

NCIS

"The Missionary Position"

Episode #206

Written by

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Directed by Arvin Brown

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CAST LIST

SPECIAL AGENT LEROY JETHRO GIBBS
SPECIAL AGENT TONY DiNOZZO
SPECIAL AGENT ZIVA DAVID
DOCTOR DONALD "DUCKY" MALLARD
FORENSIC SCIENTIST ABBY SCIUTO
SPECIAL AGENT TIMOTHY McGEE

JIMMY PALMER
DOCTOR SAMANTHA RYAN

JUDY
PHIL
NAVY COMMANDER MARIA CASTRO
ALFRED HOLBROOK
RETIRED INTERPOL AGENT MONIQUE LISSON
BELLMAN
MANNY VARIGAN
CIA AGENT STEPHEN WHEELER
CIA AGENT CONSTANCE MAZNEY
NAVY COMMANDER THERESA WADE

VIDEO ONLY
PEDESTRIANS

VOICE ONLY
ZNN REPORTER

FEATURED (non-speaking)
MARINE FIRST LIEUTENANT WALTER LARABEE
ND NCIS TECHS
VENDORS
SHOPPERS

SET LIST

EXTERIORS (DAY)

SUBURBAN PARK
CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA (STOCK)
HOTEL HERMOSA
EL RINCON CANTINA
BEACHSIDE MARKET
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING
VW VAN
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA
CARTER'S PLANT NURSERY

INTERIORS (DAY)

NCIS HEADQUARTERS
SQUAD ROOM
CONFERENCE ROOM
AUTOPSY ROOM
ABBY'S LAB
MTAC ROOM
GIBBS' HOUSE
LOCAL AIRPORT HANGAR
CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA
HOTEL HERMOSA [X]
HOTEL SUITE/DEN
VW VAN
PENTAGON
RYAN'S OFFICE

EXTERIORS (NIGHT)

CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA
HOTEL HERMOSA
BALCONY
COLOMBIAN MILITARY AIRFIELD [X]
FRONT GATE [X]
WASHINGTON, DC (STOCK)

INTERIORS (NIGHT)

NCIS HEADQUARTERS
ELEVATOR
MTAC ROOM
SQUAD ROOM
ABBY'S LAB
PENTAGON
RYAN'S OFFICE
GIBBS' HOUSE

NCIS

"THE MISSIONARY POSITION"

COLD OPEN

FROM BLACK:

FLASH - BLACK-AND-WHITE OF GIBBS WONDERING WHO'S SENDING A MESSAGE AND WHAT IT MEANS...

PHOOF TO BLACK:

FROM BLACK:

1 EXT. SUBURBAN PARK - DAY

1

Spring is in the air, as a YOUNG COUPLE, 20s, searches for the perfect picnic spot. JUDY sets down a BLANKET in the middle of a clearing. PHIL follows, lugging a HEAVY BASKET.

JUDY

This seems like a nice spot.

PHIL

If you like it, I love it.

Phil gladly sets the basket down and stretches his sore back. Judy suddenly scoops up her blanket again.

JUDY

Wait, actually, I...don't like it.

PHIL

Let's see... Over by the pond was too sunny. The gazebo wasn't sunny enough. And here...?

JUDY

I dunno. Bad energy.

PHIL

Seriously? This basket's heavy. Between the fresh fruit, breakfast burritos and the coffee thermos...

JUDY

It just doesn't feel right for some reason. How about under this tree?

Judy lays the blanket under a TREE nearby. Phil stays put.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

PHIL

I kind of like the energy here.

JUDY

Last move, I promise. Trust me, it feels much better under here.

Judy pats the seat on the blanket beside her. Phil smiles grudgingly and heaves up the heavy basket again. As he takes three labored steps toward Judy...

FFFOOM-THUD-CRUNCH! Something large lands HARD right behind him. In the exact spot where he'd been standing, in fact. Phil whips around, as Judy leaps to her feet to see...

The uniformed body of MARINE FIRST LIEUTENANT WALTER LARABEE, bound, beaten, and grotesquely twisted by the impact. As the dust settles, Phil and Judy look skyward. With no plane in sight, they look to one another, shaken...

JUDY (cont'd)

If you'd stayed in this spot...

PHIL

Marry me?

As they embrace, WE FOCUS again on the DEAD BODY, and...

SMASH CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

FROM BLACK:

2 INT. NCIS SQUAD ROOM - DAY

2

A very excited JIMMY PALMER bounds off the elevator, wearing a TRENCH COAT that he holds closed at the lapels. As he joins SPECIAL AGENTS TONY DiNOZZO, ZIVA DAVID, and TIMOTHY McGEE at their respective desks, preparing to unveil himself...

JIMMY

Excuse me, dear friends, if I could have your attention, please...?

MCGEE

Looks like you're about to burst into song, Jimmy.

JIMMY

Oh, it's much better than that.

(CONTINUED)

2

CONTINUED:

2

ZIVA

Why the coat on such a lovely day?

TONY

Holy full-frontal, autopsy gremlin.
It's a pre-marital bucket list.
Flash the office before your big
day...?

JIMMY

Even better.

Jimmy whips open his coat to reveal his MINT-GREEN TUXEDO, a disco-days throwback, complete with a clashing FUCHSIA SHIRT.

JIMMY (cont'd)

Well...what do you think?

Tony and Ziva are at a loss for words, but not McGee.

MCGEE

Awesome.

JIMMY

Isn't it? So bad, it's good?

TONY

I wouldn't go that far.

JIMMY

The wedding's in south Florida, so Breena and I were thinking tropical pastels. But when we saw this baby, we thought 'Let's go kitsch!'

ZIVA

Kitsch. That is a German word.

TONY

Kitsch, camp, completely tacky...

MCGEE

Don't forget 'cool.'

TONY

Eye of the beholder, McCumberbund.

As Jimmy distributes SIZE CARDS to Tony and McGee...

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED: (2)

2

JIMMY

Now I'll need all your sizes. And Breena will be calling you, Ziva, about the bridesmaids' dresses. If you think these tuxes are cool...

ZIVA

I cannot wait to see what she has chosen, Jimmy. But, really, I do not need to be in the wedding.

JIMMY

Oh, we insist...

As Tony fills out the card, hint-hunting...

TONY

Which box do I check here, Jimmy. Usher? Groomsman? Best man?

JIMMY

I'm having everyone check groomsmen for now, until I've decided.

MCGEE

You haven't picked a best man yet?

JIMMY

I've narrowed the list.

TONY

Narrowed it down to...?

Ziva's cell phone CHIRPS. She checks the CALLER ID.

ZIVA

Gibbs.

JIMMY

I wish. You know, if Agent Gibbs would even consider being my best man, I'd...

ZIVA

(into phone)

Good morning, Gibbs...

Realizing his mistake, Jimmy collects the size cards from Tony and McGee and retreats, as Ziva jots down Gibbs' info.

(CONTINUED)

2

CONTINUED: (3)

2

ZIVA (cont'd)
...Dead Marine lieutenant in
Reston. Garth Road Park.

MCGEE
I know the place.

ZIVA
(into phone)
Shall we pick you up? Where are
you?
(beat)
Oh. All right.
(hanging up)
He will meet us there.

TONY
Where was he?

ZIVA
He did not say.

And off their collective eyebrow-raise...

3

INT. GIBBS' HOUSE - DAY

3

SPECIAL AGENT LEROY JETHRO GIBBS pockets his CELL PHONE and
grabs his SIG. He turns to see DOCTOR SAMANTHA RYAN coming
down the steps...morning-cute with a little bedhead as she
buttons up last night's clothing.

DOCTOR RYAN
Got any coffee?

GIBBS
Nope. Stop for it.

She gives him the once-over.

GIBBS (cont'd)
Didn't mean to wake you.

DOCTOR RYAN
You didn't. Sun's nice upstairs.

A long, lingering smile from Gibbs. Memories.

GIBBS
Know someone else who used to say
that.

(CONTINUED)

3

CONTINUED:

3

Ryan understands that could only mean Shannon. She leans in close and gives him a gentle kiss.

*
*

DOCTOR RYAN
Good morning.

*
*

GIBBS
Not bad, so far.

*
*

DOCTOR RYAN
(sincere)
Listen, I want to thank you...

*
*
*

GIBBS
Already have, Doc.
(looking deeper)
Thought you had to take Parker to school.

*
*
*
*
*

DOCTOR RYAN
Told you. Sister's taking him.

*
*

GIBBS
Don't want to rock the boat.

*
*

DOCTOR RYAN
Too late. Mayday.

*
*

Gibbs smiles. Kinda likes the way this feels. Glances at his watch.

*
*

GIBBS
Case. Gotta go.

*
*

DOCTOR RYAN
Me too. Meeting at the Pentagon.

*
*

GIBBS
Your car. Blocked me in last night.

*
*
*

DOCTOR RYAN
Didn't want you to get cold feet.

*
*

GIBBS
My house. Nowhere else to go.

*
*

DOCTOR RYAN
The office. The diner.
Anyplace...easier.

*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

3

CONTINUED: (2)

3

GIBBS

I think we did okay...

*
*

DOCTOR RYAN

Did great.

*
*

She slips into her heels, grabs her coat and purse and heads for the door.

*
*

DOCTOR RYAN (cont'd)

Practice makes perfect.

*
*

Gibbs watches her exit for a moment, then follows.

*

4

EXT. SUBURBAN PARK - DAY

4

*

LOCAL LEO VEHICLES, the MCRT TRUCK and an NCIS SEDAN are parked near the body's landing spot, now cordoned off with TAPE. The young couple talks to McGee, as Tony and Ziva take photos of the twisted, taped-up body.

TONY

Killer didn't exactly try to hide the body.

ZIVA

Certainly looks uncomfortable.

CLICK-FLASH! - FIRST LIEUTENANT LARABEE'S TWISTED BODY

CLICK-FLASH! - HIS DUCT-TAPED MOUTH, WRISTS AND ANKLES

CLICK-FLASH! - MULTIPLE BLOODY WOUNDS IN HIS UPPER TORSO

DUCKY'S VOICE

What do we have here, Jethro?

Too focused on the body to see that Gibbs is not here, DOCTOR DONALD "DUCKY" MALLARD arrives with Jimmy Palmer, whose fuchsia shirt and green pant cuffs peek from his COVERALLS.

ZIVA

What we have is no Jethro, Ducky. Gibbs is running late.

DUCKY

Well, there's a first.

TONY

Much like someone wearing fuchsia and mint green to a crime scene.

(CONTINUED)

4

CONTINUED:

4

JIMMY

Sorry, I...didn't have time to change.

Jimmy adjusts his collar, as Ducky kneels beside the body.

DUCKY

Perhaps those colors will raise the dead, Mister Palmer.

JIMMY

Poor guy looks like a pretzel.

TONY

An 'a salted' pretzel, at that.

Tony looks for a laugh. Gets only dirty looks.

DUCKY

Sadly, I saw my share of this with the British Parachute Regimen. Appears he was crushed on impact. Dropped from a considerable height.

*

As Ducky and the others look skyward, McGee joins them...

MCGEE

Witnesses didn't see any planes or choppers flying by.

DUCKY

With this many broken bones, he clearly reached terminal velocity. Fell from anywhere between four hundred to several thousand feet.

*

GIBBS' VOICE

No parachute. Fall wasn't his idea.

As Gibbs now joins them, addressing Tony...

GIBBS

Check local air traffic. All flights, commercial and private.

TONY

On it, Boss.

DUCKY

Welcome, Jethro. All is well?

(CONTINUED)

4

CONTINUED: (2)

4

GIBBS
(re: the body)
Not for him. I.D.?

More raised eyebrows between Tony, Ziva, McGee and Ducky, as McGee consults his remote fingerprint scanner...

MCGEE
First Lieutenant Walter Larabee.
Still awaiting confirmation on his recent assignments.

GIBBS
Cause of death.

DUCKY
You've got to be kidding. I count at least two stab wounds, blunt-force trauma, and one large-caliber bullet wound that passed through-and-through.

*
*
*
*
*

TONY
Not to mention the whole 'plummeted to the earth' thing.

*
*

DUCKY
The bullet appears to still be lodged in the back of his vest.

*
*
*

JIMMY
Something in his pocket, too...

*

Jimmy fishes a LARGE COIN from Larabee's pocket and drops it into a PAPER ENVELOPE (with a plastic window we can see through) held by Ducky, who examines it.

DUCKY
It's a challenge coin. From the U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps.

MCGEE
Larabee's a Marine, he's no chaplain.

ZIVA
Whoever gave the coin to him obviously is.

DUCKY
(re: the coin)
Appears caked with blood.

(CONTINUED)

4

CONTINUED: (3)

4

TONY

Along with the rest of him.

DUCKY

No, this blood is dry and his pocket is clean. Abby would have to confirm as much, but I predict it is not the lieutenant's blood.

*
*

ZIVA

Maybe the chaplain who gave him the coin knew he was in trouble.

TONY

Wing and a prayer.

DUCKY

Wings are something he was most certainly lacking.

McGee looks skyward.

MCGEE

Think it's a message, Boss?

GIBBS

Loud and clear.

As Gibbs wonders who's sending a message and what it means, we...

PHOOF TO BLACK.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FROM BLACK:

FLASH - BLACK-AND-WHITE OF ZIVA, EAGER FOR ACTION...

PHOOF TO BLACK:

FROM BLACK:

5 INT. NCIS CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

5

NAVY COMMANDER MARIA CASTRO, 30s, sits across from Gibbs.

COMMANDER CASTRO

Agent Gibbs, Chaplain Burke had nothing but good things to say about you and your team. It's nice to put a name with the face.

GIBBS

Burke had her hands full a few months back. Happy to have her on-board.

COMMANDER CASTRO

What can I do for you?

Gibbs hands her an ENVELOPE-SEALED CHALLENGE COIN. She examines it.

COMMANDER CASTRO (cont'd)

We don't generally carry challenge coins, but some chaplains do make their own. Where did you get it?

GIBBS

Found it on a dead Marine officer. First Lieutenant Walter Larabee.

COMMANDER CASTRO

Don't know the name.

GIBBS

How about this woman?

Gibbs slides a SERVICE PHOTO of NAVY COMMANDER THERESA WADE. Castro brightens in recognition, before alarm bells go off.

(CONTINUED)

5

CONTINUED:

5

COMMANDER CASTRO
Commander Wade, of course...
(re: the coin)
You're saying this is hers?

GIBBS
Afraid that's her blood.

Castro now holds the coin with far more reverence...

COMMANDER CASTRO
Theresa... Is she dead?

GIBBS
Not sure. Hoping you can help.

COMMANDER CASTRO
Chaplain Wade has served multiple
tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.
About a month ago, she left on a
relief mission to South America.

GIBBS
Where?

COMMANDER CASTRO
On a hospital ship in Cartagena.
She joined a group of Navy corpsmen
offering free immunizations to
villagers in the local mountains.

GIBBS
Larabee part of that group?

COMMANDER CASTRO
Possibly. I had a feeling...
(beat, in disbelief)
We spoke to Theresa just last week.
She said everything was going well,
but we...haven't been able to reach
her since.

As Castro digests the shock, Gibbs' cell phone RINGS.

GIBBS
(into phone)
Yeah. On my way, Duck.
(hanging up)
Can you stick around?

COMMANDER CASTRO
Until we find her, I'm all yours.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (2) 5

As Castro hands back the coin and Gibbs exits...

6 INT. NCIS AUTOPSY ROOM - DAY 6

Ducky is mid-autopsy on Larabee, as Jimmy assists...

JIMMY

Of course, we don't expect everyone to wear the tuxes. We're really just trying to make it fun...

DUCKY

Yes, Mister Palmer, weddings can be such dismal affairs, after all.
(off his look)
Your generation didn't invent irony, you know.

JIMMY

Then you'll wear it? No matter what role you're asked to fill?

DUCKY

Of course, but please say you're not considering me as your best man.

JIMMY

Well, I...had been thinking...

DUCKY

Mister Palmer, I'd no sooner care to plan your bachelor party than actively pursue a root canal...

*
*
*

Ducky's only joking, until he sees Jimmy's smile fade.

*

DUCKY (cont'd)

Which is not to say that I'm not profoundly honored, but take my advice: Mentors make terrible 'wingmen.' I won't be hurt in the least if you ask someone else.

*
*
*
*
*

JIMMY

Spoken like a true mentor. Thank you, Doctor, that helps a lot.

A look between them, as Gibbs enters...

GIBBS

Talk to me, Duck.

6

CONTINUED:

6

DUCKY

Allow me, Jethro, to work my way from the horrific to the curious.

GIBBS

Horrific?

DUCKY

After being beaten, stabbed and shot, the presence of blood in the lieutenant's lungs indicates that he was somehow still alive when thrown from the aircraft.

Gibbs digests the horrific, as Ducky hands him a GLASS VIAL containing a BULLET.

DUCKY (cont'd)

Here is the bullet I extracted from his shoulder. And this...

He hands Gibbs a second VIAL, containing several tiny MUSHROOMS.

DUCKY (cont'd)

...is something for which I have no explanation.

GIBBS

The curious.

DUCKY

As I removed the tape from the lieutenant's mouth, I found those tiny fungi lodged in his throat.

GIBBS

Another message. From where?

DUCKY

That is for Ms. Sciuto to determine.

As Jimmy collects the two vials from Gibbs...

JIMMY

Fair to say, Abby's about to have a 'fungus among us.' You know, that line never gets old.

Jimmy smiles weakly. Gibbs doesn't agree. Ducky gives him the nod to go and Jimmy does so in a hurry, as we...

7 INT. NCIS SQUAD ROOM - DAY 7

At their respective desks, Tony, Ziva and McGee continue to argue the subject of the day.

TONY

Trust me, I see it. Jimmy looks to me as a big brother of sorts, making me the only logical choice.

ZIVA

If it is a question of logic, then McGee would make the perfect best man. He and Jimmy are both highly intelligent, conscientious...

TONY

...and dull. McGee's idea of a bachelor party is all-you-can-eat corn nuts and an Xbox marathon.

MCGEE

Sounds pretty good to me.

GIBBS' VOICE

Pretty good's not good enough, McGee. Go...

As Gibbs enters, Ziva and Tony rise to the plasma, to which McGee summons info on Larabee...

MCGEE

Marine First Lieutenant Walter Larabee, 32, recently finished his second tour in Afghanistan.

ZIVA

According to his wife, he accepted a third overseas tour last month, but this time in Colombia, South America, thinking it would be safer.

GIBBS

So much for that.

ZIVA

There had been financial hardships, and with his wife expecting their first child, he simply wanted to be closer to home.

(CONTINUED)

7

CONTINUED:

7

GIBBS
Air traffic?

As Tony CLICKS the screen opposite to show his findings...

TONY
F.A.A. shows three aircraft near
the park's airspace when the
lieutenant took a header. One was
a medical transport chopper. The
second a retired Air Force pilot
flying his family to Georgia on
vacation. And the third was a
single-engine Cessna registered to
an Alfred Holbrook...

*

Tony summons HOLBROOK'S DRIVER'S LICENSE PHOTO to the screen.

TONY (cont'd)
...who, thirty years ago, was
arrested for possession with intent
to sell.

MCGEE
Drugs?

ZIVA
That does not sound like anything
Larabee would be mixed up in.
(off Gibbs' look)
Unless he needed money for his
family.

Ziva peels off to investigate that possibility, as Gibbs
looks to Tony and McGee...

GIBBS
You two find Holbrook and his
plane. Search both of them.

As Tony and McGee head out, we're off Gibbs...

8

INT. LOCAL AIRPORT HANGAR - DAY

8

Tony and McGee search the small CESSNA, as ALFRED HOLBROOK,
50s, looks on from his WHEELCHAIR outside the door.

*

HOLBROOK
Might help to know what you boys
are looking for.

(CONTINUED)

8

CONTINUED:

8

TONY

Oh, you know, the usual. Blood,
duct tape, mysterious fungus...

HOLBROOK

Excuse me?

MCGEE

You flew your plane this morning
over Reston, Mister Holbrook?

HOLBROOK

Don't I wish. Haven't flown in
over a year, for obvious reasons.

TONY

(re: the plane)
No hand controls in this thing?

HOLBROOK

(re: his chair joystick)
I've had enough trouble learning
these controls after my accident.

TONY

Which you say was when?

HOLBROOK

Year and two months ago. Drunk
driver T-boned me. And here I am.
(re: his plane)
I keep her looking good, but this
beauty's been grounded ever since.

MCGEE

Air Traffic says otherwise.

TONY

F.A.A. records don't lie.

Tony shows Holbrook a PRINTOUT of FAA FLIGHT RECORDS.

HOLBROOK

You fellas know how often people
steal licenses and aircraft call
signs? Common as credit card
theft. Hell, I'm the victim here.

TONY

Victim with a drug record...

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED: (2)

8

HOLBROOK

That was a lifetime ago. I was a kid. Look, someone wanted you to think that was us this morning. I don't go...she don't go. You boys have been duped.

Off Tony and McGee, wondering what this is really all about...

9 INT. ABBY'S LAB - DAY

9

Gibbs and Chaplain Castro join FORENSIC SCIENTIST ABBY SCIUTO.

GIBBS

Abbs, talk to me.

Abby turns and notices Castro's chaplain uniform.

ABBY

Oh. Welcome. *Namaste*, Chaplain.

Abby bows to Castro. A friend to all faiths, Castro bows back.

COMMANDER CASTRO

Namaste to you too.

ABBY

This really cool Sri Lankan priest taught me that. In Sanskrit, Gibbs, the translation is 'I bow to you.'

GIBBS

Yabba-yabba. Take a bow later, Abbs. Not a lot of time.

*
*

ABBY

Okay then, let's talk bullets...

She taps a CLOSE-UP OF THE BULLET onto her plasma.

ABBY (cont'd)

Like the one Ducky pulled from Lieutenant Larabee's Kevlar vest. It's from a Russian-made VEPR [VEP-er] AK-47.

*
*

GIBBS

So the Russians could be involved?

*
*

(CONTINUED)

9

CONTINUED:

9

ABBY

Dah. Well, maybe dah.

*
*

GIBBS

What about the mushrooms?

*

As Abby taps the fungus and its info to the screen...

ABBY

That one's easier. The fungus in the lieutenant's throat is *Fusarium oxysporum*. Used as an herbicide for eradicating coca plants. But only in one region. Nariño, Colombia.

*

COMMANDER CASTRO

Chaplain Wade mentioned Nariño in our last phone call. She and her group were headed there. It's dangerous cartel country.

*
*

ABBY

Question is, how do the chaplain and Lieutenant Larabee connect?

*
*
*

Off Gibbs' look of concern...

*

10

INT. NCIS SQUAD ROOM - DAY

10

Ziva taps furiously at her computer, hot on the Intel trail. Her screen features PHOTOS of Larabee, Chaplain Wade, and a map of Colombia, as Jimmy approaches...

JIMMY

Got a minute, Ziva?

ZIVA

What do you know about Colombia, Jimmy?

JIMMY

Oh, uh... Really great school in New York City...

Ziva looks up, confused.

ZIVA

Not that Colombia. Make it fast. I am waiting to hear back from a friend.

10 CONTINUED:

10

JIMMY

Just wonder if you have an opinion about who should be my best man. I don't want to offend anyone. You're all like family to me.

ZIVA

I cannot recommend anyone, but why not go with your gut. It seems to do wonders for Gibbs...

MCGEE'S VOICE

Hey, Ziva...

They look up to where McGee calls from upstairs.

MCGEE

You've got a call...in MTAC.

Ziva takes a breath, suppressing her excitement...

ZIVA

My message got through.

11 INT. NCIS MTAC ROOM - DAY

11

As Ziva and McGee enter, the BIG SCREEN is blank for the moment, while two ND NCIS TECHS try to get its feed back...

ZIVA

Where is she?

MCGEE

Lost visual. Didn't know you had old friends in Cartagena.

The ND NCIS Techs tap keys and bring RETIRED INTERPOL AGENT MONIQUE LISSON, 40, to the screen. Even in a sweaty button-down and cargo pants, she exudes European refinement. She speaks into her LAPTOP at an urban café, sipping *aguardiente*.

LISSON

Ziva has no 'old' friends in Cartagena, Agent McGee. Only a best friend.

ZIVA

South America becomes you, Monique. Long time, no contact.

*

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

LISSON

(guarded)

I have been taking care of some
personal matters since we hooked up
in Costa Rica.

*
*
*
*

Her tone strikes Ziva as peculiar.

*

ZIVA

Is everything alright?

*
*

LISSON

For the time being. Word in the
jungle is your Marines have lost a
lieutenant. And your Navy is
missing a chaplain.

*
*
*
*
*

ZIVA

Commander Theresa Wade. Do you know
her?

*

LISSON

No. But I might know how to find
her.

Off Ziva, eager to spring into action, we...

PHOOF TO BLACK.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FROM BLACK:

FLASH - BLACK-AND-WHITE OF ZIVA READY FOR THE WORST...

PHOOF TO BLACK:

FROM BLACK:

12 INT. NCIS MTAC ROOM - DAY

12

Ziva continues with Monique, via the BIG SCREEN.

ZIVA

Still on hiatus from Interpol?

LISSON

Just reclaiming my soul. Part of a school construction project for the Quimbayas in the Highlands...

*

As McGee returns with Gibbs...

LISSON (cont'd)

...It's there I heard rumors that the cartels had taken Americans.

*

GIBBS

Reliable sources?

LISSON

Reliable as any in these parts. And we have not been introduced.

ZIVA

Agent Monique Lisson [liss-ON], this is NCIS Special Agent Leroy Jethro Gibbs.

LISSON

The legendary Gibbs. I hear great things. Though Ziva never mentioned how handsome you are.

GIBBS

What kind of agent, Lisson [liss-ON]?

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

LISSON

Interpol for...too long, actually.
Since then, available to anyone who
would have me.

An uncomfortable beat that Ziva powers right past...

ZIVA

You were saying you might know
Chaplain Wade's whereabouts...?

LISSON

Fortunately, my Interpol clearance
is still valid. Managed to recover
this from the Cartagena Police...

Lisson taps laptop keys and the MTAC SCREEN SPLITS. She's on
one side, GRAINY FOOTAGE of a bustling Cartagena street
beside her.

LISSON (cont'd)

You may recognize your chaplain in
the foreground.

ON SCREEN, NAVY COMMANDER THERESA WADE gets into a VW VAN
with LIEUTENANT LARABEE and TWO PASSENGERS.

GIBBS

That's Larabee with her.

MCGEE

What's written on the van?

One of the ND NCIS Techs manipulates the video, ZOOMS in.

ZIVA

'Courage Mission International.'

LISSON

They provide medical aid to the
Santa Maria mountain communities.
Vaccinations, antibiotics...

GIBBS

Cartels prefer they didn't?

LISSON

They don't like outsiders. They
knew the Americans were here the
moment they reached port.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (2)

12

McGee leans over one of the keyboards. Pulls a MAP OF THE SANTA MARIA MOUNTAINS to the screen.

MCGEE

According to D.E.A. active investigations, the Durado Cartel operates coca farms in that area.

LISSON

And the rebels work hand in hand with the cartels.

MCGEE

Pretty big gamble kidnapping U.S. Navy personnel.

GIBBS

Hoping she has information.

ZIVA

But Wade is merely a chaplain, not Navy intelligence.

GIBBS

Still Navy. Probably the only thing keeping her alive.

ZIVA

Alive for how long?

GIBBS

You up for company, Agent Lisson?

LISSON

Thought you would never ask, Gibbs.

GIBBS

Not me. Her.

As Gibbs looks to Ziva, a smile rising in her...

13 INT. NCIS SQUAD ROOM - DAY

13

Gibbs, Ziva and McGee enter. Tony's at his computer, while Chaplain Castro is on a call at McGee's desk --

ZIVA

Gibbs, this woman is the big sister I never had. I trust her with my life. Having anyone else come with us will just be dead weight.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

GIBBS
DiNozzo...?

TONY
Securing transport now, Boss.

GIBBS
McGee and I will work from here.

ZIVA
Agent Lisson is all the help I
need. We work together like peas
in a poke. Yogurt and garlic.

MCGEE
That's pigs in a poke. And peas in
a pod. But...

TONY
...Yogurt and garlic?

ZIVA
It is a Middle Eastern staple.

TONY
Which I'm sure we'll find in all
the best Colombian restaurants.

Overhearing much of this, Castro hangs up McGee's phone...

COMMANDER CASTRO
I speak fluent Spanish if Agent
DiNozzo needs a translator.

TONY
A translator? Me? Excuse me,
Chaplain. I may not speak as many
languages as my Israeli cohort
here, but I assure you...
(in deliberate Spanglish)
Yo hablo español muy perfectamente.

COMMANDER CASTRO
I meant nothing by it, it's just
that you seem... How do I put
this?

ZIVA
Less worldly?

COMMANDER CASTRO
More monolingual.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

13

MCGEE

Well put, Chaplain.

*

Tony just grimaces.

COMMANDER CASTRO

Look, that was Chaplain Wade's brother on the phone. I promised him every effort was being made to find Theresa, which is why I'd like to go too.

ZIVA

This just keeps getting better.

GIBBS

Got it covered, Chaplain. No dice.

COMMANDER CASTRO

Agent Gibbs, I'm sure I could be of assistance...

GIBBS

I understand, but --

COMMANDER CASTRO

No, you don't!

Castro realizes she just crossed the line.

COMMANDER CASTRO (cont'd)

Forgive me. It's just...I need to do this. Please?

Gibbs looks to Ziva, who reluctantly nods in agreement.

ZIVA

She will be Tony's responsibility.

TONY

Sure, Ziva. Anything to keep me from being *dead weight*.

Off the look between Tony and Ziva, and Castro's relief...

TIME CUT TO:

14 INT. NCIS ELEVATOR - NIGHT

14

Doctor Ryan is standing there, PIZZA BOX in tow, when the doors open to reveal Gibbs.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

GIBBS
Moonlighting, Doc? You dress nice
for a delivery girl.

He steps inside. The doors close behind him.

DOCTOR RYAN
Parker and I went out for pizza. I
brought you some. He's waiting in
the car.

GIBBS
Bring him up. Still haven't met
him. *

DOCTOR RYAN
Not yet. And anyway, he has
homework. Can't stay. Case? *

GIBBS
Can't talk about it.

DOCTOR RYAN
Colombia?

GIBBS
If you know the answer, why ask?

DOCTOR RYAN
Bad habit. Sorry. Head-gamer
stuff. I can't help myself.

Gibbs reaches and stops the elevator. She smiles.

DOCTOR RYAN (cont'd)
Oh, this looks fun. I haven't done
anything like this since the '80s. *

GIBBS
What does DoD know about Wade and
Larabee? *

DOCTOR RYAN
Know she's missing. Know he's
dead. Know you're handling it.
And looking pretty darn handsome in
the process.

She leans in, gives him a peck and hands him the pizza box.
Then she STARTS the elevator again.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (2)

14

DOCTOR RYAN (cont'd)
Boy. Car. Gotta go.

GIBBS
I'm not hungry.

DING. The elevator doors open and she heads out. Ryan calls back to him.

DOCTOR RYAN
It's good for you. Open it, Gibbs.
'Night.

And off she goes. Gibbs watches after her, then opens the pizza box to find TWO SLICES WITH THE WORKS. Then notices an ADDRESS WRITTEN IN SHARPIE inside the box top: **CARTER'S NURSERY, FAIRFAX. SEE MANNY.**

Off Gibbs, perplexed...

15 EXT. CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA - DAY (STOCK) 15

Montage with LOCAL MUSIC and SHOTS of this ancient Spanish city. Plazas, cobblestone roads, and cathedral towers.

16 EXT. HOTEL HERMOSA - CARTAGENA - DAY (ESTABLISHING) 16

A lodge for the most undiscerning traveler.

17 OMITTED 17 *

18 INT. HOTEL HERMOSA - HOTEL SUITE/DEN - DAY 18 *

A BELLMAN, 40s, in a sweaty T, leads Tony, Ziva and Castro into the dilapidated two-room suite, but carries no bags. That's left to Tony. We're in the beat-up main room with a TABLE and a PULL-OUT COUCH. A nearby door leads to the bedroom. *

TONY
Seriously, Ziva, is this the best
your friend could do? *

ZIVA
A low profile is everything, Tony.
Our security is her first concern. *

TONY
Couldn't hygiene be a close second? *

ZIVA
Sólo un cuarto? *

18 CONTINUED:

18

BELLMAN

Esto es todo lo que tenemos disponible.

*
*

COMMANDER CASTRO

They only gave us one room?

*

TONY

And so began a Spring Break they'd never forget.

ZIVA

I doubt we will be here much, anyway.

Castro and Ziva step into the bedroom, leaving Tony in the den with the Bellman awaiting a tip. Tony pulls his wallet.

*

TONY

Damn, I only have big bills.

(to Bellman)

Tiene cambio para diez mil pesos?

Ziva steps out, just as the Bellman nods, snatches Tony's 10,000 PESO NOTE and beats a hasty exit.

TONY (cont'd)

He's getting me change.

ZIVA

Sure he is.

Tony's about to contest Ziva's lack of faith, before running out after the Bellman, leaving Ziva alone to take in the shoddy accommodations. She sighs to herself.

ZIVA (cont'd)

If Monique were here, she would say...

LISSON'S VOICE

Better safe than spoiled.

ZIVA

'Better safe than spoiled.'

Ziva turns to find Monique waiting behind the door.

LISSON

You remember that.

ZIVA

I remember everything.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (2)

18

The women share an emotional embrace. But something is amiss. Lisson seems colder, distant. Suddenly Tony returns without his 10,000 peso note...

*
*

TONY

Bellman was a lot faster leaving.

ZIVA

Tony... This is Monique. Agent Lisson, Special Agent DiNozzo.

Tony's struck by her. Not the Birkenstocker he expected.

TONY

Wow... I mean... Never mind. Ay Caramba.

LISSON

How do you concentrate, Ziva, with so many attractive men around?

ZIVA

It is much easier than you think.

*

As Castro emerges from the bathroom...

ZIVA (cont'd)

And this is Chaplain Maria Castro, a dear colleague of Chaplain Wade.

LISSON

We will do our best to find your co-worker.

COMMANDER CASTRO

The sooner, the better.

LISSON

Sooner is not possible. Right now, the only safe time for travel here is in darkness.

*
*

ZIVA

(checks her watch)

Which is not for several hours.

*

LISSON

Who's hungry? The hotel may be less than impressive, but the café makes the best arepas in town.

Tony gets in close to her...whispers.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (3)

18

TONY

I do love some hot arepas.

LISSON

What else do you love, Agent DiNozzo?

Ziva regards her old friend, knowing Lisson's only playing Tony, but she's also sensing more...

*
*

19 EXT. CARTER'S PLANT NURSERY - FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA - DAY 19

In a maze of POTTED TREES and PLANTS, MANNY VARIGAN, 40s, pushes a WHEELBARROW, until McGee steps up, badging him...

MCGEE

Excuse me, Mister Varigan? I'm Special Agent McGee with NCIS...

Varigan bolts. McGee chases. Varigan tips planters into McGee's path as he races toward an OPEN GATE. Suddenly, like a blur, Gibbs appears and CLANG! He cold-cocks Varigan with a garbage can lid. As Gibbs stands over him...

*
*

GIBBS

Almost broke your green thumb.

Gibbs and McGee lift Varigan to his feet.

20 EXT. CARTER'S PLANT NURSERY - SHORT TIME LATER 20

The now-cuffed Varigan is seated on a planter, as Gibbs peruses his FILE...

GIBBS

So... Manny, huh? Sure it's not Javier Ramos? Or Miguel Martinez?

VARIGAN

I don't choose my aliases. They're given to me. DEA, FBI, CIA...

GIBBS

That how it works? You work in a tree nursery between flights? Get busted running coca, then help our guys catch bigger fish?

VARIGAN

Not anymore. I got a family now.

(CONTINUED)

20

CONTINUED:

20

GIBBS

Still gotta provide. Trade in those cross-country hauls in your S.U.V. for a pilot's license. How much to do a run out of Cartagena?

VARIGAN

These days...fifty thousand.

GIBBS

Only fifty?

VARIGAN

The recession.

Varigan shrugs. Gibbs leans in.

GIBBS

A U.S. Marine's body dropped out of a plane yesterday. Was that you?

VARIGAN

Hey, I know nothing about that. Okay, so I'm a mule. But not with drugs. And not for the cartels.

GIBBS

For who?

VARIGAN

I told you. CIA gives me aliases for the flight records. They don't want anybody knowing about the shipments.

GIBBS

Shipments of?

VARIGAN

I flew down empty. I flew back with medical ice chests...coolers. Sealed up tight, but I got a look once. They got all these little tubes inside. Like when the doctor takes your blood...

GIBBS

Samples...

VARIGAN

Bunches of 'em. I fly them to an air strip in Virginia.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED: (2)

20

VARIGAN (cont'd)

A lady takes them and I walk with
fifty large.

GIBBS

What lady?

VARIGAN

For that money, I don't ask. And I
haven't done it for months. Know
nothing about any Marine. I didn't
fly yesterday. I can prove it.

Off Gibbs, frustrated to find him so convincing...

21 EXT. EL RINCON CANTINA - CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA - DAY

21

At the cantina's outdoor café, Ziva blushes while Lisson
regales Tony and Castro with Ziva stories.

LISSON

...From the moment I met Ziva I
knew she was special. Different
than other Mossad I've known.
Fearless, strong, but also wise
beyond her years. And honest. Too
honest at times.

TONY

Oh, some things never change.

ZIVA

Tony knows I am a terrible liar,
but next to Monique I look even
worse. A diamond could crack
before she would. Steely nerves.

TONY

Is that like nerves of steel? *

COMMANDER CASTRO

So, Agent Lisson [liss-ON], what
made you decide to focus your
talents elsewhere?

Lisson smiles uncomfortably. Ziva sees Castro's hit a nerve.

LISSON

Since I chose not to be a wife or
mother, I have the freedom to go
where I please.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

TONY

But you're retired now, right? You said you like the south of France. Shouldn't you be growing lavender in Provence?

*

ZIVA

Monique has a strong ethic, Tony. She believes in giving back...

LISSON

Don't make me sound so noble, Ziva. A school needed rebuilding.
(to Ziva)
And there are other things I've been attending to.

*
*
*
*

A look between them. *What is this about?*

*

Suddenly Lisson notices an ND SEDAN with tinted windows pulling around the corner behind Ziva, she keeps talking...

*
*

LISSON (cont'd)

...I'm here because I'm needed. But in six months...who knows?

*

Tony and Castro drink that in, as Ziva notices Lisson tracking something behind her.

ZIVA

Monique...

Tony reads Ziva's look and immediately knows what it means...

LISSON

We have company.

Ziva and Tony reach for their SIGs. Monique withdraws her own GUN from a pocket in her cargo pants.

Tony instinctively grabs Castro and pulls her away, as...

SCREEEECH!! The ND Sedan suddenly speeds toward them, its tinted window lowering to reveal the muzzle of a MACHINE GUN.

Ziva and Monique instinctively FLIP the table and dive behind it, as a HAIL OF BULLETS pours in.

Ziva and Monique return fire, until - SCREEEECH!! The ND Sedan peels away.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

ZIVA

Tony?!

Tony looks up from under DEBRIS. Beneath him is Castro. He was shielding her.

TONY

You think they know we're here?

Off Ziva ready for the worst...

PHOOF TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FROM BLACK:

FLASH - BLACK-AND-WHITE OF GIBBS, LESS THAN PLEASED...

PHOOF TO BLACK:

FROM BLACK:

22 INT. NCIS MTAC ROOM - NIGHT

22

Gibbs stands at the BIG SCREEN talking to Ziva, Tony and Lisson on a LAPTOP CAM in their hotel room.

GIBBS

Status...

TONY

Alive and accounted for, Boss.

GIBBS

Security detail at the hotel?

TONY

Local Force Protection Detachment,
Boss.

ZIVA

Plain-clothed, doors and rooftops.

LISSON

Whoever is responsible, clearly
has been watching and knows you are
here.

GIBBS

Could have been watching you, too,
Lisson [liss-ON].

LISSON

I took precautions.

TONY

Well, you could have said something
earlier, Mata Hari! Like - 'By the
way, be on the lookout for a carload
of gun-toting cartel zombies.'

LISSON

I didn't think it was necessary to
state the obvious.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

Gibbs watches as things start to heat up on-screen.

GIBBS

DiNozzo...

TONY

And here's a question...who's to say she can really be trusted?

ZIVA

Tony, really?

TONY

I know you and Mo here went all Costa Rican bikini party last year, but as far as I'm concerned she's still INTER-MOLE.

Lisson turns to Ziva.

LISSON

How do you work with this?

ZIVA

He means well.

TONY

Don't speak for me.

GIBBS

DiNozzo!

They all snap to.

TONY

Yes, Boss.

GIBBS

Connect the bullets fired to known cartel weapons. How's Chaplain Castro holding up?

TONY

Shaken...

GIBBS

Watch each other's backs. Will ya'?

Guilty looks between Tony, Ziva and Lisson as Gibbs turns to the ND NCIS Techs and tells them to disconnect. As the screen turns to COLOR BARS, Gibbs hesitates, concerned.

23 EXT. HOTEL HERMOSA - BALCONY - NIGHT

23

Chaplain Castro sits, huddled low near the doorway. City lights twinkle in the distance. Tony steps outside.

TONY

Not exactly safe out here.

COMMANDER CASTRO

I know.

TONY

You can carry a gun if you want...

COMMANDER CASTRO

(shakes her head)

Non-combatant. I'll deal with it.

Tony sees she's really feeling the pressure. Slides down the wall to sit beside her, SIG in hand.

COMMANDER CASTRO (cont'd)

Ziva and Agent Lisson...interesting women.

TONY

Interesting good or interesting bad?

COMMANDER CASTRO

Strong. Decisive. Deliberate.

TONY

And alone. Of course, that comes with the job.

COMMANDER CASTRO

Doesn't have to.

A long glance from Tony, then -

TONY

Why are you in Cartagena, Castro?

COMMANDER CASTRO

Wanted to help find a missing chaplain.

TONY

Could have done that from the safety of the Navy Yard. Why are you here?

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

Castro gives.

COMMANDER CASTRO
Because this assignment, to bring
immunizations to local villagers,
was supposed to be mine.

TONY
(realizing)
Guilt-stricken, party of one.

COMMANDER CASTRO
My dad got sick and I had to go
home. Chaplain Wade took my place.

TONY
And now you feel responsible. You
should be the one missing, not her.

COMMANDER CASTRO
You know what I told her brother?
'You have to remember that Theresa
is there because she wanted to go.
Because she wanted to help.'

TONY
That's not entirely false.

COMMANDER CASTRO
Not true, either.

TONY
Do yourself a favor, Chaplain.
Don't pile on more than you have
to. Take it from yours
truly...I've got some doozies I
carry around every day.

COMMANDER CASTRO
Do you think Chaplain Wade's still
alive?

Tony can't answer. As they both look into the night sky...

24 INT. NCIS SQUAD ROOM - NIGHT

24

McGee sits at his desk as Gibbs sweeps in.

GIBBS
Go, McGee.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

MC GEE

Manny Varigan, our green-thumbed pilot and government mule...

GIBBS

Alibi...

McGee spins in his chair towards the PLASMA and CLICKS the REMOTE. REVERE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL's class trip INSURANCE RELEASE FORM appears. Signed and dated by Varigan.

MC GEE

Rock solid. He was on a class trip with his son at Ford's Theatre in DC. Forty-two kids, two teachers and three parents can attest to his whereabouts at the time of the flight.

GIBBS

Why'd Ryan serve him up?

MC GEE

Could've made a mistake.

GIBBS

You wanna tell her that?

MC GEE

Plane doesn't exist. Pilot doesn't exist. What does exist?

GIBBS

Dead Marine downstairs.

Gibbs sits at his desk and reaches for his phone.

GIBBS (cont'd)

(to himself)

What aren't you telling me, Doc?

As Gibbs dials...

TIME CUT TO:

25 INT. PENTAGON - RYAN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

25

Doctor Ryan leans back in her chair, ready for whatever Gibbs has to say.

GIBBS

Pizza got us nowhere.

*
*

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

DOCTOR RYAN

Got you to the CIA.

*
*

GIBBS

So the pilot's a mule. He alibi'd out. Didn't kill Lieutenant Larabee.

*
*
*
*

GIBBS (cont'd)

You've known about Colombia all along...

*
*
*

DOCTOR RYAN

I swear, not until you got involved. I can't help myself, Gibbs. I hear things, I start digging.

*

GIBBS

Whether you're invited to or not.

DOCTOR RYAN

DoD doesn't need an invitation. Navy, Marines, Air Force... We've got our fingers in a lot of pots.

GIBBS

Then forget what you know for a second. Tell me what you think.

DOCTOR RYAN

(she hesitates, then)
What I think is...that it's possible Chaplain Wade and the Marine stumbled onto something.

*

GIBBS

Stumbled onto what?

DOCTOR RYAN

This operation smells like trouble to me. Tell your team to come home. If the Navy chaplain isn't dead now, she will be.

*

Gibbs looks long and deep into Ryan's eyes, gut churning.

GIBBS

If these people got Larabee and Wade, what happened to the missionaries they were traveling with?

*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: (2)

25

DOCTOR RYAN

Don't know.

GIBBS

You'd tell me if you did?

DOCTOR RYAN

What do you think?

Face to face, Ryan moves her hand on top of his.

26 INT. NCIS SQUAD ROOM - NIGHT

26

DING! The elevator doors open and Gibbs steps out with McGee, open FILE FOLDER in hand.

MCGEE

Courage Mission International,
Boss. Their website says they have
over a hundred missionaries working
in twenty-two different countries.

GIBBS

Colombia?

MCGEE

No details. Nothing specific.
Just a phone number.

GIBBS

Call it.

MCGEE

Already did. An answering service
picked up. Said the Cartagena
office was experiencing problems
and someone would get back to me.

Gibbs sits at his desk.

GIBBS

Find me photos, McGee. Faces. I
want to know who guided our
officers into cartel territory.

*

*

MCGEE

So you think the cartel was flying
the plane that dropped Larabee?

GIBBS

Phony pilot. Phony call sign.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED:

26

McGee circles to his desk as well. Types.

MCGEE

Chaplain Wade's e-mails mention two civilians...Stephen Wheeler and Constance Mazney.

GIBBS

Run 'em...

McGee's fingers fly on the keyboard. Then -

MCGEE

Hang on a second. Boss, something's wrong here.

GIBBS

Wrong how, McGee?

MCGEE

Wheeler and Mazney both have blocked government files.

Off Gibbs, not liking where this is headed...

27 INT. ABBY'S LAB - NIGHT

27

Abby is burning the midnight oil, huddled over the mass spec, when Jimmy enters. The mass spec's lid is open and she's nose deep in a lengthy TECHNICAL MANUAL.

JIMMY

Abby, do you have a second?

ABBY

Mass Spec and I are splitting up, Jimmy. He's misbehaving and he's pissing me off.

*

She keeps working.

JIMMY

Sorry. Um, can I ask you a question?

*

*

*

ABBY

Go for it.

JIMMY

Will you be my best 'woman'?

27 CONTINUED:

27

Abby just stares at him before breaking into the biggest smile ever. She lunges and wraps her arms around him tightly. Jimmy is smothered in Abby love.

JIMMY (cont'd)
Should I take that as a yes?

ABBY
Yes, yes, yes! I can't wait. Oh, this is going to be so much fun. Wait! Bachelor party! How do you feel about, like, nude ice hockey? I have so many ideas.

*

Suddenly Gibbs marches in.

GIBBS
If you've got ideas, Abbs, let's hear 'em.

Abby moves to her computer and starts typing. As data scrolls across the plasma...

ABBY
Gibbs, I found the cartel connection you're looking for. You know the Russian AK-47 that shot Larabee? Well, it's currently the weapon of choice for three different cartels throughout South America.

*
*
*
*
*
*

GIBBS
Durado Cartel one of 'em?

*

ABBY
Number one on the list.

*

Gibbs kisses her on the head, then pats Jimmy on the back.

GIBBS
Congratulations, Palmer. You picked the right Best Man for the job. Prettiest one, too.

And as Gibbs rushes out, Abby beams...

28 EXT. BEACHSIDE MARKET - CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA - DAY

28

With the beach in b.g., Ziva and Lisson walk past VENDORS, CARTS and SHOPPERS. They maintain a "casual" conversation while vigilant about who might be watching.

(CONTINUED)

ZIVA
Now we can talk.

LISSON
About...?

ZIVA
Monique, from the moment we arrived here, it seems you cannot wait for me to leave.

*
*

LISSON
Perhaps this has turned into something I should handle without you.

ZIVA
What has it turned into exactly?

LISSON
Ziva, things change. People change.

*
*
*

ZIVA
Overnight?! Six months ago we were laughing like sisters. And now...now there is a wall between us. I do not know who you are!

*
*
*
*
*

LISSON
I have done something...I am involved in something I cannot get out of.

*
*
*
*

ZIVA
So the answer is to shut me out?!

*
*

LISSON
If it protects you...YES.

*
*

A long beat between them. Then -

*

LISSON (cont'd)
Ziva, this situation with the chaplain...there are people involved who you should not cross.

*
*
*
*

ZIVA
Stop protecting me, Monique! I can take care of myself.

*
*

28

CONTINUED: (2)

28

LISSON

I want you to have the things I couldn't. You should be home, with someone, and not just a lifetime of cold beds and memories to look back on.

*

ZIVA

But that is not up to you. This life is the one I have chosen. Good or bad, right or wrong, it is the only one I know.

Lisson looks around. People are watching.

LISSON

This case...like life, is not just black and white. You have to trust what I'm saying. Go home with Tony to your team. Accept that this is one case you may not solve.

*

ZIVA

I cannot go home empty-handed.

LISSON

Then you may go home dead.

Off Ziva, wondering what Lisson knows that she's not sharing.

29

INT. NCIS SQUAD ROOM - DAY

29

Exhausted from an all-nighter, McGee types at his computer, then stops cold, gazing stunned at his screen...

*

MCGEE

Wow...

McGee looks around, sees Gibbs coming with TWO COFFEES...

*

MCGEE (cont'd)

Boss?

GIBBS

Black coffee, McGee. Drink it.

*

McGee taps the PHOTOS of the TWO MISSIONARIES to the plasma. These are TIGHT SHOTS lifted from the surveillance stills of Larabee and Wade, shown to us by Lisson in MTAC (Scene 12).

29 CONTINUED:

29

MCGEE

I just broke through the security wall on the names Stephen Wheeler and Constance Mazney. The people who guided Chaplain Wade and Lieutenant Larabee into the mountains...?

As Gibbs sees the photos...

MCGEE (cont'd)

They're not missionaries, Boss.
They're CIA.

McGee brings up WHEELER and MAZNEY'S CIA CREDITS, both mid-30s.

Off Gibbs, less than pleased by this unexpected turn, we...

PHOOF TO BLACK.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FROM BLACK:

FLASH - BLACK-AND-WHITE OF GIBBS, LOST IN THOUGHT...

PHOOF TO BLACK:

FROM BLACK:

30 INT. HOTEL HERMOSA - HOTEL SUITE/DEN - DAY

30

Lisson is on her laptop. Ziva approaches with her cell phone, which shows E-MAILED COPIES of Wheeler and Mazney's CIA IDENTIFICATIONS.

ZIVA

From Gibbs. They are CIA. Now I know.

*

LISSON

You know very little.

ZIVA

I know these 'missionaries,' these people out to do good, were actually doing anything but.

LISSON

I suspected there was more going on than medical outreach...

ZIVA

But still you chose to say nothing.

LISSON

Ziva, half the missionaries I encounter are not what they seem. It is not always a cause for alarm.

Suddenly Castro stands in the bathroom doorway, listening in.

COMMANDER CASTRO

Then what is? A U.S. Marine is dead. If there's more going on here, why did they reach out to the Chaplain Corps?

ZIVA

They needed a cover. Who better than a clergywoman to create one.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

COMMANDER CASTRO

Wade and Larabee thought they were helping people. They thought they were saving lives. What was this really about?

LISSON

I wish I had answers for you. The best I can do is promise to find out.

Tony steps in, adding a SECOND HOLSTERED SIG to his belt.

TONY

The best we can do is find Chaplain Wade and bring her home.

COMMANDER CASTRO

Dead or alive.

TONY

I'd prefer the latter.

ZIVA

According to McGee, the CIA agents responsible are still unaccounted for.

TONY

So find them, find the chaplain.

LISSON

I was going to do it without you.

ZIVA

Now we will do it together.

Lisson regards their determination, knows what she has to do.

31 INT. PENTAGON - RYAN'S OFFICE - DAY

31

Gibbs calmly places PHOTOS of CIA Agents Wheeler and Mazney in front of Doctor Ryan.

GIBBS

I need answers. Not hints. Not riddles. Answers.

DOCTOR RYAN

I told you everything I knew.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

GIBBS

Did you? I know you've been looking, Doc. What are they after?

Ryan is reluctant, then realizes it's time to come clean.

DOCTOR RYAN

Members of the cartels are getting harder to track all over South America.

GIBBS

Vaccinations...?

*

DOCTOR RYAN

A ruse. Sure, people are getting inoculated with real medicine. Never a bad thing. But what we get in return is...

GIBBS

A blood sample.

DOCTOR RYAN

Blood means DNA. Connect the DNA by family from village to village and you've got a road map to cartel leaders. It helped us find Bin Laden.

GIBBS

Did Chaplain Wade or Lieutenant Larabee know anything about this?

DOCTOR RYAN

I doubt it.

A long look between them.

GIBBS

Next time, no pizza boxes. Give it to me straight.

DOCTOR RYAN

I can't. Not everything.

GIBBS

Yes. You can.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: (2)

31

DOCTOR RYAN

If you knew the real pillow talk
I'm capable of, Agent Gibbs, you'd
never sleep again.

*

GIBBS

Not giving me enough credit.

DOCTOR RYAN

Be careful or I'll show you what's
behind the curtain.

GIBBS

Got a pretty good idea. Want me to
guess?

DOCTOR RYAN

Enough demons to scare most guys
away. And yet, you're still here.

GIBBS

Stubborn.

DOCTOR RYAN

Who knew pig-headed could be so
attractive.

(beat)

I'm sorry. I should have come to
you sooner.

GIBBS

Yeah. You should have.

Off Gibbs, who turns and heads out...

32

EXT. RESIDENTIAL BUILDING - CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA - DAY

32

Our two "missionaries," CIA AGENTS STEPHEN WHEELER and
CONSTANCE MAZNEY rush down the stairs to their VW VAN, parked
in a quiet lot. Each carries a hastily-packed DUFFEL.

MAZNEY

Let me drive. I know a back road.

WHEELER

Whatever gets us out of here
faster.

Wheeler flips Mazney the KEYS and they climb in...

33 EXT./INT. VW VAN - DAY - CONTINUOUS

33

Mazney climbs behind the wheel, as Wheeler rides shotgun. They toss their duffels in back, REVEALING several MEDICAL COOLERS and a TARP covering supplies behind them.

WHEELER

You sure the plane's waiting?

MAZNEY

You got the same message...

Suddenly, FROM UNDER THE TARP, the COLD MUZZLES OF TWO GUNS are pressed behind their ears. Held by Ziva and Lisson.

LISSON

The happy couple is leaving so soon?

As Ziva reaches up front, disarming the two agents.

WHEELER

We're not tourists...

ZIVA

We know who you are. And it is time you answered for Lieutenant Larabee and Chaplain Wade.

Wheeler and Mazney exchange a glance: Oh shit.

WHEELER

What are you ladies talking about?

Lisson pushes her gun in harder.

LISSON

'We ladies' know what you're really doing in those mountains.

ZIVA

The blood collection, the DNA...

MAZNEY

It's all classified...

WHEELER

We never meant for the chaplain to find out...

MAZNEY

Shut up.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED:

33

WHEELER

They know! Con, we're lucky to be alive. The cartel's on to the whole thing. It's over.

Mazney hesitates, slowly giving in to that sad fact.

WHEELER (cont'd)

Having the chaplain along helped legitimize what we were doing. Or what she *thought* we were doing.

MAZNEY

Lieutenant Larabee was there for her protection. Far as they were concerned, it was what it looked like. A humanitarian gesture. They didn't know about the rest.

WHEELER

Who are you two with, anyway?

Lisson presses her gun to Wheeler's ear...

LISSON

I'm your conscience. Say you're sorry.

Wheeler thinks he's about to die, until Ziva shows them her NCIS BADGE and Lisson lowers their weapons.

MAZNEY

NCIS...

ZIVA

You were saying?

WHEELER

The cartel made an example of Lieutenant Larabee. Dropped him out of that plane as a warning to our bosses back home.

ZIVA

And what about the chaplain? Is she still alive?

Mazney and Wheeler exchange a look and shrug, frustrated.

WHEELER

If we thought she was, do you really think we'd be leaving her?

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: (2)

33

ZIVA

And yet you do not know for certain
and here you are.

MAZNEY

Her only chance would be if the
cartels thought she had intel to
share. *

ZIVA

Let us assume that she is then.

LISSON

And if she is still alive, the CIA
had better be prepared to help.

MAZNEY

If we can locate Wade, what did you
guys have in mind?

As Ziva and Lisson exchange looks, Ziva whispers...

ZIVA

Bang.

34 INT. NCIS MTAC ROOM - NIGHT

34

Gibbs and McGee watch ZNN FOOTAGE of THE AFTERMATH of a HUGE
BOMB BLAST IN DOWNTOWN CARTAGENA. Smoke. Fire.

ZNN REPORTER'S VOICE

...the blast shook the streets
around the Cartagena warehouse
district. Although unconfirmed,
this warehouse and another, also
destroyed, are believed to be owned
by members of the Durado Cartel...

The FOOTAGE now includes surrounding PEDESTRIANS fleeing the
blast on foot and in vehicles...

ZNN REPORTER'S VOICE (cont'd)

...The number of dead is unknown at
this hour and the cause of the
blast has yet to be determined...

GIBBS

Freeze it...

One of the ND NCIS Techs pauses the footage.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

GIBBS (cont'd)
McGee, the GPS DiNozzo planted on
our CIA friends...

On the PLASMA, we see a PULSING BEAD on a CARTAGENA STREET
GRID.

MCGEE
Coming through loud and clear,
Boss. Two blocks away. They
delivered the explosion.

GIBBS
Missionaries, my ass. Rescue
status...

A VIDEO CALL beckons from the SCREEN...

MCGEE
That's them, Boss.

GIBBS
Put it though.

The SCREEN switches to A LAPTOP VIDEO CONFERENCE of Tony and
Ziva bouncing along in the back of the moving VW VAN...

ZIVA
Gibbs, can you hear us?

GIBBS
Go, David...

TONY
Elvis was in the building.

Tony turns the camera to include Castro clutching NAVY
COMMANDER THERESA WADE, alive but looking weary and relieved.

COMMANDER CASTRO
We're on our way, Agent Gibbs...

CHAPLAIN WADE
Thank you... All of you...

ZIVA
Headed to the airfield. We will be
in touch.

GIBBS
Copy that.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED: (2)

34

Gibbs signals to cut the transmission. He looks to McGee, then back at the fiery blaze on-screen.

35 EXT. COLOMBIAN MILITARY AIRFIELD - FRONT GATE - NIGHT 35 *

A single PLANE buzzes overhead. WE HEAR other PLANES landing and taking off in the distance, as Castro leads Wade toward a waiting MINI-BUS parked nearby. Tony, Ziva and Lisson stand beside the van. *

TONY

Plane's waiting. I'd like to be on it, before the Colombian government changes its mind. *

LISSON

He is right, Ziva. You have to go. *

Ziva stares long and hard at Lisson. *

ZIVA

You should come too. *

Lisson only smiles. Tony gets it immediately.

TONY

Hey...

(in Spanish, re: Ziva) *

Yo no pudiera ser esto sin ella. Es una mujer increíble. [I couldn't do this without her. She is an amazing woman.] *

(in English) *

Not bad, huh? *

Lisson grabs Tony's face and gives him a soft, wet kiss.

TONY (cont'd)

And if you're ever in DC...

A smile and Tony heads off. Ziva looks to Lisson...

LISSON

(re: Tony)

He is more than he seems.

ZIVA

You are staying? *

LISSON

What do you think? *

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED:

35

ZIVA

We made enemies today.

*

LISSON

I have enemies everywhere I go.
Nothing I can't handle.

*

ZIVA

You are not going to tell me what
you are involved in?

*

*

Lisson shakes her head, no.

*

ZIVA (cont'd)

Will I ever see you again?

*

*

LISSON

Stop looking for happiness from
others, Ziva. People make too many
mistakes. Look to yourself. That
is where you'll find it.

*

*

*

Ziva takes her hands and squeezes hard. Then Ziva lets go
and rushes to catch up with the others. Off Lisson,
watching...

*

*

*

36 EXT. WASHINGTON, DC - NIGHT (STOCK)

36

High and wide over the city's monuments.

37 INT. GIBBS' HOUSE - NIGHT

37

Gibbs cracks a BEER, about to collapse on the couch, when
there's a KNOCK at the front door. He answers. It's Ryan.

DOCTOR RYAN

Hi.

GIBBS

Beer?

DOCTOR RYAN

I'm invited in?

GIBBS

Too cold to drink beer outside.

DOCTOR RYAN

So, you forgive me...

GIBBS

Didn't say that.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

He turns and walks back to the living room. She enters and follows.

DOCTOR RYAN

Gibbs, there are reasons why I do these things.

Ryan reaches for her CELL.

GIBBS

Another boat drawing?

DOCTOR RYAN

Shut up.

Ryan holds up her phone with an Interpol PHOTO of MONIQUE LISSON.

DOCTOR RYAN (cont'd)

I was hoping to speak to her.

GIBBS

Nice lady. Helpful.

DOCTOR RYAN

Lisson [liss-ON] has information I need. Over the years, working both sides of the fence, she's screwed me a few times. We need to talk.

GIBBS

She stayed.

DOCTOR RYAN

I heard.

Gibbs' gut churns.

GIBBS

Doc, did you know she was involved from day one?

DOCTOR RYAN

Can I have that beer?

Gibbs drops one in front of her on the table. They both sit. Eye the fire. Silence, then...

GIBBS

You staying?

*

(CONTINUED)

37

CONTINUED: (2)

37

DOCTOR RYAN

Don't have a sitter.

GIBBS

Doesn't have to be overnight.

They curl up together.

DOCTOR RYAN

I'll take what I can get.

And as Gibbs, lost in thought, looks at the fire, we...

PHOOF TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW