

1

INT. CAR

ASSASSIN phones CARTER.

CARTER

Carter.

ASSASSIN

I'm here.

CARTER

Well, that's a start, then.

ASSASSIN

What should I do?

CARTER

Do you want an instruction manual?

ASSASSIN

No, it's fine. I can do it.

CARTER

So what's the problem, then?

ASSASSIN

I just want to be sure. I don't want anything to go wrong.

CARTER

Don't worry about it. It'll get easier.

ASSASSIN

Okay, okay.

CARTER

Call me when you're done.

Hangs up. ASSASSIN psyches himself up.

xxx

Knocks. WOMAN answers.

ASSASSIN

Hello, I'm looking for a Mr, uh, Dermis.

WOMAN

I don't know a Mr Dermis, I'm afraid. Have you tried the main reception--

He lunges, attacks. Fight. Knocks her out with syringe, stands over her with KNIFE.

(CONTINUED)

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

WOMAN tied up. She wakes, sees something, goes wide-eyed.
PAN ACROSS room: ASSASSIN on the corner of the bed,
holding the KNIFE.

ASSASSIN

Don't struggle. The wire will cut
your skin.

She struggles, screams. He stands, points the knife.

ASSASSIN

Don't. Please. You don't want me
to hurt you. You've pissed
somebody off. Don't know who,
don't care. But they'll find you.
I could let you go.

(laughs, into mirror)

You should have run. Kept
running. Don't care.

Pause.

ASSASSIN

Why should I? You're a stranger.
I don't know you. It's okay.

Pause.

ASSASSIN

I need to do this. I have to.
It'll get easier. You're just the
first. Dry run.

Stops, looks away, then focuses.

ASSASSIN

This isn't about me. She's going
to be my wife. Except... who
should have to marry a killer--?

He breaks down.

ASSASSIN

But so what? She's going to be my
wife. What's a little blood,
compared to that? I want her
safe. This world... there are
people; you know. You've got
involved. They won't stop.
They'll find her, and...

(pause)

Don't you see? I'm doing it for
her.

Menacing:

ASSASSIN

I could gut you. Then it'll be easier. And the next one...

(falters)

Tell me what to do. Please.

He stands.

ASSASSIN

Don't struggle.

He weighs up the knife, looking from it to her.

ASSASSIN

First time. What would you do...?

FADE OUT

FADE IN: Empty bed; reverse of start of scene; PAN ACROSS to WOMAN still tied up -- still alive.

Shot of hand pressing elevator call.

Woman struggles, tries to free herself.

Shot inside elevator; doors open, Assassin storms out, through next door--

Woman struggling, stops -- something catches her eye. PULL BACK to show the KNIFE, left on the desk.

--Assassin through door, into hall and out of the exit.

CUT TO:

2 EXT. CAR

ASSASSIN walks to it, shakily, gets in, drives off.

3 INT. CAR - WASTELAND

Sitting in car, phones CARTER, who doesn't pick up. Worries, breaks down.

A LASER SIGHT

A LASER SIGHT appears on his chest, travels up to his forehead.

His PHONE rings.