

**"BALLAD OF THE WHISKEY
ROBBER"**

screenplay by
Rich Wilkes

adapted from the book by
Julian Rubinstein

producers: infinitum nihil
directors: the Russo Brothers

7-9-2008
first draft

Tegnap volt a színházi világnap

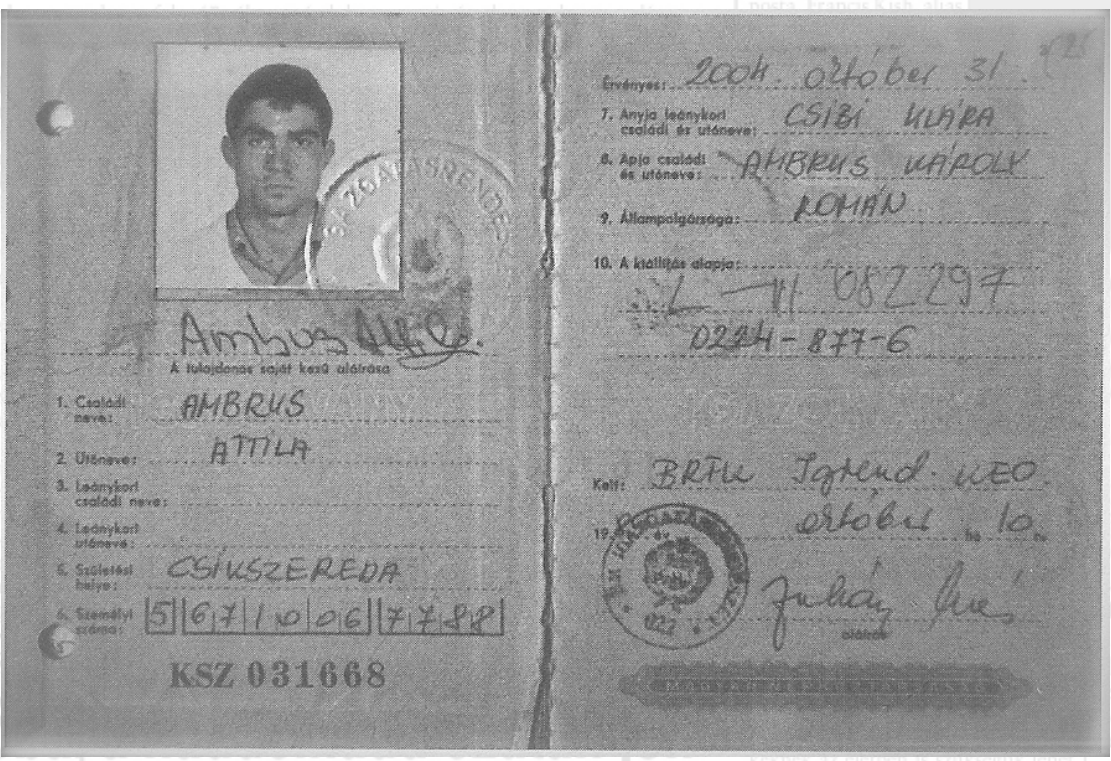
Az Oscar-díjra pályázot (még) nem ő kapta meg

...soljatosok, nézők!

...rópában gyakoriak a világnapok, de hollónak számítanak a kultúra szentelt ünnepek. A színházi világnap viszont a legjelesebbek egyike. Évente 81 országban emlékeztetnek március 27-én erről az eseményre, amelynek gondolatát a bécsi közönség fogadta el és egybeesésével a Nemzetek Színházának elnevezésével.

...en esztendőben ezen a jeles eseményen egyetemmes kultúra egyik példáját személyesít meg az a megismerés, hogy az eseményekkel kapcsolatos gondolatait megossza a közönséggel és tisztelőivel. A színházi világnap üzenetét lefordítják 81 nyelvre minden színházban ismertető nyelven. Michael Tremblay kanadai dramaturg olvasta fel az „üzenetet” a színházban közvetlenül utalt Euripidészre, aki jó kétezer évvel ezelőtt már megismertette a színház szerepét a közönséggel. Ehhez a kanadai író hozzájárult saját gondolatait is a dráma világába egyetemességéről, de a világnap végzősök az érettségizésük után.

Ez csak próba



Az aradi Német Líceum négy végzős osztályából 25 tanulóknak kellett megmutatnia, mire képes az anyanyelvi vizsgán.



U.T.E. HOCKEY CLUB
 Attila Ambrus, aka the Whiskey Robber: Goalie, gravedigger, serial bank robber, folk hero

Gustav Bota: UTE General Manager, nice guy, Attila's mentor

Bela Benko: Forward, jerk, Attila's nemesis

THE COPS
 Lajos Varjú: Chief of the Budapest police robbery department

Tibor Vagi, aka Mound of Asshead: Deputy Chief of the Budapest police robbery department

...próbaérettségi - mondta Mario Stoica igazgató. - A tanulók semlegesén fogadták a hírt. Nem örültek, de nem is tiltakoztak. Nem tetszett nekik, hogy szombaton is iskolába kell jönniük.

Cast of Characters

...feladatlapokat kaptunk. Feladatlapok nem az számít, milyen jeget kapunk a dolguk a vizsgán. Végzősünk egy részénél a vizsgán megismerjük a feladatlapokat, két lehetőségük van: vagy továbbtanulnak, vagy elhagyják az iskolát. Egy elmeleti liceum nem nyújt más lehetőséget.

...Ana Maria Göckel némettanárnő, az igazgatóval beszélgetett. A feladatlapon két kérdéskörrel kell megküzdeni.

...Ismét levelet hozott a posta. Francis Kiss által...

Érvényes: 2004. október 31.

7. Anyja lednykori családi és utónéve: CSIBI ULÁRA

8. Apja családi és utónéve: AMBRUS KÁROLY

9. Állampolgársága: ROMÁN

10. A kiállítás alapja: 11 082 297 0244-877-6

Kelt: Buda, József u. 10. október 10.

19. J. Kiss Ferenc

...Kissék az elnök is szívesen részt venne. Szerintem a tételek nehézségi foka közepes, az iskolai programnak megfelelő. A gyerekek megbirkóznak vele, de megvan az az esély, hogy most jól írjanak, az érettségien pedig „elhalaslanak”. Megkérdezték: próbálják a legjobbat adni, vagy ez azt eredményezné, hogy a minisztérium még nehezebb tételeket ad az érettségien.

...11. osztályos tanulóknak meg kell mutatniuk a vizsgán, hogy mennyire tisztában vannak a nyelvvel. A diákok elmondták: a tételek nem voltak nehezek, azt remélik, az érettségien is ilyen feladatokkal kell megküzdeniük. A tanárnő azonban nem felejtette el figyelmeztetni őket: ez még csak jártás, az igazi haddelhadd ezután következik...



...komputer-grafikus a 11. nagydíj díjazottjának döntőjében döntő szerepet játszott. A díjat az Oscar-díjra, Kiss Ferencnek adták, aki ott és Genben is díjat nyert a munkájával.

Nem tudjuk, mi történt a továbbiakban. Ez a levélből nem derül ki. Az Oscart ebben a műfajban nem kapta. Kiss Ferencnek be kellett érnie egyéni díjakkal. Így is az első román származású művész volt, aki a filmvilág legnagyobb díját nyerte elismerését nyugtató filmek alkotójaként.

Az intézet aradi származású tanulóinál fényes karriert befutó Géza után (éppen 100 éve született!) van egy más műfajban dolgozó kiváló filmesünk, aki a nagyvilágba elviszi szülővárosára híret.

PUSKAS PÉTER

...első világháborút követő mozgalomban mindinkább szükségessé vált egy, a romániai magyar írókat tömörítő egységes, de kötöttségeket nem tartalmazó megalakítása, melynek fő célja az erdélyi gondolatvilág átvezetése a magyar nyelvű irodalom felé.

...1926 nyarán küldte el a megalakításról írott és alapította a marosvásári Helikont.

...erdekessége, hogy a két világháború között a hazai írók legnagyobb részét a marosvásári Helikon tömörítette Erdélyi Helikon néven.

Megalakult a „Helikon” Kemény János Alapítvány

THE WOMAN
 Eva Fodor: Car wash owner, Attila's second girlfriend and true love.

THE CELEBRITIES
 Laszlo Juszt: Host of the hit television show *Kriminalis*

Marta Tocsik, aka "Toxic" Marta: Budapest lawyer, linchpin in the "Scandal of the Century"

...Jozsef Keszthelyi: The new guy, detective, ambitious yuppie.

Chief Berta: corrupt head of the Budapest National Police

THE WOMAN
 Eva Fodor: Car wash owner, Attila's second girlfriend and true love.

THE CELEBRITIES
 Laszlo Juszt: Host of the hit television show *Kriminalis*

Marta Tocsik, aka "Toxic" Marta: Budapest lawyer, linchpin in the "Scandal of the Century"

...hoz nélkülözhetetlen anyagi bázist kell biztosítani.

A bemutatkozó összejövetelről és további tevékenységünkről a sajtó útján rendszeresen tájékoztatjuk az érdeklődőket.

Felajánlásokat beföldön (le) a marosvásári Román Fejlesztési Bank (Banca Komana de Dezvoltare Tg. Mures) 25110099066069 számú bankszámlára, valutában ugyanazon bank 251100296066069 számú számlára fogadunk köszönettel.

Helikon - KEMÉNY JÁNOS ALAPÍTVÁNY

Pályázati felhívás erdélyi tudósítói állásra

A Magyar Televízió Rt. a határon túli magyar kisebbségi közönség életéről rendszeresen készíti a híri- és magazinsorozatait, amelyek a magyarországi közönség számára is érdekesek. A tudósítók, riportok elsősorban a Marosvásári Híradó számára készülnek, de az MTV más szerkesztőségei számára is a megrendelt tartalomhoz tartoznak.

Pályázati feltételek:

- irodalmi szintű magyar és román nyelvtudás,
- újságírói és egyetemi-főiskolai végzettség,
- szakmai gyakorlat,
- érvényes utlevél.

Bérezés: megegyezés alapján

Ma könyvbemutató

A középkori Japán szellemisége

Ma 13 órakor kerül sor az aradi Ion Slavici könyvtárban a középkori Japán szellemisége című könyv bemutatójára. A könyv a középkori Japán szellemiségéről szól, és a szerző, a japán kultúra iránt érdeklődők számára is érdekes információkat tartalmaz. A könyv a középkori Japán szellemiségéről szól, és a szerző, a japán kultúra iránt érdeklődők számára is érdekes információkat tartalmaz.

"BALLAD OF THE WHISKEY ROBBER"

OVER BLACK:

NARRATOR
(with Hungarian accent)
Good evening. I kiss your hand...

EXT. THE GLOBAL SKATING RINK - DAY

On an infinite snowy plain we find that the world is not so much a stage as it is a HOCKEY RINK.

NARRATOR
Allow me, friends, to tell you of a once great empire. A proud land that dominated the game of nations...

Into frame skates a HOCKEY PLAYER with the flag of the AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN EMPIRE upon his chest, his shoulders decorated with gold-braid epaulets.

NARRATOR
My country. Hungary!
(the Player seems annoyed at your reaction)
Okay, okay, it surprises even us. But it is fact! For a thousand years we had been plundered and conquered so relentlessly, defeat became as a national pastime. But patiently we toiled until our time arrived and we became the mightiest superpower on the planet!

From nowhere another PLAYER roars into frame and knocks Austro-Hungary flying.

NARRATOR
Unfortunately, it did not last.

As Austro-Hungary hits the ice he SPLITS into TWO KIDS, each wearing a Hungarian Flag jersey. They get up, confused.

NARRATOR
For daring to greatness, our country was cut in two. Half of our land was given away.

A BRITISH ADULT IN A USSR JERSEY takes charge, ordering the HUNGARIAN KIDS into position. All the Eastern Block nations are represented by KIDS IN FLAG JERSEYS.

NARRATOR

A once united people were forever
torn apart...

The Hungarians are separated, one being forced to play
with a larger ROMANIAN KID.

His EASTERN BLOC KIDS now in place, the Soviet Player
faces off against his opponent: an adult in a USA JERSEY.

The American is flanked by KIDS WEARING THE JERSEYS OF
HIS ALLIES: ENGLAND, FRANCE, CANADA, JAPAN, etc.

The Cold War begins... The teams skate menacingly, but
avoid all out conflict.

NARRATOR

Though unhappy with this new world
order, we humbly returned to our
place as pawns in the game.

The EXILED HUNGARIAN, now forced to play with the
Romanian, looks after his twin longingly.

NARRATOR

While those living in exile longed
for the day when they could return
to the homeland and be one again.

The Exiled Hungarian is struck from behind by the bigger
Romanian kid and knocked down. He doesn't hit ice, but
MUDDY GROUND, and we find we are...

EXT. FITOD VILLAGE - DAY

The little Hungarian is SIX YEAR-OLD ATTILA AMBRUS. He
proudly wears a Hungarian hockey jersey.

NARRATOR

One such boy was Attila Ambrus.
And if you'll peer closely, gentle
viewers, you might see within this
ragged lad the very soul of my
people.

Two drunken ROMANIAN SOLDIERS have pushed him down. They
tear his Hungarian jersey off and kick him in the ass.

ROMANIAN SOLDIER

Bozgor!

SUPER TITLE: "Fitod, Romanian, 1972"

Attila runs home down the pitiful dirt main street of Fitod carrying his skates and a hockey stick. It's a quaint little village of old wooden houses.

NARRATOR

His fly-speck village was taken from us when the maps were redrawn, and he became a second-class citizen in a country that did not want him.

Attila stops at a GROCER where a KINDLY OLD WOMAN is waiting. Attila hands her a coin and she gives him a CAST IRON POT.

NARRATOR

And that was not acceptable to a little boy who's very DNA carried the imprint of our former glory.

Attila enters his modest house, a thick curl of smoke coming from the chimney.

INT. VILLAGE SMOKEHOUSE - DAY

Cuts of meat hang from the ceiling. Attila enters and stands against the wall as BEAUTIFUL HAM STEAKS are handed to gruff COMMUNIST APPARATCHIKS.

ATTILA'S FATHER smiles until they are gone. He turns grumpily to the dinner table, opens the pot Attila brought and spoons PIG'S FEET onto plates. Father watches *The Flintstones*, dubbed in Romanian, on a ridiculously small TV while he guzzles *palinka*.

Attila pulls a PHOTO of his MOTHER from a drawer and brings it to the table. She's a simple yet pretty woman.

ATTILA'S FATHER

What the hell is that?

ATTILA

It's my birthday today, father. I want to have dinner with my mother. But you won't take me to see her, so...

He sets the photo against his water glass.

ATTILA'S FATHER

She abandoned you, you idiot. She doesn't want you.

ATTILA

When she sees what a fine man I've grown into she'll change her mind!

ATTILA'S FATHER

(he grabs the picture and
rips it up)
Eat your feet.

Defiantly, Attila drops his plate on the floor. His father leaps up and begins beating him.

EXT. FITOD - THE NEXT DAY

Attila gives the Old Woman a coin and gets another pot.

INT. VILLAGE SMOKEHOUSE - DAY

Attila puts the pot on the table. His father spoons food onto his plate. Attila pushes the plate away, refusing to eat. It's a hunger strike.

His Father dumps Attila's food onto his own plate and eats without him.

INT. VILLAGE SMOKEHOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

Attila's Father spoons out the food. Again Attila refuses to eat. Again his Father takes his portion.

INT. VILLAGE SMOKEHOUSE - DAYS LATER

Attila's Father is stuffed from eating double portions. He peers under the table and finds Attila curled up on his chair, weak from hunger.

ATTILA'S FATHER

You want to see your mother?
Okay! *Menjünk.* Let's go.

EXT. NEIGHBORING VILLAGE - DAY

Attila's Father drags him to a run-down house. From the porch hangs a RED LANTERN.

ATTILA'S FATHER

Go. See your mother.

He pushes Attila towards a window. The young boy cups his hands against the glass and peers inside -- he sees his MOTHER, *nude*, laughing in bed with a NAKED MAN.

Attila recoils, turning to his father in disbelief.

ATTILA'S FATHER

Happy?

His father walks away. A heartbroken Attila has no choice but to follow him home...

NARRATOR

The knowledge that his mother had chosen the life of a wanton over her own spawn planted a seed of discord in the young lad's belly.

FADE TO:

EXT. VILLAGE SMOKEHOUSE - ROOF - DAY - NINE YEARS LATER

We hear a communist radio broadcast.

NARRATOR

Watered by his father's alcoholic violence, the little seed took root...

Affixed to the chimney is a coat hanger antenna. We follow the wire down the roof and through a window.

NARRATOR

...and grew into a sinewy bush of self-loathing.

A veil of static, and then the complicated guitar work of YNGWIE MALMSTEEN.

INT. ATTILA'S ROOM - DAY - NINE YEARS LATER

The wire leads to a cheap radio. Hands with leather wrist-bands carefully tune in a pirate broadcast.

NARRATOR

Fortunately, Attila's mounting frustration found two outlets. One was via clandestine rock n' roll.

TEEN ATTILA, now 15, bops his mullet haircut, air guitaring frantically. He gives a devil horn salute to his contraband AC/DC poster before covering it with a Romanian flag.

EXT. BOARDING SCHOOL HOCKEY RINK - DAY

A large crowd has gathered to watch two BOARDING SCHOOL TEAMS go at it. The stands are packed with WELL-TO-DOS, while the POOR VILLAGERS stand in the snow.

NARRATOR

The second came on painted ice, where Attila played with maniacal savagery.

Through the pack of students barrels Attila in his threadbare hockey gear.

NARRATOR

His reputation as an enforcer was such that he was brought in as a ringer for the local boarding school.

These rich kids don't stand a chance against a pissed-off Attila. He knocks one man down, then SLAMS the guy with the puck. They fight over it, trading blows. Attila finally beats the guy down and steals the puck.

He skates on towards the TERRIFIED GOALIE. At the last moment, Attila passes to a TEAMMATE and BODYSLAMS the goalie. His Teammate scores! Game over! Chaos!

Attila lays on the ice, battered and exhausted. He notices a teen cutie, KATALIN, eyeing him from the Villager's section. He smiles at her through bloody teeth. She smiles back.

LOSING CAPTAIN

This is bullshit! That ape doesn't even go to your school!

PREP SCHOOL KID

He does today.

His Teammates help Attila up, slapping him on the back.

EXT. FANCY RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The boarding school team and their families head into the restaurant to celebrate. Attila brings up the rear. He's stopped at the door. The Maitre D' looks at his broken shoes, his patched pants, his bruised face and shakes his head.

Attila looks after his teammates, but they've already forgotten him.

MAITRE D'

Bozgor.

Attila is sent back out into the snow, dejected. Katalin sees him and breaks away from her friends.

KATALIN

Aren't you going inside?

ATTILA

I'm not hungry.

They go for a walk together.

RADIO ANNOUNCER

This is Noel Bernard for Radio
Free Europe...

INT. ATTILA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Attila dials his radio to the pirate broadcast.

RADIO ANNOUNCER

And now, for all our friends
behind the Iron Curtain, music
from the Free World...

NARRATOR

In no time, Attila fell madly in
love...

Attila joins Katalin on his bed and they make out to Huey Lewis' "Do You Believe in Love?"

EXT. A PARK - DAY

Attila walks with Katalin. He stops to point out a GOOSE with a small GAGGLE OF CHICKS.

NARRATOR

And in short order, their teenaged
love made itself manifest.

Katalin smiles, then gently touches her own stomach. Attila blinks in disbelief, smiles wide.

EXT. THE WOODS - DAY

Attila whittles something with a pocket knife.

EXT. KATALIN'S HOUSE - DAY

In front of her family, Attila gives Katalin what he's carved: a crude wooden RING.

ATTILA

It's shit, I know, but one day
I'll get you a real one. You can
bet your ass.

Katalin looks to her family for approval, but gets none.

EXT. A CORNFIELD - DAY

We track past row upon row of corn.

NARRATOR

But even the poor are not immune
to prejudice...

We stop on Katalin's feet sticking out from between the corn, a LEATHER SATCHEL next to them, crude MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS inside.

NARRATOR

...and his fiancée took it upon
herself to sever the bonds that
tied them.

Her FATHER watches from a distance as a DOCTOR pulls a tool from the satchel.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

Katalin hands Attila back his ring. Her Father snaps the reins and their horse drawn cart pulls away.

Attila stands by himself in the road, watching his hopes and dreams for the future ride slowly away...

INT. CHURCH RECEPTION HALL - NIGHT

A full-blown traditional Romanian wedding reception is happening. Everyone dances, drinks, celebrates. A FUNKY POLKA BAND rocks the house.

EXT. CHURCH RECEPTION HALL - NIGHT

Attila watches bitterly through the window. Then the band takes a break. Drunks stagger out the side door and wander off, leaving the door open.

NARRATOR

What would you do, dear viewer?
Heart sick, facing a bleak future,
impoverished and alone...

Attila sneaks up, eyeing the band equipment just inside the door. He grabs a fancy accordion and makes his escape. But his worn shoes slip on the ice and he falls, crushing the instrument beneath him.

Not to be foiled, he heads back inside, grabbing a small PICCOLO CASE and a huge TUBA CASE. In the process, knocking over a CRASH CYMBAL. The noise attracts the MUSICIANS, who chase Attila into the night.

INT. POLICE INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Attila is cuffed in a chair. He sits across a desk from two UNIFORMED COPS. The Cops open the instrument cases and smile. Attila looks on confused, until they turn the cases for him to see: they're empty. Attila curses himself.

ROMANIAN COP

In a case like this, we would usually let a local boy off with a warning. But you're not exactly... one of us.

EXT. DETENTION FACILITY - DAY

Distant, grainy B/W photos of a gulag-like prison camp.

NARRATOR

He was jailed in a youth detention facility on the Moldovan border.

More long range surveillance photos of a place so sinister, you wouldn't dare get any closer.

NARRATOR

He would emerge a man, with nothing to his name but an eight inch scar on his arm.

Quick flashes of an obscured act of violence.

NARRATOR

Concerning what happened inside, he would say nothing.

We hear the ominous SCREAMS of the damned...

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. THE GLOBAL SKATING RINK - DAY

The brutal USSR player skates proudly into frame.

NARRATOR

Years passed and, during that
time, the entire world changed.
Another empire fell...

The USSR player is HIT from offscreen and goes flying.

INSERT NEWS FOOTAGE

The BERLIN WALL is knocked down by a jubilant crowd.

NARRATOR

Freedom spread like the seeds of
the dog milk weed.

Poland, Lithuania, the Czech Republic... everywhere
people are taking to the streets, celebrating democracy.

EXT. NEW FITOD - DAY

A bulldozer razes one of those quaint wooden houses.

NARRATOR

Everywhere, that is, except in
Romania...

The village has been transformed. Ugly concrete
apartment blocks everywhere. Ceausescu's scowling face
peering from painted murals.

C.U. on a pair of feet as we circle around and up a body.
The pants are high-waters, the shirt two sizes too small.

REVEAL that it's the ADULT ATTILA, wearing the same
clothes from the night he was arrested. An 8" long SCAR
runs down his muscled forearm. He's handsome, tough.

Heavily armed SOLDIERS eyeball Attila. An OLD COUPLE
scurries passed the patrol, frightened.

INT. VILLAGE SMOKEHOUSE - DAY

The smokehouse is the same. Attila enters to find his
Father drunk and surly, just as he left him.

ATTILA'S FATHER

Well look who's back. Al Capone.
Look at you. Big and stupid like
an animal.

Attila ignores him and goes to his room. He tears down the Romanian flag and rolls up his prized possession: his AC/DC poster.

ATTILA

I'm leaving. I'm going to escape to Hungary.

ATTILA'S FATHER

Bah. Good riddance. There's nothing there. Where ever you go, you'll still be nothing. A gray nobody.

No worse words could come from a father. But Attila musters an understanding and sympathy few people could.

ATTILA

Life makes us hard here, Father. It's not where we belong. Come with me. I can't leave you here. Let me take you home.

His Father's eyes harden.

ATTILA'S FATHER

You can't leave *me* here? Who the hell are you?

He grabs Attila in a headlock. It's pitiful, but out of respect, Attila let's himself be held.

ATTILA'S FATHER

I could crush you with my bare hands! I go where I want, you understand?! Little shit!

His Father shoves Attila towards the door and throws a glass at him.

ATTILA'S FATHER

Get out! You're expelled from my life!! I'm the one who pities you! Son of a whore!

He tries to throw an end table and winds up falling into a drunken heap on the floor. Attila turns to go.

ATTILA'S FATHER

Attila?

Attila stops.

ATTILA'S FATHER

I hope you get shot.

EXT. BORDER CROSSING - DAY

There's a CROW on a wire. A rifle CRACKS and the bird EXPLODES in a cloud of black feathers.

The SHARPSHOOTER is in a tower 200 yards away. SOLDIERS exchange cash. Attila is wide-eyed, hiding between rows of corn as crow feathers flutter down on him.

He grits his teeth and crawls closer to a RAILROAD CHECKPOINT. There are GUARD DOGS beneath the tower.

SUPER TITLE: "The Hungarian Border"

As a train pulls out, Attila looks up at the tower. The Sharpshooter is watching the tracks like a hawk. Crosses litter the hillside, commemorating his kills.

EXT. BORDER CROSSING - NIGHT

Searchlights play over the area. Attila licks dew from a leaf. Eats a raw ear of corn. He's starving and thirsty, tired and cold.

He hears a train and checks the tower. A Sharpshooter is eyeing the tracks...

EXT. BORDER CROSSING - THE NEXT DAY

Attila does sit-ups, pushups. Slaps himself in the face to keep awake. He's dirty and sweaty, half crazed from sleeplessness, babbling to himself.

ATTILA

You're not hungry. You're *going* to Hungary. You can't be hungry in Hungary.

Another train begins to pull out. Attila looks to the tower, does a double take. *The Sharpshooter is taking a smoke break with his back to Attila.*

Holy shit! Attila slings a cardboard tube onto his back and gets into a crouch. As the train picks up speed...

Attila takes off! Bent low, he sprints through the corn. Trips! Eats it hard. Then he's back up again, huffing and puffing, but the train is passing him by.

Then, a miracle: a handrail! He grabs it and is jerked off his feet. He SLAMS into the train and almost falls. One of the guard dogs BARKS.

Attila climbs onto the GRATING between cars and swings himself *beneath it and onto the coupling*. The massive wheels are inches away. His cardboard tube breaks free and gets sucked under the wheels.

Now all the dogs BARK. The Sharpshooter unslings his rifle, aims it at the train. But he can't see Attila under the grating. Attila hangs onto the slippery coupling as the train crosses the border.

NARRATOR

And so it was that Attila Ambrus came home to Hungary for the very first time.

As the train leaves, the Sharpshooter sees half an AC/DC poster blowing across the tracks.

EXT. KELETI STATION - BUDAPEST - NIGHT

Attila exits the train station, his face and clothes covered in grease. He steps from the shadows into the neon lights of the big city. It's a Technicolor Oz compared to Fitod.

SUPER TITLE: "Budapest, Hungary, 1989"

The vendors outside the station are packing up for the night, but what a bounty! Madonna cassettes! Nudie Magazines! This is light years beyond Romania.

EXT. SZECHENYI BRIDGE - NIGHT

Attila wanders across the bridge looking at the massive Buda Castle on one side and the Gothic Parliament Building on the other. The city is lit up and gorgeous.

EXT. ERSZEBET SQUARE- NIGHT

A GYPSY VIOLINIST plays a strangely familiar tune. Attila sits under a statue, hugging himself for warmth.

His teeth chatter with cold, but he smiles as he hums along to the tune. And then, impulsively, he starts to sing. Belting it out with joy.

ATTILA

Let's have a doo time, a dabba doo time. Let's have a *gay old time!*

The gypsy's stare at him like he's nuts. But he doesn't care. He's home!!

INT. IMMIGRATION OFFICE - DAY

This office looks exactly like the police office in Romania. Attila sits in a wooden chair across a desk from two surly IMMIGRATION OFFICERS.

IMMIGRATION OFFICER

You say you're Hungarian?

ATTILA

To the bone, comrade.

IMMIGRATION OFFICER

But you were born in Romania?

ATTILA

Technically correct. But I have escaped! I'm here! I made it!

Attila is so excited he gets up and tries to kiss the Officers. They push him away awkwardly.

ATTILA

Forgive me. I couldn't sleep. I stood outside all night so I could be the first in line this morning. I don't want to wait another minute. Hit me with it, brothers! I'm ready for my citizenship!

They glare at him with suspicion.

NARRATOR

It is with great shame that I must confess, dear viewers, that Attila Ambrus had risked life and limb only to find that once again...

IMMIGRATION OFFICER

You're not exactly... one of us.

C.U. On his papers being stamped: "RESIDENT ALIEN".

EXT. MCDONALD'S - DAY

Attila walks down the sidewalk, devastated, staring at his new ID papers.

He stops outside a brand new McDonald's, peering through the window with all the other POOR FOLK. It's packed with Hungarians getting their first taste of the West.

A Patron drops his left-over fries in the trash and Attila joins the scrum for them.

By the time he gets to the trash, it's been picked clean. He runs his finger around the empty fry box, sucking up the salt.

EXT. CEMETARY - DAY

A funeral procession exits a chapel, coffin in tow. Attila climbs from a fresh grave, shovel in hand.

NARRATOR

To survive, Attila took whatever odd jobs he could find.

As the MOURNERS go by, Attila greets them.

ATTILA

Sorry for your loss. So sorry. Sorry.

When a WELL DRESSED MAN goes by, Attila whips out a set of FOUNTAIN PENS.

ATTILA

Could I interest you in a fine Parker pen? No? Sorry for your loss.

EXT. BEHIND A RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Attila joins a line of Gypsies waiting to pick through the restaurant's dumpster. It's like the buffet line of the damned.

Attila let's a WOMAN and her KID cut in front of him.

EXT. ERZSEBET SQUARE - MORNING

Birds on a statue drop shit onto Attila, who is sleeping underneath. He awakens grumpily, wiping guano off himself with his newspaper blankets.

All at once, it starts to rain. Attila pulls the newspaper over his head.

NARRATOR

In spite of how we treated him, his resolve held firm. He had not come this far to once again be on the outside looking in.

That's when something catches his eye. It's the SPORTS SECTION. A hockey photo shows a goalie with a "UTE" jersey. The headline reads: "MALEV OUT FOR SEASON".

EXT. UTE TRAINING FACILITY - DAY

Attila walks into the dilapidated sports complex. There is a run down outdoor rink surrounded by bleachers. He finds a GROUP OF MEN talking and approaches them.

ATTILA

Hello, comrades, I'm Attila Ambrus from Romania. I am here to answer your prayers. You need a new a goalie. I'm your man.

A rotund little man, GUSTAV BOTA looks him up and down. Attila is only 5'8" and lean.

GUSTAV BOTA

What part of Romania?

ATTILA

The mountains. Transylvania.

GUSTAV BOTA

(considers it, then)
Go suit up.

Attila heads off. The COACH turns to Bota.

COACH

He's too small.

GUSTAV BOTA

Please. Transylvanians are animals. All they know is hockey. This kid has got something, I can smell it.

EXT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - DAY

Attila stuffs newspapers into the huge skates he's been given.

GUSTAV BOTA

Okay, Attila Ambrus from Transylvania. Get out there.

Attila gingerly steps onto the ice. He hasn't played since that prep school game years ago. He clomps to the net, in front of which the much larger UTE players prowl.

At the COACH'S whistle, someone fires a puck at Attila. It blows right into the net, Attila flopping to the ice a full second later.

ATTILA

Nice shot, comrade.

The players look at him dubiously. Another puck is fired. It too finds the net, Attila again flailing.

ATTILA

Good one, comrade.

Now the pucks come faster. WHOOMP! WHOOMP! They drill into the net. Attila struggles like Bambi on the ice.

Team Captain BELA BENKO lines up a shot.

BELA BENKO

I'll knock this bumpkin back to the sticks.

Benko's shot rockets off Attila's facemask. As he staggers, Benko tags another puck off his face. There is a CRACK and blood sprays out Attila's nose holes.

Benko laughs but Attila gets right back up. Players slap pucks at him mercilessly. Bota shakes his head as the Coach blows his whistle.

COACH

Hey you! Off the ice!

Attila ignores him. The pucks bounce off his head with cruel regularity. But Attila keeps popping right back up, as if he were in the midst of a championship game.

EXT. UTE TRAINING FACILITY - DAY

Gustav Bota heads out to his car. Attila chases him, his nose broken, his shirt covered in blood.

ATTILA

Mr. Bota? Mr. Bota? What do you say?

GUSTAV BOTA

Whatever the hell you were doing out there had nothing to do with hockey.

ATTILA

I'll grant you, I'm a bit rusty. But with practice...

GUSTAV BOTA

Are you insane? You have no business trying to play at a professional level. Not even here.

ATTILA

Please, sir. I will try harder than anyone. I sleep in the park. Last night a gypsy tried to steal my pants. Please, Mr. Bota, I'll do anything.

Bota can't help but be moved. Attila's a pitiful mess.

GUSTAV BOTA

(sighs, relenting)
I could use a janitor...

ATTILA

Thank you! Thank you, comrade! I won't let you down.

Attila grabs Bota's hand, starts kissing it. Bota yanks his hand away, wipes it on his sleeve. Gets in his car. Attila knocks on the window, gets blood on it. Bota rolls it down, frustrated.

ATTILA

Mr. Bota? Not for nothing, but I was really hoping you'd put me on the ice.

GUSTAV BOTA

Get away from my car, you're bleeding all over it!

Attila gets on his knees, streaking blood down the door.

ATTILA

Please, sir, I'm begging! I'm begging!

GUSTAV BOTA

(with incredulity)
Fine. Call yourself the twelfth string goalie. Stand in the net at practice and catch pucks with your face. Just get off my car!

ATTILA

Yes! Thank you, comrade! I worship you.

GUSTAV BOTA

I don't suppose you have papers.
(off his reaction)
Of course not. Tell anyone and you're gone. And lose the "comrade" bit, we're a free country.

As Bota pulls away, Attila is so happy he weeps.

NARRATOR

Free the country was, but more
free for some than others...

EXT. BUDAPEST - FILE FOOTAGE - VARIOUS

We see FOOTAGE of CORRUPT POLITICOS at a gala ball.

NARRATOR

Corrupt Communist officials had
become corrupt members of
Parliament, looting the public
coffers in the process. This left
precious little for the average
citizen, who was soon introduced
to a few other Western imports...

Shots of citizens lined up outside UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICES.
Scores of HOMELESS now sleep in parks.

NARRATOR

For most, the American Dream began
to tarnish.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Attila is on hands and knees happily scrubbing a toilet.

NARRATOR

But not for Attila. He threw
himself into his duties with
passionate intensity.

A Player comes and pisses into the toilet Attila is
cleaning. Attila waits until the guy finishes, flushes
for him, and gets back to work.

INT. CLOSET - DAY

Attila sharpens skate blades in his nest of blankets that
passes for a bed. He gets out of bed and opens his
door... walking right into the locker room. *He's living
in the janitor's closet.*

He hands the skates to a Player, who hands him a coin.

NARRATOR

He was sure that his hard work
would one day pay-off in riches
beyond imagination.

BACK IN THE CLOSET

Attila drops the coin into a rusted COFFEE CAN. His personal piggy bank. He shakes the can, enjoying the sound.

EXT. UTE PARKING LOT - DAY

Sweeping the sidewalk, Attila ogles the PLAYER'S CARS.

NARRATOR

But as much as he longed for the high life, for now he was but a tiny cog on a large wheel.

Last in the row is the sharpest of them all: Bela Benko's Mitsubishi sports car. Benko yells at the buck-toothed ten-year old, PETR, hand washing the rims.

BELA BENKO

Don't forget to vacuum the trunk, hamster.

EXT. HOCKEY RINK - NIGHT

It's game night. ROWDY DRUNKS fill the bleachers. Half wear UTE jerseys, the other half wear rival FTC jerseys. Attila drives the zamboni onto the ice.

NARRATOR

Until his gravy boat set sail, UTE was enough for Attila. For once he *belonged*, he was part of a team.

As he drives past the FTC FANS, he screams...

ATTILA

FTC, EAT SHIT!

The FTC Fans explode in anger, pelting Attila with beer cans, firecrackers and (most importantly) coins.

NARRATOR

For his enthusiasm, he was given a nickname: the Chicky Panther.

Gustav Bota watches as Attila drives through the hail of debris proudly, giving them the finger.

MOMENTS LATER

Attila sweeps the debris off the ice. Carefully picks the coins out of the pile.

INT. CLOSET - DAY

There's a knock at the door. Attila opens it. A Player stands there naked, holding his threadbare underwear.

ATTILA
 (takes the underwear)
 Calvins! You're sure you're done
 with them? *Buli, buli!* Thanks,
 man.

The door shuts...

SUPER TITLE: "17 Months Later".

There's a knock at the door. Attila opens it. He now sports a goatee. A MAN IN A LEATHER COAT stands there. Attila invites him into the closet.

NARRATOR
 Through diligence and pure will,
 Attila had scraped enough money
 together to bribe an immigration
 official into getting him the
 citizenship he so desperately
 desired.

Attila now has a row of Coffee Cans. He gives the Man all save one. The Man puts the Cans in a satchel.

MAN IN LEATHER COAT
 Be patient.

Leather Coat Man leaves. The door shuts.

SUPER TITLE: "3 Months Later"

There's a knock. Attila opens the door. It's the Coach.

COACH
 Bota wants to see you.

INT. GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE - DAY

Bota's manner seems considered. This worries Attila...

GUSTAV BOTA
 It's been a long time, Panther.
 (beat)
 How's that closet treating you?

ATTILA
 I feel like King Tut, boss.

GUSTAV BOTA

That's too bad, because I want you out of there. Today.

ATTILA

Mr. Bota?

GUSTAV BOTA

A buddy of mine owns an apartment building on Villanyi Street. He needs a super. You take the gig, he promised to get you out of my closet.

Attila's stunned, he studies Bota to see if he's joking. Bota smiles, he's not.

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - DAY

An APARTMENT OWNER leads Attila into the dingy basement apartment. It's a studio with a kitchenette.

APARTMENT OWNER

The pay's not much. You clean the common areas, keep up the plumbing, you can have the room for free.

Attila opens the closet and gets inside. It's tiny.

ATTILA

I can't even lay down in here.

APARTMENT OWNER

What? No, the whole thing.

Attila's eyes light up as he walks through his new digs.

ATTILA

It's like a mansion!

Attila is thrilled that water comes from the taps.

APARTMENT OWNER

Live it up.

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - THAT NIGHT

Attila takes a panel from the inside of his oven and hides his remaining Coffee Can in there. He takes the knobs off for good measure.

As he situates his blankets in the middle of the room, he hears something. It's a THUMPING from within the wall.

Something large is banging around in there. He follows the noise diagonally down the wall to an AIR VENT.

Attila grabs a broom to defend himself as the air vent pops open. A run-down DOG pokes his head out, one ear sticking straight up, the other missing.

The Dog crawls from the vent and looks at Attila. A moment as the two strays size each other up. Then the Dog wanders over and lays in Attila's blankets.

ATTILA

Hey, *bozgor*, that's my bed!

The dog barks at Attila.

ATTILA

Look at you, Godfather. Pardon me, I didn't realize you were the doggy Don around here.

Attila moves towards the Dog, who now starts to growl. Attila goes to his cupboard, pulls out a dried sausage. He cautiously re-approaches the Dog. Feeds him. Lets the Dog lick his hand.

After a few moments, Attila slowly climbs into the blanket nest, lays next to the Dog. The Dog let's him.

ATTILA

Sorry about the "*bozgor*"...

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Attila finishes mopping the stairs. Knocks on a door. The elderly NINNY (90) emerges, coat in hand.

ATTILA

Where to today, Ninny?

NINNY

Figure skating. Where do you think? I have bills to pay.

Attila holds her elbow while she walks EXTREMELY SLOWLY.

NARRATOR

On the side, Attila made tip money helping his tenants run errands.

INT. VILLANYI ST. POST OFFICE - DAY

Ninny complains while they wait in line. A pretty, PLUMP GIRL waits in front of them.

NINNY

...I keep telling him I hear
someone in the vents, spying on
me. I can hear him panting...

Attila steals a glance at the Plump Girl's ass, which is
snuggled into a too tight neon mini-skirt. The Plump
Girl catches him... smiles.

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - DAY

The Dog watches as Attila arranges flowers on the table.

ATTILA

I know the flowers are optimistic,
but if I manage to get her through
the door, I want this place to
look like a palace of carnal
delights.

Attila pulls his Coffee Can out of the oven.

ATTILA

Don't wait up.

INT. THRIFT STORE - DAY

Attila tries on a worn sport coat, pays in coins.

INT. HANSI'S RESTUARANT - NIGHT

White linens, crystal glasses, and on Attila's plate, an
actual steak. He relishes every bite.

PLUMP GIRL

I could eat like this every night.

ATTILA

Me too.

The bill's a whopper. The Plump Girl watches as Attila
carefully counts out his coins.

Heading for the exit, Attila sees the Man In The Leather
Coat. He hasn't heard from him in months.

ATTILA

I'll just wash up.

He sends Plump Girl outside and follows Leather Coat to
the restroom. He catches him at the door.

ATTILA
Hey, remember me?

MAN IN LEATHER COAT
Oh, right. Yeah...
(beat)
It didn't work out.

ATTILA
What do you mean it didn't work
out? I paid you to get me
citizenship.

MAN IN LEATHER COAT
You paid me to *try*, I tried. My
inside guy got busted. It
happens.

ATTILA
I want my money back.

MAN IN LEATHER COAT
What are you, a joke? Get lost.

Attila tries to grab the Man. The Man slams the bathroom door on Attila's arm, pinching it between the door and frame. Attila cries out in pain as BUSBOYS look on.

ATTILA
Give me my money!

Leather Coat squeezes harder.

ATTILA
Okay! Okay! Let my arm out.

The Man releases the pressure on the door. Attila slides to the floor, clutching his arm.

MAN IN LEATHER COAT
It's the way of the world, buddy.
I'm connected. You're a bum.
Bother me again you'll taste the
horse's dick, *faszsop*.

As the Man disappears into the bathroom, Attila pounds the floor in pain and frustration...

INT. CASINO - NIGHT

Attila walks into the casino with the Plump Girl, a scowl on his face.

NARRATOR

Not since he was a teenager had
such anger boiled inside Attila.

As he orders drinks at the bar, he's spotted by Bela Benko and some other UTE PLAYERS at a roulette table.

BELA BENKO

Look who's here! The Chicky
Panther! Hey Panther, where'd'ya
get a lady like this? What is
she, retarded? Honey, no offense,
but what are you doing with a
hugyagyu like him?

ATTILA

(growing angrier)
What's the game?

BELA BENKO

Roulette, dummy! Join us!
Nikolo, get my man a marker. This
is the Panther! UTE wouldn't have
a pot to piss in without this guy!
Not a clean one, anyway!

The Players LAUGH along with Bela Benko. The imposing
looking CASINO MANAGER nods and Attila is slid a HUGE
STACK OF CHIPS. Bela Benko winks at the Plump Girl while
addressing Attila.

BELA BENKO

You need some help with your
treasure? Or can you figure out
what to do with it all by
yourself?

ATTILA

I got it.

Attila looks at the felt, puzzled.

NARRATOR

And once again, what would you do,
dear viewer? Still poor, still
without a future, still desperate
to matter. The sensible among us
would walk away. Others, not
inclined to meekly suffer their
fate, might tempt greatness.

Attila slides his entire stack onto RED. The wheel is
spun...

NARRATOR

Had he known the series of events
he was about to unleash...

QUICK FLASHES: a police helicopter, a gun firing, a
violent car crash... The roulette wheel slows...

NARRATOR

...well... He probably would have
done it anyway.

The ball drops on BLACK.

BELA BENKO

Te fasz! No dinner and a movie
for you, sweetheart! The idiot
dropped it all on one spin!

Attila stares, rigid, as the croupier takes away his
chips.

INT./EXT. CASINO - NIGHT

His teammates slap Attila on the back and head into the
night. Attila is stopped by BOUNCER VIKTOR and dragged
back inside to the Casino Manager, "TIPPY" GOGOL.

ATTILA

I'm good for it! Like he told
you, I'm with UTE.

TIPPY GOGOL

I shit in UTE, *csöves*. You'll
bring it all back in cash,
tomorrow, or Viktor will let some
sunlight into your skull. *Bumm!*
Zsupsz! Clear?

Viktor opens the door for Attila then gives him a brutal
forearm to the nose. Attila stumbles out the door,
dazed. His Teammates await him. He sees Bela Benko put
his arm around Plump Girl... and she doesn't pull away.
Embarrassed, Attila cups his bloody nose and heads home.

BELA BENKO

(taunting)
Hé! Where's he going? Hey
Panther! You left your girl!

INT. APARTMENT - THE NEXT DAY

Attila lays on the floor, depressed. A bag of ice on his
busted nose.

ATTILA

Jesus Christ, Don. It looked so easy. You pick a color.

There's a THUMP on Attila's door. He freezes. Don the dog barks, Attila shushes him. THUMP! THUMP! Attila opens his kitchen cupboard, tries to wriggle inside it.

NINNY (O.S.)

I hear you down there! Get out here!

Attila opens his door. Ninny is at the top of his stairs, throwing crab-apples at his door.

NINNY

The post office is going to close!

INT. POST OFFICE - DAY

Attila waits nervously in line with Ninny, watching other people pay their bills. *Lot's of money is coming into this post office.*

NINNY

A simpleton like you, these modern girls will plow over like a field of thistles.

ATTILA

I know, Ninny.

He looks at the employees. They're all OLD WOMEN. He looks at the ceiling. There's a VIDEO CAMERA but *it's not plugged in*. Attila has a lightbulb moment...

NINNY

Flirting with your teammate...
Disgusting! If I see her again
I'll spit in her face.

Cash in hand, Ninny shuffles to the counter. The clerk, MRS. GEROMOS, smiles.

MRS. GEROMOS

Hello, Attila! What a handsome man.

Attila smiles shyly as all the CLERKS wave at him. He's quite well known here. This brings him back to reality.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Attila walks Ninny home. Stops. There's a BLACK SEDAN with ominous tinted windows parked in front of his building. He panics, pulls Ninny into a doorway.

NINNNY

What are you doing? Let's go.

ATTILA

I'm... meeting a friend, Ninny. I need you to go home.

He hides his face and hurries across the street to a bar.

NINNY

Is it that whore?

ATTILA

Go home...

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Attila peers out the window. The Black Sedan sits there.

EXT. BAR - MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

The barkeep closes up, pulls down a grate. Attila hides in the shadows between two garbage bins. He pulls his jacket over his ears, settles in for the night. The Sedan waits...

EXT. BAR - DAWN

The barkeep pulls up the grate, waking Attila. Attila discreetly follows the barkeep back into the bar.

INT. BAR - LATE MORNING

Haggard and restless, Attila watches the immobile Sedan. He punches the table in frustration.

ATTILA

A fene egye meg!

On the TV, President Clinton is being inaugurated. A BARFLY makes fun of him.

BARFLY

Screw America! Look at this guy.
Another crook.

The Barfly takes a magic marker, climbs onto the bar and draws on the screen. He puts a moustache and gangster hat on Clinton. A GUN in his hand.

BARFLY

We do it, we get a kick in the
ass. They do it, they call it
policy!

The bar patrons laugh while the BARTENDER drags the Barfly off the bar. But Attila is watching that TV. The moustache... the hat... the gun...

He rests his head on the back of the booth, thinking...

INT. BAR BATHROOM - DAY

Attila bolts the door. He leans against the sink, peering into a brown shopping bag. From inside the bag he pulls a WIG, a huge pair of SHOES, a SKI CAP WITH EAR FLAPS, MAKEUP, and a black TOY GUN.

NARRATOR

Whether it was desperation, false
entitlement or stupidity, it was
inevitable. Our fledgling
Republic was about to give birth
to the by-product of failed
American Dreams...

Attila examines the toy gun. Points it at the mirror.

NARRATOR

The outlaw.

Attila looks at the 8" scar on his arm. We see a QUICK FLASH of the Gulag he was held in, hear the screams.

Attila pulls a bottle of JOHNNY WALKER RED from the bag. Takes a long, slow draw.

ATTILA

No mistakes. The crime is
committed first here...
(he taps his head)
Then here...
(he grabs his crotch)
The rest is execution.

He takes another long hit of the whiskey.

EXT. POST OFFICE - DAY

A drunken Attila stumbles along, wearing his regular shoes INSIDE the new, oversized pair. He dons the wig, the red hat, make-up and sunglasses. He couldn't look more conspicuous, yet he goes unnoticed as he passes the post office and peers inside.

There's still a few customers. Attila waits at the corner. Mrs. Geromos finally escorts the last customer to the door. Attila makes his move, but Mrs. Geromos LOCKS THE DOOR.

MRS. GEROMOS

We're closed! Come back Monday!

Attila points to his ear. Mrs. Geromos cracks the door.

MRS. GEROMOS

We're closed! Are you deaf?

Attila sticks his foot in the crack.

MRS. GEROMOS

Get your big shoe from there! My God, you reek of liquor!

Attila puts his weight against the door and slowly forces his way inside. He pulls the toy gun from his pocket and waggles it in the air.

ATTILA

(disguising his voice)

Excuse me...if you please! Sorry!
Good day, ladies. I'm very sorry
to announce...you are being
robbed. Hi, everyone!

The Women blink, stupefied. Attila shuts the front door and peers out before lowering the shade...

NARRATOR

And that's how the legend was
born...

FADE OUT.

EXT. ERZSEBET SQUARE - DAY

A bus pulls to the curb and a sea of people exits. One is a man with bushy eyebrows, a thick mustache and a cheap suit. A working stiff with the swagger of a Hungarian Dirty Harry. This is Budapest Police Major LAJOS VARJÚ (30's).

As Lajos crosses the square to Police Headquarters, SHADY CHARACTERS call out, "Coke, Hashish, Smoke." He reveals a BADGE clipped to his belt. This quiets them.

LAJOS VARJÚ

That's what I thought, tough guys.

He turns back to Police Headquarters to find a PRISONER fleeing down the front steps, handcuffed to a bench.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Halt!

Lajos Varjú grabs the bench and tug-o-wars with the Prisoner. The Shady Characters catcall. Two UNIFORMED COPS arrive to help out.

INT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Peeling paint, shitty furniture... it's clear the police force is vastly underfunded.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Book him again. This time for stealing police property.

UNIFORMED COP

Yes, sir.

LAJOS VARJÚ

And have that bench bolted down!

Lajos pushes his way down the crowded hall. Boisterous SUSPECTS are cuffed to pipes, radiators, desks. It's a zoo. Lajos steps over a drunk who's pissed himself.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Animals.

INT. ROBBERY DEPARTMENT - DAY

JOZSEF KESZTHELYI stands outside the squad room, waiting for Lajos. Keszthelyi is nattily dressed, 20's, a yuppie lady killer with ice-blue eyes.

JOZSEF KESZTHELYI

Major Varjú?

Lajos glances at him.

LAJOS VARJÚ

You want homicide. One floor up.

JOZSEF KESZTHELYI

No, sir. My name is Keszthelyi.
I've just been assigned to your
department.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Ah. With that suit I thought you
were a TV reporter. They always
want homicide.

JOZSEF KESZTHELYI

Here's my transfer orders. And I
was told to give you this.

He hands Lajos a POLICE REPORT. Lajos scans the report.

LAJOS VARJÚ

You seem bright, Keszthelyi. You
can see this place is under the
frog's ass. So you know you're
not going to get rich here. But I
run a clean department. If you're
thinking of supplementing your
income with shakedowns, kickbacks
and graft, I'll throw you out like
I'm putting the cat out to shit.
If you're short, you moonlight,
like the rest.

Something in the report alarms Lajos.

JOZSEF KESZTHELYI

I don't need money.
(shrugs)
My wife's family.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Must be nice. My in-laws live in
a barn.

Lajos opens the door to the squad room. Inside, all
twelve members of Lajos' rag-tag Robbery Division are
embroiled in a shots contest.

Burly ZEDDI is passed out wearing lipstick, high heels
and a garter belt on his head. DANCE INSTRUCTOR, a tiny
old man in a top hat and tails, pours another shot. Six-
foot seven beanpole BIGFOOT scratches his enormous bare
foot and downs it to cheers.

LAJOS VARJÚ

(outraged)
Tibor!

The man Lajos is calling doesn't hear him.

DANCE INSTRUCTOR
 (helping Lajos out)
 Asshead, pssst!

Lajos' 5' 3" sidekick MOUND OF ASSHEAD leaps up.

MOUND OF ASSHEAD
 You're just in time, boss.
 Bigfoot's about to beat the
 record!

Bigfoot downs another shot and everyone cheers again.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 It's ten in the morning!

MOUND OF ASSHEAD
 I know, you're late again. Tut-
 tut.

Lajos glances at Keszthelyi, embarrassed.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 I was here until three AM working
 on the figurine caper! This is
 the new kid, Keszthelyi.

MOUND OF ASSHEAD
 They call me mound of asshead. I
 kill squad cars.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 His name is Tibor Vági, deputy
 chief of the department! Everyone
 listen up! This is Top Shit!
 (waving the report he was
 just handed)
 We had a robbery late yesterday at
 the Villanyi street post office.
 Some creep with a wig pulled out a
 gun and took the place for all it
 had.

The activity in the room stops.

DANCE INSTRUCTOR
 Did you say a gun?

LAJOS VARJÚ
 So you're still alive, eh, Dance
 Instructor? Good! This is an
 armed robbery, gentlemen, in our
 fair city! It goes to the top of
 the board, priority one! I want
 everyone on this! Wake up Zeddi!
 Get him back in men's clothing!

(MORE)

LAJOS VARJÚ (CONT'D)

We're heading to Villanyi street
to investigate!

The Robbery Division starts scrambling. Dance Instructor takes the photo of a porcelain figurine labeled "STOLEN" and moves it down a notch on a cork board. Drunken Zeddi tries to take a HOLSTERED PISTOL from it's peg on the wall. Mound grabs it first.

MOUND OF ASSHEAD

Too slow. I get the pistol today.

ZEDDI

It's my turn!

MOUND OF ASSHEAD

Boss!

ZEDDI

Fine, take it! Just don't leave
this one on the bus!

Lajos steps between them.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Seniority! Hand it over.

Mound unhappily helps Lajos put on the cool shoulder holster. Lajos slides on some mirrorshades. Everyone nods their approval: that Lajos is one suave fuck.

LAJOS VARJÚ

That's it, gentlemen. Let's go
grill some witnesses.

BIGFOOT

But I'm only two away from the
record!

LAJOS VARJÚ

Maybe you didn't hear me, clown
shoes -- Budapest is turning into
the wild west! Now ship out!

Bigfoot reluctantly shuffles out the door with the rest of the men. Lajos whispers to Keszthelyi.

LAJOS VARJÚ

My record stands.

Keszthelyi looks on in disbelief...

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Bouncer Viktor and a Driver are asleep inside the black sedan. They jolt awake when Attila knocks on the window.

ATTILA

Sorry for the delay. I got the money here, plus some interest. And these are for you.

He hands over the MONEY and a box of PASTRIES.

ATTILA

Just some crumb cakes. You guys put in long hours. There's a tip for you in the box. Don't tell the boss. I know it's customary for you to punch me again, but I also brought coffee.

(he hands that in too)

Okay?

Bouncer Viktor counts out his tip. It's nice.

BOUNCER VIKTOR

Yeah. Okay.

(beat)

Come back any time, player...

He pats Attila on the cheek. The Sedan drives away.

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - DAY

Attila stuffs money into his coffee can. Don watches.

ATTILA

You should have seen it. The other day it's an elbow to the face. Today it's "come back any time". All because of this stuff. No one gives respect, you have to buy it. It's disgusting.

The can is full and he's still got a big pile of cash.

ATTILA

(sighs)

What the hell do we do now? I can't have all this lying around. It's evidence.

As Attila spreads out the cash, considering his options, AC/DC's "What do You do for Money, Honey" begins to play. Attila looks at Don and smiles mischievously...

INT./EXT. RED OPEL - DAY

A used RED OPEL (one door primer grey), speeds down the street with the radio blasting. A hockey bobble-head bounces on the dash. Attila smiles under his shades, behind the wheel of his new car...

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - DAY

Attila installs a new TV and STEREO. His place now has FURNITURE. It's all gaudy as hell, but new. He puts down custom water and food bowls labeled "DON". Don looks on from his new leopard print DOG BED.

INT. MCDONALD'S - DAY

A CASHIER looks bored. She perks up when Attila whips off his shades and struts to the counter in slo-mo. He's wearing an outrageous suit and red cowboy boots. He points to a picture of the BIG MAC with confidence. Impressed, the Cashier rings him up.

EXT. UTE PARKING LOT - DAY

Attila pulls his Opel next to Bela Benko's Mitsubishi. He hops out in his Puma tracksuit and calls over Petr, the car wash kid.

ATTILA

What's he paying you?

PETR

Three *florints*.

ATTILA

I'll give you five if you do mine first.

Petr grabs his gear and heads over. He's super skinny, with thick coke-bottle glasses and protruding teeth.

ATTILA

What's your name, kid?

PETR

Petr.

ATTILA

You got a pretty good enterprise going here.

PETR

I used to work for my mother.

He indicates a small car wash on the corner. It's called "EVA'S SUPER-WASH". EVA, 30's and plain, scowls.

PETR

But she was cock-blocking my style. I had to blow that scene and get my own thing going. You pay first.

Attila gives him the coins. Petr starts vacuuming under the seats, snagging something. It's a sleazy Hungarian nudie magazine, "Kurva". Petr looks at it, wide-eyed.

ATTILA

That's your tip. Enjoy it in good health.

INT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - DAY

During practice, Attila prowls in front of his net with newfound authority. He screams at the YOUNGER PLAYERS.

ATTILA

Hey shithead! How could you miss that play? Am I gonna have to make it for you next time? That's your man! Don't look at me! Skate! *Te fasz!*

Bela Benko nods at his crony BUBU, who cranks back and SLAPS a screamer right at Attila's head. THWAP! Attila catches it right in his glove.

ATTILA

Again! This time like you've got a dick!

The rink quiets, impressed...

EXT. UTE TRAINING FACILITY - PARKING LOT - DAY

Attila struts out of the locker room. Just as he gets to his Opel, Eva marches up to him.

EVA

Hey you! Yeah, you, pervert! Did you give this to my son?

She holds up the dirty magazine.

ATTILA

Okay, guilty. But, come on, every growing boy needs a little fuel for the rocket. I had to get by with the girl on the syrup packet.

EVA

(disgusted)
Just... Stay away from my kid.

ATTILA

Lady, loosen up, okay? I was just being friendly. The other guys can be rough on him because, you know, he's...

EVA

He's what?

ATTILA

You know. Different. Big glasses, the teeth. Don't get me wrong, he's a nice kid. But they call him "hamster".

EVA

(fuming)
You want your car washed, come to me, not my son. Otherwise I'm gonna call a cop.

She slaps the magazine against his chest and storms off.

INT. CASINO - NIGHT

Bela Benko and the Teammates gamble together.

BUBU

What was up with that Panther today?

BELA BENKO

He's got a big mouth for a practice goalie. You see the way he crawled out of here last time?

BUBU

He's not crawling tonight.

Heads turn to where Bubu is pointing -- Attila is coming through the door with a HOOKER on each arm.

ATTILA

Boys! Boys! Anybody thirsty?

Európában gyakoriak a világnapok, de főleg hollandnak számítanak a kultúrának szentelt ünnepek. A színházi világnap viszont a legjellegesebbek egyike. 1962 óta 81 országban emlékeznek meg március 27-én erről az eseményről, amelynek gondolatát a bécsi kongresszuson fogadták el és egybeesik a bécsi Nemzetek Színházának első évadjával.

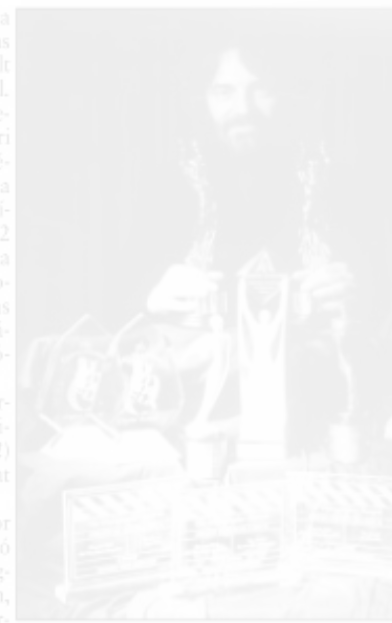
Minden esztendőben ezen a jeles napon az egyetemes kultúra egyik prominens személyiségét éri az a megtiszteltetés, hogy az eseménnyel kapcsolatos gondolatokat megossza Thália tagjaival és tisztelőivel. A színházi világnap üzenetét lefordítják 81 nyelvre és minden színházban ismerterik.

Ezen évben Michael Tremblay kanadai dramaturg olvasta fel az „üzenetet”, amelyben közvetlenül utalt Euripidészre – aki jó kétezer évvel ezelőtt már megfogalmazta a színház szerepét – és Electrájára. Ehhez a kanadai író hozzájárította saját gondolatait is a drámai szöveg egyetemesességéről, de a világot



dégszerp... Szilgiet... zert, hogy... felöltöt és a... ások, a ha... lom felka... kiscserlek, és versd... ndhagyó... tatott pro... atőr moz... stása mind... tett, amely... képezi a... azon meg... ep és igaz... en a nap... yságát ad... y képes át... határokat, yóságokat, yvonalakat... nk a műve... telő erejét.

(P. P.)



Ismét levelet hozott a posta. Francis Kish, alias Kiss Ferenc írt az egyesült államokbeli Glendaleből. Az Aradi Művészeti Liceum, majd a Kolozsvári Képzőművészeti Akadémia egykori végzőse, a keramikusból lett világhírű komputer-grafikus 12 éve él Kaliforniában. Ma azon kevesek közé tartozik, aki rendkívül magas szinten alkalmazza a háromdimenziós számítógép-grafikát.

Az álom című hétperces, háromdimenziós videófilmjével tizenegy(!) rangos nemzetközi díjat nyert.

Tavaly nyáron, mikor itthon járt, a rendkívül jó szakvizsga alapján joggal reménykedett abban, hogy felterjesztik Oscar-díjra. AFüggetlen Filmek

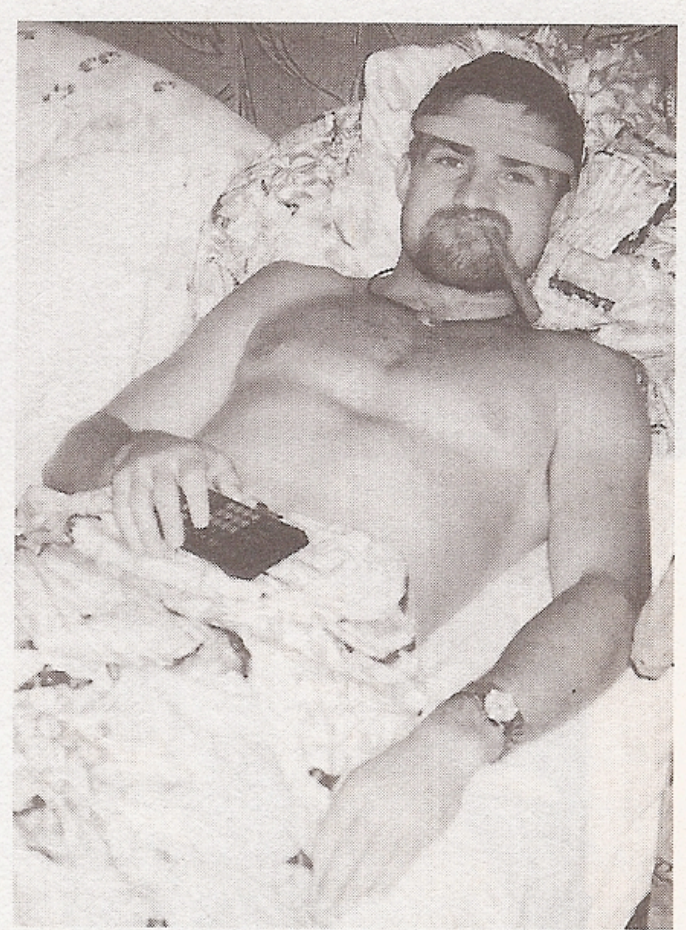
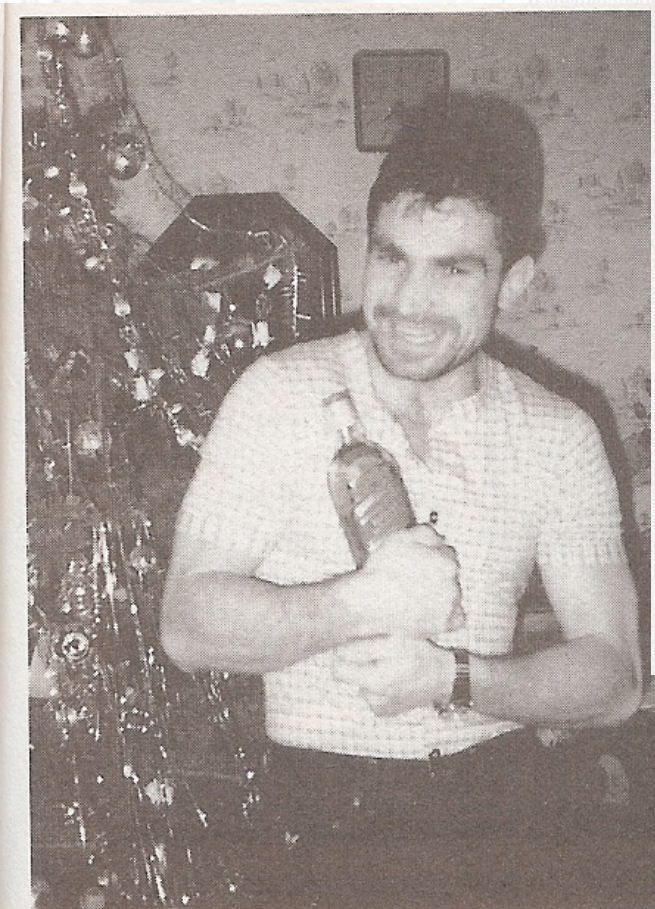
N.Kiss Ferenc komputer-grafikus a 11 nagy

A végzősök az érettségi s... Ez csak próbá...

Az Oktatásügyi Minisztériumban végzett számítógépes sorsolás alapján szombaton négy Arad megyei liceumban próbaérettségit tartottak. A 167 diák az érettségi szabályaival ismerkedett. A 9 órakor megkezdődött a vizsga, amelyben a Német Li-

Az aradi Német Liceum négy végzős osztályából 25 tanulónak kellett megmutatnia, mire képes az anyanyelvi vizsgán.

próbaérettségit igazgató. - A diákok megadták a hírt, a feladatokat. N szombaton is... - Mik a pró... - A Miniszte... feladatlapok...



The bandit at rest. (COURTESY OF ATTILA AMBRUS)

legyenek az... hogy a célja... Helikon - KEMÉNY JÁNOS Alapítvány Kuratóriuma

The Whiskey Robber gets a Christmas present he likes: a bottle of his signature drink, Johnnie Walker Red.

Az első világhábo... mas években mind... vált egy, a románai... mürön egységes, de... elentő tabor mega... össze fogó jelszava... at", a transzilván... Az írói közösség... rására a fiatal ba... állalkozott, aki ak... löbirtokainak jele... el a romániai magy... atására. 1926 nya... róját huszonhét... meg a marosvécsi I... A helikoni munk... ghábori között a... mottevőbb és legie... csoportosulása voi... 1944 üzen 55-en... elikónistáknak.

Az alapító Kemény János fia, Kemény Miklós és családja, a kuratórium tiszteletbeli elnöke Sütő András író, tagjai: Bogya Levente elnök, Nagy Miklós Kund alelnök, Adamovits Sándor alelnök, Bánya László, Xilóse Ilse, La...

az aradi Ion Slavici könyvesboltban a középkori japán szellemiségéről szóló kettynelvív (Spirit of Medieval Japan) könyv bemutatására. Szerzője Mihnea Voicu Simándan, kiadója a bukaresti Nipponica. Az aradi szőnyarbocsátáson közreműködik Gheorghe Schwartz író és Desdemona Nagy-Vizintu tanárnő. A kötetet tavaly decemberben bukarestben mutatták be először a Japán Napok alkalmával a szigetország nagykövete és a japán nagykövetség képviselői.

regionalis stúdiói is a megren... zé tartoznak. Pályázati feltételek: — irodalmi szintű magyar nyelvű pályaművel, — újságírói és egyetemista szintű pályaművel, — szakmai gyakorlat, — érvényes utlevél. Bérézes: meggyezéses alap... A pályázatokban a végzett... zoló dokumentumok másolat... részletes szakmai önéletrajza... Pályázati cím: Magyar Tele... Híradó Onálló Szerkesztő... Budapest, Eszterházy utca 10.

vizio Rt. a... ar kisebb... dszeresen b... műsoraiból... ol Kolozsvá... n telepíte... s friss besza... ortok első... nára készü... is szerkeszt...

öntőjében... nis autom... -díjra. Kis... ben is díjat... történt a... lből nem d... a műfajba... ny című... nek be kel... y is az első... sz volt, a... lmvilág... tázó film... származás... riert befut... y 100... n egy... gozó... aki a... i szü...

ti felhív... ósítói a... vízió Rt. a... ar kisebb... dszeresen b... műsoraiból... ol Kolozsvá... n telepíte... s friss besza... ortok első... nára készü... is szerkeszt...

Attila slaps a wad of cash on the bar. Bela Benko fumes as his cronies abandon him for Attila.

ATTILA
 (showing off his hookers)
 This is Zdenka. And this is
 Marin. Ladies, these are the
 boys.
 (he turns the girls loose)
 Share and share alike, that's what
 I say. Hey! Drink up! To all my
 friends!

Everyone toasts with Attila. He smiles at Bela Benko. For once, Attila is the life of the party...

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - LATER THAT NIGHT

Attila lays on his floor drunk, gnawing on a pig's foot. Don looks at him expectantly.

ATTILA
 You're right. 20% for you.
 (he tosses Don the foot)
 We're the king shits now, Don.

He fingers the empty coffee can laying next to him.

ATTILA
 We're the *king shits*...

He considers those words as he says them. They feel quite nice in his mouth. Maybe even a little addictive. He smiles as he passes out...

EXT. EVA'S SUPER-WASH - DAY

Attila walks up to find Eva.

ATTILA
 Excuse me, miss Eva? I just
 wanted you to know, I spoke to
 your boy. I told him that
 magazine was a big mistake.
 Exploits women and things like
 that. It won't happen again.

EVA
 Fine.

ATTILA
 I hope you don't mind, but I put
 him to work.

EVA
I told you I don't want him
washing your car anymore.

ATTILA
He's not.

She looks over. Next to the Opel, Petr is washing Don.

ATTILA
That's Don. He's cool. Petr said
he'd take care of him while I go
mail a letter. Anyway, sorry.

Eva watches as Attila buys a bouquet of FLOWERS from a street vendor, gets into his Opel and drives away. She shakes her head. He's strange yet interesting.

INT. ANOTHER POST OFFICE - DAY

Attila, wobbly and fetid with alcohol, stands across from CLERK ANNA at the counter. He's offering her his bouquet.

CLERK ANNA
But why are you giving me flowers?

ATTILA
One, you're a very attractive
girl. And two, because I feel
rather badly about this...

Attila whips out his toy pistol.

ATTILA
Hands where I can see them! I am
robbing you, please! Step away
from all desks and counters! No
alarms and we'll get along
famously. My dear, would you be
so kind as to fill this up please?

He hands a sack to Anna. She blushes. Though the door to the back is open, Attila vaults over the Plexiglas partition instead. Everyone is impressed.

ATTILA
Helyes! Not bad, huh? You guys
are alright! I don't think I'll
have to shoot anyone today.

INT. TV LAND

Cheesey music, cheesey graphics, footage of COPS thumping BAD GUYS. Then the logo spins into frame: "KRIMINALIS".

The stage looks like a sixth grade class project. The host is LASZLO JUSZT. And when he speaks, sharp viewers might just recognize his voice. *He is our narrator.*

LASZLO JUSZT

Good evening. I kiss your hand. These are dire days, friends. Long gone is any sense of community. Instead, we dance to the song of greed. From shopkeepers to corporate heads, it seems everyone has been corrupted by the seahag siren of Capitalism. "All for me and screw the rest", is the motto of the times. Yet against this black tide stands a proud woman. Tonight on *Kriminalis*, the story of crusading Budapest attorney Marta Tocsik.

Pictures flash onscreen of tight-lipped MARTA TOCSIK.

LASZLO JUSZT

The simple angel who exposed a scandal that reaches to the top levels of government! Who is involved? And how dare they embezzle eight hundred million *florints* of your money? We shall delve into this manure patch, I assure you.

Now we see the outside of a post office.

LASZLO JUSZT

He's drunk, he's got a gun and he just robbed another Post Office. He's the new face of Hungarian crime, the gunslinging cowboy. And what do his victims say?

Anna the Clerk is interviewed.

CLERK ANNA

(smitten)
He had very kind eyes. And so athletic!

LASZLO JUSZT

(shakes head sadly)
Have we tumbled into the cultural toilet? When will the cops catch this mysterious "Whiskey Robber"? All this and more, tonight!

Pull back from the image to REVEAL it's on TV. We are...

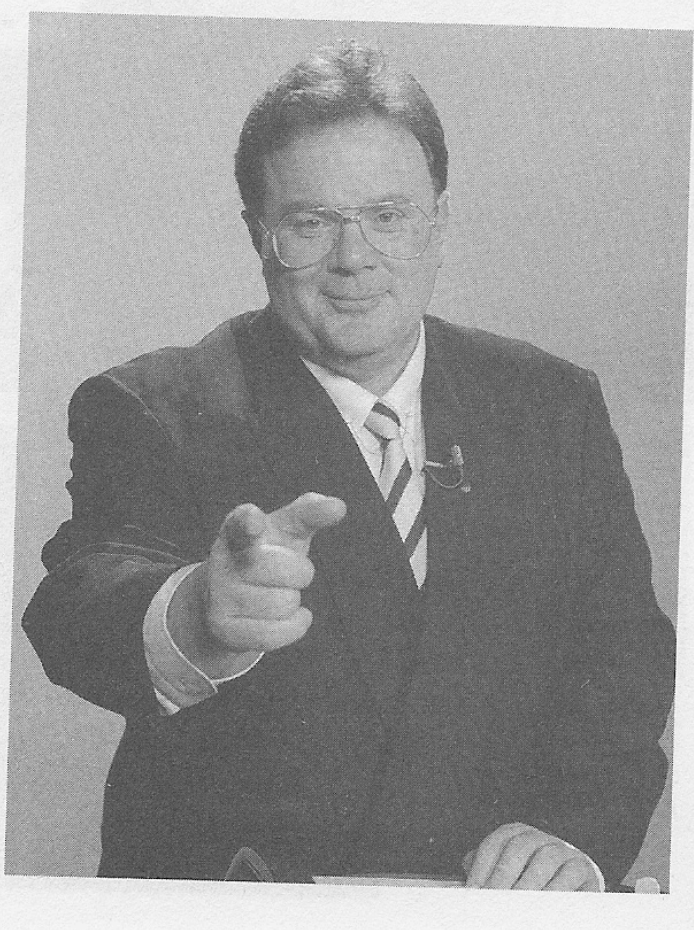
Európában gyakoriak a világnapok, de fehér hollónak számítanak a kultúrának szentelt ünnepek. A színházi világnap viszont a legjelesebbek egyike. 1962 óta 81 országban emlékeznek meg március 27-én erről az eseményről, amelynek gondolatát a bécsi kongresszuson fogadták el és egybeesik a párizsi Nemzetek Színházának első évadjával.

egy olyan „faluvá” változtató globalizációs szándékról is, amelyben minden egyforma. A drámai szöveg egyetemes jellegét nem a helyi sajátosságok

parti városban élő Nagyvárad Társulata egy Thália betöltés



Hozzá is szólt az „üzenet”. Ioan Peter színművész Laszlo Juszt, host of Kriminalis, which became the number one show in Hungary. Fotó: PÉTER...



A végzősö... Ez cs...

Az Oktatásügyi végzett számítógépszombaton négy... próbáért... a kérettség... aival ismerked... órákor megkez... isbelin a Né... tanulóinak nyelvből, a na... szlovák Liceumb... szlovák nyel... onterőeknek pe... mán nyelvből kel... mulniuk a vizs... építőipari Lice... matematikából... ól, biológiából, p... ógiából és föld... endeztek prób... égit, és itt tö... tiájának kellett



Megalakult a „Helikon - Kemény János Alapítvány”

A 2000 tavaszán megalakult és törvényesen bejegyzett Helikon - Kemény János Alapítvány legfőbb célja a Kemény János és a marosvécsi Helikon írók szellemi örökségének megőrzése és széleskörű ismertetése. A kiadvány kiadásának, a jeles évfordulók méltó megünneplése és egy időszaki lap beindítása.

Kemény János annak idején egybegyűjtötte Erdély íróit, az Alapítvány egy emlékparkot szeretne létesíteni az 55 író számára. A tárgyi emlékek megőrzésére Marosvécsen egy Kemény János emlékházat szándékszik létrehozni.

Az alapító: Kemény János fia, Kemény Miklós és családja, a kuratórium tiszteletbeli elnöke Sütő András író, tagjai: Bogya Levente elnök, Nagy Miklós Kund alelnök, Adamovits Sándor alelnök, Bócsa László, Vághy Ilona, Tóth...

zene, hogy a minisztérium meg ne... zebb tételket ad az érettségien. 11 óra előtt a tanulók majdnem fele iskola udvarán várt társaira. A nézetanáró szerint a gyengébbek végző... hamarabb. A diákok elmondták: a... ekek nem voltak nehezek, azt remélik, érettségien is ilyen feladatokkal kell... gbirkozniuk. A ta... rú azonban nem fe...

castra jöttett a min... elismerését nyugtázó film... között. A szintén aradi származás földön fényes karriert befutó Géza után (éppen 100 éve született!) van egy más műfajban dolgozó kiváló filmesünk, aki a nagyvilágba elviszi szü... 15... 1999... hirt...



Ma könyvbemutató A középkori...

Ma 13 órákor kerül or az a Japan szellemiségéről szóló Spirit of Medieval Japan) kötet Simándán, kiadója a bukaresti közreműködik Gheorghe Schw...

11 nagy... öjében... autom... ra. Kis... is díjat... rtent a... nem d... műfajba... című... k be kel... az első... volt, a...

felhív... sítói a... zió Rt. a... kisebb... zeren b... úsoraiba... Kolozsvá... telepíte... rios besza... rók első... ra készü... szerkesz... megren... le: magyar... gyetemi... rlat, ... és alap... a végze... misolat... terjeszt...

INT. LAJOS VARJÚ'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Lajos comes wearily through the door, a stack of work under his arm. His surly WIFE doesn't look up.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Sorry I'm late. I meant to call.

Crazy today.

Lajos peers into the pot on the stove. Top Ramen, congealed into a rubber brick. He kisses his wife.

LAJOS' WIFE

I'm watching.

ONSCREEN, they're still talking about the Whiskey Robber.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Pickpockets, burglars, I'm used to. But this guy? Who wanders around with a gun like that?

LAJOS' WIFE

Someone with balls.

Lajos ignores the jab. He scans over his reports.

LAJOS VARJÚ

He takes the money at gunpoint, locks the employees inside. Robs places that are only staffed by *women*. There's a real man for you.

LAJOS' WIFE

At least he gets decent coverage.

His wife turns off the TV and gets up.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Where are you going?

LAJOS' WIFE

Not everyone likes to stay up half the night.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Don't be like that. You know I'm undermanned.

LAJOS' WIFE

This would be so much less painful if you were getting paid overtime. But you torture us both with this crap for free.

She heads for the bedroom.

LAJOS VARJÚ

I could take a break, if you want
some company?

LAJOS' WIFE

Like who? Did you arrest Mel
Gibson today?

And she's gone. Lajos is left with his paperwork. He
stares out the window, frustrated...

INT. CASINO - NIGHT

Attila is at the craps table with his teammates and some
HOOKERS. Everyone is partying and living it up.

But Attila's mind is elsewhere. He gives his chips to
one of the Hookers and heads for the bar.

BARTENDER

What's up, panther?

Attila drops a wad on the bar.

ATTILA

Buy a glass for everyone.
Dealers, waitresses. And don't
forget the boys at the door. Let
'em know it's on me...

EXT. EVA'S SUPER WASH - NIGHT

Eva hoses off the pavement, closing shop for the night.
She's surprised to see Attila leaning against his Opel.

ATTILA

How about a wash?

EVA

We're closed. What are you doing
here?

ATTILA

I came to complain about that kid.
He put a coat of wax on my dog so
thick he hasn't shit all day.

EVA

(smiles)
I'll talk to him about that.

Attila looks in on Petr sleeping in Eva's little hut.

ATTILA

I expect you to use the harshest tone possible. So what time is his old man coming around?

EVA

His father? Why?

ATTILA

So I can punch him in the throat for making you work so late. I'm a hockey player. I'm tough.

EVA

Yes, I can see that. But his "old man" won't be coming by.

ATTILA

Hm. Lucky for him. What about you? What's your position on food?

EVA

On the whole, I am in favor of it.

ATTILA

Helyes. So it's settled.

EVA

What is?

ATTILA

You're going to find a sitter for this little ragamuffin. And I am going to take you out for some of this food you like so much.

EVA

That's the way it will be, huh?

ATTILA

Don't ask me how I know. I just know. And dress nice. We're going someplace special, someplace way out of your league.

She gives him a little squirt with the hose.

ATTILA

So it's a date or what?

EVA

Maybe. I'm not so sure you can afford what's out of my league.

ATTILA

This shirt you just ruined? Two million *florints*. I'll throw it away and get another. For me, money is not a problem.

EXT. TRAVEL AGENCY - DAY

An ALARM blares. Attila staggers down the steps with his bag of loot, right into the path of TWO ONRUSHING COPS. He freezes, but the Cops *run into the adjacent mall!*

Attila ducks his head and drunkenly hurries away. Behind him, the Cops finally realize their mistake and race into the Travel Agency. Seconds later, they re-emerge with a CLERK, who points towards the fleeing Attila.

COP

Coming through! Out of the way!

Attila bursts from the crowd as two COP CARS skid to a stop, blocking the street. He discreetly ducks inside an apartment building.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Attila runs up the stairs.

EXT. APARTMENT ROOF - DAY

Attila opens a hatch, climbs out onto the steep roof. He slips, his wig falling off and sliding to the edge. He crawls for it, but the wind takes it away.

ATTILA

Shit! *Shit!*

He inches around behind the chimney and hangs on.

EXT. EUROTOURS TRAVEL AGENCY - DAY

Mound of Asshead screeches to an awkward stop, slamming into the door of a parked cop car. He and Lajos get out.

MOUND OF ASSHEAD

It happens.

INT. EUROTOURS TRAVEL AGENCY - DAY

Lajos pushes through the crowd and enters. His entire Robbery Division is combing over the scene of the crime.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 Keep everyone out! I want this
 area sealed! Status report!

KESZTHELYI
 Suspect came in just before lunch.
 Wore a wig and sunglasses. He was
 polite and drunk.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 Sounds like our friend all right.

KESZTHELYI
 Dance Instructor found some
 fingerprints on the desk.

Dance Instructor sprinkles fingerprint powder like a
 pastry chef dusting donuts, then heads out the door.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 Where are you going?

DANCE INSTRUCTOR
 I have a rhumba lesson in ten
 minutes.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 Get over here! Is this according
 to the directions?

DANCE INSTRUCTOR
 Of course. I already got a
 footprint.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 Where?

He points to a powdery spot on the carpet. Bigfoot is
 standing on it.

DANCE INSTRUCTOR
 It was right there, clear as day.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 Goddamit! This is a crime scene!
 You should know how to do this by
 now! Take my "Columbo" tapes home
 and study them! That's what
 they're there for!

BIGFOOT
 I have a Beta-Max.

MOUND OF ASSHEAD
 (waving Lajos over)
 I've found something!

He hands Lajos a magnifying glass. On the floor is a scattered pile of PENCILS. Lajos bends, examining it.

LAJOS VARJÚ

What am I looking at?

MOUND OF ASSHEAD

It's a message of some kind. He's trying to tell us something with these pencils.

Lajos looks up to see the TV CAMERAS filming him through the window and feels like a tool.

EXT. TRAVEL AGENCY - DAY

Lajos waves the Cops to push the media back. Suddenly Laszlo Juszt is in his face with a "*Kriminalis*" mic.

LASZLO JUSZT

Major? Major? Is it true the police went to the wrong address? How do you explain such incompetence?

LAJOS VARJÚ

This is a crime scene. Back away.

Lajos sees something in the street and heads towards it. It's Attila's WIG. He looks up at the apartment building.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Sergeant! No one saw the perp leave the area, is that correct?

POLICE SERGEANT

Yes, sir.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Search these buildings.

EXT. APARTMENT ROOF - DAY

Attila hears the hatch open. He cowers behind the chimney, just his fingers showing. Two COPS emerge cautiously. The first one slips. The other one grabs him, but loses his hat over the edge.

COP

Fuck this...

They clamber back inside. Attila sags with relief.

EXT. APARTMENT ROOF - THE NEXT MORNING

Stiff fingers slowly unclench from the side of the chimney. Attila moans in pain, his hands raw and bloody. His face speckled with the imprint of the brick. He can barely wrap his cramped hand around his bag of loot as a he picks it up and slowly crawls towards the hatch...

EXT. DINER - NIGHT

A stiff and haggard Attila walks Eva down the street. She's dressed to the nines, him not so much. His hands are in bandages. When he holds the door of a diner open, she balks.

EVA

What's this?

ATTILA

On the outside, meh. But it eats good.

EVA

This is what you call "out of my league"?

Upset, she starts walking away.

ATTILA

Don't go.

EVA

I'm dressed like an idiot. Why in God's name did you tell me you were taking me someplace fancy?

ATTILA

I didn't say fancy, I said special. This is special. Please, come inside. Please...

INT. DINER - NIGHT

It's a cozy little hole-in-the-wall local diner. Attila and Eva are already into a bottle of wine and some bread.

ATTILA

I was going to take you someplace with napkins and glasses made of glass, but then I thought, you know, the food is nice here. And it's cheaper.

EVA

I thought money was no problem?

ATTILA

Lately I'm trying to cut back.
You spend too much... it leads to
trouble.

EVA

That's very sensible. Personally,
I'm more comfortable here than
someplace fancy. I was just
curious whether you--

ATTILA

One second.
(snapping at the WAITRESS)
Hey! What am I, a mannequin? The
lady is starving!

WAITRESS

Go choke yourself.

ATTILA

Don't give me that! We sat down
long before them!

Another PATRON gives Attila a dirty look.

ATTILA

Who's talking to you? I'll come
over and shit on your table.
(to Eva)
You were curious?

EVA

(mortified)
What?

ATTILA

You were saying, "I was just
curious whether I...", what?

EVA

I just wasn't sure if you'd
brought me here instead because I
somehow embarrass you, but I'm
over that now.

ATTILA

Okay, good.

The Waitress slams their plates on the table. It's pig's
feet.

ATTILA

Mmm. You smell that? Heaven.
Here, taste.

EVA

That's okay--

ATTILA

Taste.
(he shovels a bite in her
mouth)
Fantastic, yeah?

EVA

I know what pig's feet taste like.
It's peasant food.

Attila pauses, looking in her eyes. Becomes vulnerable.

ATTILA

This why I brought you here, Eva.
To show you this.

EVA

Show me what?

ATTILA

You look at me and see a sports
star, international playboy.
Fancy car, fancy clothes... But
this is the real me. I like
peasant food. That's who I am.
Just a guy from a little town in
the mountains. This is the real
me, Eva, a *bozgor*.

EVA

You brought me here to tell me
that? That you're really a *bozgor*
in disguise.

He nods as if to say, "Incredible, isn't it"? She can't
decide if he's joking.

EVA

Well thank you for clearing up any
confusion.

ATTILA

I've got my teammates fooled, the
gang down at the casino fooled,
but I don't want to fool you, Eva.
I could be out getting drunk with
a bunch of hookers right now, and
instead I'm here with you, showing
you my heart.

EVA

Wow.

ATTILA

Tall ones, blonde ones. Like models, some of them. Give or take twenty pounds.

EVA

I get it. Maybe we should just eat quietly for a while, okay?

A HALF HOUR LATER

They have finished their food and head to the bar.

ATTILA

(ordering coffee)
Two brown and sweet.

EVA

To be perfectly honest, I wasn't going to show up tonight. Not to be mean or anything. But a woman in my position, with a child... You have to be careful who you get involved with.

ATTILA

Naturally.

On the TV behind her, Attila notices "KRIMINALIS" has come on. The PATRONS gather as a "WHISKEY ROBBER" graphic fills the screen. Apparently the show is up in ratings, because the production is much fancier now.

LASZLO JUSZT

There has been a startling development in the saga of the Whiskey Robber today. Without further ado, let's go to the scene of his latest caper...

Attila watches as the BARTENDER shushes people. The star-struck staff of the travel agency is being interviewed.

FEMALE CLERK (ON T.V.)

I wasn't sure what to do, he caught me by surprise. It's true what they say about his eyes. So gentle. So masculine.

LASZLO JUSZT

His effect on the fairer sex is now legendary.

(MORE)

LASZLO JUSZT (CONT'D)

But does this dashing villain have more on his mind than the ladies?

FEMALE CLERK 2

Then he said something shocking. He jumped up and shouted, "Give me the people's money!".

The Locals react to this political twist.

LASZLO JUSZT

The People's Money indeed! Perhaps I have misjudged this character. Maybe instead of a common thug, we are dealing with the reincarnation of our very own Robin Hood, the legendary folk-hero Sandor Rozsa!

Attila thinks hard about what he actually said...

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. TRAVEL AGENCY - DAY

Attila drunkenly jumps onto the counter.

ATTILA

(mumbling drunk)
Give me the money, people.

ROBBERY CLERK

What?

ATTILA

The people, money! Give me the people, money!

END FLASHBACK:

The Locals smile at the screen. The Bartender claps.

BARTENDER

The People's Money. I knew I liked this guy!

Attila is intoxicated by what he's hearing. So much so that he hasn't been paying attention to Eva.

EVA

...if you can't believe in love, what else is there?

ATTILA

Right, right...

EVA

Anyway, I'd better get home. My
sitter is going to cost me a
bundle.

(she gets up)
Attila?

ATTILA

Huh? Yes, yes, of course.

LAZLO JUSZT (ON T.V.)

And where are the cops? Major
Lajos Varju of the robbery
division had this to say...

Lajos wears a shitty plaid coat, his sunglasses.

LAJOS VARJU (ON T.V.)

He's a coward and I will bring him
down.

LASZLO JUSZT (ON T.V.)

Bold words, Major. Say what you
will about this drunken desperado.
Certainly he's no saint. But
unlike those crooks in parliament,
at least the Whiskey Robber has
the integrity to do his robbing
face-to-face! And for that, I
applaud him.

The crowd applauds too. Attila is glowing as he escorts
Eva to the door.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

CLOSE ON: a newspaper headline, "WHISKEY ROBBER - MENACE
OR MAN-OF-THE-PEOPLE?". Attila shows up to find the
whole Team talking about the Whiskey Robber.

BUBU

The guy has balls. I take my hat
off to him.

BELA BENKO

He's a pussy! Anybody can be
tough with a gun!

The Players shout him down.

BUBU

It's always the same guys who get
rich! Nobody looks out for us!
(MORE)

BUBU (CONT'D)

So this guy gets pissed-off and takes a little back! He's on our side!

BELA BENKO

He's looking out for nobody but himself. Watch, one day some clerk is going to give him some lip and bang!

ATTILA

His gun isn't even real.

They look at him.

BELA BENKO

How do you know that?

ATTILA

It's a... rumor I heard.

BELA BENKO

Yeah? Then he's stupid too. I hope a cop with a real gun shoots him in his *hlye seggfej*.

(over their complaints)

I'm telling you, this guy is a scumbag!

Attila basks as Bota walks up with a young phenom, GABI GABOR, 19.

GUSTAV BOTA

Hey Panther, meet Gabi Gabor. From Transylvania. Just came up. Speed for days and a crack shot.

ATTILA

(shakes Gabi's hand)
What's up, Gringo.

GUSTAV BOTA

Get him a uniform. He's playing tonight.

EXT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - DAY

It's late in the game and UTE is up by six. The new kid, Gabi, is small but quick. He rockets through the defense and rifles another shot home. Attila whistles in admiration, banging the boards with his hands.

ATTILA

Hoppa, gringo!

At the other end of the ice, the UTE goalie gets a stick broken over his head. He goes down hard. Pandemonium ensues. As his unconscious body is carried out, Bota whispers to the Coach. Coach turns to Attila, who's still in his zamboni driver's outfit.

COACH
Panther, suit up!

Attila's stunned. He stands there, blinking.

COACH
Come on, we don't have all night!

INT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - MINUTES LATER

Attila puts on his mask, heads for the goal. Within seconds the opposition is bearing down on him. There's a flurry of action... Attila goes to ground, scrambling for the puck and... GOAL! They score on him.

ATTILA
(defiant)
Call that a shot? I thought you were a power forward. More like a pansy forward!

In quick succession they score twice more. Attila is all over the place. Yet each time he pops up, talking trash.

ATTILA
Hey bubble-ass! Want some candy?
Dagadt disznó! I forgot my glasses, what's the scoreboard say?

As the final buzzer sounds, Attila gets into a shoving match with the other team. Gabi watches in awe.

EXT. UTE TRAINING FACILITY - PARKING LOT - DAY

Gabi is congratulated by his teammates, he's the new star. He sees Attila pass, runs to catch up.

GABI GABOR
Good game, huh? We won!

ATTILA
What happened to you in the third? You get into a one vee one like that again and choke, I'll smash your head in myself. Okay?

GABI GABOR

Okay.
(beat)
Hey, Panther?

ATTILA

What's up?

GABI GABOR

How do you do it? You look like you've got it wired. The car. The clothes. I know the team doesn't pay much, so... What's your secret?

ATTILA

(smiles cockily, sotto)
I'm going to tell you. I'm a bodyguard for some very important people.

GABI GABOR

Cool.

Attila gets into his car. Gabi stands there.

GABI GABOR

The guys are going to the casino.

ATTILA

Waste of money. I'm gonna see my girl.

GABI GABOR

How about a beer, then?

Attila's flattered. The hotshot wants to hang with him.

ATTILA

I like beer.

INT. EVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Eva's place is small, neat and sparse. She answers the door. Attila is with Don, weaving slightly from drink.

ATTILA

Sorry I'm, uh... I was... uh...

EVA

Come in.

ATTILA

I didn't mean to be late. There's this new kid...

EVA
I'm not your mother.

ATTILA
I got to play today. We won.

EVA
We'll have to come see you
sometime. Petr would love it.

Petr is on the couch watching TV.

ATTILA
Maybe not. You know, so violent.
Not so good for the little ones.

EVA
Sit. I'll get you some dinner.
We already ate.

Attila throws a napkin ring at Petr.

PETR
Hey.

ATTILA
What are you doing home?
Shouldn't you be out smoking
cigars and breaking windows?

PETR
I have to wait until I'm older.
Then I'm going to rob places like
the Whiskey guy.

Eva brings food for Attila.

EVA
Petr! I told you I don't want you
watching that show.

PETR
It's news! It's educational.

ATTILA
He's correct. Nothing wrong with
staying abreast of current events.

EVA
Except when it's sensationalized
and they try to make a folk hero
out of a common thief.

PETR

Whiskey Robber is the man. He comes in, guns blazing. Blam! Blam! And gets the loot!

EVA

Enough. That's no one to admire.

ATTILA

I don't know. They say he's harmless. He's just taking back the people's money.

EVA

Please. What's the people's money doing in a travel agency? If that's what he was about he'd rob the state bank. To drink?

ATTILA

Palinka?

Eva goes to the kitchen.

ATTILA

(sotto to Petr)
He doesn't come in guns blazing. That would attract too much attention. And he doesn't wave his gun like that. He gives everyone a good look, then holds it down so a passerby won't see it from the street.

Eva returns.

EVA

Petr, once you grow up you'll realize there's nothing heroic about stealing. Right, Attila?

ATTILA

You listen to your mother. She's a smart lady.

Attila shakes his head and makes a face, indicating he just said that for Eva's benefit.

AN HOUR LATER

Petr is curled up asleep. Eva quietly picks him up and carries him off to bed. Attila pats Don.

ATTILA

She let you on the couch. You've still got it.

Eva returns and Attila puts an arm around her, kissing her hair. He could get used to this...

EXT. BUDAPEST STREET - NIGHT

Attila drives home with Don. He sees a TEENAGER tagging a billboard, slams on his brakes. He stares up at what the kid is spray-painting: "Whiskey Robber 4 The People!"

ATTILA

Holy shit...

This is really getting big...

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - DAY

The basement is now a criminal Headquarters. Maps of the city are on the walls. Attila is carefully locating every STATE BANK and POLICE STATION...

ATTILA

(to Don)

If we're going to do it right,
buddy, we have to do it for the
people.

(beat)

I believe this calls for a
Mitsubishi.

EXT. USED CAR LOT - DAY

Attila selects a speedy Mitsubishi. He pays CASH.

INT. MITSUBISHI - NIGHT

Attila pulls on DRIVING GLOVES. He idles outside a closed OTP BANK, Don belted into the passenger seat. Attila's Seiko says 3AM.

ATTILA

Hang on, navigator. Here we go.

Attila clicks the STOPWATCH on his Seiko and floors it.

EXT. BUDAPEST STREETS - NIGHT

The Mitsubishi races through the empty streets.

EXT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

The Mitsubishi comes to a stop in front of the local precinct. Attila notes the time in a notebook.

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - NIGHT

Attila writes the time on his map...

EXT. OTP BANK - NIGHT

Attila idles in his Mitsubishi. Again he starts his stopwatch and takes off.

INT. BANK - DAY

Attila pretends to read a brochure while scoping the place out. There's only ONE MALE EMPLOYEE.

INT. MITSUBISHI - DAY

Attila jots notes in his Notebook. Under "F/M" he writes "3/1". Under "Camera" and "Guard" he puts "Y" and "N".

EXT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Attila skids to a stop in front of the station, clicking his watch. He writes down the number and peels out.

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - NIGHT

We see books on The Great Train Robbery and one called "RONNIE BIGGS - His Own Story". On his map, ESCAPE ROUTES are marked in RED. Each bank is labeled with a FIVE STAR DIFFICULTY RATING.

He does SIT-UPS, PUSH-UPS balanced between chairs, acrobatic TUMBLES with his toy gun drawn...

EXT. MCDONALD'S - MORNING

A man in a HOODIE parks a car in front of the McD's and hurries away. Down the sidewalk comes a GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL and his wife.

The Government Official bitches while his wife stops to windowshop. But her dawdling saves his life, as...

KABOOM! The car blows up, blasting out the windows of the McDonalds.

INT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

The COPS are all gathered in a conference room to hear some FBI AGENTS speak. Lajos sneaks in the back.

AGENT PICKERING

So what you are experiencing here are the birth pangs of democracy. It's your mission to stay strong. America and the FBI are here to tell you that your perseverance will win out. It's our mission to help you help yourselves to become a better country.

MOMENTS LATER -- THE SPEECH IS OVER

Lajos pushes his way through the crowd.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Mr. Agent? Hello, I was wondering if I could get your help with a case, please. We have an armed bandit running loose.

AGENT PICKERING

You've got government officials being targeted with car bombs. That might be your priority.

LAJOS VARJÚ

I'm in robbery. I was told you were here to help all of us. Please, sir, if I could just borrow some of your expertise.

INT. ROBBERY DEPARTMENT - DAY

The men are gathered as Lajos arrives with Pickering. Lajos indicates the map on the wall.

LAJOS VARJÚ

This bandit has been flying around Budapest like a Batman. He started with the post office. Now he's moved up to State banks. Strikes here, here, over here. And still we cannot...

AGENT PICKERING

How robust is your database?

The Detectives all look at each other.

AGENT PICKERING

You take everything you know about him and put it in the computer. Then cross reference with every other department in your network: forensics, moving violations, outstanding warrants, tax records.

Lajos looks over at their only computer. It's an old Soviet model now being used as a planter box.

LAJOS VARJÚ

My men get paid six dollars US per day. We have one gun and twenty-two bullets between us.

AGENT PICKERING

Do you have access to a copy machine? I'd make a sketch of this character, offer a reward and get it to every place in the city he might frequent.

LAJOS VARJÚ

So far we have not much of an idea what he looks like.

Keszthelyi comes through the door waving a video tape.

KESZTHELYI

I've got it!

LAJOS VARJÚ

Kituno! Bring it here. Mr. Agent, this is surveillance video. From the latest bank job.

Lajos pulls a "Columbo" tape from the VCR and hides it. He pushes play and they crowd around.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Perhaps you can help analyze this.

They watch as a dark figure enters and quickly disarms the sleeping SECURITY GUARD.

AGENT PICKERING

Well, he's got a real gun now.

LAJOS VARJÚ

What do you mean "now"?

AGENT PICKERING

He came in with a fake. Back it up, see how small it is? Looks like a toy.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Szar. A toy? Are you kidding me?!

They watch Attila jumping over the counters, doing his usual acrobatics. Finally he slows down long enough for us to get a look at his face.

AGENT PICKERING

Freeze it there. This guy looks familiar...

They stare at the screen intently.

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

He looks like you, boss.

They all turn and look at Lajos. Sure enough, onscreen Attila has disguised himself as Lajos: bushy hair, bushy moustache, bushy eyebrows, same shitty plaid sportscoat Lajos is wearing right now.

LAJOS VARJÚ

That's not possible.

AGENT PICKERING

I'd say he knows who's after him.

LAJOS VARJÚ

(angered, embarrassed)
I don't want this tape leaving this office, do you understand?
This stays in this room!

Keszthelyi looks nervous.

LAJOS VARJÚ

What?

KESZTHELYI

It was such a break in the case, I thought we could get help with it.

LAJOS VARJÚ

(points at Mound)
He's the moron! You're supposed to be clever! Where did you go with this tape?

INT. LAJOS VARJÚ'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

ON THE T.V.: The video of Attila is shown with a photo of Lajos. It's "Kriminalis", of course. And the show's set is looking even fancier this time.

LASZLO JUSZT

At least now we know why Colonel Varjú hasn't captured our boozy bandit! He's been protecting his own diabolical twin!

REVEAL Lajos' Wife, her best friend MONIKA and LAJOS' MOTHER IN-LAW laughing. Lajos enters, unnoticed.

LAJOS' MOTHER IN-LAW

Why are you laughing? He looks like an idiot!

LAJOS' WIFE

Because if I don't laugh, I'll cry.

MONIKA

At least he's an idiot on the number one show in the country.

LAJOS' MOTHER IN-LAW

God forbid he take a second job so you could live like decent people.

LAJOS' WIFE

The champion of law and order. The only one on the police force not getting rich.

MONIKA

You would rather he was corrupt?

LAJOS' WIFE

I would rather he was anything...

She sighs. Still unseen, Lajos slinks out the door.

EXT. NEWSTAND - DAY

We see the front page of the newspaper. Its a still of Attila from the video and a headshot of Lajos side-by-side. "He's Mocking The Cops!"

Attila stares in disbelief. The entire NEWSTAND is covered in these papers. How could he have been so careless as to miss that surveillance camera?

He buys a cheap BASEBALL HAT from a vendor, pulls it low, and hurries away.

EXT. EVA'S SUPER WASH - DAY

Attila sits with Eva eating lunch on some milk crates.

EVA
What's with the hat? I can't see
you.

She tries to take it off. He puts it back on. It has a logo: "Office & Home".

ATTILA
Nothing. I like it.

EVA
I never knew you were so
passionate about discount
furniture.

ATTILA
(snappy)
The color, okay? Can we eat?

EVA
Fine, whatever. This was supposed
to be a fun lunch. If you're
gonna be a jerk, here.

She hands him an envelope.

ATTILA
What's this?

EVA
Open it.

He pulls out some official looking papers.

ATTILA
Eva?

EVA
It's your citizenship.

He opens a new Hungarian PASSPORT. Suddenly he has tears in his eyes.

ATTILA
I'm a citizen? A real Hungarian?

EVA

You said it was important to you.
I have a cousin in Immigration.

ATTILA

You did this for me?

EVA

It's your picture, isn't it?

ATTILA

You don't know what this means to
me. You're really, you're too
good to me.

EVA

I hear that constantly.

Eva heads off to greet a customer. Attila watches her
go, genuinely touched.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Attila finds the place strangely empty.

ATTILA

What's going on?

GABI GABOR

Three more guys got called up.
The NHL.

ATTILA

Bubu?

GABI GABOR

Him and Cseke went to some
expansion team in Florida. Must
not be good. Too hot there for
ice. You know who else? Gorgi.

ATTILA

What?

GABI GABOR

That's right! You're the starting
goalie now, Panther!

Attila spies the newspaper with his face on the cover on
the bench next to Gabi. He starts to sweat.

GABI GABOR

I thought you'd be happy.

ATTILA

Yeah, I am. Something I ate.

EXT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - NIGHT

The stands are packed for the game. Attila takes the ice. He seems nervous, unsettled. Sees Bela Benko skating past. He wasn't called up. In spite of how mean he's been, Attila feels bad for the guy.

ATTILA

You believe this? You and me are the only two left from the old days. It's us against these kids, now. Crazy world. We'd better stick to--

A pissed off Benko shoulder checks Attila. Skates away.

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - NIGHT

In a darkened studio, Hungarian hip hop artist GANGSTA ZOLI puffs a spliff. A beat starts thumping and Zoli lays down vocals on his new track: "The Whiskey Robber Is the King".

MUSIC MONTAGE: the following FOUR PAGES constitute a rapid-fire montage. The framing device is a single game of hockey, with cutaways to various robberies. It should play *a lot quicker* than it reads.

INT. OLD STREET PUB - DAY

The BARKEEP brings a shot of whiskey to Attila who's wearing Ray-Bans, reading an upside-down newspaper, his obvious blonde wig held down by a felt peasant hat. He does the shot and waves as he stumbles out.

ATTILA

Szia.

EXT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - NIGHT

Attila is scored on. The scoreboard reads "0-3". Up in the broadcast booth, the UTE ANNOUNCER is calling the play-by-play.

UTE ANNOUNCER

Wowee! Looks like a rough start for the Chicky Panther tonight.

EXT. OTP BANK - DAY

Attila enters and puts a hand-lettered sign on the door: "Closed for technical difficulties. Please excuse the inconvenience".

INT. MITSUBISHI - DAY

A bag of loot is tossed on the seat next to Don. Attila jumps in and burns out.

INT. OLD STREET PUB - DAY

Lajos interviews the Barkeep and Waitress...

INT. ROBBERY DEPARTMENT - DAY

Lajos puts another mark on his crime map.

EXT. OTP BANK - DAY

Another handmade "Closed" sign goes up.

EXT. USED CAR LOT - DAY

Attila buys a Mercedes Coupe with cash.

INT. CASINO - DAY

Attila sits alone at the roulette table. He bets it all on red. Loses. Watches, bored, as his money is taken away...

EXT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - NIGHT

Attila is scored on again, making it "0-9". The crowd is getting furious.

INT. OTP BANK - DAY

Another State bank. Attila hands the Tellers RED ROSES, then spray paints the surveillance camera.

EXT. OTP BANK - DAY

A CROWD is held back while the BOMB SQUAD brings a SHOE BOX out the front door. TV cameras are rolling.

Lajos reads the lid: "Greetings Colonel Lajos Varjú, vice commander, sir! XY!!". Inside is a bottle of *Palinka*.

INT. TV CONTROL ROOM - DAY

We see this humiliating footage on a monitor. Laszlo Juszt pats his editor on the back.

INT. ROBBERY DEPARTMENT - DAY

Lajos adds another mark to his crime map.

EXT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - NIGHT

Attila charges from the net after a loose puck. An opposing player easily skates around him and scores.

EXT. OTP BANK - EVENING

Attila exits as a COP CAR screeches to a stop. He takes off down an alley, evading the cops, but losing his hat.

EXT. USED CAR LOT - DAY

Attila trades in his Mercedes for an Alfa Romeo.

INT. CASINO - DAY

Attila sits alone at the roulette table. He bets it all on black. Loses...

EXT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - NIGHT

A KID puts a sign with a "1" on the scoreboard to accommodate double digits. It's now "0-11". Bela Benko skates by and SMACKS Attila over the head with his stick.

BELA BENKO

Idiot-shit!

EXT. OTP BANK - NIGHT

Lajos searches the trash strewn alley by flashlight. Stops when he sees something...

EXT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - NIGHT

Attila is scored on again! The crowd JEERS. The final BUZZER sounds: "0-23". As Attila leaves the ice, he's showered by beer cans, batteries and abuse.

INT. EVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Eva watches the game on TV with Petr.

UTE ANNOUNCER

(from the TV)

This may be the worst performance
by a goalkeeper in the history of
professional hockey!

She quickly puts the heat on under a pot of pig's feet.

INT. ROBBERY DEPARTMENT - NIGHT

Lajos stands in his pajamas, facing the map with all the Whiskey Robber's heists marked on it. There are over twenty.

Lajos cracks open the gift bottle of *Palinka*, pours a glass and drains it. He takes a blanket from a filing cabinet and lays down on his dirty sofa to sleep.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Attila is despondent over his performance. His young Teammates vent their anger by dancing and shouting along to "The Whiskey Robber Is the King" on the radio.

They ignore Attila. He walks down the darkened hallway by himself.

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - NIGHT

Attila, half drained Johnny Walker bottle in hand, stares drunkenly at himself in the mirror. Don lays on the bed.

ATTILA

(to the tune of the song)

"The Whiskey Robber is the King.
Attila Ambrus is the *bozgor*."

Attila smiles, then smashes the mirror with the bottle...

END MUSICAL MONTAGE: the music FADES OUT.

INT. TV SOUNDSTAGE - NIGHT

Laszlo Juszt enters the darkened stage.

LASZLO JUSZT

Good evening. I kiss your hand. These are dark days for Hungary, friends. In staggering fashion this week the linchpin of the great embezzlement scheme has been identified, and it is none other than that supposedly crusading attorney Marta Tocsik. It seems she was not simply investigating the Scandal of the Century, "Toxic" Marta was committing it. And as we reel from this news, do we have the stamina to absorb yet another blow? This in the form of a final bombshell revelation, that "Toxic" Marta has a high placed cousin in city hall, none other than Thief of Police Berta! While Berta protects this sick succubus, his henchmen in uniform make up the largest criminal cabal in the country. This year alone has seen the arrest of 232 police officers on charges from assault to extortion. Like you, good people, I am lost.

Laszlo takes a seat in a leather chair. The set is even more fancy than before. Each time it just gets slicker.

LASZLO JUSZT

My guest tonight is Chief of the one police division that has so far escaped this scandal unscathed. Perhaps he is the chap whom Greek philosopher Diogenes searched for, the last honest man. Head of the Robbery division, and recently promoted to Colonel, Lajos Varjú!

The camera reveals Lajos sitting in the chair opposite Laszlo, looking like he's auditioning for Miami Vice: gold rimmed aviator shades, royal blue tie, lime green shirt. He smiles uncomfortably.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Hello to the people out there.

LASZLO JUSZT

Colonel, you and I have had a rough past. I appreciate your coming.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Anything for law and order.

LASZLO JUSZT

So tell us, what is your angle on this gross epidemic of police corruption?

LAJOS VARJÚ

In fairness we would have to look at each case individually. But what we can say for certain is what's symptomatic of our society in general--

Laszlo grins. He's got Lajos right where he wants him.

LASZLO JUSZT

Excellent. And what is your take, if I can redirect slightly, on the famed bandit known as the Whiskey Robber? The man who has, over the last several years, been making you look like a complete and utter buffoon?

LAJOS VARJÚ

I don't think you can say "buffoon" as a blanket statement--

LASZLO JUSZT

Facts are facts. Twenty some daring heists over the last five years, twenty million *florints* gone like a puff of wind from a widow's backside. He's drunk, yet he continues to slip from your grasp like oiled boyhood through a teenaged fist.

LAJOS VARJÚ

In fact we are closer than ever to capturing this man, and that is why I am here today, to ask your kind audience if they could help--

LASZLO JUSZT
 Pardon my shocked expression,
 Colonel, but I assumed you had
 come here to apologize to the
 Hungarian people, not beg for
 their help.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 Apologize? For what?

LASZLO JUSZT
 For your performance! This
 drunken madman has been ransacking
 Budapest for half a decade and
 you've been as impressive as my
 wife in lingerie.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 I--

LASZLO JUSZT
 For shame! FOR SHAME, Colonel!

Lajos pulls out Attila's baseball hat.

LAJOS VARJÚ
 What I am here to share is the
 perpetrators hat, found outside
 the Budakeszi OTP. You can see
 the logo: "Home & Office". Not
 many of these were made and
 distributed in Eastern Europe.

LASZLO JUSZT
 And now this witless fumblekin has
 the temerity to ask my audience to
 do his job for him! Perhaps this
 is why he has escaped corruption!
 He is too dense to be worth
 putting on the take!

LAJOS VARJÚ
 (shouting into the camera)
 We've had a run of bad fortune,
 but I believe this can break the
 case wide open. This hat is quite
 rare, so I am putting up with this
 abuse in the hopes that someone
 out there, anyone...

EXT. A TROPICAL BEACH - DAY

We see palm trees and golden sand.

LAJOS VARJÚ (O.S.)
*...will recognize this hat and
 please come forward!*

Eva pops out of a turquoise blue lagoon, laughing.
 Attila emerges next to her and smothers her in kisses.

SUPER TITLE: "BALI"

A LOCAL GIRL sells them drinks from a bucket of ice.
 Attila sips his and watches Eva snooze. The tropical
 breeze, the gentle waves... he's completely relaxed.

He reaches out and strokes Eva's foot. And on Attila's
 face we can see that he's mulling over one of those life
 altering decisions you can only make on vacation...

EXT. BEACH BUNGALOW - NIGHT

From inside the little beach hut we hear their passion.

INT. BEACH BUNGALOW - NIGHT

Attila and Eva lay naked in bed, now spent.

EVA
 I miss the cold and slush. Can
 you imagine being stuck here?
 Petr would never wear shoes, I'd
 have to home school him on the
 beach.

ATTILA
 And the native girls would school
 him in the trees.

She smacks his arm.

ATTILA
 Eva? What do you think of me
 buying the Black and White?

EVA
 The Black and White? That
 whorehouse downtown?

ATTILA
 It's not a whorehouse, it's a
 gentleman's club.

EVA
 It's a brothel.

ATTILA

That's what I said. Quality. I want a change, Eva. Between hockey and all my business ventures, I feel like a donkey tied to a millstone.

EVA

If that's what you want.

ATTILA

I want it for both of us. You could help me run the place. You could be den mother to the girls.

In his crude way, she knows exactly what he's proposing.

EVA

I accept.

INT. JET - DAY

They are flying home, holding hands like newlyweds. Attila keeps glancing at her. Proud that he popped the question. But nervous.

EVA

I've been thinking about your plan. To really make it work, we would have to be equal partners. We both put in money, we own it together. What do you think?

ATTILA

(hesitant)
That makes sense.

EVA

I know it's a risk, but I'm prepared for it.

ATTILA

You're sure?

EVA

I think we know each other pretty well by now. If any surprises pop up, we'll deal with it. No matter what.

ATTILA

Promise?

EVA

Promise.

ATTILA

Okay, partner.

They shake on it.

EVA

Now, as a partner, I'd say it's too risky buying the Black and White. We should start small. There's a little bar in Erd, in the suburbs. You could take a management course, so we do it right.

ATTILA

No prostitutes?

EVA

We'll build up.

Attila looks at her. This isn't exactly what he had in mind. But her eyes are soft, warm, soothing...

ATTILA

(squeezing her hand)
Yeah, okay. Okay.

FADE TO BLACK.

SUPER TITLE: "8 Months Later"

INT. ROBBERY DEPARTMENT - DAY

Mound is taking down the map with the Whiskey Robber's jobs marked on it.

LAJOS VARJÚ

What are you doing? Put it back.

MOUND OF ASSHEAD

Why? He's vanished.

LAJOS VARJÚ

I said put it back.

ZEDDI

We've got plenty of other armed robberies. Why worry about him?

LAJOS VARJÚ

He started it all. This was a quiet department until he opened the floodgates.

KESZTHELYI

Plus he made you a fool.

Lajos shoots him a look.

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

He's probably dead. Or in jail.

LAJOS VARJÚ

If he was in jail, we would've got a print match.

BIGFOOT

Maybe he quit.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Never. Guys like him don't quit. It's not about the money. It's something else. The thrill, the fame. No, he's out there. Tight as a coiled snake, ready to pounce. He's out there...

INT. EVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Attila comes through the door, exhausted, a pile of books under his arm.

EVA

How was class?

ATTILA

Good. More on employee benefits and tax law.

(to Petr)

Where did you get that, mister?

Petr (now 15) has a pile of CASH spread over the couch.

PETR

I'm going to buy a car like you. Better than you.

EVA

Petr! Put that back in the envelope right now! That's a million *florints* and there better not be one missing.

Petr puts the money in an ENVELOPE.

EVA

Nine AM, you ready?

ATTILA

What's nine AM?

EVA

We sign the papers! Stop it, I'm nervous enough. Did you bring your half?

Attila pulls out a YELLOW ENVELOPE stuffed with cash.

EVA

You still want to do this, right?

ATTILA

(unsure)
Of course. Here, big man.

He hands Petr the cash. Petr takes both envelopes and puts them on the desk by the door.

EVA

Say goodnight, Petr.

PETR

I'm not tired. I want to play cards with the old man.

ATTILA

I have to study, pal. Go to sleep before I beat you into dreamland.

Petr slumps off to bed. Eva cleans up the kitchen.

Attila looks at his textbook: "Small Service Business Management". He tries to concentrate, but his mind wanders.

He sees Don YAWNING on the couch. He's bathed in the RED GLOW of a bubbling LAVA LAMP on the mantle. The RED LIGHT gets him thinking of his past...

FLASH BACK TO: That day when he visited his mother. We catch a QUICK GLIMPSE of the Red Lantern hanging on her porch.

He snaps out of it and tries to concentrate again.

On the wall he sees a PAINTING of a horse drawn wagon heading down a country road.

As he stares at it, we PUSH IN on the painting and we can HEAR the horse clip-clopping away.

Just like Katalin did...

INT. EVA'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Eva finishes with the dishes.

INT. EVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Eva returns to the living room to find Attila gone. His books are there, but he and Don have stepped out. Odd. But maybe they just went for a walk.

She doesn't notice Attila's yellow envelope is missing...

INT. EVA'S BEDROOM - THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

The phone rings, waking Eva.

EVA

Yeah?

ATTILA

(from the phone, drunk)
Eva?

EVA

Where did you go?

ATTILA

Bunny, you know I love you.

EVA

Attila, it's three AM.

ATTILA

Remember that.

She hears CHEERING and the sounds of a SLOT MACHINE. Then he hangs up...

INT. CASINO - NIGHT

Attila is slumped at the bar, tormented and alone. His yellow money envelope is empty before him.

INT. LAJOS' OFFICE - DAY

Lajos talks on the phone, also with a ripped up envelope.

LAJOS VARJÚ

No, I haven't gotten them yet.
When I do, I'll sign them and get
them back to you...

DIVORCE PAPERS are in front of him. Unfortunately, he's still in love with his wife.

LAJOS VARJÚ

In the meantime, I was thinking maybe I could take you for a slice of pie? You know, as friends.

(beat)

I'm not asking your mother, I'm asking you. I can hear her yapping in the background. Why don't you just put me on speakerphone so we can all discuss it together? What, suddenly you don't like pie?

(beat, defeated)

Fine. I told you, I'll sign them when I get them. Fine!

INT. ROBBERY DEPARTMENT - DAY

Lajos comes out of his office to find all his detectives gathered. When they see him, they suddenly quiet down.

LAJOS VARJÚ

What?

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

Tell him.

Everyone looks to Keszthelyi.

LAJOS VARJÚ

You got something to share, Keszthelyi? You're never going to move up in rank if you don't speak up.

KESZTHELYI

Chief Berta? He belongs to the same tennis club as my mother. I was there last night and he was drunk and when he heard I was in robbery he said some things.

LAJOS VARJÚ

The Chief said some things about me? That racketeer, I can't wait to hear this. What things?

KESZTHELYI

He said you were either incompetent or a fool. I said you were not incompetent. Then he...

LAJOS VARJÚ

He what?

KESZTHELYI

I don't want to get in trouble.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Out with it!

KESZTHELYI

He said our department is soft because you're upset about not receiving enough kickbacks.

Lajos starts to boil over. He stomps out of the room.

KESZTHELYI

You didn't hear it from me!

INT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS - STAIRWELL - DAY

Lajos stomps his way up the stairs, furious.

INT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS - CHIEF'S OFFICE - DAY

The Chief's SECRETARY sees Lajos storm past her.

SECRETARY

Excuse me?!

Lajos throws open the door. Chief Berta is having a meeting with various POLICE CAPTAINS.

LAJOS VARJÚ

You! You're stupid and you're a liar! You fat disgrace! Inculcate me? How dare you, sir! We'll see! We'll see who's the horse's ass!

Lajos turns on his heels and marches out. Chief Berta and the rest are completely taken aback.

INT. THEATRE - NIGHT

A wild farce is being performed onstage. It's "*Kriminalis Cabaret*" with host Lajos Jusst.

An actor playing CHIEF BERTA spouts patriotic gibberish while an actor playing TOXIC MARTA hides in his shadow, stealing from the other actors.

In the audience, laughing their asses off like the rest, are Attila and Gabi. An actor playing the WHISKEY ROBBER runs onstage wearing a wig and carrying flowers and a whiskey bottle.

He holds up Toxic Marta, stealing back the "people's" money. Attila laughs. The audience barely chuckles.

EXT. THEATRE - NIGHT

Attila and Gabi exit the theatre. Gabi spots Hungarian hip-hop badass Gangsta Zoli in the crowd.

GABI GABOR

Hey, it's my buddy! Attila, come meet my friend. Panther, this is Budapest crazy G, Gangsta Zoli.

GANGSTA ZOLI

Here-me-now.

INT. GANGSTA ZOLI'S CRIB - NIGHT

Gangsta Zoli does lines with Gabi, then it's back to some hardcore foosball action. Attila drinks whiskey.

ATTILA

I really liked your song. I'm not a rap music guy, but that one I liked.

GANGSTA ZOLI

Gotta git sommin' new, knowhutumsay'n? Even m'pop's is rollin' w'Whisk Rob'uh, s'time to move on, yuh. Suckah's play'd.

GABI GABOR

He was cool for a while.

GANGSTA ZOLI

S'old gold now, man. Even befo' he wen' unnergroun', it wuz da same ting every tim'. Corny wig and hat, gaffle da money, blow a few kiss, out da doh'. What's it all about anyway? Fo' da people? Money don't go to no people.

It's like a kick to the head. Attila's consumed by Zoli's comments.

A frumpy middle-aged woman comes out of the bedroom in a housecoat. ZOLI'S MOTHER.

GANGSTA ZOLI
Yippie-yi-yo! What's I tol' you?!

ZOLI'S MOTHER
I just want to watch TV.

GANGSTA ZOLI
I'm foosballin' wit me boyz! Get
back in da room!

ZOLI'S MOTHER
Can't I watch? I finished my
magazine.

GANGSTA ZOLI
Ma! Here-me-now!

EXT. UTE TRAINING FACILITY - PARKING LOT - DAY

Attila pulls up and sees Petr hard at work washing a car. By now even Petr has employees. Attila wants to talk to him, but thinks better of it. Instead he parks far away.

As Attila heads inside, he sees a group of PLAYERS leaving the facility with their gear.

ATTILA
About face ladies! We have
practice!

YOUNG TEAMMATE
We got cut. There's a new coach.

ATTILA
Leave it to me. I'll talk to him.

EXT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - DAY

Attila sees the new coach from behind and heads for him.

ATTILA
Hey suit! Maybe you don't know
how things work around here, but
I'm the Chicky Panther and
everything that concerns this team
goes through me first!

He turns, smiling a wicked smile. It's Bela Benko.

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - DAY

Attila's hockey gear is piled on the floor. No more UTE for him. Don chews on a goalie stick. Attila pours whiskey on his hockey gear, lights it on fire.

THAT NIGHT

Attila cranks through crunches and sit-ups.

HOURS LATER... Attila sits, staring at his oven. He gets up, opens it. Pulls out his Coffee Can. Opens that. Inside are his notebook and crime maps...

ATTILA

We'll see who's played...

INT. HELTAI SQUARE OTP BANK - DAY

It's a calm morning at the bank. Customers stand quietly in line, the GUARD sips coffee. At the counter a fidgety man in an obvious toupee fumbles with his briefcase.

FIDGETY MAN

Sorry! Sorry!

The Security Guard eyes the man with suspicion. He gets up from his stool and heads towards him. Fidgety Man gets more nervous as the Guard approaches...

Finally we see Fidgety Man's face: he's just a bumbling old guy in a toupee. Suddenly the quiet is shattered.

SWAT OFFICER

POLICE! Nobody move!

Everyone turns. A SWAT OFFICER in a blue commando jacket and beret rushes in, gun drawn.

SWAT OFFICER

We have information that your Security Guard is passing counterfeit currency through this bank!

(he disarms the Guard)

Where's the manager?! I need to search the safe!

The BRANCH MANAGER rounds the counter, keys in hand. The Swat Officer smiles as he trains his gun on her. It's the Whiskey Robber...

EXT. HELTAI SQUARE OTP BANK - DAY

Attila heads out the back door with his loot. He tears the homemade badges off his jacket, pockets his beret, and hops on a commuter train just as it pulls out.

COP CARS come screaming from the other direction. They pull onto Heltai Square, surrounding the building. Lajos Varjú rushes to the door.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Was it him?

Zeddi and Keszthelyi are talking to the Branch Manager through the locked glass doors.

ZEDDI

Some guy dressed as a cop. The old bag says there's a bomb inside.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Tell her to open the door.

ZEDDI

He took the keys.

Lajos takes out his gun.

LAJOS VARJÚ

(to the Branch Manager)
Get back!

He smashes the glass door with the butt of his gun.

INT. HELTAI SQUARE OTP BANK - DAY

Lajos enters. The employees all point to a bomb on the counter. Three sticks of dynamite hooked to a clock with wires. Lajos walks up and grabs it.

Three cigar tubes and a cheap wristwatch. He opens a tube. Inside a note reads: "3,2,1 Enjoy! xo, Whiskey".

EXT. HELTAI SQUARE OTP BANK - DAY

Lajos exits as Chief Berta arrives.

LAJOS VARJÚ

I knew it! He's back!

CHIEF BERTA

Who's back?

KESZTHELYI

The Whiskey Robber, sir.

CHIEF BERTA

Well, well, Colonel. Not so superior today, are we. You mind telling me what drove you to burst screaming into my office?

LAJOS VARJÚ

I think you know.

CHIEF BERTA

I'm afraid I don't.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Go relax at the tennis club, there's real police work going on here.

CHIEF BERTA

I don't play tennis.

Something clicks in Lajos' head. He turns to Keszthelyi, who gives him a shrug and a smirk. The conniving little bastard lied to him!

CHIEF BERTA

You're too squeaky clean to fire for insubordination. But now you've given me fair cause. So hear this, horse's ass, if that Whiskey clown robs one more bank, I'm collecting your badge.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Yes, sir.

Mound of Asshead runs up to Lajos.

MOUND OF ASSHEAD

Boss? It's the OTP on Grassalkovich!

LAJOS VARJÚ

What about it?

MOUND OF ASSHEAD

Silent alarm! It's being hit right now!!

INT. TRAIN - DAY

Attila hops onto the commuter train with his duffel of loot.

As the train pulls from the station, it passes the Grassalkovich OTP. Cop cars screech to the front of the bank, sirens blazing. A woman next to Attila nudges him.

WOMAN ON TRAIN

Can you imagine having that kind of courage?

EXT. GRASSALKOVICH OTP BANK - DAY

Lajos catches Keszthelyi and grabs him by the arm.

LAJOS VARJÚ

You conniving worm! You tricked me into throwing away my career!

KESZTHELYI

You rose to your own level of incompetence. I just helped speed along the inevitable.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Cops don't screw other cops to get ahead!

KESZTHELYI

Don't embarrass yourself. It's just the way it is, old man. We're not comrades anymore, we're competitors. And I win.

Bigfoot exits the bank with a VIDEO TAPE held high.

BIGFOOT

It's him, alright! Whiskey has struck again!

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

How does he move so fast?

ZEDDI

Everyone is fast to you, you're a corpse.

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

It's rush hour. It's not possible.

Just then Chief Berta arrives, the media in tow.

KESZTHELYI

It's the Whiskey Robber again, sir. Right under our noses.

CHIEF BERTA

I'm sorry to hear that, Colonel.

But Lajos Varjú is lost in thought. He watches the commuter train go by. He pulls out the note he found at the last bank. "3, 2, 1 Enjoy!"

LAJOS VARJÚ

(realizing)
He's not done yet...

CHIEF BERTA

Maybe not, but you are. You're fired Colonel. Mr. Keszthelyi, I hereby give you a field promotion. You're the new head of the robbery division.

KESZTHELYI

It's an honor.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Listen to me. He's going to strike again. Today!

KESZTHELYI

The banks close in seven minutes. I don't think we have to worry.

LAJOS VARJÚ

The H.E.V.! He's using the commuter trains! We've got to get on the phone and call every OTP within spitting distance of an HEV station!

CHIEF BERTA

You've had your shot, Varjú, let the young man take over.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Listen to me. He's going to strike again. "3,2,1"--

CHIEF BERTA

You've been relieved, Colonel.

LAJOS VARJÚ

At least have someone call the--

KESZTHELYI

Asshead! Escort this civilian behind the cones, please.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Don't be an idiot, make the call!

Keszthelyi turns his back. Seeing the TV cameras, Lajos rushes towards them.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Citizens of Budapest, listen to me! The Whiskey Robber is about to strike again! If you are near an OTP Bank that is adjacent to an HEV station, then be on the lock-out! He is travelling by train!

EXT. ETELE SQUARE OTP BANK - DAY

There is a FARMER'S MARKET in the square. A bunch of VEGETABLE VENDORS gather around a small TV, listening to Lajos' desperate message. A UNIFORMED COP wanders up behind them, watches as well.

LAJOS VARJÚ

(on TV)

If you see something suspicious, please phone the police immediately!

Attila, in disguise, walks across the square and into the bank. The UNIFORMED COP catching sight of him...

INT. ETELE SQUARE OTP BANK - DAY

Attila checks his watch. He's got plenty of time. He empties the safe, pushes the manager into the bathroom and locks the door. Whistling, he heads out the back.

EXT. ETELE SQUARE OTP BANK - BACK DOOR - DAY

Waiting for Attila is the Uniformed Cop, gun drawn.

UNIFORMED COP

Freeze! Hold it right there!

Attila is caught totally off guard. He raises his hands. The Uniformed Cop is young, nervous. Attila sense this, slowly starts to back away.

UNIFORMED COP

I'll shoot.

ATTILA

(winks)

No you won't.

Attila takes off down the alley. Uniformed Cop snaps out of it and gives chase.

EXT. BUDAPEST STREETS - VARIOUS - DAY

Attila barrels down a crowded street, the Cop in pursuit.

UNIFORMED COP

Whiskey Robber! Stop him!

Attila runs across the street and through an apartment complex. Up ahead a JOGGER is in the way.

ATTILA

Out of the way!

The Jogger jumps aside, then joins the chase.

JOGGER

I'm an off duty cop!

UNIFORMED COP

Catch him! He's the Whiskey Robber!

The Jogger kicks it up a gear, gaining on Attila. In his dress shoes, Attila doesn't stand a chance. He kicks them off and continues in his socks. Still the Jogger gains on him!

ATTILA

Stop following me!

Attila FIRES his gun into the air to scare the Jogger. Then slings his loot bag onto his back and sprints. He loses his hat and wig jumping over a fence and some shrubs, but the guy keeps coming.

He leaps a bench, slips, gets up, keeps going. Sprinklers are on, soaking him. Up ahead, a DRUNK staggers from a bar.

JOGGER

It's the Whiskey Robber! Stop him!

Attila huffs and puffs. He can hear the slap of the Jogger's feet right behind him! The Jogger reaches out, grabs hold of the loot bag...! Then WHAM! The Jogger is tackled by the Drunk.

JOGGER

Not me, you idiot! He's getting away!

Attila rounds a corner, runs across a gravel path... (Ow! Ow! OW!)... and onto the main boulevard, *Punkosfurdo*.

EXT. PUNKOSFURDO BLVD. - DAY

Attila runs down the sidewalk, the Uniformed Cop still shouting: "Whiskey Robber! Get him!" Up at the corner, a TRAFFIC COP pulls out his gun.

TRAFFIC COP

Freeze! Police!

Attila runs into the street. Traffic is stopped at a red light. He bangs on the window of a white Skoda 120.

ATTILA

Emergency! Get out!

The DRIVER throws his door open, tagging Attila in the face, then cowers, apologetic.

ATTILA

It's okay. Accident.

Attila jumps behind the wheel and takes off without bothering to close the door. The Traffic Cop fires wildly. BLAM! BLAM! The rear window BLOWS IN.

ATTILA

Are you crazy?!! This isn't America!

Attila ducks down, driving blind. The Skoda screeches through the red light and down the next Boulevard, cutting right across the path of a COP CAR.

ATTILA

Shit!

The Cop Car pulls a quick U-ey. The Jogger, Uniformed Cop and Traffic Cop flag down a three-wheeled Pick-up and pile inside.

JOGGER

Follow that car! Go!

EXT. BUDAPEST STREETS - VARIOUS - DAY

Attila buzzes through rush hour traffic in his whining, Czech made Skoda, the cops and Pick-up right behind.

INT. SKODA - MOVING - DAY

Attila is sliding around a corner when his cell rings.

ATTILA

(into phone)
Szia? Hallo?

EVA

(on phone)
 You son of a bitch!

ATTILA

Eva?

EVA

I haven't heard from you in weeks!

ATTILA

I'm sorry. I've been trying... to
 sort things out. In my head.

Attila swerves onto a sidewalk.

EVA

Believe me, I'm perfectly happy to
 let you drop from the face of the
 Earth. But how could you do this
 to Petr!

ATTILA

What did I do to Petr?

EVA

You befriended my son and then
 just abandoned him! The poor boy
 thinks you hate him!

ATTILA

I love the little hamster.

EVA

Yeah? The least you could do is
 call him now and again. You
 haven't even let him wash your
 car! He says he hasn't seen you
 around UTE at all. Are you hiding
 from him?

Attila screeches back onto the street.

ATTILA

I got kicked off the team, Eva.

EVA

You what? What do you mean kicked
 off?

ATTILA

They said they don't need me
anymore. They cut me.

Eva knows what this news means to Attila. Even though
she's pissed, she can't help sympathizing.

EVA

But you worked harder than
anybody! You were the heart and
soul of that team!

ATTILA

Tell me about it. All those years
I never missed a practice. Not
one! Even when I was the janitor!

EVA

I didn't think it was possible,
but I actually feel badly for you,
Attila.

ATTILA

Can you hold a second?

EXT. AUTOMATED CAR WASH - DAY

Attila rounds a corner and quickly reverses into a CAR
WASH. Hidden in the foam and spray, he watches as the
Cop and Ape Pick-up speed past. He's lost them.

INT. SKODA - DAY

Water sprays in through the broken back window.

ATTILA

Listen, I have to go. I have to
leave town for a while. I'll call
Petr, I promise. Okay?

EVA

Wait, hold on. You know how
humiliating it is for me to call?
Don't make me beg, just tell me
why you did it. Why did you throw
us away?

ATTILA

I don't know.

EVA

I never gave you any reason to
doubt me.

(MORE)

EVA (CONT'D)

Were we not enough for you? Not glamorous enough? Was I not pretty enough?

ATTILA

(tortured)
No, don't think that, Eva. Never. It's just... in my experience... relationships don't work out. They just don't. That's all. *Viszlát, Eva.*

He hangs up. Apologizing to the Car Wash staff, he pulls out. Ahead he sees a signpost: "Romania 260 km". Then he remembers something.

ATTILA

Don!

EXT. UTE HOCKEY RINK - DAY

In the booth, the UTE Announcer is calling the game. It's all tied up late in the third.

UTE ANNOUNCER

What a turnaround! With a minute left dapper new coach Bela Benko is on his way to becoming the Pat Riley of Hungarian hockey if UTE can simply hang on for the tie!

Someone whispers into the Announcer's ear and changes channels on his TV monitor. It's NEWS FOOTAGE of Attila jacking that Skoda and driving away. The graphics say, "Is This The Whiskey Robber?".

The Announcer's jaw drops. He jumps from the booth and runs down the bleacher steps, shouting.

UTE ANNOUNCER

Attila Ambrus is the Whiskey Robber! Attila Ambrus is the Whiskey Robber!

The news races through the stands like wildfire. The UTE players skate to a stop, in disbelief. Taking advantage of the distraction, the opposition SLAPS another shot home, ending the tie. The final buzzer sounds as Bela Benko loses it.

INT. BASEMENT APARTMENT - DAY

Attila opens the door.

ATTILA

Don!

Don is sleeping in the bathtub. He jumps out, following Attila as he grabs his passport and some clothes.

ATTILA

I need you to move your waggy ass.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Attila and Don get into his Alfa Romeo and pull away. Just then COP CARS close in from various directions.

ATTILA

(to Don)
Head down!

Attila guns it, swerving through the cop cars.

INT. ATTILA'S MERCEDES - MOVING - DAY

Attila drives. Don is buckled into the passenger seat.

ATTILA

We may have to be gone longer than expected.

EXT. SZECHENYI BRIDGE - DAY

It's the same bridge Attila marvelled at on his first night in Budapest. Now he's racing across it with a flood of Cop Cars on his bumper.

On the far end looms the Gothic Parliament Building. There are PEDESTRIANS everywhere, waiting for busses.

Attila barrels into the intersection only to glance off the side of a bus. His car goes sideways and ROLLS!

Once... Twice... The windows blow out... And the bag of loot is thrown free!

The loot bag blows apart, spreading *florint* notes in an ever expanding cloud. The Alfa Romeo slides to a stop, upside-down. There is a beat while the Crowd registers their shock... Then they surge forward, grabbing at the swirling cloud of money.

Attila shakes the cobwebs from his head. Don looks up at him, hurt but very much alive. Attila sees the chaos all around, the surreal image of the People's Money actually going back to the People, and he smiles.

ATTILA

Hoppa...

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. KRIMINALIS SET - NIGHT

We are in the studio for the live broadcast. The lights come up, and Laszlo Juszt addresses the camera.

LASZLO JUSZT

Good evening. I humbly kiss your hand. Like most of you I am still reeling with slack jawed incredulity over Monday's verdict of "not guilty" for that vampire Toxic Marta. While she and her poisonous police pal Chief Berta are no doubt sipping champagne from the gold plated skull of a peasant, we are left to mourn the disgraceful state of affairs our country is mired in. And yet, even in this new era of corruption and greed, there is hope to be found in the most unlikely of places. Tonight we will tap a well of integrity and honor, an inspiration to manhood for us all, from behind the walls of the Gyorskocsi Street jail...

He gestures grandly at a monitor as a VIDEO rolls.

INT. GYORSKOCSI STREET JAIL - HIGH SECURITY ROOM - DAY

The camera follows Laszlo Juszt past a thick, steel door. Attila sits inside, his legs and arms shackled to a metal chair that's bolted to the floor.

LASZLO JUSZT

Here he is! I've brought something for you.

(he offers a bottle of whiskey)

This is just to be stylish. Unfortunately we cannot drink it together.

ATTILA

Köszönöm szépen. Thank you very much.

LASZLO JUSZT

I'm glad to finally meet you.
Little did we all know that UTE's
terrible, terrible goalie was a
notorious Robin Hood.

ATTILA

I used to convince myself that I
was some kind of Sandor Rosza, but
not anymore. I'm just a criminal.

INT. CASINO - NIGHT

The Casino staff and Patrons crowd around the bar TV.

ATTILA

(on TV)

I did have two rules: I don't rob
the customers or employees. And
there would be no violence. I did
point my gun at some people and I
am sorry for that. I didn't mean
to terrorize anyone and I want
them to know that I apologize.

INT. CHEAP APARTMENT - NIGHT

Lajos is in his tiny apartment, watching a little b/w TV.

LASZLO JUSZT

The police have said that you have
made a confession, is this true?

ATTILA

Yes, it is. They told me they had
enough evidence to link me to
eight robberies and that I would
be going to jail. So I confessed.

LASZLO JUSZT

How many robberies did you confess
to?

ATTILA

Twenty-six.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

The players crowd a TV, even Bela Benko is riveted.

LASZLO JUSZT

Are you telling me you admitted to more robberies than they were going to charge you with? Surely they must have beaten you!

ATTILA

Never. These guys work hard, they have my respect. If they are fair with me, I am fair with them. I confessed because they caught me. I'm a thief, not a liar. Fair is fair.

LASZLO JUSZT

So why have you refused an attorney?

ATTILA

I don't need one. I don't want a trial. I confessed, so let's get on with the sentencing. Why waste time and money on a trial? I am willing to pay for what I did.

BELA BENKO

(boasting to a young player)

I named him "Chicky Panther".

INT. EVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Eva sits with Petr, watching with rapt attention.

LASZLO JUSZT

You are intelligent, articulate, courageous, self-effacing, even penitent. These are not exactly qualities we associate with people in jail or, for that matter, in public office.

ATTILA

Listen, I'm just a guy trying to make a life for himself in an unfair system. I was frustrated at my lack of opportunities and took matters into my own hands. Unfortunately I hurt some people along the way, and for that I'm truly sorry.

A tear runs down Eva's cheek.

INT. KRIMINALIS SET - NIGHT

On the monitor the interview wraps up.

LASZLO JUSZT

(on the monitor)

Unlike certain others, you admit to your crimes. What is your opinion of Marta Tocsik?

ATTILA

We both robbed the state. It's not my place to judge, but I doubt I will get the same treatment. She pinched five times what I did with the stroke of a pen, but she's rich, I'm poor. So I'm expecting ten years. But that's the system. What can you do?

The video image freezes on Attila's handsome smile. Laszlo Juszt turns to the camera, bemused.

LASZLO JUSZT

He was the Whiskey Robber.

INT. GYORSKOCSI STREET JAIL - DAY

Lajos Varjú sits talking with Mound and Zeddi when Keszthelyi comes angrily after him.

KESZTHELYI

(grabs papers from Lajos)

These are police files, you are no longer a member of the police.

LAJOS VARJÚ

So I'm not. I keep forgetting.

KESZTHELYI

What the hell are you doing here?

LAJOS VARJÚ

None of your business.

KESZTHELYI

I don't want you talking to him.

LAJOS VARJÚ

He's free to have visitors, I'm a law abiding citizen, I don't think there's anything you can do about it.

INT. GYORSKOCSI STREET JAIL - HI TECH PRISON CELL - DAY

In the center of a large room, Attila is encased in a glass walled cell. He's bathed by bright lights and surrounded by heavily armed GUARDS WEARING SKI-MASKS. Lajos enters, shocked at the elaborate set-up. The glass door is opened and Lajos is let inside the cell.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Hello, Attila. Remember me?

Attila looks sullen and depressed, but he forces a smile.

ATTILA

You. You were the only true professional at the police. But... I was always one step ahead of you!

LAJOS VARJÚ

Yes. Yes, you were...
(beat)
You're... adjusting?

ATTILA

Sure. Now that everything is out in the open, I feel great.
(gestures at Guards)
Plus, the attention.

A quiet moment as they both sit there. Locked in his see-through box, the Whiskey Robber looks broken.

ATTILA

(forcing a laugh)
Remember when I sent you that bottle of *palinka*? I bet that killed you. When I saw that on TV I almost pissed myself!

LAJOS VARJÚ

Yes, I remember. You were always very clever.

ATTILA

Good times! We were a good team. You were the mule and I was the jockey.

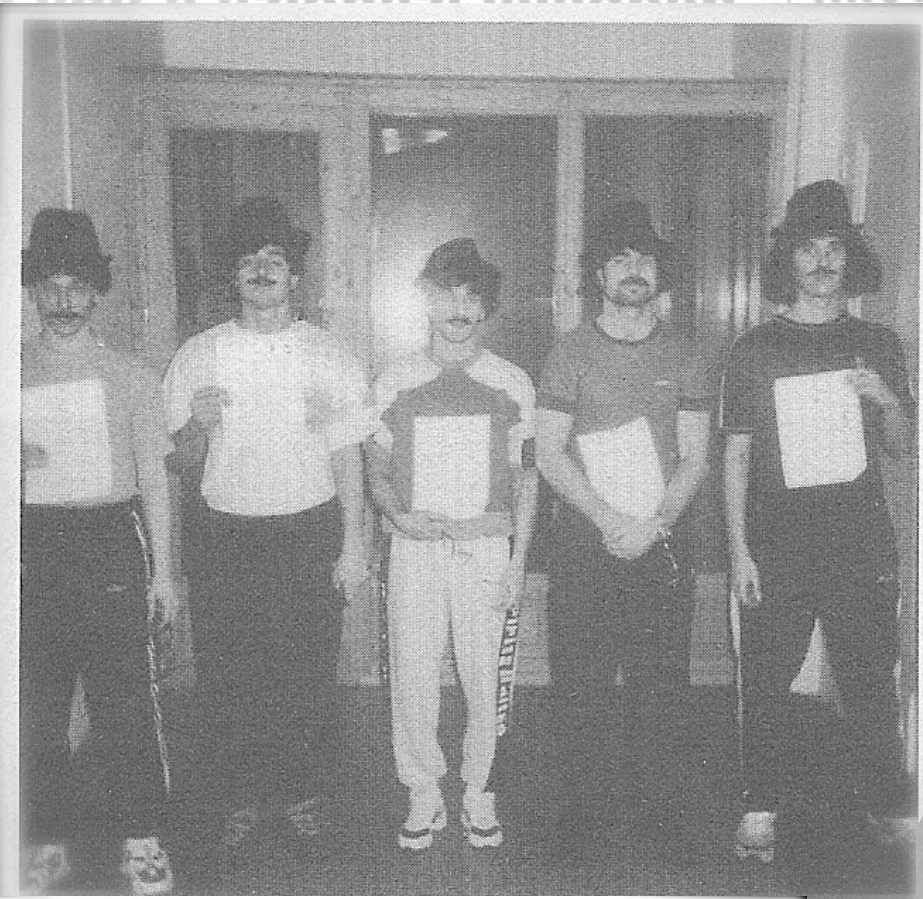
Lajos takes stock of Attila, debating. Moves closer to him, whispers, becoming serious.

LAJOS VARJÚ

There's a reason you haven't been charged yet. They're looking to take you to trial.

Európában gyakoriak a v...
 le fehér hollónak számitana...
 ának szentelt ünnepek. A sz...
 ágnap viszont a legjelsebb...
 1962 óta 81 országban em...
 meg március 27-én erről az...
 ról, amelynek gondolatát a b...
 esszuson fogadják el és eg...
 árízi Nemzetek Színház...
 vadjával.

Minden esztendőben ezen...
 on az egyetemes kultúra c...
 minens személyiségét éri az...
 elítés, hogy az eseménye...
 atos gondolatait megoss...
 gálóival és tisztelőivel. A...
 nap üzenetét lefordítják...
 és minden színházban is...
 lden Michael Tremblay ka...
 naturg olvasta fel az „ü...
 amelyben közvetlenül utal...
 re - aki jó kétezer évvel ez...
 megfogalmazta a színház sz...
 Electrajára. Ehhez a kanad...
 áfűzte saját gondolatait is...
 zöveg egyetemességéről, de



Police photo from a lineup at the Gyorskocsi Street jail. Attila (second from right) and the rest are wearing typical Whiskey Robber disguises.



A végzősök az ér...
 Ez csak p...
 Az Oktatásügyi Miniszter...
 végzett számítógépes sorso...
 zombaton négy A...
 ban próbaérettség...
 diák az érettség...
 yaival ismerked...
 örakor megkezd...
 isbelin a Ném...
 tanulóinak...
 nyelvből, a nag...
 szlovák Liceumba...
 nak szlovák nyelv...
 monctőieknek ped...
 nán nyelvből kell...
 mulálniuk a vizsg...
 Építőipari Líceu...
 matematikából, k...
 óból, biológiából, ps...
 ógiából és földr...
 rendeztek próba...
 égít, és itt töl...
 tiájának kellett

hozott a...
 ish, alias...
 egyesült...
 ndaleből...
 zeti Lice...
 olozsvári...
 i Akadé...
 hozott a...
 Fesztiváljának döntőjében...
 alkotásokat ugyanis autom...
 jelölik az Oscar-díjra. Kis...
 pedig ott és Genfben is díjat...
 ával.

mi történt a...
 vévlől nem d...
 en a műfajba...
 Bunny című...
 rennek be kel...
 lgy is az első...
 úvész volt, ak...
 a filmvilág...
 ugatózói film...
 rjanak, az é...
 anak". Meg...
 gjobbat ad...
 yezné, hogy...
 szebb tétele...
 11 óra előz...
 z iskola udv...
 nettanáró sz...
 ek hamarabb...
 ételek nem vo...
 iz érettség...
 negbirkozni...
 árnó azonban...
 ejtette el figy...
 ti öket: ez mé...
 ek, az igazi h...
 zután követi...
 NÉMETH

rad származás...
 karriert befut...
 en 100...
 van egy...
 dolgozó...
 ak, aki a...
 zsi szü...
 rnyazati felhív...
 rdélyi tudósítói a



Captain of the Robbery Division, Lajos Varju.

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The Whiskey Robber



Attila in custody. His special police escort came with bullet proof vests, ski masks, and machine guns. Video available on YouTube.

Az első világhá...
 mas években mind...
 vált egy, a román...
 mörítő egységes, di...
 elentő tábor meg...
 összefogó jelszava...
 at", a transzilvani...
 Az írói közösség...
 titására a fiatal b...
 vállalkozott, aki ak...
 lőbirtokainak jele...
 el a romániai mag...
 atására. 1926 ny...
 ivóját huszonhét...
 meg a marosvécsi...
 A helikoni munk...
 ágháború között...
 mottevébb és legis...
 csoportosulása vo...
 1944 őszén 55-en

55 író számára. A tárgyi emlékek meg...
 őrzésére Marosvécsen egy Kemény János...
 emlékházat szándékszik létrehozni.

Az alapító: Kemény János fia, Kemény Miklós és családja, a kuratórium...
 tiszteletbeli elnöke Sütő András író, tagjai: Bogyó Levente elnök, Nagy Miklós Kund alelnök, Adamovits Sándor...
 Búcsó László, Vékony Ilona, J...

A középkori Japan szellemisége

Ma 13 órakor kerül or az aradi Ion Slavici könyvesboltban a középkori Japan szellemiségéről szóló kétnyelvű (Spirit of Medieval Japan) könyv bemutatására. Szerzője Mihnea Voicu Simándan, kiadója a bukaresti Nipponica. Az aradi szárnyrobocsátáson közreműködik Gheorghe Schwartz író és Desdemona Nagy-Vizitiu tanárnő. A kötetet tavaly decemberben Bukarestben mutatták be először a Japan Nanok alkalmával a szigetország nagykövete és a japán kulturális átadásja jelen...

A Magyar Televízió Rt. a...
 tül élő zárt magyar kisebbség...
 ségek életéről rendszeresen b...
 na hir- és magazinműsoraiba...
 délyi magyarságról Kolozsvá...
 Marosvásárhelyen telepített...
 készítene hiteles és friss besz...
 A tudósítások, riportok első...
 MTV Híradó számára készül...
 kívül az MTV más szerkeszt...
 regionális stúdiói is a megren...
 zé tartoznak.

Pályázati feltételek:
 — irodalmi szintű magyar nyelvtudás,
 — újságírói és egyetemi-főiskolai végzettség,
 — szakmai gyakorlat,
 — érvényes útlevél.

Bérezés: meggyezés alapján.
 A pályázatokban a végzett...
 zoló dokumentumok másolat...
 részletes szakmai önéletrajz...
 Pályázati cím: Magyar Tele...
 Híradó Önálló Szerkesztő...
 Budapest, Eszterházy utca 1...

ATTILA

I already told them everything.
There's no point in a trial.

LAJOS VARJÚ

Not unless they're planning to
charge you with something you
didn't admit to.

ATTILA

Like what?

LAJOS VARJÚ

Ask for a copy of your case file.
You have that right.

ATTILA

What's in it?

LAJOS VARJÚ

(shrugs)
I'm the mule you rode out of a
job. I don't have access anymore.

ATTILA

I don't deserve your kindness.

As Lajos leaves, he pauses at the door.

LAJOS VARJU

Was it worth it? Did you get what
you wanted?

Attila looks around at the glass walls, the Guards.

ATTILA

(honestly)
No...

INT. GYORSKOCSI STREET JAIL - HI TECH PRISON CELL - NIGHT

Attila pores over his case file. He finally finds a
phrase that scares him to the core...

INT. GYORSKOCSI STREET JAIL - HI TECH PRISON CELL - DAY

Keszthelyi is talking to the Masked Guards when he hears
Attila shouting at him through the breathing holes in his
glass cell.

ATTILA

Keszthelyi! Hey!

Keszthelyi walks over, confronting the red-faced Attila.

ATTILA
"Attempted murder"?! I told you
everything! I never tried to hurt
anyone!

KESZTHELYI
So you've said.

ATTILA
So how the hell are you going to
pin me with attempted murder?!

KESZTHELYI
You admitted firing your gun
several times.

ATTILA
Up in the air, to scare the guy
chasing me!

KESZTHELYI
One of the witnesses says
different.

ATTILA
That's a lie!

KESZTHELYI
Even if he's mistaken, in
principal it's true. Bullets go
up, they have to come down
somewhere. You're not dealing
with clowns now, Ambrus, you're
dealing with the real police.

ATTILA
I've played by the rules! I don't
hide behind a lawyer!

KESZTHELYI
That's your choice.

ATTILA
I never tried to kill anyone and
you know it!

KESZTHELYI
Who's to say what goes on in a
man's heart? That's for the jury
to decide.

Keszthelyi walks away.

ATTILA

(calling after)
I'm telling you straightaway, I'm
not going to stand for this! I'll
escape!

KESZTHELYI

(smiles)
Best of luck with that...

INT. GYORSKOCSI STREET JAIL - ATTILA'S CELL - MORNING

The Masked Guards open Attila's cell.

MASKED GUARD

Okay, asshole. Sky time.

They put a black hood over Attila's head.

EXT. GYORSKOCSI STREET JAIL - COURTYARD - MORNING

A line of prisoners are marched to six open air, concrete
walled exercise cells. Attila is locked into #4.

MASKED GUARD

Ten minutes!

The Masked Guards take a cigarette break in the corner.

TEN MINUTES LATER

The Masked Guards start collecting their prisoners from
the exercise areas. When they get to #4, *it's empty!*
Nothing but a black hood on the floor.

The bare concrete walls rise thirteen feet overhead.
It's an impossible climb. But somehow, he's done it.
The Whiskey Robber has escaped...

EXT. GYORSKOCSI STREET JAIL - DAY

Mound of Asshead drives the squad car onto the curb and
mashes the fender into a post. Keszthelyi gets out,
furious, and is met by the WARDEN.

The WARDEN points up the side of the building. On the
roof is a massive BILLBOARD for the "NEW Hungarian
National Police". Guess who's the poster boy? It's
handsome Keszthelyi astride a cop motorcycle with the
tagline: "Let's Serve Together".

Below the billboard an escape rope comes out of the fourth floor window. It's made of bedsheets, shoelaces and telephone wire. It ends 17 feet above the pavement.

Keszthelyi curses under his breath. Lightning CRACKS and the downpour begins...

INT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Every COP in the city rushes into action.

EXT. SZECHENYI BRIDGE - DAY

Police set up road blocks across the bridges.

EXT. TRAIN STATION - DAY

Cops flood the train station, searching all passengers. They even search the undersides of the trains.

INT. CITY BUS - DAY

Cops with CANINES sweep through the commuter buses.

EXT. DANUBE RIVER - DAY

Danube Water Police boats patrol the river.

EXT. BUDAPEST SKY - DAY

Police Helicopters buzz the sky. The city is setting two records today: it's the heaviest downpour in decades and the largest manhunt in post-Communist Eastern Europe's history.

NEWS FOOTAGE: the Danube begins to overflow, submerging CARS and gridlocking the city.

INT. KESZTHELYI'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Keszthelyi SLAMS down the phone repeatedly until it shatters. The entire Robbery Department is on eggshells.

KESZTHELYI

SHIT!

EXT. BUDAPEST STREET - WEEKS LATER

"Wanted" posters cover every post. Keszthelyi walks down the sidewalk where vendors hawk "I (heart) the Whiskey Robber" T-shirts, coffee mugs and bumper stickers.

He buys a paper at a newsstand. The headline reads "The Hungarian Butch Cassidy". The Newspaper vendor chuckles at his TV. On it Attila's dog Don, leg in a cast, is a guest on a morning talk show.

INT. ROBBERY DEPARTMENT - DAY

Keszthelyi has his men gathered around a conference table. In addition to the old crew, the table is crowded with NEW OFFICERS. Keszthelyi hasn't slept in days.

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

You think he's still in Budapest?

KESZTHELYI

I'd stake my right eye on it. He hasn't fled the country yet, I can feel it. He's still here, somewhere.

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

We've got over 200 phones tapped. Fourteen known associates under round the clock surveillance. It's been three weeks. Surely we should have heard something by now.

KESZTHELYI

(holds up a paper)
85% of the country wouldn't tell us if they found him hiding in their attic! Of course we're not going to hear anything! They're protecting him!

BIGFOOT

Who?

KESZTHELYI

Everyone! "The Hero Of Our Time"! "In a time bereft of morality, can anyone regard the deeds of the Whiskey Robber as a crime?" That's from the editor! He's still here, I'm sure of it! And we're going to find him!

BIGFOOT

But... we're robbery.

KESZTHELYI

Exactly. And that's where we'll catch him. Why hasn't he left? Because he has no money. So where do we go to find him? Where the money is!

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

You think he's going to rob again?

ZEDDI

Never. That's too bold. Even for him.

KESZTHELYI

He's cocky. He'll try it. And when he strikes, we'll be waiting. He's too well known to case a new bank so we're going to go over his entire history until we pin down where he's going to strike next! Then we just stake the place out and wait. I'll not have him make a fool of me again!

HOURS LATER:

They are all exhausted from the debate. Keszthelyi has it narrowed down to a few options on the blackboard.

KESZTHELYI

He's never going back to where he got caught. That would be bad luck. So that leaves the post office next to the Gellart Hotel and the Grassalkovich OTP. Thoughts?

MOUND OF ASSHEAD

I took my wife to the Gellart for dinner the other night.

KESZTHELYI

Nobody cares! Is that all you can contribute? Who cares where you and that pig had dinner?!

MOUND OF ASSHEAD

It's just, I thought I remember seeing scaffolding around the post office.

Zeddi dials. In a second he hangs up.

ZEDDI

Closed for repairs.

KESZTHELYI

That's it, gentlemen. By fastidious police work and the application of logic, we have determined where the Whiskey Robber is going to strike next. Without question it's--

An oversized CELL PHONE on Keszthelyi's belt RINGS. All the detectives freeze: it's the hotline. Keszthelyi answers it and his face falls.

KESZTHELYI

The Grassalkovich OTP! Robbery in progress!!

EXT. GRASSALKOVICH OTP BANK - DAY

Police helicopters circle overhead. Keszthelyi screeches to a stop and flies out of his car.

STREET COP

It was Whiskey, sir. He got away.

KESZTHELYI

What do you mean got away? How?!

STREET COP

He swam across the river.

Keszthelyi turns to see the news cameras. Attila is making him look like a jackass, just like he did Lajos.

EXT. DOWNTOWN APARTMENT - EVENING

Gabi Gabor sneaks into an apartment building with a sack of groceries. Police helicopters buzz overhead.

INT. DOWNTOWN APARTMENT - EVENING

Gabi enters the darkened apartment.

GABI GABOR

Panther? They're chasing shadows again! The police are--

He sees a dripping wet stack of cash on the floor. Attila comes out, toweling off his hair.

GABI GABOR

Where did you...?

ATTILA

Yes. Okay, don't come apart. I got bored sitting around.

GABI GABOR

You left the curtains open!

ATTILA

It's okay if I just stay low.

Attila crawls over and grabs the groceries.

ATTILA

You'll never guess who was on "Sunrise" this morning. Don! He looked like he missed me.

GABI GABOR

(indicates the cash)
Did you get enough?

ATTILA

Plenty. This is it, gringo, I'll be out of your hair shortly.

GABI GABOR

No problem, panther. It's hot balls! I'm here with the front page guy and nobody knows it. The cops would give their arms to know what I know.

ATTILA

I have one more favor. I made something for Laszlo Juszt. I want you to get it to him.

Attila hands him a package and heads for the door.

GABI GABOR

Hey panther? Where are you headed?

ATTILA

To the stars, gringo.

EXT. BUDAPEST STREET - NIGHT

Attila rides on a moped through the darkened city, baseball cap and sunglasses keeping him disguised.

ATTILA (CONT'D)

Did you ever think of the effect
on me of keeping such a secret?
And I did it all just to protect
you!

EVA

Oh my God. You're going to try
and talk me out of being angry?
You're insane! You ran out on me,
remember that part?

ATTILA

I'm not here to throw around
blame, okay? I forgive and
forget. I've got a fake passport,
Eva. I've got enough money, I can
go anywhere in the world and start
a new life.

(beat)

I want to start it together. Come
with me. We can go live on the
beach, like you dreamed. Anywhere
you like. We'll take Don and Petr
and--

EVA

Jesus Christ, Attila. What do you
think, you can show up here and
I'll run off with you? You say
some pretty words and all is
forgiven?

ATTILA

I got scared, Eva. And I ran. I
did you wrong, I know that. But
I'll fix it. With a fresh start,
it'll all be different.

EVA

No matter where you run, you'll
still be the same. The starving
man with cupboards full of food.
And since robbery is how you fill
that hole, you'll go right back to
it. It's all you know.

ATTILA

That's not true. I play hockey
too.

EVA

Barely. Face it, you're a
criminal. And you always will be.
Running isn't going to change
that.

ATTILA

Hoopa. Listen to me, I'm in love with you!

EVA

For how long, this time? You expect me to give up my life and for my son and I to become fugitives? On what guarantee? How do I know you'll still be there in a year, or a month even?

ATTILA

I've had time to think in jail! And the only thing that has ever made me truly happy... was you. You accept me for what I am.

EVA

For what I *thought* you were.

(beat)

I could love you again. I really believe I could. But I won't run away with you. I would walk through broken glass with a *bozgor*, but not with a thief.

EXT. EVA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Attila climbs out the back window, patting Don goodbye. He looks back at Eva, his eyes welling...

ATTILA

What if I could prove it to you? How much I love you. Will you wait for me?

EVA

Wait for you where? What are you talking about?

ATTILA

You won't have to run. Or be a fugitive. Will you wait?

EVA

What do you mean?

ATTILA

Will you wait?

EVA

I don't know.

ATTILA

Will you wait? Please wait.

EVA

Maybe.

ATTILA

Buli, buli. Good enough. It's settled, then.

(he kisses her)

See you soon.

Before she can say anything, Attila takes off.

INT. TV SOUNDSTAGE - EVENING

Keszthelyi sits in a chair getting made-up. He is angry yet determined: he does not want to be here but has to.

A STAGE MANAGER waves to him and Keszthelyi walks out before a LIVE STUDIO AUDIENCE. This is the final phase of growth for *Kriminalis*. Keszthelyi takes his place on the darkened stage.

EXT. ULLOI STREET OTP BANK - EVENING

This is the largest bank in Hungary, the OTP branch in the heart of the business district.

INT. ULLOI STREET OTP BANK - EVENING

Inside it is massive. Thirty employees, two Guards. Much larger than anything Attila has ever attempted. Until now... He comes through the door in a suit and designer shades. No more disguises. Class all the way.

He walks up to an unsuspecting Guard and disarms him with a slick move. He spins, aiming at the second Guard.

ATTILA

You know who I am! And you know what this is about...

INT. TV SOUNDSTAGE - EVENING

The show is live. Keszthelyi sits with Laszlo Juszt.

LASZLO JUSZT

Forgive me for saying so, but you are the Golden Boy of the New "computer age" Hungarian National Police.

(MORE)

Európában gyakoriak a világnapok, egy olyan „faluvá” változtató globál-parti városban gyakran vendégszerep-

Ismét levelet hozott a posta. Francis Kish, alias Kis Ferenc írt az egyesült államokbeli Glendaleből. Művészeti Licenc a Kolozsvári Művészeti Akadémia előző évi végzőse, a színházi területen lett világhíres inter-grafikus 12 műve között. Másrészt a közelmúltban a nemzetközi díjat nyáron, mikor a rendkívül jó hang alapján jog-



The fugitive Whiskey Robber in action, captured by surveillance cameras at the Ulloi Street OTP bank. Note his dapper appearance.



A próbatételek nehézségi foka közepes volt

Március 14-én tudtuk meg a tanfelügyelőségtől, hogy nálunk is lesz

Az első világháborút követő mozgalmas években mindinkább szükségessé vált egy, a romániai magyar írókat tömörítő egység, de kötelességeket nem elmentő tábor megalakítása, melynek összefogó jelszava az „erdélyi gondolat”, a transzilvanizmus.

Az írói közösség tervének megvalósítására a fiatal báró Kemény János vállalkozott, aki akkoriban örökölt erőlétjeinek jelentős részét áldozta fel a romániai magyar irodalom támogatására. 1926 nyarán küldte el megíróját huszonhét írónak és alapította meg a marosvécsi Helikont.

A helikoni munkaközösség a két világháború között a hazai írók legszámbottebb és legjelentősebb irodalmi csoportosulása volt. Megszűnésékor, 1944 őszén 55-en vallották magukat helikonistáknak.

Az Erdélyi Szépírók Céh kiadványait, akadémiai és Erdélyi Helikon folyóiratot a vécsi íróközösség eszméi irányításával működött mindvégig. Ebben a periódusban 166 kötet jelent meg, amiközben a helikonisták a romániai szellemi örökség képeit a nemzetközi irodalmi életben is megőrizték.

Megalakult a „Helikon János Alapítvány”

A 2000 tavaszán megalakult és törvényesen bejegyzett Helikon - Kemény János Alapítvány legfontosabb célkitűzései között szerepel: Kemény János és a marosvécsi Helikonba tömörült írók szellemi örökségének megőrzése és széleskörű ismertetése, műveik újradakítása, könyvtárleltésítés, a jeles évfordulók méltó megünneplése és egy időszaki lap beindítása.

Kemény János annak idején egybegyűjtötte Erdélyi íróit, az Alapítvány egy Emlékparkot szeretne létesíteni az 55 író számára. A tárgyi emlékek megőrzésére Marosvécsen egy Kemény János emlékházat szándékozik létrehozni.

Az alapító: Kemény János fia, Kemény Miklós és családja, a kuratórium tiszteletbeli elnöke Sütő András író, tagjai: Bogdy Levente elnök, Nagy Miklós Kund alelnök, Adamovits Sándor alelnök, Bócsa László, Vigha Ilona, László

szelvényes bejegyzett Helikon - Kemény János Alapítvány legfontosabb célkitűzései között szerepel: Kemény János és a marosvécsi Helikonba tömörült írók szellemi örökségének megőrzése és széleskörű ismertetése, műveik újradakítása, könyvtárleltésítés, a jeles évfordulók méltó megünneplése és egy időszaki lap beindítása.

Akik a marosvécsi Helikon szellemi értékeit becsülik, kérjük, legyenek az Alapítvány segítségére, hogy a céljaikat megvalósíthassák.

Ma könyvbemutató

A középkori Japán szellemisége

Ma 13 órakor kerül át az aradi Ion Slavici könyvesboltban a középkori Japán szellemiségéről szóló kétnyelvű (Spirit of Medieval Japan) könyv bemutatására. Szerzője Mihnea Voicu Simándán, kiadója a bukaresti Nipponica. Az aradi szárnnyarabcsatánál közreműködik Gheorghe Schwartz író és Desdemona Nagy-Vizitru tanárnő. A kötetet tavaly decemberben Bukarestben mutatták be először a Japán Nanok alkalmával a szigetország nagykövete és a japán nagykövetség képviselői jelenlétében.

bank 251100296066069 számú szám-lára fogadjunk köszönettel.

Helikon - KEMÉNY JÁNOS Alapítvány Kuratóriuma

6 Rt. a tiszteletteljesen borsoraihoz Kolozsvári telepített és beszállított első

MTV Híradó számára készült kívül az MTV más szerkesztői részletes szakmai önéletrajza

Pályázati feltételek:

- irodalmi szintű magyar nyelvű, részletes szakmai önéletrajza
 - újságírói és egyetemi végzettség,
 - szakmai gyakorlat,
 - érvényes útlevelel.
- Bérezés: megegyezés alapján. A pályázatokban a végzettségre vonatkozó dokumentumok másolatát részletes szakmai önéletrajza Pályázati cím: Magyar Tele Híradó. Onálló Szerkesztő: Budapest, Eszterházy utca 10.

LASZLO JUSZT (CONT'D)

And yet, not only has he escaped, but after the largest manhunt in modern times, the Whiskey Robber has struck again. Not only that, but he effected his escape by the high-tech means of swimming.

KESZTHELYI

Basically the man has gotten lucky. What I am about to reveal will certainly go a long way to explaining his methods and actions....

INT. ULLOI STREET OTP BANK - EVENING

Attila corrals all thirty employees into the back room and locks the door.

KESZTHELYI (O.S.)

I am sorry to all his demented female "fans", but I have a shocking bit of news. Our police psychologists have come to the conclusion that the Whiskey Robber is a card carrying homosexual.

The safe is open and piled with CASH. This is HIS BIGGEST SCORE EVER.

INT. TV SOUNDSTAGE - EVENING

Some members of the crowd BOO.

KESZTHELYI

These are facts derived from investigation! His homosexuality leads him to dress in wigs, the robbing is just another symbol of his perversion!

Unfortunately for Keszthelyi, the audience isn't buying it. He's coming across like a scheming yuppie prick.

LASZLO JUSZT

You know he sent me a present the other day. I want to share it with you. This was delivered to my studio from the Whiskey Robber himself.

He shows off a white T-shirt with a hand drawn phrase on the back: "Corrupt Cops Will Never Catch Me". The audience laughs, making Keszthelyi fidget.

LASZLO JUSZT

And on the back...

He turns it, revealing a crudely drawn whiskey bottle. To the left it says "W.R. 28" and to the right "HNP 1".

LASZLO JUSZT

Whiskey Robber 28, Hungarian
National Police 1.

The audience laughs and applauds.

KESZTHELYI

This is just another symptom, you see? He's stupid. He doesn't know addition. He's committed 27 robberies, not 28...

The phone on Keszthelyi's belt RINGS. Keszthelyi knows exactly what that means. He freezes, face flushed.

LAZLO JUSZT

Do you need to answer that?

The phone keeps RINGING. The audience starts to chatter. Keszthelyi fumbles with the buttons, humiliated.

INT. ULLOI STREET OTP BANK - EVENING

Sirens SCREAM in the distance. But Attila isn't going anywhere. He has made a huge pyramid of CASH in the middle of the bank floor.

He pulls out a bottle of Johnny Walker Red and pours himself a glass. Flashing cop lights fill the room as the cars screech to a stop outside. Attila smiles, totally at peace...

NARRATOR

And so an era passed for my
beloved country...

EXT. THE GLOBAL SKATING RINK - DAY

The Nations of Europe skate together as a UNION. They are all ADULTS, all equal.

NARRATOR

We took our place as an equal part
of a mighty Union. Now we play a
comfortable supporting role on the
world stage...

INT. BLUE MOON DETECTIVE AGENCY - DAY

It Lajos' place. He sits at a desk looking like Sam Spade.

NARRATOR

It seems we have finally all found our place...

Pulling back we see another desk, occupied by his new junior partner: Mound of Asshead.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

Attila gives a passionate speech in his own defense. The packed courthouse is rapt.

NARRATOR

As for the Whiskey Robber, he cemented his legend with an impassioned courtroom speech...

ATTILA

...and like noble Socrates, glass of poison in hand, I demand the State either give me justice or stab me here and now!

NARRATOR

The prosecutor had no choice but to drop the frivolous charges of attempted murder...

In the back, Keszthelyi exits, enraged. Eva applauds. As does most of the gallery. The JUDGE bangs his gavel.

NARRATOR

The judge, the very same from the trial of Toxic Marta, was less than entertained. He sentenced Attila to seventeen years in maximum security.

INT. MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON - VISITING ROOM - DAY

Attila is brought in, in chains.

NARRATOR

His hard time was made somewhat easier by the arrival of an unexpected visitor...

Attila looks up as a MIDDLE AGED PEASANT WOMAN enters the room. His jaw drops.

NARRATOR

Having seen him on television, his mother had travelled far to share with him a final revelation. She too had been beaten by his father who eventually drove her from their village. She had not abandoned Attila after all.

They hug, both with tears flowing.

EXT. EVA'S SUPER WASH - DAY

Eva sits eating lunch, reading a letter from Attila.

NARRATOR

This knowledge will perhaps provide him the strength to endure the cleansing he set out for himself, with the distinct possibility of a reward at the end.

INT. MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON - NIGHT

We are close on a leatherbound book.

NARRATOR

Far from becoming a gray nobody, Attila's name is recorded in the New History of Hungary. Not just as a man who sought acceptance and respect, but as a symbol of a people who sought the same.

(the hands place the book on a shelf)

And as for me? Why was I chosen to chronicle his tale, this ballad of the Whiskey Robber? Well, for one thing... proximity.

We reveal Laszlo Juszt is the man in the cell. He's in a prison jumpsuit. He turns and addresses the camera.

LASZLO JUSZT

Shocked, dear friends? No more than I. My relentless hounding of that syphilitic crone Toxic Marta led to my arrest on charges of revealing state secrets. Behind concrete walls, the Whiskey Robber and I, we are kindred spirits. And who better than a showman to tell the story of a legend?

(MORE)

LASZLO JUSZT (CONT'D)

As I can attest, the pursuit of truth is a fool's errand. The soul of Hungary is steeped not in coarse fact, but in romance. And that's why you're here, is it not? After all, what is a ballad but a song of love?

(he bows)

I kiss your hand.

FADE OUT...

SUPER TITLE: "Attila ambrus is due for release in 2016"

Then...

SUPER TITLE: "He intends to seek public office"

THE END

