL Could you let me have Mr. George Kaplan's room number, please? CLERK (thoughtfully) Kaplan... (as he starts to one side to consult files:) I think he checked out ... THORNHILL Checked out? CLERK (returns with a file card) That's right. Checked out at seven-ten this morning. THORNHILL Seven-ten? Are you sure? CLERK Yes. Left a forwarding address -- Hotel Sheraton-Johnson, Rapid City. South Dakota. Thornhill has taken out the slip of paper on which Eve had given him directions to meet Kaplan. THORNHILL (talking half to himself) Seven-ten? Then how come I got a message from him at nine-thir---? CLERK What was that? THORNHILL Nothing, nothing. His eyes narrow and his jaw tightens with realization ... He crumples the piece of paper into a ball and hurls it away in anger. Just then he looks up and sees Eve, who has come through the entrance to the lobby. She does not see him as she goes directly to the newsstand and buys an evening paper. Thornhill draws back, watches her unobserved as she glances quickly at the front page while hurrying to a

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waiting elevator. She steps in, the door closes 118 and the elevator starts up. Thornhill watches CONT'D the floor indicator until the elevator stops. (3) Then he turns back to the clerk.

> THORNHILL Sorry to bother you again.

CIERK

Uh huh.

THORNHILL

Miss Eve Kendall is expecting me. Room four-something-orother. I've forgotten the number. Would you mind?

The clerk steps to one side, examines his listings, then returns to Thornhill.

CLERK

She's in four-sixty-three.

THORNHILL

Thanks.

He hurries toward the elevator as the clerk looks after him.

QUICK DISSOLVE TO:

HOTEL CORRIDOR - FOURTH FLOOR

Thornhill approaches the door to 463, looks up and down the corridor if for no other reason than to indicate to us that he has now become suspicious, cautious and surreptitious in matters pertaining to Eve. He puts an ear to her door, listens, hears nothing. He presses the buzzer and waits. Presently the door opens and she sees him standing before her. Her eyes widen. She is too stunned to say anything.

THORNHILL (pleasantly)

Hello.

He goes right past her into the room.

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INT. EVE'S HOTEL ROOM

Eve turns, stares at Thornhill as she closes the door behind him. If his back were not to her, he would see the mixed emotions on her face - not just surprise, but overwhelming relief, too. But relief is not something she can afford to reveal too strongly, because that would indicate that there was something to be relieved <u>about</u>. She is almost completely controlled by the time Thornhill turns to her, after a very brief moment in which his darting glance has taken in the room, and the open door to the bathroom, and noticed nothing worthy of apprehension.

THORNHILL

Surprised?

EVE

Yes.

She stares at him, still shaken.

THORNHILL No getting rid of <u>me</u>, is there?

Suddenly Eve goes up to him, puts her arms around him, holds him close and presses her face to his breast. Is it tenderness and relief, or merely the need to hide from the double-edged meaning of his last remark? Thornhill puts his hands on her, but without affection. He knows he is on to something now, and he intends to play it cool. Occasionally his deep down anger will make him say incautious things he oughtn't to say if he intends to disarm the girl - and just as occasionally, he will be even warmer than he intended to be. He can't help liking this female a little bit, even while he would like to slug her. It's because he remembers last night. It's because, also, she happens to be of the opposite sex. THORNHILL I need a drink. 120 CONT'D (2)

EVE I have some scotch.

THORNHILL With water. No ice.

Eve disengages herself from him and goes over to a table where drinking things are set up. Thornhill takes the opportunity to saunter over to a chair where the newspaper has been thrown. The front-page story is plainly visible:

> TWO DIE AS CROP DUSTER PLANE CRASHES Low-flying craft hits oil tanker. Truck drivers escape holocaust.

During this, and while Eve is mixing drinks, they are talking:

EVE (too casually) How did it go today?

THORNHILL The meeting with Kaplan?

EVE

Uh-huh.

THORNHILL (just as casually) Ee didn't show up.

EVE

Oh? "

THORNHILL (staring at her back) Funny, isn't it?

EVE (after a slight pause) Why funny?

THORNHILL After all those very involved and very explicit directions he gave you on the phone.

EVE Maybe I copied them down wrong.

THORNHILL I don't think you got them wrong. I think you sent me to the right place all right. He couldn't resist that one. Fortunately for Eve, her face is not turned to him, and she can always fumble with glasses and stirring rods.

120 CONTID (3)

EVE Why not call him again and see what happened?

THORNHILL I did. He checked out, went to South Dakota.

EVE South Dakota?

THORNHILL

Rapid City.

EVE (after a moment) What are you going to do next?

THORNHILL I haven't made up my mind yet. It may depend on you.

On this, Eve turns, with the drinks in her hands.

EVE

On me?

She walks up to him.

THORNHILL You're my little helper, aren't you?

He takes a glass from her, all the while staring into her eyes.

THORNHILL

To us. (he touches his glass to hers) To a long and lasting friendship... (he takes a sip) Meaning, from now on, I'm not going to let you out of my sight, sweetheart.

EVE (hiding in her glass) I'm afraid you're going to have to, Thornhill.

THORNHILL (shakes his head) Unh uh.

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120 CONTID (4)

EVE	(turning away)
I do have plan	s of my own, you
know - and you do have problems.	

Thornhill takes a long drag on his drink before he speaks, and once again he engraves each word on a Gilette Blue Blade.

> THORNHILL Wouldn't it be nice if my problems and your plans were somehow...connected? (her quick glance finds his face smiling softly, may lovingly) Then we could stay close to each other from here on in and not have to go off in separate directions. Togetherness. Know what I mean?

Eve stares at him for a moment saying nothing, and is saved by the bell as the PHONE RINGS. She glances at it, but makes no move to answer it.

> THORNHILL Go ahead. It can't be for me.

She hesitates uncertainly. The PHONE RINGS AGAIN. He makes a move as though he will answer it. Quickly Eve walks over to the night-table between the beds and picks up the phone, while Thornhill saunters around the room just as though he were not utterly alert and keenly interested in every monosyllable of her tightly-controlled conversation.

> EVE (to phone) Hello? (listens) Yes. (listens) No, don't. I'm not dressed yet. (listens) What time? (listens) I'll meet you. (listens) What's the address? (she takes up a pencil, writes something down on a memo pad as she listens. Thornhill observes this out of the corner of his glance) All right. (listens) I will. (listens) Goodbye.

She hangs up, tears off the page on which she has120written something, walks over to her handbag onCONT'Dthe dresser and puts the slip of paper inside.(5)We SEE a gun in her handbag.(5)

THORNHILL

Business?

EVE

Yes.

THORNHILL Industrial designing business?

EVE

Mm hmmm.

He goes up behind her, puts his hands about her waist. (The nice thing about this kind of catand-mouse work is that you can enjoy yourself while you're doing it, because it's part of the game.) Eve is disturbed by the nearness of him, and his hands on her.

THORNHILL

All work and no play. Girl like you should be enjoying herself tonight instead of taking phone calls from clients. How about dinner with me just for openers?

EVE

You can't afford to be seen anywhere.

THORNHILL What's wrong with up here? Our own little Pump Room for two.

Eve pulls out of his grasp, moves away from him.

EVE

No...I...I can't.

THORNHILL (easily)

I insist.

Eve is in a spot. She gets control of herself before she turns to him. But a little desperation does creep through in her voice.

> EVE I want you to do me a favor, Thornhill - a big, big favor.

> > THORNHILL

Name it.

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EVE

120 CONT'D (6)

I want you to leave, right now. Stay far away from me and don't come near me again. We're not going to get involved. Last night was last night and that's all there was, that's all there is, there isn't going to be anything more between us. So please - goodbye, good luck, no conversation. Just leave.

THORNHILL (utterly unperturbed) Right away?

EVE

Yes.

THORNHILL No questions asked?

EVE

Yes.

Thornhill looks at her a moment. She wants to get rid of him. She's got to get rid of him. That's for sure. He shakes his head.

THORNHILL

Unh-uh.

EVE

Please...

THORNHILL After dinner.

EVE

Now.

THORNHILL (firmly) After dinner. Fair is fair.

Eve's lips tighten, but she is careful not to betray the urgency of her situation. The wheels go round for a moment as she looks at him. Then, she makes a decision, softens her expression, and smiles.

> EVE All right. On one condition. (she goes up to him, touches his rumpled, dirty suit) You've got to let the hotel valet do something with that suit first. You belong in the <u>stockyaris</u> looking like that.

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(7)

CONTD

THORNHILL (shrugs) I'm very large with pigs this year.

EVE (pointing) There's the phone.

She turns to the mirror and starts to fix her hair. Thornhill goes over to the bed, sits down and puts his hand on the phone but doesn't pick it up. He is thinking fast. With a cautious glance over his shoulder, he slides his hand to the memo pad beside the phone and tilts it slightly. He sees something there on the pad but we do not see what it is. Now he picks up the phone.

> THORNHILL (to phone) Valet service please...Valet? This is...uh... (to Eve) Where are we?

> > EVE

Four sixty-three.

THORNHILL (to phone) This is room four sixty-three. How long would it take to get a suit sponged and pressed real fast?... Twenty minutes? Fine... Four sixtythree.

(he hangs up) He'll be right up.

EVE

Better take your things off.

THORNHILL (going up to her) What am I going to do with my clothes off for twenty minutes? (an afterthought, as he gazes at her reflection in the mirror) Couldn't he take an <u>hour</u>?

EVE (turns, practically in his arms) You could always take a cold shower.

She starts to help him off with his jacket as he takes his things out of his pockets and places them on the dresser. Both of them are playing it just

lly

.. Doon of onem are praying it

120 CONT'D

(8)

as though they were up to nothing but good, clean, healthy love-play.

THORNHILL When I was a little boy, I never even let my mother undress me.

EVE (peeling off the jacket) Well, you're a big boy now.

She tosses the jacket on the bed, turns back to him, puts her hands on his belt buckle, starts to unfasten it. He takes her hands in his.

> THORNHILL How did a girl like you ever get to be a girl like you?

> > EVE

Lucky, I guess.

THORNHILL

Not lucky - wicked...naughty.... up to no good....Ever kill anyone? (instantly Eve's expression changes. He has gone too dangerously far; quickly he takes the curse off the remark) Bet you could tease a man to death without even trying. (he pats her cheek) So stop trying, hm?

He starts toward the bathroom, undoing the belt buckle himself as he goes. The DOOR BUZZER SOUNDS. Eve goes to the door, opens it, lets the valet in.

> EVE (to the valet) Be right with you. (she goes to the half open bathroom door) Trousers, please.

Thornhill's hand comes out with the trousers. Eve takes them, picks up the jacket on the bed, gives the suit to the valet and closes the door behind him. From the bathroom she HEARS THORNHILL'S VOICE calling out to her:

> THORNHIL'S VOICE Think I'll take that cold shower after all.

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Next she HEARS THE SHOWER BEING TURNED ON, then THORNHILL'S VOICE raised in a loud, shower-stall rendition of "The Night They Invented Champagne." Immediately, and with urgent haste, Eve prepares to leave. She goes to the closet, gets the jacket of her suit, puts it on. Then from a dresser drawer she takes some papers and stuffs them into her handbag, darting occasional glances toward the partially open bathroom door from whence comes Thornhill's "singing in the rain."

Her glance falls on Thornhill's belongings, which he had removed from his pockets. A CLOSER VIEW of them shows the torn newspaper photograph of Vandamm covered by Thornhill's "R O T" initialled matchbook. Eve's hand sets the matches aside, picks up the torn newspaper photograph, holds it long enough for quick study and puts it down again. In a WIDER ANGLE she turns, and, with a final glance around, starts out of the room.

INT. BATHROOM

Thornhill is not in the shower after all. In shirt, tie, shorts, socks and shoes, he has been standing at the crack in the door peering out at Eve's furtive activities while singing lustily, the shower spraying away busily behind him. Now he HEARS the OUTER DOOR CLOSE as Eve makes her hasty exit.

CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL

As he opens the bathroom door wider, steps out into the room. It is clear from his expression that he has not really been duped, but rather has been shead of this little game all along. He goes to the night-table, picks up the memo pad on which Eve had made a notation and removed the top sheet. He picks up a pencil and in a CLOSER ANGLE we SEE him trace in the indentation left by Eve's pencil. It reads: "1212 N. MICHIGAN."

DISSOLVE TO:

120 CONT'D (9)

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.155

EXT. MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO - (NIGHT)

A taxi pulls up and Thornhill steps out. (His suit is in fine shape now.) He glances about, sees that he has the right address, and moves across the sidewalk.

CLOSER ANGLE - EXT. SHAW & OPPENHEIM GALLERIES

The lighted window of a rather elegant art gallery. A sign in the window announces:

"AUCTION TONIGHT - 8:00 P.M. FURNITURE AND OBJETS D'ART FROM THE COLLECTION OF DR. ORLANDO MENDOZA"

Over the door, the building number: "1212." Thornhill frowns, puzzled, takes out the slip of paper, looks up at the number again, then decides to go inside.

INT. SHAW & OPPENHEIM GALLERIES

AUCTIONEER Thank you, sir. Four hundred fifty dollars is bid for the pair, can I hear five hundred, will you say five hundred, can I say the five hundred, fair warning and last call -- sold to Mr. Stone second row.

On the stage the chairs are removed as lot 103, an Aubusson settee is brought onto the stage.

CLOSE SHOT - Vandamn's fingers gently moving over the soft flesh of Eve's neck. CAMERA DRAWS BACK to include Eve seated. Vandanm standing behind her and Leonard beyond them seated on a low table, his legs dangling. At the far end of the room is a raised platform on which an AUCTIONEER and his ASSISTANT, with the aid of portable microphones, are going about the business of unloading various objets d'art. Elderly men in black dustjackets pass the items from the wings onto the stage, one piece at a time, where each object is then auctioned off at the leisurely pace which distinguishes the sale of 19th Century French paintings from the sale of 20th Century American tobacco. Nost of the hundred-odd spectators at the auction are seated on folding chairs in the center of the room. Moving along the

123

124

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aisle on either side of them 124 are several handsome young CONT'D women employed by the gallery (2) to jot down the names of successful bidders, should they not be known, Beyond these aisles, on either side, is the overflow of spectators, some of them seated, some standing, others leaning against antique period furniture,

CAMERA REACHES the end of the dolly and PANS to Thornhill. standing in entrance, staring off at Vandamm and the others. Thornhill's mouth tightens with anger. It is not that he is overwhelmed with surprise at this visible evidence of alliance, but it does remove any lingering doubts he might still have had about the girl. He has really been taken for a ride ~- almost but not quite, all the way. And now, those fingers playing at the back of her neck. The hell with caution, and concealing anger. Besides, it's too late. He moves out of SHOT,

Thornhill MOVES to a chair Dear the group.

THORNHILL The three of you together. Now there's a picture only Charles Addams could draw,

VANDAMi (unperturbed) Good evening, Mr, Kaplan --

THORNHILL (bitterly) Before we start calling each other names, maybe you better tell me yours. I haven't had the pleasure.

VANDANN -- You disappoint me, sir.,.

AUCTIONEER

Lot number 103. Ah! this lovely Aubusson settee, in excellent condition, please start the bidding. How much? Eight hundred dollars is offered, thank Y-Ou. Eight hundred is bid, say the nine, go nine hundred. Nine hundred is bid, now who'll say one thousand one thousand thank you, on thousand, at one thousand, say eleven hundred, bid the eleven hundred, not enough for this choice piece, can I hear eleven hundred, selling at one thousand, once at one thousand, twice, last call, do I hear eleven hundred? Sold: One thousand to Mrs. Sheridan

The settee is removed from the stage and lot 104, a barometer is brought in.

> AUCTIONEER Lot number 104 --This 18th Century hand carved barometer. Can I say two hundred and fifty to start? That gentleman says one hundred and fifty. I have one hundred and fifty. Say two hundred, two hundred is bid here, now go

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> 124 CONTID (3)

AUCTIONEER (continued) the three hundred, say three hundred, three hundred is bid, thank you, do I hear three hundred and fifty? Three hundred and fifty, may I have three hundred and fifty, three hundred, three hundred twice third and last call do I hear three hundred and fifty?. Sold: Mr, Echart three hundred,

The barometer is removed and lot 105 is brought i. . in.

AUCTIONEER

Now, Ladies and Gentlemen - Number 105, an excellent example of Pre-Columbian art. It dates from about 1000 A.D. A Tarascan Warrior from the State of Kolemia, in Mexico. May I hear a starting bid worthy of this fine art piece? Who will say one thousand dollars to start?

THORNHILL (bitterly at Eve) I was just going to say that to her.

Eve stares straight ahead. Vandamm gazes off at the auctioneer.

VANDAM I've always understood you to be a pretty shrewd fellow at your job. What possessed you to come blundering in here like this? Could it be an overpowering interest in art?

> THORNHILL Yes. The art of survival. (a quick shaft at Leonard) · · · · · Poured any good drunks lately?

EVE (in a hollow voice, to Vandarm) He followed me here from the hotel.

LEONARD (to Eve) He was in your room?

She nods. Vandamm reacts with displeasure.

THORNHILL (with contempt) Sure. Isn't everybody?

At this time, the AUCTIONEER'S VOICE is HEARD announcing Item Number 105. He proceeds to describe it. It is a pre-Columbian figure of a Tarascan Warrior from the State of Kolemia, Mexico, approximate date, 1000 A.D. During this, an attendant has been walking about showing the figure to the spectators. Leonard taps the momentarily distracted Vandamm on the shoulder and points to the figure. Vandamm The gentleman here glances at it quickly, looks suggests five hundred, up at Leonard and says:

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AUCTIONEER (continued) All right, that's a start. Now say one thousand. I have five Vandamm) hundred dollars, may I say the thousand. Seven hundred and fifty is offered. -Thank you, now say the thousand. One thousand is bid, make it twelve hundred and fifty, Eleven hundred you say? All right I have eleven hundred bid, make it twelve hundred - twelve hundred dollars there. Now thirteen is here, fourteen hundred is bid.

AUCTIONEER (o.s.) Fifteen hundred I'm bid. who'll say bid. who'll say Control of this little piece of the second plenty of the seco fifty?

AUCTIONEER (o.s.) Eve is visibly suffering. Seventeen fifty is bid. Say two thousand -two thousand anyone do I hear two thousand -- seventeen fifty is a really puts her heart seventeen fifty --Sold then to Mr. Vandamm at seventeen fifty.

1s brought in.

Chgs, 10-27-58 P:115 Si 1 VANDAM 124 Yes. CONT 'D (4)

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THORNHILL (to I didn't realize you were an art collector, I thought you just collected corpses.

The bidding has started.

VANDAMM (to Leonard, quietly) Fifteen hundred.

Leonard makes a silent signal to the auctioneer.

VANDAM! (to Leonard) Seventeen fifty.

THORNHILL (continuing) She's worth every dollar, take it from me, She bid. Seventeen fifty, into her work. In fact are you all through at her whole body. (a quick glance at Leonard) And where does he keep you - in a curio cabinet?

The Tarascan piece is Thornhill reacts to the Auction-removed and lot 106, the eer's mention of Vandamm's Dame

THORNHILL (hearing the name) Vandamm, huh?

1 to 2

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AUCTIONEER Number 106 -- for your pleasure is this Louis XV Curio Cabinet of gold and bronze dore with Vernis Martin figured decorations and landscape painting. Who will say five hundred dollars to start the bidding, five hundred dollars for it. Five hundred dollars for it. All right I'll accept your start of two hundred dollars, two hundred is bid, go three, two fifty I have, say three, two fifty I have say three hundred, three hundred now go four, three go four, three go four, three go four, three twentyfive is bid say fifty, three fifty I have, say four, three hundred and fifty go four hundred, three hundred and fifty say three seventy-five, three hundred fifty say seventy-five. Don't lose it for twenty-five dollars; Thank you three hundred and seventy-five is bid. I have three hundred and seventy-five dollars go the four hundred. Three seventy-five go four. Four hundred dollars is bid. Say four hundred and twenty-five. Four hundred twenty five once, four hundred twenty-five twice, last call at four hundred twenty-five, Sold to the lady in the fourth row for four hundred dollars,

The Louis XV cabinet is removed and lot #107 is brought in.

124 VANDAMM (turns to CONTI Thornhill) (5) Has anyone ever told you that you overplay your various roles rather severely, Mr. Kaplan? First you're the outraged Madison Avenue man who claims he has been mistaken for someone else, Then you play a fugitive from justice, supposedly trying to clear his name of a crime he knows he didn't commit. And now, you play the peevish lover, stung by jealousy and betrayal. (a chilly smile) Seems to me you fellows could stand a little less training from the F.B.I. and a little more from the Actors' Studio.

THORNHILL Apparently the only performance that's going to satisfy you is when I play dead.

VANDAMM (gently) Your very next role. You will be quite convincing, I assure you,

Leonard has already stared out of the room to arrange that.

THORNHILL (watching him go) I wonder what subtle form of manslaughter is next on the program. Am I going to be dropped into a vat of molten steel and become part of some new skyscraper? (looking at Eve) Or are you going to ask this...female to kiss me again and poison me to death?

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AUCTIONEER And new ladies and gentleman we offer catalogue number 107 this rare Marcolini Meissen compote, acquired by Dr. Mendoza from the estate of the Comtesse de Chivre, How much to start the bidding on this collector's porcelain? Five hundred, madam? That's an extremely ding. Six? Six hundred I have, now the seven, seven hundred I have thank you say eight. May I direct your attention to the magnificent repousse flowers on this outstanding example. Eight hundred dollars the front, One thousand VANDAME (International VANDAME) (International VANDAME there nine hundred in Eleven hundred dollars is here now, say the twelve, twelve hundred dollars there. Twelve hundred is bid say thirteen hundred may I hear thirteen hundred may the last thing you want I hear thirteen hundred me in the hands of the hundred. Last call, sold twelve hundred dollars, Thank you.

The Marcolini Meissen Compote is removed and lot 108, the Vienna Plates, is displayed,

> AUCTIONEER Number 108 - we offer decorated with portraits of Court

Eve gets to her feet, turns and slaps him in the face. He grabs her wrists and they (6) stare at each other for a moment.

124 CONT'D

THORNHILL (with contempt) Who are you kidding? You have no feelings to hurt.

He firmly presses her back down into her seat. During this, a man in the audience low start and should nearby is half turned, as prompt spirited bid- though he has been observing the entire altercation. <u>is the Professor of the C.I.A.</u>

VANDAMM (angrily) Mr. Kaplan --

THORNHILL (turning on him) Look, Vandamm, I don't know why you want me dead, but this I --

VANDAMi (interrupting) enough of you..

THORNHI LL Then why don't you call the police? No - that's the last thing you want please, fair selling at twelve hundred, do I hear thirteen police. There's something I might tell them, huh? That's why you had this one here hustle me on the train last night, like the good little industrial designer that she is. Well, something tells me I've got a much better chance of survival if I go to the police. And the nere fact that you don't want me to is enough for me. you now twelve Royal (to Eve) Vienna Plates, mag-nificently hand-Don't think it hasn't been nice,

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(6A)

AUCTIONEER (continued) beauties. How much a piece and take the lot. Thirty a piece is bid all over the house, Thirty-five, say forty, forty go forty-five, fortyfive I have go fifty - fifty go five, fifty go five, fifty is here say fiftyfive, fifty dollars a piece say fifty, five, anymore, Sir? Sold then for fifty dollars a piece, 🚋

The plates are taken out as a painting is brought in.

27.2

AUCTIONEER Catalogue number 109. A superb example of this early 19th Century master, it will enhance any collection of fine art. What is your.pleasure? How much to start? One thousand is bid. twelve-fifty I have, fifteen hundred, fifteen hundred is bid, say seventeen fifty, I have seven-teen-fifty, two thousand is bid --

124 He walks away from them and goes toward the entrance in CON the rear. But he doesn't get very far before he stops. Standing inside the doorway waiting for him is Valerian, the U.N. assassin. Thornhill turns, looks about, and SEES, down the aisle, the steps to the auctioneer's stage where men are bringing on a piece of furniture for auction. He starts down the aisle with the intention of making his way out through the back, Then he slows down as he SEES Leonard stepping out of the "wings" of the stage. Leonard looks at him steadily, and then withdraws significantly. Thornhill looks about him with desperation, then quickly slips into a nearby seat among the spectators. At this moment, Vandamm and Eve depart. Thornhill turns his attention to the platform, where the auctioneer has a painting on the block.

(NOTE: Pick up dialogue in script,)

·...' AUCTIONEER I have two thousand. Do I hear twenty-five? ... Twenty-five hundred please, ... Twenty-two-fifty. Thank you, Do I hear twenty-five? ..., Twenty-two-fifty once. Twenty-twofifty twice. Last call ...

THORNHILL (shouts) Fifteen hundred

		1.5	
North	By	Northwest	
Chgs.	•	10- 27 - 58	P,117B

AUCTIONEER (startled) The bid is already up to twentytwo-fifty, sir,

THORNHILL I still say fifteen hundred!

Heads turn toward him angrily. But Thornhill is concerned only about escaping the fate Valerian and Leonard have reserved for him.

> AUCTIONEER (recovering) I have twenty-two-fifty. Do I hear twenty-five hundred?....Twentytwo-fifty once. Twenty-two-fifty twice....

THORNHILL Twelve hundred!

AUCTIONEER (quickly) Sold for twenty-two-fifty. And now -- 124 CONT'D (6B)

124

(7)

CONT'D

THORNHILL (loudly) Twenty-two-fifty for that chromo?

> AUCTIONEER (ignoring him)

-- Number one hundred sixteen in the catalogue...

- (as attendants bring out a chaise longue) "A Louis XIV carved and painted <u>lit de repos.</u>" Kindly observe the moulded frame, the carved, freestanding columns at each corner and the fluted, tapering legs. Will somebody start the bidding at sevenhundred-and-fifty dollars please?

THORNHILL How do we know it's not a fake? It looks like a fake!

An elderly woman seated directly in front of Thornhill turns and glares at him.

WOMAN

One thing we know: you're no fake. You're a genuine idiot.

THORNHILL

Thank you.

an A is s

AUCTIONEER

I wonder if I could respectfully ask the gentleman to get into the spirit of the proceedings here.

THORNHILL All right. I'll start it at eight.

AUCTIONEER

Eight hundred dollars. Thank you. Nine hundred...One thousand I have. Go twelve.

THORNHILL

Eleven!

AUCTIONEER

Eleven is bid. Go twelve. Who'll say twelve? Eleven once. Who'll say twelve? Eleven twice. Twelve. Thank you. Twelve is bid. I have twelve. Go thirteen. Who'll say thirteen?

THORNHILL Thirteen dollars!

AUCTIONEER You mean thirteen hundred, sir?

THORNHILL I mean thirteen dollars, which is more than it's worth!

The auctioneer will continue his work, but his assistant will now reach for the phone on his desk and make a hurried call, which will not go unnoticed by Thornhill.

> AUCTIONEER Twelve hundred I have. Go thirteen. Who'll say thirteen? Twelve-fifty? Twelve hundred once. Twelve hundred

twice. Last call. Twelve hundred.

THORNHILL Two thousand!

AUCTIONEER (a little stunned) Two thousand?

THORNHILL Twenty-one-hundred!

AUCTIONEER I'm sorry, sir, but we can't --

THORNHILL Make it twenty-five hundred!

By this time an angry murmur is rising from the spectators. Someone shouts: "Ask him to leave!" A uniformed male ATTENDANT is moving down the aisle toward Thornhill. Valerian and Leonard, in their separate positions, are glancing about uncertainly.

> AUCTIONEER Would the gentleman please____ cooperate?

ASSISTANT AUCTIONEER (trying to restore order) The last bid was twelve-hundred.

THORNHILL Twenty-five hundred! My money is as good as anybody's!

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124 CONT'D (8)

CONTID

124

(9)

AUCTIONEER I have twelve hundred once... twelve hundred twice...

THORNHILL Three thousand!

AUCTIONEER Last call. Sold for twelve hundred.

THORNHILL (leaping to his feet) You're not going to get away with this!

By this time the uniformed attendant has reached Thornhill's row of seats, pushed into the row and grabbed him by the arm.

THORNHILL Let go of mei Get your hands off me or I'll sue!

Now the place is really in an uproar. Spectators push Thornhill into the aisle. He grapples with the attendant as women cry out in alarm. Two police officers come running in through the entrance. Thornhill notices this with a pleased expression, hauls back and lets the attendant have a good one on the jaw. The man goes reeling back into the crowd, bounces back and lets fly a swing at Thornhill, who ducks, moves in and wrestles him to the floor. During this, just after the police arrive. the Professor gets up and quickly walks out. The police now reach the struggle, seize Thornhill and pull him to his feet.

> FIRST OFFICER All right now...

THORNHILL What took you so long?

SECOND OFFICER (pulling him toward the door) Let's take a little walk...

THORNHILL Wait a minute...

SECOND OFFICER Get moving.

THORNHILL I haven't finished bidding yet... FIRST OFFICER (dragging him along) Yeah, yeah.

THORNHILL (struggling) Three thousand: It's mine for three thousand:

Nearing the entrance they approach Valerian, standing there completely frustrated. Thornhill flashes him an apologetic smile as he is dragged by.

> THORNHILL Sorry, old man. But keep trying.

Valerian watches without expression as Thornhill is escorted safely past him.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Thornhill and the two policemen continue through the lobby. Behind them is a telephone booth. We SEE the Professor standing beside it watching Thornhill being taken out. After they have passed him, the Professor glances after them briefly, then goes into the booth and closes the door.

EXT. SHAW & OPPENHEIM GALLERIES

The police emerge from the building with Thornhill and hurry him toward a patrol car parked at the curb.

> THORNHILL Handle with care, fellahs...

FIRST OFFICER (opening rear door) In there.

THORNHILL ...I'm valuable property.

FIRST OFFICER

<u>In</u>.

He pushes Thornhill into the car.

INT. PATROL CAR

Thornhill lands on the rear seat and the first officer joins him, while the other coperts behind the wheel.

> THORNHILL I want to thank you boys for saving my life --

124X1

125

124

(10)

COKT 'D

126

CONT'L (2)

FIRST OFFICER (gruffly) Save it for the station-house.

The car starts away.

THORNHILL (buoyantly) Come on. Let's see some smiles and good cheer. You're about to become herces. Know who I am?

FIRST OFFICER (disinterested) We'll find out as soon as we book ya for bein' drunk and disorderly.

THORNHILL Drunk and disorderly? That's chicken feed. You've hit the jackpot, Sergeant... (as the Sergeant gives him a bored look) "Chicago police capture United Nations slayer."

Now the look is not so bored. Thornhill hands the half-believing sergeant his wallst:saying:

THORNHILL Roger Thornhill is the name. Take me to your leader.

While the sergeant is quickly looking over Thornhill's identification cards, the officer behind the wheel picks up a newspaper, glances at it, turns back to look at Thornhill and holds up the paper.

SECOND OFFICER

It's him!

In the back seat, the sergeant leans forward, stares off screen at the paper, then turns and looks at Thornhill.

> THORNE IL Congratulations, men.

> > FIRST OFFICER (awed)

Yeah....

The man behind the wheel has taken up the telephone receiver on the dashboard and put in a call to headquarters. (THE PHONE IS SIMILAR TO HOUSEHOLD INSTRUMENTS. WE CAN HEAR ONLY ONE END OF THE CONVERSATION.) During this, Thornhill sits back with smug expression.

SECOND OFFICER (to phone) 126 This is one oh five five. Sergeant CONT'D Flamm. We got a man here answering (3) to the description of Thornhill, Roger. Code seventy six. Wanted by NYPD. Positive I.D. (listens) Absolutely. No question. (listens) Michigan Avenue. Proceeding west to forty-second precinct. (listens) What? (listens) Come again? (listens) Ya sure? (listens) Okay. (listens) Right. (listens) Yeah. I got it. (listens) One oh five five off and clear. He hangs up, makes a swift U-turn and speeds off in the opposite direction. FIRST OFFICER (startled) Where we goin'? SECOND OFFICER (dejected) The airport.

> FIRST OFFICER For what?

SECOND OFFICER (disgusted) Orders.

THORNHILL Just a second here. I'm not going to any airport. I want to be taken to police headquarters.

SECOND OFFICER Ya <u>do</u>, huh?

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THORNHILL (leans forward)126Why do you think I sent for youCONT'Dfellows?(4)

SECOND OFFICER How about this guy, Charley? He sent for us.

FIRST OFFICER (pulling Thornhill back) Sit back.

THORNHILL Did you hear what I said? I want to be taken to police headquarters! I'm a dangerous assassin! I'm a mad killer on the loose!

SECOND OFFICER You oughta be ashamed of yourself.

DISSOLVE TO:

127

1271

EXT. MIDWAY AIRPORT, CHICAGO - NIGHT

The police car pulls up, stops. The two police get out. Thornhill gets out. They walk him into the terminal. In the background, the SOUND OF PLANES TAKING OFF.

INT. NORTHWEST AIRLINES TERMINAL

They enter, and the police escort Thornhill to the Information Counter.

SECOND OFFICER They said right here.

THORNHILL (grumbling) Does anybody mind if I sit down? I've been running all day.

Just then, the police see a man rushing through the door towards them. It is the Professor. He is breathless as he goes up to the Information Desk, giving Thornhill and the police a quick glance as he goes. We SEE the Professor lean over the desk and murmur something to the clerk, who nods, acknowledges him and immediately hands him an envelope of plane tickets. The clerk leans over his desk and points down the terminal building. The Professor turns and approaches the group, still out of breath. The CAMERA MOVES into a CLOSER ANGLE. The Professor fumbles in his pockets, brings out an identification, which he shows to the police, all the while saying: 127X1 CONT'D (2)

PROFESSOR Never thought I'd make it. Getting too old for this kind of work. (he glances at Thornhill) All right. Thank you, men. (takes Thornhill by the arm) Let's go, Mr. Thornhill. We haven't much time. This way is more private.

THE FOLLOWING SCENE WILL BE PLAYED IN A FAST-MOVING DOLLY SHOT AS THE PROFESSOR ESCORTS THORNHILL AWAY FROM THE POLICE THROUGH THE TERMINAL, ALONG A RANP, THROUGH A GATE AND ACROSS THE FIELD TOWARDS A WAITING PASSENGER PLANE. MOVEMENT WILL COME TO A HALT ONLY WHERE INDICATED.

> THORNHILL I don't think I caught your name.

> PROFESSOR I don't think I pitched it.

THORNHILL You're police, aren't you? Or is it F.B.I.?

PROFESSOR F.B.I...C.I.A....O.N.I....we're all in the same alphabet soup.

THORNHILL Well, put this in your alphabet soup: I had nothing to do with that United Nations killing...

PROFESSOR

THORNHILL (slows down) You do?

PROFESSOR (bumping a passerby) Sorry.

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12771

(3)

CONT'D

THORNHILL

Then what's the idea of the police chasing <u>me</u> all over the map?

PROFESSOR

We never interfere with the police unless absolutely necessary. It has become necessary.

THORNHILL I take it, then, I'm to be cleared.

PROFESSOR (taking his arm) I do wish you'd walk faster,

Mr. Thornhill. Weill miss the plane.

THORNHILL (walking faster) Where are we going -- New York or Washington?

PROFESSOR Rapid City, South Dakota.

THORNHILL (suspicious) Rapid City? What for?

PROFESSOR It's near Mt. Rushmore.

THORNHILL I've already seen Mt. Rushmore.

PROFESSOR So has your friend Mr. Vandama.

THORNEILL (slowing down again) Vandamn?

PROFESSOR (wrily) A rather formidable gentleman, eb?

THORNHILL (with venom) And what about that treacherous tramp with him...

THORNHILL

Yeah.

127X1 CONT'D (4)

PROFESSOR His mistress. We know all about her.

THORNHILL (bridling at this) What's Vandami up to?

PROFESSOR (evasively) Let's say he's a kind of... importer-exporter.

THORNHILL Of what?

PROFESSOR Oh...you could say...government secrets perhaps?

THORNHILL Why don't you grab him?

PROFESSOR Too much we still don't know about his organization.

THORNHILL Uh-huh. Well what's Mt. Rushmore got to do with all this?

PROFESSOR

Vandamm has a place near there. We think it's his jumping off point to leave the country tomorrow night.

THORNHILL And you're going to stop him...

PROFESSOR

No.

THORNHILL (puzzled) Then...what are we going there for?

PROFESSOR To set his mind at ease about George Kaplan.

Thornhill glances sharply at the Professor and peers at him for a moment.

THORNHILL

You, huh?

PROFESSOR

Eh?

THORNHILL (a.statement) You're George Kaplan, aren't you...

PROFESSOR (blandly)					
	no, Mr. Thornhill. There is				
no	such person as George Kaplan.				

Thornhill comes to a dead stop.

THORNHILL Is no such person?

PROFESSOR We'll talk on the plane. Come.

THORNHILL

But I've been in his hotel room! I've tried on his clothes! He's got short sleeves and ... and dandruff!

PROFESSOR

Believe me, Mr. Thornhill, he doesn't exist. Which is why I'm going to have to ask you to go on being him for another Ewenty-four hours.

Thornhill points a protesting finger at the Professor. Just as his mouth opens, there is the SUDDEN ROAR OF ENGINES AS A PLANE REVS UP AND PREPARES TO TAXI AWAY FROM THE NEARBY RAMP. Thornhill looks across at the plane with annoyance.

THE PLANE

As it starts to taxi away, its four engines creating a storm of noise and wind.

MED. LONG SHOT - THORNHILL AND THE PROFESSOR

129 The two men are talking at each other, the Professor calmly, Thornhill gesticulating, arguing, denying, insisting, protesting. The Professor keeps tugging gently on Thornhill's arm, trying to move him along as he explains. As they start walking again, TOWARDS CAMERA, they continue to talk to each other. WE HAVE HEARD NONE OF THIS CONVERSATION, BECAUSE DISTANCE FROM CAMERA AND THE NOISE OF THE PLANE TAXIING AWAY HAVE INTERVENED....long enough for the Professor to give Thornhill a brief outline of the George Kaplan plan which we learned about in Washington. As the two men approach CAMERA and walk through the gate onto the field, where another passenger plane stands waiting, the Professor appears to be making an appeal, and

128

127X1

(5)

CONLID

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Thornhill is shaking his head vigorously. They have 129 walked into a TIGHTER TWO-SHOT and the SOUND OF THE CONT D TAXIING PLANE HAS FADED AWAY. We can hear them now. (2)

THORNHILL

Look - you started this crazy decoy business without me! Finish it without me!...

PROFESSOR

And well we might have if you hadn't stumbled into it...

THORNHILL

...,I think you should give me a medal and a very long vacation Instead of asking me to go on being a target just so that your Number One, or whatever you call him, doesn't get shot at

PROFESSOR

Not shot at, Mr. Thornhill found out. Once he's found out, he's as good as dead. And thanks to you clouds of suspicion are forming --

THORNHILL

PROFESSOR If you'll get on the plane --

THORNHILL

I'm an advertising man, not a red herringi I've got a job, a secretary, a mother, two ex-wives and several bartenders waiting for me, and I don't intend to disappoint them all and get myself slightly killed by playing the man in the gray-flannel cloak-and-dagger. The answer is no!

PROFESSOR Is that final?

THORNHILL

Yesi

The Professor looks at him for a moment, then holds out his hand.

PROFESSOR Goodbye then. (as Thornhill takes the hand uncertainly)

(a amt d mund)

PROFESSOR (cont'd) If I thought there was any chance of changing your mind, I'd talk about Miss Kendall, whom you obviously disapprove of for good reason... 129 CONT'D (3)

THORNHILL (savagely) Yeah - for using sex like some people use a fly-swatter...For trying to have me exterminated...

PROFESSOR I don't suppose it would matter to you that she was probably forced to do whatever she did...in order to protect herself.

THORNHILL (almost a sneer) Protect herself from what?

PROFESSOR (slowly) Suspicion...exposure...assassination. (Thornhill stares at him) Forgive me for referring to our Number One as a man, Mr. Thornhill. It's about all <u>I</u> can do to help keep her safe while she's in all this terrible danger...

CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL

Turning to CAMERA, eyes filled with emotion as he shakes his head slowly, trying to throw off the pain of his confused feelings.

> PROFESSOR'S VOICE (o.s.) I know you didn't mean to, but I'm afraid you have put her in a most delicate situation - and much more than her life is at stake...

During this, another plane has been arriving, its landing lights slowly increasing the illumination on Thornhill's stricken face and the background behind him. The SOUND of the ENGINES RISES, as though illustrating the mounting determination within Thornhill, and his ultimate decision.

DISSOLVE TO:

LONG SHOT - THE PLANE IN FLIGHT - NIGHT

We are SHOOTING UP at the plane from an elevation on the ground as it approaches CAMERA in a slightly descending path. As the plane comes nearer and zooms past, CAMERA PANS WITH IT SLIGHTLY and DISCOVERS: 131.

130

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THE FACES OF THE PRESIDENTS - MT, RUSHMORE - NIGHT 132

The monument glows against the night sky, lit by several banks of unseen searchlights. We HOLD ON THIS SHOT. And then THE FADING SOUND OF THE DISAPPEARING FLANE SLOWLY BECOMES THE SOUND OF LAUGHTER AND MANY VOICES. SLOWLY, NIGHT TURNS TO DAY.

THE FACES OF THE PRESIDENTS - MT. RUSHMORE - DAY 133

Same angle as above. The searchlights have been replaced by sunlight. The black sky has turned blue. CAMERA PULLS BACK SLOWLY, until A CIRCULAR BORDER APPEARS AT THE EDGES OF THE SCREEN. We are in:

EFFECT SHOT - THE FACES OF THE PRESIDENTS - AS 134 SEEN THROUGH BINOCULARS

As soon as we have established the binocular effect.

CUT TO:

CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL - MT. RUSHMORE OBSERVATION 135 DECK

We are on Thornhill's back as he stands peering through binoculars mounted on a pedestal (There are similar glasses located at many vantage points throughout the park).

> THORNHILL Suppose they don't come.

PROFESSOR'S VOICE (0.8.)

They'll come.

During this we have PULLED BACK TO REVEAL the Professor sitting nearby reading a Rapid City newspaper, his back half-turned away from Thornhill.

> THORNHILL (uneasily) I don't like the way Teddy Roosevelt is looking at me...

PROFESSOR He's trying to give you one last word of caution, Mr. Kaplan: speak softly, and carry a big stick.

Thornhill leaves the binoculars, starts restlessly past the Professor to the corner of the terrace, saying:

THORNHILL

I think he's trying to tell me not to go Through with this hair-brained scheme...

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PROFESSOR

Perhaps he doesn't know to what extent you are the <u>cause</u> of our present difficulties--

THOFNHILL (turning to him) I'm not so sure I accept that charge, Professor.

PROFESSOR (mildly) My dear fellow - if you had not made yourself so damnably attractive to Miss Kendall that she fell for you--

THORNHILL (momentarily delighted) And vice versa.

PROFESSOR

--Our friend Vandamm wouldn't be losing faith in her loyalty now. It was quite obvious to him last night that she had become emotionally involved, worst of all with a man he thinks is a government agent.

THORNHILL Are you trying to tell me - and Teddy Roosevelt - that I'm irresistible?

PROFESSOR (sternly) I'm trying to remind you that it's your responsibility to help us restore her to Vandamm's good graces...

(he sees Thornhill's face cloud over) ...Right up to the moment he leaves the country tonight.

THORNHILL (annoyed) All right. All right. (he points a finger to remind the Professor of a previous bargain) But after tonight...

PROFESSOR (looking away) My blessings on you both.

Thornhill nods. Then he looks off-screen and reacts tensely.

THORNHILL

Here they are.

The Professor's nonchalance vanishes instantly. He gets up and walks swiftly away. Thornhill looks off again. 136-134 007

POINT OF VIEW - THE PARKING AREA

139

A white Lincoln convertible is pulling into a parking space, comes to a stop. The driver is Vandamm. Eve and Leonard sit béside him. They get out of the car, clance about, and start towards the cafeteria building.

CONT 'D

135

(2)

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THORNHILL

Watches them for a moment, then turns purposefully and hurries toward the cafeteria from his level. We move with him EITHER with a DOLLY SHOT or a SERIES OF CUTS, depending on the location of his starting point.

(IT WILL NOT ALWAYS BE SPECIFICALLY INDICATED. BUT IT SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND THAT THE ENTIRE MT. RUSHMORE DAY SEQUENCE TAKES PLACE WITH SIGHTSEERS CATERA BUGS, LITTLE CHILDREN AND ASSERTED TOURISTS IN EVIDENCE AT ALL TIMES, WHETHER OUTDOORS OR INDOORS.]

EXT. MT. RUSHMORE CAFETERIA & GIFT SHOP BUILDING Thornhill approaches the building and enters.

INT. BUILDING - (MASTER SCENE)

Thornhill walks across the lobby to the cafeteria, a vast room with many tables and enormous windows through which can be seen the faces of the presidents in the distance. It is after the lunch hour, and only half of the tables are occupied. Thornhill goes over to the steam-table and asks for a cup of coffee. While waiting for it, he turns and looks toward the PARKING AREA ENTRANCE to the cafeteria. No one is coming through there yet. He receives the cup of coffee and starts toward an unoccupied table. Just as he arrives at the table, he sees Vandamm, Leonard and Eve enter the cafeteria. He remains standing until they see him. Then he sits down, as Vandamm and Eve walk towards him. Leonard sits down at a table near the entrance, as though he were a sentry standing guard in case of trouble.

AT THE TABLE

Vandamm and Eve arrive at the table. Eve has a strained look. Thornhill contemptuously deigns, if in even to glance at her. His ignoring of her presence is his way of demonstrating to Vandamm how bitterly he despises her. (THORNHILL is now playing a terse, matter-of-fact "KAPLAN" rather than his usual protesting self.)

140

142

141

143

VANDAMM (with a mild smile) Good afternoon, Mr. Kaplan.

He starts to draw out a chair for Eve.

THORNHILL (sharply)

Not her.

Vandamm's manner changes. He turns to Eve and, with a sharp incline of the head, dismisses her. Tight-lipped, Eve turns and walks off towards the gift shop. Thornhill looks after her with noticeable distaste. Vandamm sits down, resuming his deceptively polite manner.

(AT TIMES DURING THE FOLLOWING, THORNHILL WILL LOOK PAST VANDAMM TOWARDS THE GIFT SHOP AND WE WILL SEE THAT EVE, "BROWSING" IN THE GIFT SHOP, IS STANDING RIGHT NEXT TO ANOTHER "BROWSER," WHO COULD EVEN BE EXCHANGING WHISPERED WORDS WITH HER. IT IS THE PROFESSOR. AND IF LEONARD, SEATED NEAR THE DOORWAY, VOULD TURN HIS HEAD, HE MIGHT EVEN SEE THEM. BUT HE DOES NOT TURN HIS HEAD. AND HE DOES NOT KNOW THE PROFESSOR.)

VANDAMM

Did I misunderstand you about bringing her?

THORNHILL

We'll get to that. (as he lights a cigarette) I suppose you were surprised to get my call...

VANDAMM

Not at all. I knew the police would release you, Mr. Kaplan. By the way, I want to compliment you on your colorful exit from the auction gallery...

THORNFILL

Thank you.

VANDAMM

And now what little drama are we here for today? You see, I don't for a moment believe that you invited me to these gay surroundings in order to come to an arrangement.... 143 CONT'D (2)

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143

(3)

CONT'D

THORNHILL

Suppose I were to tell you that I not only know exactly what time you're leaving the country tonight, but also the latitutde and longitude of your rendezvous, and your ultimate destination.

VANDAMM (after a beat) You wouldn't care to carry my bags, would you?

THORNHILL Maybe you'd like to know the price, just the same.

VANDAMM

Price?

THORNHILL For doing nothing to stop you.

VANDAMM (amused) How much did you have in mind?

THORNHILL

I want the girl

The geniality dies on Vandamm's face for a moment. Then he gives a little smile of understanding.

> THORNHILL (shakes his head, then speaks with bitterness) I want her to get what's coming to her. You turn her over to me and I'll see that there's enough pinned on her to keep her uncomfortable for the rest of her life. In return, I'll look the other way tonight.

Vandamm peers at him for a moment.

VANDAMM She really got under your skin, didn't she?

THORNHILL (angrily) We're not talking about my skin. We're talking about yours. I'm offering you a chance to save it...

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VANDAMM To exchange 1t...

THORNHILL Put it any way you like.

VANDAMM

I'm curious, Mr. Kaplan. How did you arrive at this deduction that my feelings for Miss Kendall might have deteriorated to the point where I would...trade her in for...a little peace of mind?

THORNHILL

I don't deduce. I observe.

The two men stare at each other steadily. Then Vandamm looks up and gets to his feet.

FULL SHOT - THE TABLE

Eve is standing beside the table, her face tense. She doesn't look at Thornhill.

> EVE (coldly) Phillip -- if you don't mind, I'm going back to the house.

She immediately turns and starts to leave the cafeteria. Vandamm, momentarily caught off guard, looks after her hesitantly, and then, after a quick look at Thornhill, goes after her.

CLOSEUP - THORNHILL

Looking off after them, he rises with concern on his face.

POINT OF VIEW - FROM THORNHILL

Vandamm has caught up with Eve. There is a brief unheard exchange between them, then Vandamm beckons Leonard over to them, and the three start swiftly toward the exit. 14371

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143 CONTID

(4)

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CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL

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Seeing this turn of events and reacting to it, he starts after them.

WIDER ANGLE - (MASTER SCENE)

Thornhill moves swiftly across the cafeteria to head off Vandamm, Eve and Leonard, who are approaching the door leading out to the parking area. Thornhill catches up with Eve, puts a hand on her.

> THORNHILL (quietly and tensely) Just a second, you.

Vandamm and Leonard, a few steps ahead of her, stop and look back.

> EVE (mutters, pulling free) Get away from me!

She goes toward the two men, who are starting to return. Thornhill grabs Eve by the arm, pulls her, struggling, back into the cafeteria.

EVE (through her breath)

Let go!

Vandamm starts to make a move towards the struggling Eve and Thornhill. Leonard quickly stays him. All of this takes place with lightning rapidity. Vandamm watches tensely.

> EVE Let go of mel

THORNHILL You're not going anywhere... (he pulls her violently away from the others) Come on...

The CAMERA MOVES IN for a CLOSEUP of VANDAMM. From his POINT OF VIEW, we SEE the struggling couple.

EVE Nol...Pleasel...

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CONT'D (2)

THORNHILL

Save the phoney tears ...

She breaks out of his grasp, backs away. He comes toward her, stops suddenly. She has taken her automatic from her handbag, points it at him.

EVE

Get back ...

THORNHILL You little fool...

He starts slowly toward her. She backs toward the entrance, eyes wide with terror.

EVE

Stay away from me...

Thornhill lunges at her. She fires at him once. he clutches his chest, stops dead in his tracks. She fires again. He spins, crashes into a table and falls to the floor. Crowds scream. Pandemonium ensues. Eve dashes out past Vandamm, who starts to follow, but Leonard restrains him.

> LEONARD No good, sir. You can't get involved in this.

IN A SERIES OF QUICK CUTS:

147-153

(1) The Professor is seen running across the cafeteria towards Thornhill's fallen body.

(2) Eve is seen running down the path towards the parking area.

(3) Leonard is seen unobtrusively escorting Vandamm to the back of the crowd.

(4) The Professor is seen pushing his way through the crowds surrounding Thornhill's body, saying: "Get back! Please! Don't touch anything!"

(5) Eve is seen getting into Vandamm's car, ... gunning the motor, speeding away.

(6) Leonard is seen moving up to the edge of the crowd surrounding Thornhill's body, maneuvering himself into position until he can see:

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North By Northwest Adds 9-24-58 P.139 (7) The Professor kneeling over Thornhill's body. 147-153 feeling the heart. He withdraws his hands, wipes CONT'D blood from his fingers with a handkerchief and (2) looks up gravely as a shocked murmur arises from the onlookers and one woman begins to cry.

QUICK DISSOLVE TO:

154 OUT

155 EXT. DRIVEWAY ENTRANCE TO PARK - FEW MINUTES LATER

SHOOTING OVER the heads of hushed onlookers in f.g., we see two green-uniformed park attendants bearing Thornhill on a stretcher to the rear of a parked hospital van. Several men remove their hats as the stretcher goes by. The Professor is on hand to supervise as the stretcher is placed in the van and the rear doors are shut. Now the Professor gets in the front seat beside the driver, and the van drives off.

QUICK DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SECLUDED ROAD - A FEW MINUTES LATER

CAMERA IS ON a lovely wooded glen securely hidden from the main road that cuts through the Black Hills. Perhaps the Mt. Rushmore monument can be seen in the distance through the trees. CAMERA PANS OVER, revealing the parked amublance. The Professor is in the act of opening the back doors. He peers in.

> PROFESSOR Mr. Thornhill...

Thornhill rises with alacrity.

THORNHILL Are we there?

PROFESSOR

No.

Thornhill looks off, sees someone and slides out of the ambulance to his feet. He stands for a moment looking off. Then, as he starts slowly forward, CAMERA EASES BACK ultimately to reveal Eve standing beside the white Lincoln convertible, During this, the Professor has started back toward the front of the ambulance, saying:

PROFESSOR

156

North by Northwest (1958) Page140 missing from original

Missing page:

a.

A page or part of a page of the only available copy is missing here. This situation is not unusual; many of the scripts held in the libraries or files of major studios and production companies have missing material, a fact that clearly illustrates the expendability of the screenplay once the true text, the film itself, has been made THORNHILL (without feeling)156No need. I understand...CONT'D(slightly bitter)(3)All in the line of duty...

EVE I did treat you miserably...

THORNHILL (a self-accusation) I hated you for it...

EVE (faltering) And I didn't want you to...go on...thinking...

THORNHILL (softening slightly) I used some pretty harsh words. I'm...sorry...

EVE They hurt...deeply...

THORNHILL (defensively) Raturally, if I'd known...

EVE (defensively) I couldn't tell you...

THORNHILL

No...

EVE

Could I?

THORNHILL Of course not.

Eve gives the tiniest of shrugs. They gaze at each other. That is the whole situation. Nobody to blame really. No need for further apologies. They each were unkind to the other - but always with due cause. But mixed in with the unkind acts and harsh words had been other acts, other words, other feelings - no? Eve smiles at him tenderly.

> EVE You didn't get hurt. I'm so relieved.

THORNHILL (eagerly) Of course I was hurt. How would you have felt if --?

EVE I mean when you fell in the cafeteria, when I - bang bang - shot you. THORNHILL (smiles) Oh, that...No.

EVE (moving closer) You did it rather well, I thought.

THORNHILL (pleased with himself) Yes - I was quite...graceful...

EVE (putting her hands on him) Considering that it's not really your kind of work....

THORNHILL (touching her tenderly) I got into it by accident. What's your excuse?

EVE

I met Phillip Vandamm at a party one night and saw only his charm. I guess I had nothing to do that weekend, so I decided to fall in love...

THORNHILL (sorry he brought the whole thing up) That's nice.

EVE

Eventually, the Professor and his Washington colleagues approached me with a few sordid details about Phillip and told me that my... relationship with him made me "uniquely valuable" to them,

THORNHILL (bridling) So you turned Girl Scout.

EVE

Maybe it was the first time anyone ever asked me to do anything worthwhile.

THORNHILL Has life been like that?

EVE

Mm hmm.

THORNHILL

How come?

EVE Men like you.

N 1

156 Contid (4)

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CONT'D (5)

THORNHILL (kissing her) What's wrong with men like me?

EVE They don't believe in marriage.

THORNHILL I've been married twice.

EVE See what I mean?

He looks at her with affection.

THORNHILL Y'know something. I may go back to hating you again. It was more fun.

EVE (with a trace of sadness) You're not going to have the chance. There isn't time.

(she gives him a quick embrace) Goodbye, Thornhill.

THORNHILL (holding her) Wait a minute. Not so soon.

EVE

I have to get back to the house and convince them I took the long way around so nobody would follow me there.

THORNHILL (holding her even closer) Can't we just stand like this for a few more hours?

EVE You're supposed to be critically wounded.

THORNHILL I never felt more alive.

EVE Whose side are you on?

THORNHILL Yours, always.

..., ...,.,.,.,

EVE Then don't undermine my resolve, just when I need it most. They HEAR the SHORT BEEP OF A HORN and look off. The Professor is motioning to Thornhill to come.

> THORNHILL I guess it's off to the hospital for me... (they start walking slowly) ...And back to danger for you. I don't like it one bit.

EVE Much safer now, thanks to you, my darling decoy.

THORNHILL Don't thank me. I couldn't stand it.

EVE All right. I won't.

THORNHILL

And just as soon as your malevolent friend Vandamm takes off tonight, I'm going to undo my bandages, and you and I are going to do a lot of apologizing to each other, in private...

EVE (glancing at him wistfully) Don't talk like that...

THORNHILL It's the way I feel...

EVE Sou mustn't...

THORNHILL

I must...

EVE You know it can't be.

THORNHILL (unconcerned) Of course it can be.

Eve stops, looks up at him, disturbed. She glances toward the Professor.

EVE He has told you, hasn't he?

THORNHILL (puzzled) Told me what?

Eve shakes her head, unable to speak.

156 Cont'd (6)

North By Northwest Chgs. 10-14-58 P.14+A PROFESSOR (coming up to them) 156 Miss Kendall - you've got to get CONT 'D moving... (7) EVE (with a final embrace) Goodbye, Thornhill... THORNHILL (holding onto her) Wait a minute ... (to the Professor) What didn't you tell me? Eve and the Professor glance at each other. There are tears in Eve's eyes now. EVE Why didn't you? For a brief moment, the Professor's face reveals an all-too-human regret for what he has done. Then he looks at Thornhill and speaks crisply. PROFESSOR She's going off with Vandamm tonight on the plane. THORNHILL (stunned) Going off with Vandamm? **PROFESSOR** That's why we've gone to such lengths to make her a fugitive from justice - so that Vandamm couldn't very well decline to take her along --THORNHILL But you said --PROFESS OR I needn't tell you how valuable she can be to us over there. THORNHILL You lied to me! You said after tonight --! PROFES SOR I needed your help... THORNHILL (bitterly) Well, you got it all right ... EVE (through tears) Don't be angry ... THORNHILL (to Eve) If you think I'm going to let you

go through with this dirty business ---!

PROFESSOR

She has to,

156 CONT'D (8)

THORNHILL (turning on him) Nobody has to do anything! I don't like the games you play, Professor -- 1

PROFESSOR War is hell, Mr. Thornhill -- even when it's a cold one.

THORNHILL (savagely) -- If you fellows can't lick the Vandamms without asking girls like her to bed down with them and fly away with them and probably never come back alive, maybe you better start learning to lose a few cold wars!

PROFESSOR (quietly) I'm afraid we're already doing that.

Suddenly Eve breaks away, runs for her car. Thornhill goes after her, and the Professor quickly motions to the ambulance driver to step down.

AT THE CAR

Eve gets into the car, starts the motor, as Thornhill catches up with her and pulls open the door to stop her.

> THORNHILL I'm not going to let you...

EVE Don't spoil everything now...please...

THORNHILL Come on - out...

A hand taps him on the back. He turns.

CLOSE SHOT - THE AMBULANCE DRIVER

His fist is cocked, and moving on the backward arc of a knockout punch.

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CUT TO:

Slamming shut as though it were illustrating the impact of fist on jaw. The car drives off with a SCREECH of tires, and we see Thornhill falling into the SHOT, and to the ground.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGET

START CLOSE ON A BEDSIDE RADIO. During broadcast PULL BACK TO REVEAL Thornhill in trousers and undershirt. His jacket, tie and red-stained shirt hang nearby. He is pacing back and forth, nervously smoking a cigarette.

> RADIO ANNOUNCER'S VOICE -- in full view of scores of horrified men, women and children who had come to the park to see the famed Mt. Rushmore monument. Witnesses to the shooting described Kaplan's assailant as an attractive blonde in her late twenties. Kaplan, who was removed to the Rapid City Hospital in critical condition, has been tentatively identified as an employee of the federal government... The tragedy developed with startling suddenness. Chris Swenson, a busboy in the Mt. Rushmore cafeteria, stated that he heard voices raised in what seemed to be--

Thornhill angrily switches off the radio and snuffs out his cigarette in an ashtray with a violent thrust. He goes to the single window which is open, stares down at the street many stories below. He turns, walks toward the door, feeling his jaw and wincing with pain. He pulls at the doorknob, knowing it is locked but unable to resist giving it another try. Impatiently he hits at the unyielding door as though it were his enemy. He is locked in, and quite obviously he'd like to be out. He begins to pace the room again. Now he HEARS FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING in the hallway outside, then a KEY IN THE LOCK. Quickly, and with noticeable cunning, he lies down on the bed. The door opens and the Professor walks in carrying a brand new white shirt.

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(2)

CONT'D

PROFESSOR (handing him the shirt) Here we are. Sixteen and three quarter collar, thirty-five sleeves, no ketchup stains.

THORNHILL

Thanks.

He starts to put on the shirt.

PROFESSOR How are you feeling?

THORNHILL All right - considering that your driver was born with a sledgehammer instead of a hand.

PROFESSOR Sorry about that.

THORNHILL (pretending) No. I deserved it. (gesturing toward the door) And that locked door too...

PROFESSOR If you were seen wandering about in good health, it could prove fatal to Miss Kendall...

THORNHILL . No need to lock me in anymore.

PROFES SOR

Good.

THORNHILL I've been acting childish...

Thornhill turns away from the Professor and we see on his face that he has ulterior motives.

PROFESSOR We all do at times, where a woman 1s concerned.

THORNHILL I've already started to forget her.

PROFESSOR

Good...

THORNHILL

Yes.

PROFESSOR

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CONT D

THORNHILL

Much.

PROFESSOR Inside of an hour she'll be gone.

Thornhill has to tighten his lips to keep from showing anything to the Professor other than utter lack of interest.

> THORNHILL How goes it in the world outside?

PROFESSOR Fine. Mr. Kaplan's untimely shooting has now acquired the authority of the printed word. Enormous headlines. Everyone has been cooperating beautifully.

THORNHILL You may now include me.

PROFESSOR I'm most grateful.

THORNHILL A favor in return?

PROFESSOR

Anything.

THORNHILL A bottle of scotch. A pint'll do.

PROFESSOR May I join you?

THORNHILL Wonderful. Make 1t a quart.

The Professor goes to the door, opens it and looks back.

> PROFESSOR See you in a few minutes.

Thornhill smiles, the picture of friendly cooperation. The door closes softly. And almost before it has clicked shut, Thornhill's smile disappears. He seizes his jacket, struggles into it, closes his collar at the neck, stuffs his tie into his pocket and steps to the door. He turns the knob and pulls. To his surprise and dismay, the door is locked. The Professor has been one step ahead of him.

THORNHILL (with disgust) Why, the dirty sneak.

He looks around, glances at his wristwatch, makes a decision, goes to the window and looks down at the street below. Then he takes a deep breath, swallows his fear and climbs out onto the ledge.

THE LEDGE

Thornhill inches his way along the shallow ledge until he comes to another window, partially open. He raises it as silently as he can and starts to climb in.

INT. ANOTHER HOSPITAL ROOM

The room is in darkness. Thornhill's silhouette is framed in the window as he climbs in. As his feet touch the floor, a light suddenly comes on. An attractive BRUNEITE has switched on the lamp on the night table and now sits up in bed. Thornhill holds a finger to his lips, starts toward the bed (and the door beyond).

BRUNETTE

Stop!

THORNHILL (softly, as he walks by) Excuse me.

The woman quickly takes her harlequin glasses from the night table, puts them on and looks at Thornhill as he goes past the bed and continues on to the door.

> BRUNETTE (in an entirely different tone of voice) Stop...

Thornhill opens the door and walks out on the invitation.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ROAD BEYOND MT. RUSHMORE - NIGHT

A taxi is speeding along a winding dirt road.

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CONT'D (4)

ANOTHER ANGLE

The cab slows down and comes to a stop near the beginning of a high stone wall.

CLOSER SHOT

As Thornhill gets out of the cab, the driver turns to him.

DRIVER Sure you don't want me to take you right up there?

THORNHILL No. This is fine.

The cab drives off.

THORNHILL

He looks about, then moves along the wall until he comes to a pair of heavy iron gates - the only entrance to the area beyond the wall. The gates are open. He goes through and sees:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - VANDAMM'S HOUSE

It is a sprawling modern structure in the Frank Lloyd Wright tradition set on a rise in the land at the end of a long driveway. Lights are ablaze. There is evidence of activity within.

ANOTHER ANGLE - WITH THORNHILL

Cautiously he approaches the house and makes his way around to the back. The terrain there is rocky and slopes sharply down to a level field. The house juts out over this slope, cantilever style. As Thornhill stands in the dark looking about, he suddenly sees:

THE FIELD BEHIND THE HOUSE

Two parallel rows of lights several hundred yards long. They are very clearly the runway lights of a 163X2

163X1

164-165 oor

166

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hidden langing strip. They flash off and on again, 169 as though being tested, and then the field falls CONT'D

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ANOTHER ANGLE - WITH THORNHILL

back into darkness.

He turns around and starts up the slope, moving to his right towards the side of the house where the incline is less steep. Just as he reaches the house, he stops, on the alert, as he HEARS THE SOUND OF AN APPROACHING CAR. He looks off, sees:

POINT OF VIEW

The headlights of the approaching car sweep along the driveway, and then the car itself is seen coming around the side of the house and pulling to a stop in the parking area. It is a small sedan. The driver gets out. It is Valerian. He is carrying a newspaper. At this moment, a side door of the house opens and a woman walks out to meet Valerian. It is the housekeeper last seen at the Townsend estate in Glen Cove. Together, they go toward the house, moving directly towards Thornhill.

THORNHILL

He quickly ducks beneath the cantilevered portion of the house and hides. He FEARS A DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING, then FOOTSTEPS AND VOICES INSIDE THE HOUSE ABOVE HIM, the sound coming through the floor. Thornhill glances about, then decides to climb up one of the cantilevers. This will enable him to get a view of what might be going on inside the house. All the time that he has been underneath the house, he has been HEARING A MUMBLE OF VOICES FROM ABOVE. He moves forward.

ANOTHER ANGLE - EXT. HOUSE

Thornhill appears from beneath the house, groping his way up the diagonal beam of the cantilever and then climbing up onto the horizontal beam. He is now outside one of the large windows of the livingroom. A section of the window is open. With cat-like stealth he moves along the cantilever towards the window, takes up a position in the shadows and peers inside. 172

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(2)

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173-174

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INT, LIVING-ROOM - FROM THORNHILL

A large room, strikingly furnished, and dominated by a great chandelier which hangs suspended from the twostory-high beamed ceiling. A stairway at the far end leads to a balcony which runs the length of the room. Off this balcony are bedrooms. In f.g. near the window is a table on which can be seen some effects of Vandamm -- a black briefcase, books strapped together, boxes of his favorite cigarettes, and the pre-Columbian figure, the Tarascan Warrior, purchased at the auction. Vandamm and Eve are near the bar, Close to them is an opened newspaper. Eve -appears strained. (Her parting with Thornhill has threatened her self-control considerably.) Vandamm, assuming that she is upset over the shooting, has been trying to comfort her in a soothing, gentle voice.

VANDAMM

--Nothing to worry about--

EVE

--I lost my head--

During following, Leonard enters in b.g. unobserved by them. He watches them with a curious smirk on his face, as though he were in possession of a delightful secret unknown to anyone but him;

VANDAMM

I'm not just saying this to make you feel better, my dear, I mean it...

EVE I didn't know what I was doing...

VANDAMM He was going to destroy you. You had to protect yourself...

EVE

But not endanger you...

VANDAMM

Nonsense. There's not a word, not a whisper that links you or me, any of us, with this thing. There would have been <u>some</u> hint on the radio or in the paper. Look for yourself.

EVE (shaking her head) I don't want to look ...

VANDAMM (with sympathy) Or even think about it. I can understand that. (he takes her face in his hands) Will you ever forgive me, my dear?

- EVE Forgive you? 176 CONT'D (2)

VANDAMM For upsetting you so...for not showing more confidence in your devotion...

EVE (a wan smile) Dear Phillip...

VANDAMM

Soon we'll be off together, and I shall dedicate myself to your happiness.

He kisses her gently, then turns toward Leonard.

VANDAMM What's the situation, Leonard?

LEONARD (facetiously) About the plane, you mean?

VANDAMM Of course. What was the last report?

LEONARD Over Whitestone on the hour. Six thousand. Descending.

VANDAMM Another ten minutes.

LEONARD At the most.

VANDAMM

Bags? 👒

LEONARD Outside.

VANDAMM Runway lights?

LEONAR D

Checked.

VANDAMM

Good.

And now, I wonder if I could have a few words of parting with you, sir?

VANDAMM

Certainly.

LEONARD (looking at Eve) In private?

Vandamm glances sharply at Leonard. Eve senses tension, quickly relieves the situation.

EVE

I'll go upstairs and get my things.

She starts up the stairs.

OUTSIDE THE WINDOW

Thornhill watches as Eve goes up to the balcony. Leonard stares at her all the way, and Vandamm peers at him, sensing hostility in his attitude. When Eve disappears into one of the bedrooms, Vandamm addresses Leonard with a trace of facetiousness.

VANDAMM

Well, Leonard - how does one say farewell to one's own right arm?

LEONARD

In your case, sir, I'm afraid you're going to wish you had cut it off sooner...

During the above interchange, Thornhill will glance sharply up to his right when he sees the lights go on in the balcony bedroom window, and then Eve herself appear for a moment at the window. The voices in the living-room dwindle to an unintelligible drone as Thornhill backs away from the open living-room window toward the end of the cantilever beam. He is now in a better position to attract Eve's attention. He glances about for a pebble to throw, but he is too far above ground to reach one. He takes a coin from his pocket, glances cautiously towards the living-room, then looks up and throws the coin at Eve's window. It hits noisily and falls to the ground below. 177

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CONT'D (3)

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178-187

INTERCUT SEVERAL ANGLES

Eve appears at the window, looks out for a moment, then walks away.

Thornhill takes another coin from his pocket, throws it at the window and hits again.

Eve appears at the window, opens it and looks out ..

Just as Thornhill starts to call to her, he glances sharply toward the living-room.

Leonard is walking briskly over to the open livingroom window. In a moment he will see Thornhill.

Thornhill ducks back into the shadows against the house.

Leonard peers out of the living-room window to see the cause of the noise he had heard; Eve continues to look out of the bedroom window. Thornhill cannot move out to signal her. Seeing nothing, Eve closes the window again and walks away.

Thornhill glances toward the living-room window and his eyes widen:

Leonard has moved away from the window and, with his back to Vandamm, is taking a gun from his pocket and placing it on a table near the window, as Vandamm talks in b.g., his words unintelligible.

Thornhill edges up to the window, as Leonard turns around, the gun concealed on the table behind him. The dialogue becomes intelligible again.

INTERCUT INT. LIVING-ROOM & CLOSEUPS OF THORNHILL LISTENING

188-192

LEONARD You must have had <u>some</u> doubts about her yourself, and still do --

VANDAMM (disturbed, and trying to conceal it) Rubbish...

IEONARD --Why else would you have decided not to tell her that our little treasure here... (patting the figure of the Tarascan Warrior) ...has a bellyfull of microfilm?

VANDAMM (angrily) <u>You</u> seem to be trying to fill mine with rotten apples. LEONARD

Sometimes the truth does taste like a mouthful of worms, sir.

VANDALLI (snorts) What truth? I've heard nothing but innuendoes.

LEONARD

Call it my woman's intuition if you will, but I've never trusted neatness. Neatness is always the result of deliberate planning.

VANDAMM (defensively) She shot him in a moment of fear and anger. You were there. You saw it.

LEONARD (nods) And thereby wrapped everything up into one very neat and tidy bundle: (during the preceding speech, he picks up the gun, holds it behind his back and advances further into the room, the CAMERA FOLLOWING THROUGH THE WINDOW) A. She removed any doubts you might have had about (what did you call it) her "devotion"? and B. She gave herself a new and urgent reason to be taken over to the other side with you, just in case you decided to change your mind.

Vandamm manages a laugh, but it is not very convincing.

VANDAMM

You know what I think? I think you're jealous of her. I mean it. And I'm touched, dear boy. Really touched.

Suddenly Leonard brings the gun out from behind his back and points it at the startled Vandamm.

VANDAMM (sharply)

Leonard!

Leonard pulls the trigger, fires point blank at Vandamm. There is a SHARP REPORT. Vandamm stands there, stunned but unharmed.

> LEONARD (softly) The gun she shot Kaplan with. I found it in her luggage.

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188-192 CONT'D (2)

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WAIST SHOT - VANDAMM

The CANERA is VERY HIGH, looking down on him. As the full realization of what this means sinks in, the CAMERA SLOWLY DESCENDS to examine his expression, and the ANGLE becomes a BIG HEAD. Yandamm's reaction is carefully controlled. He is too big a man to let Leonard see the humiliation and anger he feels at having been duped by Eve.

> LEONARD'S VOICE (during above) It's an old Gestapo trick. Shoot one of your own people to show that you're not one of them. They've just freshened it up a bit with blank cartridges.

Vandamm gives a little sigh.

VANDAMM

What a pity

From upstairs, the SOUND OF A DOOR OPENING. Vandamm looks up, and his brooding expression quickly changes to a wistful smile.

> VANDAMM Ready, dear?

CLOSE SHOT - EVE

Standing at the balcony railing looking down at him.

EVE

I thought I heard a shot ...

FULL SHOT - THE LIVING ROOM

VANDAMM (calmly) Yes...so did we... (moves toward the window) Must have been a car backfiring or something. (looks out) Hurry down, pet. Almost time to go.

EVE

In a moment.

She goes back into her room. Leonard moves at Vandamm, speaking in a harsh voice.

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CONT'D

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(2)

 • • • LEONARD You're not taking her on that plane with you?

VANDAMM

Of course I am.

Leonard stares at him, Vandamm looks back at him the way an adult looks at a small boy.

> VANDAMM Like our friends, I too believe in neatness, Leonard. (a pause) This matter is best disposed of from a great height...over water.

CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL

Aghast at what he has heard.

WIDER ANGLE

Thornhill backs away from the open window, looks up at Eve's bedroom. The light is still on. Inside the living-room, Valerian has entered in b.g. and is receiving instructions from Vandamm. Leonard has taken up a position near the open window. Even if he thought it would do any good. Thornhill would not dare hurl another coin at Eve's window now. His lips tighten. He makes a decision, starts to climb up the side of the house to her room.

CLOSE ANGLE - THORNHILL

¥.

The CAMERA FOLLOWS HIM as he makes his way precariously up the side of the house. Eve's window is beyond him and always in view. We SEE her moving about and putting on her things during his climb. There is little on which Thornhill can gain purchase as he climbs, little to hang on to. He cuts his hand. Several times he almost crashes to disaster. The last few feet are the hardest. He claws his way to the window sill of Eve's bedroom, grabs it with his left hand, pulls himself up, gets his right hand working, and with a final gasp, gets his body up high enough to be able to see through the closed window into the room. Just as his head clears the

197

196

sill, the lights in the room go out and, over his shoulder, we see Eve silhouetted in the doorway, walking out.

199-203

CONT 'D

204

198

(2)

INT. BEDROOM

Thornhill, outside the window, stares dejectedly through the glass, then silently works the window open. He climbs into the room and stands there for a moment in the semi-darkness catching his breath. He looks at his cut hand, takes out his handkerchief and presses it into the bleeding palm. Then he steps cautiously to the doorway and looks out over the living-room below. He cannot see much of the room because of the balcony, and his unfavorable vantage point. But he can hear voices:

> VANDAIM'S VOICE How about a little champagne before we go?

EVE'S VOICE I'd love it.

VANDANA'S VOICE (after he walks to bar) It may not be cold enough.

EVE'S VOICE Over the rocks will be all right.

VANDAMM'S VOICE

Really?

EVE'S VOICE

Sure.

VANDAMM'S VOICE

Good 1dea.

Suddenly Thornhill glances back toward the open window, alarmed at what he HEARS -- THE FIRST FAINT DRONE OF AN APPROACHING PLANE. He looks about desperately, not knowing what to do. His eyes fall on the handkerchief still held in his hand. He sees his monogram: "ROT" on the cloth. He glances toward the doorway, and an idea is born. He feels in his side pocket and takes out a match folder. (In an INSERT, we see that the match folder is the same one he and Eve discussed at dinner on the train. It bears his personal trademark: ROT.) He takes a pen from his pocket, opens the match folder and writes a

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message on the inside of the cover: "THEY'RE ON TO YOU! COME UP TO YOUR ROOM!" He closes the folder, goes to the doorway and moves cautiously out to the balcony.

205-206 (

204 CONT'D

(2)

207

HIGH ANGLE

SHOOTING DOWN over Thornhill in f.g. as he edges forward on the balcony, we see more of the living-room below. Eve is seated on the arm of a sofa. Her handbag is on the coffee table. Vandamm is turning away from the bar, walking toward her with a glass of champagne-on-the-rocks in each hand. He gives her one, and they click glasses.

VANDAMM

To you, my dear...and all the lovely moments we've had together...

EVE

Thank you, Phillip.

As they drink, Leonard enters, walks toward the window.

LEONARD

He's circling.

Vandamm turns away from Eve, starts toward Leonard and the window. At this, Thornhill tosses the folder of matches down at Eve. Just as he does so, she takes a sip of champagne and fails to see the folder land on the floor nearby.

LOW ANGLE - IN LIVING-ROOM

208

VANDAMM (to Leonard) Jump in. The champagne is fine.

LEONARD There isn't time.

VANDAMM (ruefully) You always <u>were</u> a spoil-sport, weren't you?

LEONARD (starting past him towards Eve) One of my most valuable attributes, as it now turns out.

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Automatically he stoops down and picks up the match 208 folder lying on the floor, playing with it idly as CONT'D he addresses Eve. (THORNHILL WATCHES IN AGONY.) (2)

> LEONARD It would please me if you would think of me as being along on this journey, if only in spirit....

> > EVE

I shall, Leonard...

Leonard tosses the match folder to the coffee table before her and turns away, so that she cannot see his harsh expression. Eve sets her glass down on the coffee table as the SOUND of the PLANE GROWS LOUDER. And then she sees the match folder.

CLOSEUP - EVE

209

For a moment she is puzzled. Then her glance goes to the floor where she had seen Leonard pick up the matches. Realization begins to dawn on her.

> VANDAMM'S VOICE (o.s.) Come along, Eve.

EVE

All right ...

She gets to her feet, takes a cigarette from the coffee table, puts it between her lips and takes up the matches. We are VERY CLOSE as she opens the folder and reads Thornhill's message while striking a match and lighting the cigarette.

ANOTHER ANGLE

210

She looks up, sees the two men standing there waiting for her. She starts toward them, then suddenly feels her ear.

> EVE Oh, I think I left my earrings upstairs...

Before they can say anything, she runs right past them and up the stairs, clutching the match folder tightly.

> EVE Be right down.

North By Northwest Chgs. 10-13-58 P.161 Vandamm and Leonard glance at each other, then look 210 toward her as she goes upstairs. (2) POINT OF VIEW - FROM MEN 210X1

Eve going up the stairs and along the balcony to her room.

CLOSE SHOT - VANDAMM & LEONARD

2

Matching her.

INT. BEDROOM

Thornhill draws back into the bedroom as he sees Eve coming. She runs into the room, snaps on the light. He grabs her and pulls her towards the window as they speak in very fast, urgent whispers.

> THORNHILL Quick! We can make it through the window! There's a car downstairs!

EVE (struggling) Get away from here, you idioti You'll ruin everything!

THORNHILL Ruin everything? They know all about the fake shooting: They're going to do away with you!

EVE What're you talking about?

THORNHILL Leonard found the gun in your luggage! You heard the shot!...

Eve stares at him, then glances quickly towards the door as she hears FOOTSTEPS ON THE STAIRS.

THORNHILL ...And I heard them say the figure they bought at the auction last night is filled with microfilm!

Eve turns, looks at Thornhill.

EVE So that's how he's been getting the information. 211

Chgs. 10-10-58 P.162 LEONARD'S VOICE (from 211 balcony) Miss Kendall? (2) She breaks away and goes quickly toward the door. THORNHILL (calling after her)

North By Northwest

Don't get on that plane! I'll get the car!

She snaps off the light and hurries out to:

THE BALCONY

-- Just in time to head off Leonard, who has reached the top of the stairs. She closes the bedroom door behind her and goes quickly towards him. He stops, waits for her and they both start down the stairs.

THE LIVING-ROOM

As Eve and Leonard descend the stairs, Vandama is talking in a reassuring tone of voice to the housekeeper, who appears troubled.

VANDAMM

Don't worry, Anna. Arrangements have been made. You and your husband will be over the Canadian border by morning.

HODSEKEEPER Thank you, sir.

VANDAMM Be careful now.

HOUSEKEEPER We will sir. And God bless you.

Vandamm turns and picks up the pre-Columbian figure while Leonard crosses over and picks up the briefcase, the books and the cigarettes. Eve's glance is on the figure held by Vandamm as he comes over to her. The three of them now start out through the exit door under the stairs as the bousekeeper starts up the room. As the housekeeper goes out of the picture we SEE the balcony bedroom door open and Thornhill cautiously stepping forward and looking out. 212

213 OUT

POINT OF VIEW

9 8 N

The housekeeper is retreating toward the other end of the room.

CLOSE SHOT - THE HOUSEKEEPER 214X2

Her walk slows up as she sees:

INSERT - A TURNED OFF TELEVISION SET 214X3

It reflects Thornhill standing on the distant balcony behind her.

CLOSE SHOT - PROFILE OF HOUSEKEEPER

She is still walking slowly. She turns her head ever so slightly, conscious of Thornhill's presence, and then makes her way around a corner out of sight.

CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL

Satisfied that the woman is gone, he goes quickly along the balcony and down the stairs, CAMERA FOLLOWING. As he reaches the bottom step, he hears:

> HOUSEKEEPER'S VOICE Stay where you are!

Thornhill turns, startled and sees:

POINT OF VIEW

The housekeeper slowly advancing towards him from the far end of the room. She is holding a gun, pointed at him.

WIDER ANGLE

She stops within a few yards of him, motions toward a nearby chair.

21475

214X4

21486

21477

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214X1

9-29- 58	P.161+
HOUSEKEEPER Sit down. (Thornhill sits) As soon as the plane leaves, Mr. Leonard and my husband will be back.	214X7 CONT'D (2)
Thornhill looks desperately toward the exit door.	
	215- 216,
EXT. HOUSE - DOLLY SHOT	217
Eve, Vandamm and Leonard have emerged from the house and are walking away from it toward the landing strip. Vandamm is holding Eve's arm. Leonard is walking behind them. They look off as they SEE:	
REVERSE ANGLE - MOVING POINT OF VIEW	21771
A twin-engined plane is letting down at the far end of the lighted runway, its landing lights a- blaze.	
EVE, VANDAMM AND LEONARD - DOLLY SHOT	218
The group are continuing their walk toward the plane. Now CAMERA MOVES in to a CLOSE SHOT of EVE, as she walks. We see her anxious expression. The CAMERA EASES AWAY to a THREE SHOT, and Eve's expression changes to a simulated, nonchalant one.	
CLOSEUP - EVE	· 218X1
She looks over her shoulder, back toward the house.	
POINT OF VIEW - THE HOUSE	218X2
No sign of Thornhill.	
*	
THREE SHOT	218X3
Vandamm is looking at Eve as she turns forward again.	

.....

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VANDAMM What is it?

EVE (vaguely) I was wondering about those earrings...

VANDAMM They'll turn up.

CAMERA EASES IN CLOSE ON EVE AGAIN as she continues to walk. On her face we see increasing apprehension. She looks ahead.

POINT OF VIEW

The landed plane is taxiing towards the group. The silhouetted figure of Valerian is seen standing beside the baggage at the end of the runway.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The plane comes to a stop; the group arrives, and the cabin door is immediately opened from the inside. As Valerian starts to pass the baggage up to the man inside,

CUT TO:

CLOSEUP - EVE

She looks back toward the house with desperation.

POINT OF VIEW - THE HOUSE

Still no sign of Thornhill.

AT THE PLANE

While Valerian continues to dispose of the luggage, Vandamm, still holding Eve by the arm, turns to Leonard. 218X4

218X5

218X3 CONT'D (2)

218X7

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VANDAMM

When you return to New York, do say goodbye to my sister for me, and thank her for her superb performance as Mrs. Townsend...

LEONARD I'll do that.

Right.

VANDAMM (gesturing toward Valerian) ...And you might tell your knifethrowing chum that I've reassured his wife.

LEONARD

During this, Eve has been glancing about as though looking for a final means of escape. Her glance goes to Vandamm's hand still gripping her arm. She tries unsuccessfully to ease away from his grip. Leonard, seeing her actions, eases himself over to block any attempted escape she might be planning.

> VANDAMM I guess that's all, Leonard.

He starts to lead Eve toward the steps of the plane.

LEONARD (looking at Eve) Happy landing.

CLOSEUP - EVE

Panic begins to seize her. Suddenly, from the house, comes the SOUND of TWO QUICK GUNSHOTS.

THE GROUP

All turn their heads quickly.

POINT OF VIEW - FLASH

The flying figure of Thornhill is seen dashing out of the house and into the sedan parked outside. **21**8X9

218710

218X11

218X8 COXT'D (2)

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THE GROUP

218X12

218,13

 218×14

Still looking off. Suddenly Eve, finding herself momentarily free of Vandarm's grip and Leonard's observation, grabs the Tarascan Warrior from Vandamm's arm and dashes out of the scene toward the house. Over this, we HEAR the distant CAR STARTING UP. Leonard looks quickly at Vandarm for instructions.

. .

VANDAMM (sharply) Get that figure back!

Leonard dashes away, with Valerian joining him,

REVERSE ANGLE

Eve is running a few paces ahead of the two men, the sedan speeding toward her. The car starts to pull up and its side door flies open as Eve reaches it.

SIDE-ON ANGLE

The car stops. Eve leaps in,

THORNHILL (yells)

Lock it!

She slams the door just as the two men arrive. They tug at the handle. Thornhill guns the car away.

MEDIUM SHOT

·218715

The two men are flung back as the car drives off. It makes a wide circle and speeds toward the house over rough ground.

INT. CAR

218726

EVE (breathlessly) What happened? Are you all right?

THORNHILL Can you imagine? The housekeeper had me pinned down for five minutes before I realized it was that same silly gum of yours.

North By Northwee Adds. 10-13-58	est B P.168
He flashes a glance at the figure in her hands. THORNHILL I see you got theuhpumpkin. EVE (grimly) Yes.	218X16 CONT'D (2)
LANDING FIELD	218X17
Vandamm has just reached the two men.	
VALERIAN Don't worry, sir. The gates are locked.	
	219-231
AT THE GATES	232
The car comes to a screeching stop before the locked gates. Thornhill jumps out and starts tugging at the chains.	
CLOSEUP - EVE IN CAR	23271
Still clutching the figure, she looks forward toward Thornhill anxiously, then looks back.	
	34
POINT OF VIEW	233
With the house in the distance, she sees the running figures of Leonard and Valerian.	a.
OBJECTIVE SHOT - THE CAR AND THE GATES	23371
Eve scrambles out of the car, runs toward Thornhill. He turns, sees the men coming. Together, he and Eve run OUT OF THE SHOT.	
LEONARD & VALERIAN	233X2
Running after them.	
TIMITER IN ANY ANALY	

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INT. FOREST - DOLLY SHOT - MOONLIGHT

The "forest" is really no more than a shallow, heavily wooded area. Thornhill and Eve come running in, and CAMERA MOVES with them as they scramble over rocks, fallen trees and other obstacles. Eve is encumbered by her scarf, handbag and the figure she is carrying.

THORNHILL Here. Give me that.

He takes the figure from her. They run on. Suddenly Eve is brought up short as the scarf around her neck gets caught on a pine tree. Thornhill stops, turns to her and they struggle to get her loose.

FLASH - LEONARD & VALERIAN

Crashing through the forest after them.

THORNHILL & EVE

Still trying to extricate her. Finally they unwind her from the scarf, abandon it and run out of SHOT.

LEONARD & VALERIAN

Running after them.

LONG SHOT - EXTERIOR FOREST

In the distance, we SEE the running figures of Thornhill and Eve emerge from the forest into an open clearing. They continue TOWARD CAMERA until, in a CLOSE SHOT, they come to a sudden stop and look off ahead.

POINT OF VIEW

About fifty to a hundred yards ahead, they SEE the back of the Mt. Rushmore Monument. The heads of the presidents are moonlit. Beyond is yawning space, and beyond that, the distant horizon. 23471

234

234X2

234X3

234X4

234X5

North By Northwest 10-13-58 P.170 THORNHILL'S VOICE 23525 Uh oh. Didn't know you were here, CONT'D (2) gentlemen. STRAIGHT ON TWO SHOT - THORNHILL & EVE 234X6 THORNHILL (still looking ahead) No good this way. We're on top of the monument. He now looks off to his right and slightly behind him. 234X7 POINT OF VIEW In the distance, Valerian is SEEN emerging from the forest. 234X8 CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL & EVE Eve, looking off in another direction, grabs Thornhill's arm. EVE LookI Thornhill looks off. 234X9 POINT OF VIEW Leonard has emerged from the woods in another spot. 234X10 PROFILE SHOT - THORNHILL & EVE He grabs her arm and starts running with her in the only direction they can go -- towards the edge of the monument. CAMERA DOLLIES ALONG with them until they start slowing down. CAMERA COMES TO A STOP. 235 OUT 236 REVERSE ANGLE - FULL VIEW OF PART OF MONUMENT We see the tiny figures of Thornhill and Eve approach the edge.

237

238

239

WAIST SHOT - THORNHILL & EVE

As they peer down.

8 8 ⁶

POINT OF VIEW

The presidents' faces as seen from the edge, with moonlight revealing the depth below.

WAIST SHOT - THORNHILL & EVE

They turn, look back once more at their pursuers.

THORNHILL C'mon. Down we go.

EVE (looking down again) We can't.

THORNHILL No choice. C'mon.

They start down and go OUT of SHOT.

240-241 001

242

24271

LONG SHOT - CROSS ANGLE - THE MONUMENT

SHOOTING PAST Lincoln's face in f.g., we SEE Thornhill and Eve making their precarious way down the sloping crevice between Jefferson's face and the rear of Washington's head.

CLOSE ANGLE - THORNHILL & EVE

As they work their way down:

THORNHILL (grimly) A funny thing happened to me the other day on my way to the theatre.

EVE

What?

THORNHILL Skip it.

COMPREHENSIVE SHOT OF LEONARD & VALERIAN

Still fairly far apart, arriving at the edge. Leonard is at the top of the crevice. Valerian is on """"ington's head.

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CLOSE ANGLE - THORNHILL & EVE They look up and SEE:

Leonard starting down after them.

MED. SHOT - THORNHILL & EVE

FOINT OF VIEW

Continuing their perilous descent down the slope.

THORNHILL If we get out of this alive, let's go back to New York on a train together. All right?

EVE Is that a proposition?

THOR NHILL No - a proposal.

He loses his footing, slips, dangles precariously. Eve reaches down, tries to help him.

> EVE What happened to the first two marriages?

THORNHILL (struggling) My wives divorced me.

EVE

Why?

THORNHILL (still struggling) I think they...said I...led...too dull a life...

He regains a safe foothold.

CLOSE SHOT - VALERIAN

Sliding rapidly down a sloping ledge to Washington's right shoulder and starting across.

246

244

245

North By Northwest 10-13-58 P.173 Adds 21+8 LONG SHOT - CROSS ANGLE - THE MONUMENT With Lincoln's nose and lips in f.g., we SEE Valerian making his way across beneath Washington's chin to head off Thornhill and Eve, who are coming down toward Washington's left shoulder with Leonard scrambling down after them. HIGH ANGLE - LEONARD 249 Below him in b.g. are Thornhill and Eve. Leonard accidentally dislodges a precariously balanced rock. It starts to tumble down the slope. CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL & EVE 250 Their backs are to CAMERA. They HEAR the rumbling rock, turn, eyes wide with dismay. There is no time for them to move out of the path of disaster. POINT OF VIEW 251 The rock is crashing down toward CAMERA. At the last moment, just as it is about to smash into its intended victims, the rock hits a snag and goes flying off at a tangent into the yawning depths below. 252 THORNHILL & EVE For a brief moment, stunned into immobility by their brush with death. EVE (in a hollow voice) I just thought of a new drink THORNHILL (still staring ahead) Really? EVE People, on-the-rocks. Thornhill gives her a look. She gives a little shrug. And then they quickly start down the ledge on Washington's left shoulder. (Right here,

10-13-58 P.174

252

(2)

CONT 'D

Eve's handbag, shoes and suit-jacket become hopelessly encumbering. Thornhill makes her get rid of whatever she can. The shoes go flying away. So too the jacket, with womanly regrets. But Eve makes Thornhill stuff some of the contents of her handbag into his pockets before she hurls the handbag to the depths below. During this striptease, there should be some ad-libbed comments.) Preoccupied with their physical efforts, they are not aware of Valerian approaching in <u>b.g</u>. He gets closer and closer and now, with upraised knife, is about to stab Thornhill when Eve, turning suddenly, sees Valerian and shouts:

EVE

Look out!

Thornhill swings around, hits Valerian's wrist and deflects the downward arc of the knife in mid-air. Then he guickly gives Eve the figure, and shouts:

THORNHILL

Keep going ... l

Eve moves on, with Leonard coming down after her, as Thornhill faces Valerian again.

CLOSE ANGLE - THORNHILL & VALERIAN

Struggling to the death, with the knife poised between them in Valerian's hand.

THORNHILL (gasping) I'm beginning...to think....you don't....<u>like</u> me....

They wrestle each other to the ground, then roll over the edge and begin to slide down toward a precipitous drop, still struggling.

CLOSE SHOT - EVE

Looking back for a moment just as the two men start their slide. She turns away and scrambles on as she sees Leonard almost upon her.

THORNHILL & VALERIAN

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255

255

(2)

256

CONT'D

and the sudden release causes Valerian to plunge to his death with a terrible scream. Thornhill gets to his feet, looks off, SEES Leonard about to catch up with Eve. He starts toward them.

CLOSE ANGLE - EVE & LEONARD

Leonard grabs Eve, wrests the figure from her grasp and gives her a vicious shove that sends her down to what appears to be certain death. But as she slips down, she manages to catch hold of a ridge in the precipitous slope and dangles there, unable to move.

ANOTHER ANGLE

5

As Thornhill arrives on the scene, Leonard is starting away with the figure. Thornhill clambers down to rescue Eve.

THORNHILL

Hang on !

He lowers himself down to Eve, placing himself in a perilous position. His only purchase is one hand gripping the edge above him while the other hand reaches out to take Eve's outstretched hand.

CLOSE SHOT - EVE

In her effort to reach Thornhill's hand, her feet apply pressure to the ridge she has been standing on. Just as their hands meet, the ridge breaks off and her legs dangle in mid-air.

OBJECTIVE SHOT

Thorphill, hanging on to the ledge above him with one hand, is holding Eve from death below with his other hand.

CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL

Turning into CAMERA with desperation to look over the ledge above him. He SEES: 257

258-259 001

260

26071

POINT OF VIEW

Leonard still moving away

CLOSE SHOT - THORNHILL

THORNHILL Leonard:

POINT OF VIEW - FROM THORNHILL

Leonard stops, turns and looks back.

THORNHILL'S VOICE (o.s.) For God's sake...

Leonard starts down towards him. As he approaches, the CAMERA BEGINS to PAN DOWN his body until suddenly Thornhill's hand appears in f.g. gripping the ledge. The feet of Leonard slowly approach and come to a stop a few inches from the hand. Then one foot is raised and gently placed on the hand.

CLOSEUP - THORNHILL

Glancing up sharply, reacting as he feels the pressure of the shoe on his fingers and realizes what is about to happen.

CLOSEUP - LEONARD

Looking down without expression as he leans forward slightly and deliberately applies the full weight of his body onto the fingers.

CLOSEUP - THORNHILL

In horrible agony. 🔗 👋

THORNHILL (gasps) Don't...I...can't....

Eve cries out.

260X3

260X4

261

262-266 OUT

267

269

22	10-13-58	P.177
	CLOSEUP - SHOE PRESSED ON HAND	270
	THORNHILL'S VOICE (o.s.) Have toletgo	
	Suddenly there is the CRACK of a GUN which reverberates through the monument. The shoe relaxes its pressure for a moment and the figure drops from Leonard's grasp to the ledge beside the hand and smashes, revealing several rolls of microfilm.	
	LONG SHOT - TOP OF THE MONUMENT	271
	A brief flash of a group of silhouetted figures looking down.	
	CLOSEUP - THORNHILL	272
	Glancing briefly at the smashed figure and the microfilm, then looking up.	83
	3• ()	- •
÷	LOW ANGLE - LEONARD	273
	Mortally wounded, looking down with dying eyes, then starting to fall toward CAMERA.	
	THORNHILL & EVE	274
	Recoiling as Leonard's body falls past them.	٠
	LOW ANGLE - TOP OF MONUMENT	275
	In a FULL FIGURE SHOT, we see the group on the monument at close range: the Professor, holding a pair of binoculars; Vandamm, flanked by two uniformed State Troopers, one of whom is holding the revolver that fired the shot. Below them, two more State Police clamber down the slope to rescue Thornhill and Eve and disappear out of SHOT.	
	PROFESSOR (staring down worriedly) Well d.c.e, Sergeant.	

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VANDAMM (sardonically)	10	275
Rather unsporting, don't you		CONT'D (2)
thinkusing real bullets?		(2)

CUT TO:

BIG HEAD CLOSEUP - THORNHILL

276

277

278

279

Looking down with tension on his face.

THORNHILL (with exertion) Here...reach...<u>now</u>... EVE'S VOICE (o.s. - gasping) I'm...trying...

THORNHILL Come on...I've got you...<u>up</u>...

BIG HEAD CLOSEUP - EVE

Looking up, her face showing physical effort.

EVE Can't make it ---

THORNHILL'S VOICE (o.s.) Yes you can...Come on...

EVE (strained) Pull harder...

BIG HEAD CLOSEUP - THORNHILL

THORNHILL There...that's it...

BIG HEAD CLOSEUP - EVE

•

EVE (moving up) Ah...good...

She starts to laugh.

(180 pp. counted)

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280

MED. SHOT - THORNHILL & EVE

As she lands beside him, we realize that they are not on Mt. Rushmore after all, but are sitting side by side, feet dangling from the upper berth of a drawing-room in a train standing in a station at NIGHT. He has been lifting her up with difficulty because the lower berth is not open. From outside, a VOICE calls out: "Board!"

> EVE (still laughing) This is silly, Thornhill.

THORNHILL I know. But I'm sentimental.

He puts his arms around her, and as they kiss lovingly, we SEE the hand that was stepped on. <u>Each finger is neatly taved with a Band-Aid.</u> Just then, the train jerks into motion.

EXT. TRAIN

281

We are SHOOTING toward the rear of the observation car as the train rolls off into the night.

FADE OUT:

THE END