

THE ROMAN JOB
EPISODE DRAFT 1
12.4.2022

OPEN ON
LETICIA'S APARTMENT

Leticia is enjoying a relaxing day, watching a yoga video. Quiet, gentle music plays, setting a calming mood.

YOGA INSTRUCTOR

Deep breath in.... And out. Feel the calm enter through your head and let it trickle down through your spine. Lift your arms, and... Relax.

LETICIA

Calm through your head? What the hell does that mean?

Leticia breathes in, and then out deeply. Maybe a little too deeply. We get the sense that they are not really getting this whole 'be calm' thing.

The phone rings, interrupting the calm atmosphere. Leticia picks up immediately, lightning fast, and shuts off the video.

LETICIA
Sir?

SPONSOR
Agent. How are things going?

LETICIA
Well, Sir. The project is going as planned. The team has been exemplary at following orders and completing assignments.

SPONSOR
Good. Keep them in line. I need not remind you of the consequences of damaging the timeline beyond it's capacity, or the machine itself for that matter. We cannot afford to let a single thing go wrong. If it does, I will know, and I will hold you personally responsible. Understood?

BEAT.

SPONSOR
Agent?

LETICIA
...Understood, Sir.

SPONSOR
Perfect. Now, a new job's just come in from head office, and I sent it your way. Should be open and shut, just some timeline maintenance, looks like a minor butterfly effect. If anything changes let me know immediately.

LETICIA
Of course--

Click. Dial tone.

LETICIA
--Sir.

Leticia sits back heavily into their chair and let's out a deep, heavy sigh.

LETICIA
Breathe in, breathe out. Under control. It's all under--

CUT TO
RUBYS PLACE. INT. DAY.

CALAMITY
--control the whole game, if you keep rolling like that!

JOHN
It's not my fault I landed on boardwalk.

LETICIA
Can we please leave?

LUCY
I thought today was s'posed to be our day off.

LETICIA
It wasn't my decision, if it were up to me I'd be at home. I told you I was coming, I don't see why
you're--

JOHN
Not leaving before I secure my win. Which will be soon.

LUCY
Don't be so sure! Once I lift a few of these mortgages, I'll be back in the running. And...
Lucy rolls the dice.

LUCY
...Go to jail. Okay.

LUCY
John, your turn.

John rolls the dice and moves.

JOHN
Ohohoh... look at that. Park place.

CALAMITY
Hold on... are you using a different dice set than the rest of us?

She grabs the dice.

LUCY

These are weighted! We have to start the game over!

CALAMITY

(laughs) good going kid. You're a traitorous scoundrel for that, but I have to respect it.

LETICIA

I am begging on my hands and knees here.

JOHN

I told you, we're in the middle of a game!

CALAMITY

Not anymore!

She flips the board.

EVERYONE is screaming at each other.

LETICIA

Please, get in the time machine.

Its ineffective. Everyone is ignoring Leticia and continuing to argue.

RUBY

What's going on in here?

Silence falls suddenly. Ruby steps into the room.

RUBY

Sorry I'm late. Got stuck in traffic. Everyone, time machine. Now.

JOHN

Yes boss.

CALAMITY

Don't have to tell me twice.

The time machine doors whoosh open.

() CALAMITY

Date?

LETICIA
March 15, 44 BCE.

The time machine makes time machine noises and they travel time.

CALAMITY
What are we doing this time?

LETICIA
Didn't you read the packet I sent you? It looks like Julius Caesars assassination is up in the air,
a point in time thats not set, so we're going to set it.

JOHN
Aw what? That's cool, I love Brutus. Not to brag, but I'm pretty used to people calling me a
traitor. "Et tu brute" was my senior quote.

LETICIA
...Wait a second. It looks like the timeline self corrected.

LUCY
So... what? No mission? Free day?

LETICIA
(sigh) Now that we've gone back I suppose we're stuck here for awhile.

CALAMITY
We won't hurt nothing, can we poke around a little?

LETICIA
It might be best if we stay here to avoid--

LUCY
Pleeeeeease?

LETICIA
You could finish your monopoly game. Doesn't that sound more fun than exploring ancient
civilizations?

BEAT.

LETICIA
(sigh.)... I suppose we could... so long as we don't mention it to my superior.

RUBY

Our lips are sealed. And we'll all be on our best behavior, right everyone? No fucking around.

LUCY

Hey, Ruby? Can I talk to you for a sec?

RUBY

What is it?

LUCY

I was wondering... I was thinking that maybe you could... like, I think I contribute a lot to the team sometimes, do you think you could... um... give me a raise?

RUBY

Sure.

LUCY

You-- Really?!

RUBY

How about... Twice your usual amount.

LUCY

But two times zero is still--

RUBY

I'll let you do the math.

There's a distant sound of a crowd cheering.

LETICIA

Is that... a gladiator arena?

CUT TO

EXT. GLADIATOR ARENA. DAY.

Crowd sounds. They're walking around and finding seats.

CALAMITY

Look how many people are here! (With moral disgust) Guess people in these times enjoy watching their fellow man suffer.

JOHN

Coming from the lady with a tally sheet of people she's hit with her car.

CALAMITY

Hit, not killed. The kill list is separate.

LETICIA

Too many people are here. I don't like it. Too many variables.

JOHN

Speaking of all the people, we could do some business here. Lot of them wearing togas. Ruby, you thinking what I'm thinking?

RUBY

Two Step Whammy?

LUCY

Whats that?

RUBY

Don't worry about it.

LETICIA

I won't have you destroying the space-time continuum for some—

JOHN

It's nothing dangerous, t's just a technique I came up with forever ago. One person goes to the target and starts talking about metal gear solid 2, to distract them. Then the other sneaks up and ties the target's dress to their seat. Then, you steal everything in their purse.

BEAT.

LETICIA

I'm lost.

LUCY

Does it have to be metal gear solid 2? Why?

JOHN

Yes, that's the whole--! if you don't understand why, then you've missed the point of the technique.

LETICIA

Absolutely not. No maneuvers today. We don't want to do anything to mess up the timeline. I am serious.

RUBY

I mean, we're already here, so... What about this. We could do a scheme, make some money, and call it a day.

JOHN

I like this. What are we doing? Pyramid scheme? Cone scheme? Maybe even a cube scheme?

CALAMITY

Arson?

LETICA

No! No arson! Nothing! Can you not stop for one day? We are going to sit here and watch people kill each other, quietly, and then we are going to go straight home!

BEAT.

EVERYONE reluctantly agrees.

The game continues, crowd sounds and fighting in the background as the group remains silent for a long moment, taking it all in.

RUBY

This is actually nice. I'm glad we could all agree on something to do for once, without two hours of arguing beforehand.

BEAT.

LETICIA

Hm.

RUBY

Hm? What does hm mean?

LETICIA

Nothing.

JOHN

Woah. Look at this guy go, he's definitely gonna win. That armor thing he's got on looks badass.

CALAMITY

The other fellas got more spunk, but he's not dodging. It's all about good dodge. And he should probably hit him with a chair at some point.

LUCY

Aw, I like the littler guy, hes like, the underdog? I wanna see him win somehow.

JOHN

You know what would be fun? Betting on this.

LUCY

Isn't it a little messed up to bet on whether somebody lives or dies?

RUBY

Probably. Who are you betting on this round, Lucy?

BEAT.

LUCY

...the big guy.

JOHN

I'll take small guy.

RUBY

The big guy is inching toward the front row chairs, Calamity, it looks like he might grab one.

JOHN

I'm not convinced. Look how fast the man moves! There's no changing my mind.

RUBY

Speed isn't everything. He lacks endurance. Look, he's already panting.

JOHN

Guess that's true. I'll put mine on the big guy.

RUBY

Final bets? No take backs. Okay. I'll take the small guy.

LUCY

Wh--?

BEAT.

RUBY

Oooh, big guy's down. Anddddd beheaded. Ouch. Looks like you all owe me.

BRUTUS

Can you all quiet down? Some of us are trying to watch the games.

EVERYONE

Fuck off!

RUBY

Who wants to bet on the next round?

CUT TO

COLUSSEUM. LATER. EXT. DAY.

RUBY

He wins again! This guy is phenomenal!

CALAMITY

I havent lost this much gambling since the time we bet on who could drive with the blindfold on.

JOHN

Holy shit, I forgot about that! When I drove the Cadillac into the river?

RUBY

...Are you talking about my Cadillac? The one that went missing six years ago?

JOHN

Nnnnnnooooo?

RUBY

So you went behind my back, stole my car, and--

JOHN

I know you liked that car, but it was a little mistake, y'know? You got a new one. It was a long time ago, so how about we drop it and have a nice day?

BEAT.

RUBY

No, no, you're right. it's fine. Just a little mistake. Like what I did to your goldfish. What was his name? Larry?

JOHN

...Larry died of natural causes.

RUBY

Or maybe I slipped a little something into his food.

CALAMITY

Oh, that's cruel.

RUBY

Coming from the lady who shot someone in the foot for 'walking too weird'.

JOHN

Yeah, that really hurt. But it wasn't as bad as killing my fish.

RUBY

Oh thats bad? Nowhere near as bad as, say... burning someone's apartment down, right Calamity?

JOHN

That was you?! You told me it was on fire when you got there!

CALAMITY

It was an accident, I was trying to make casserole.

LUCY

Guys?

RUBY

But it wouldn't have been such a huge fire if there weren't explosives hidden away in there, right? And Calamity, John hates your casseroles.

CALAMITY

He WHAT?!

JOHN

Let's be honest, they taste like poison. Ruby probably used them to kill my best friend in the world. Of should I say former best friend.

LUCY

Guys?

RUBY

You could just get a new one.

JOHN

You'd kill the new one!

RUBY

Well, yeah.

JOHN

Why do you do this every time?! You think I don't notice that when I'm not at work, things mysteriously don't work out? Can't keep a pet fish, can't hold down another job, you directly caused my last divorce!

RUBY

You never found proof of that.

JOHN

(getting really serious) And let's not forget what happened with--

LUCY

Guys!

EVERYONE

What!

LUCY

Can you stop arguing for a minute and just... enjoy your day off? Or discuss this somewhere else?

RUBY

There's nothing to discuss. Just little mistakes.

JOHN

You know what? I don't even wanna do the Two Step Whammy with you anymore.

RUBY

Good, I'd hate to have to indulge you. Talking about metal gear solid 2? It doesn't make any sense.

JOHN

You just don't get it.

RUBY

What is there to get!? It doesn't make any sense. Why can't I talk about something else?

JOHN

Because then it wouldn't be the Two Step—ugh forget it!

BEAT.

RUBY

Ok. \$700 against whoever John is for.

JOHN

I'll go in on the big guy. I raise you \$700... plus one dollar.

LUCY

I'm... gonna go get some food... elsewhere. Leticia, you coming?

LETICIA

Yes.

CALAMITY

I'll come too. I won't sit here and take slander.

CUT TO

BACK OF THE ARENA

LETICIA

We can't actually get food, our currency doesn't mean anything here. They've got some animals out back, we could go look at that.

Lucy

I dont see why we cant all get along. You guys are supposed to be the greatest team alive, and you were together for years, how can you not get along by now?

CALAMITY

What, have you two never had a coworkers you hated?

Leticia

Hm. Yes, but not like this. My situation was more along the lines of 'infiltrating an organization and killing everyone there,' so some mild dislike was to be expected on both ends.

LUCY

At my old job at IHOP, it was me versus the customers, like an intense psychological battle every day. You guys are more 'old married couple who should be divorced.' Dont you think these missions would go a lot smoother if you guys could figure your shit out?! Yknow, use the old "power of friendship?"

CALAMITY

It's not that easy.

LUCY

Maybe I could help out, we could--

CALAMITY

You cant help. (suddenly very sad and resigned) There are some things that you cant fix.

BEAT.

Lucy

Look. I know I'm the new guy. I get it. But if you ever wanna talk about it, I'm, yknow, I'm, I'm available. My grandma always says, people can change. It's never too late to start. And, never accept a grand piano, but the first thing is more relevant right now.

CALAMITY

Is that the attitude you took into asking Ruby if you could get paid this morning?

Lucy

That's different.

Leticia

You don't normally get paid?

Lucy

No. And only did we not even have a job this time, now I owe Ruby money.

CALAMITY

(Sarcastically) but people change! Surely she'll decide differently after her heart softens a little!

LUCY

Okay, rude. Also, aww, look at these bunnies! What are they for?

SELLER

To feed the lions.

LUCY

Oh.

LETICIA

Stop touching things. We are looking only, no touching. We don't want to--

LUCY

--Mess up the timeline, I know.

CALAMITY

You seem stressed today.

LETICIA

It is because you all drive me up the wall.

LUCY

Yeah, but we drive you up the wall every day.

Squawking sound.

SELLER

Watch your step! Those are my birds, they'll escape!

LUCY

Sorry!

LETICIA

What did I say?

CALAMITY

Surely some escaped birds won't affect the...

CHILD

Look, birdies!

CALAMITY

Okay, one child sees some birds, who care--

BYSTANDER

Watch out!

Crashing noises

Crash sound. Glass breaking.

CALAMITY

So the rubbernecking causes a minor five chariot pileup, it happens everywh--

Shattering sound. Screaming. Something heavy falling.

SELLER

The tigers are loose!

CALAMITY

...We might have to do a bit of damage control.

ARENA GUY

Oh, no, no, no, those tigers were supposed to go on this afternoon, now we have no entertainment for the after lunch crowd!

SELLER

My leg, its eating my leg!

ARENA GUY

You! You caused this! You must pay for the damages!

LETICIA

We don't have any money. Is there some other way we could pay?

ARENA GUY

Hmm. With no tigers we need something novel to appease the crowds this afternoon.
Perhaps... a new fighter. You are very muscular. Any fighting experience?

LETICIA

I don't like the sound of this.

SELLER

Come with me.

LETICIA

I--

SELLER

Quietly, please. (Draws blade.) No need to make a fuss. You two... too weak. Scamper off to
wherever you came from.

LETICIA

What the—

[Leticia kicks the shit out of the dude]

CALAMITY

Wait! Think about it – if these tigers aren't replaced, the whole timeline could be altered. I could kiss my
own grandmother! You have to fight for those tigers.

LETICIA

That doesn't make any sen—

CALAMITY

Think about it! [make it sound like she's gonna say more]

BEAT.

LETICIA

...was that it. Was that all you're gonna say?

CALAMITY

Do it

LETICIA

I-

LUCY

Do it.

LETICIA

Bu-

CALAMITY

Do it.

LETICIA

Fine.

BEAT.

SELLER

[weakly] hooray...

BEAT.

CUT TO

THEIR SEATS AT THE COLISSEUM

JOHN

Stop hogging the space.

Scuffling noises.

RUBY

You spilled popcorn() all over that guy.

JOHN

You pushed me!

RUBY

(Sarcastic) Let me make sure this little incident didn't affect the precious timeline.

BEAT.

RUBY
...Oh, shit.

JOHN
What?

RUBY
One of us messed up the timeline somehow. The book now says that Caesar wasn't assassinated and went on to conquer the world. Needless to say, we gotta fix this before Leticia finds out.

JOHN
(Groans) Thanks everybody, now we have to go to work instead of making bets.

RUBY
You just lost thousands of dollars.

JOHN
And any minute I was gonna make it all back!

RUBY
Hm. How about we turn our bets into work? I mean, I'll obviously win, so I can see why you wouldn't want to--

JOHN
Let's do it. Whoever's plan works first, takes all.

CUT TO
GLADIATOR ARENA.

Leticia is waiting around with the other gladiators.

GLADIATOR
Hey, you.

LETICIA
Hm?

GLADIATOR
I haven't seen you around here. Are you from a different gladiator school?

LETICIA

I trained unconventionally. I'm not a gladiator

GLADIATOR

(condescending) That much is obvious. Your physique is that of a scribe, not a gladiator.

LETICIA

(sigh) Well, I do a lot of paperwork these days.

GLADIATOR

You will be dead by afternoon.

LETICIA

(Disinterested and depressed) To be honest I have bigger things to worry about.

GLADIATOR

I dare you to fight me, if you're so bold. Do you believe you can beat the mighty Spiculus?

LETICIA

No offense, but can you go easy on me? This is technically my day off, and I haven't had one of those since--

GLADIATOR swings at them, sword making a swooping noise.

LETICIA

Woah, okay.

Leticia picks up a sword and swings. They clash.

GLADIATOR

You have fast reflexes.

LETICIA

Yeah, well it's been awhile since I've had to do actual combat, so can you--

Spiculus is showing no mercy. Leticia is taking hit after hit, and is left breathing hard trying to keep up.

LETICIA

(under breath) Breath in, breathe out. Just let the calm enter, and raise your arms and...

They clash again, and again. Now, Spiculus is the one left panting hard.

LETICIA

You know what, this is... actually pretty relaxing.

GLADIATOR
...What?

LETICIA
Let's go again.

CUT TO
OUTSIDE ARENA.

LUCY
Did you see any sign of them?

CALAMITY
Nope, you?

LUCY
No.

CALAMITY
This doesn't look good. There's no way to get into the back, so I think we have to wait until Leticia comes out before we can save them.

LUCY
This would be a lot easier if the others were here. Maybe we should go get them, and we could all wait together.

CALAMITY
So they can make everything worse? No, it'll be easier this way, trust me.

Lucy
Alright spill. What happened that made you so pissed at everybody? We're gonna be sitting here awhile, you may as well tell me. Or else I'll get the others and make them tell me.

*()Write a Better lead up to this.

BEAT.

CALAMITY
It was five years ago. It was supposed to be a simple heist, and things got complicated, and we... lost somebody. Left him behind, in cold blood, and he died.

LUCY

I'm sorry.

CALAMITY

I'm not telling you this for sympathy, honey, it's a warning. These people may charm you, they may amaze you with their abilities, but do not for one moment think that means they care about you. They would leave you behind just as fast. Now, in this group, you don't ask for things, you take them. If you want to get paid, you'll have to impress Ruby. And to do that, you have to be... not you. You'll need to be ruthless.

CUT TO
SEATS IN THE ARENA. EXT. DAY.

RUBY

Ready to get destroyed?

JOHN

Bring it on.

EVERYONE

Here's the plan.

RUBY

I'll infiltrate the conspirator group and convince them to go ahead with the assassination.

JOHN

I'll tell everybody Caesar stabbed me and they need to go kill him now before they meet the same fate.

RUBY

Okay, let's get to it. If you see the others, tell them about the contest, I'll enjoy beating them too. See you at the Curia of Pompey.

JOHN

The what?

RUBY

The place they hold meetings. Didn't you read the packet Leticia gave you?

SILENCE .

RUBY

Whatever. See you there.

CHEERING erupts from the stands.

JOHN
Hey... Is it me, or does that gladiator look familiar?

BEAT.

Oh, damnit she's already gone. I gotta get a move on.

CUT TO
BACK AREA OF ARENA

CALAMITY
The break is over, they're fighting again. We need to hurry and--

LUCY
Thats Leticia!

BEAT.

They're actually... kind of killing it.

CUT TO
ARENA

GLADIATOR
You will never defeat me!!

LETICIA
Give it a break, Jesus Christ.

GLADIATOR
...Who?

LETICIA
A little before your time...I probably shouldn't have mentioned that.

(Realizing) Hold on. I could say anything to you and it would have no effect on the timeline,
would it, especially if I kill you afterwards.

GLADIATOR
Whatever it is, it will likely be your last words before being defeated... by SPICULUS!!!

LETICIA
Yeah, okay, but I...I'm in a complicated situation here, Spiculus. I'm in deep. There's something
I'm going to do, and I don't want to, but I have no choice, and I can't talk to anyone about it. No
one.

GLADIATOR

Alright, puny one.... what is it you must do?

CUT TO

BACK OF ARENA. EXT. DAY.

LUCY

Seriously though, how are we gonna get Leticia out when this guy is fighting them? And there's buff guard guys everywhere?

CALAMITY

No idea.

LUCY

So what do you propose?

BEAT.

CALAMITY

We leave. Tell Ruby they got lost or something and go back to the group.

BEAT.

CALAMITY

What? I'm the driver, my specialty is exiting, not entering. As in, escape.

Lucy

So you're as bad as them now.

CALAMITY

Never said I wasn't.

LUCY

You came back for me, at the bank.

CALAMITY

Because you were useful. I told you, it's everyone for themselves. Hey, with one person gone you might end up actually getting a cut of the money.

BEAT.

Lucy

No.

CALAMITY
what?

LUCY
I'm not like you guys. I'm not, like... ruthless, I don't know. Maybe you're right and I can't make it in a group of actual professional killers and thieves, okay,, but if it means dropping everybody at the first sign of trouble then I'm out. I'll quit, right after I do this. You can go if you want but I am not. Leaving them. Here.

BEAT.

CALAMITY
Damn it. Fine. We're gonna have to use the one thing I didn't want to use.

Lucy
Whats that?

CALAMITY
The power of goddamn friendship.

CUT TO
Curia of Pompey

The conspirators stand around talking, and Ruby is among them, probably in disguise. She calls the attention of the room.

RUBY
Friends, Romans, countrymen. Lend me your ears.

CASSIUS
Who is this newcomer?

RUBY
A friend to your cause.

CASSIUS
Who told you about--

RUBY
I am sent by a friend. Many agree with what you are doing. What I know is that one among you is hesitant to do what needs to be done, and I am here to help.

CASSIUS

...Indeed, Brutus has been having second thoughts ever since this morning.

RUBY

Why don't you tell me what has caused your hesitation, Brutus?

BRUTUS

I fear that the gods don't want us to go through with the assassination. There have been bad omens all day. My favorite gladiator was slain, and then I saw a flock of ravens flying overhead. And then on top of it, some jerks spilled my popcorn.

RUBY

[embarrassed cough] Probably a coincidence.

BRUTUS

Then there was a tiger loose in the street. It ate a man's leg.

RUBY

Okay--

BRUTUS

Then he fell through a window, onto the stove. Then it resulted in a house fire.

RUBY

That's--

BRUTUS

And when I came back to watch more gladiator battles, someone had taken my seat.

RUBY

Wow. Okay. That is a lot. But you do agree he must be killed, yes?

BRUTUS

...I don't know. I'm conflicted. I love him, he's my friend.

RUBY

It's not that you don't love him. But you love Rome more, do you not? Because a true friend, and honorable friend, doesn't let a friend become overly ambitious. And you are... honorable, aren't you? Would we all agree that Brutus is honorable?

EVERYONE

Yes!

BRUTUS

...Yes.

RUBY

So you'll have no issue helping your country, right?

BRUTUS

I dont know. The gods may not like it, it may not be as fate intends, according to the omens.

RUBY

(Irritated that this isn't working) Okay, fuck it. What if I offered you money?

The doors slam open.

JOHN

Friends, Romans, other guys. Listen up!

RUBY

(under her breath) Why the hell are you here already?

JOHN

(under his breath) I'm sorry, was there a rule that said we couldn't go at the same time? I'm trying to do my thing here.

RUBY

(under her breath) We'll see. (Full volume) Excuse me, who are you, stranger?

JOHN

I'm no stranger. I'm one of you all! Trying to join the cause, and stab that damned Caesar guy.

CASSIUS

We... always welcome new members. But how do we know you are loyal?

JOHN

The nerve to ask me that. Do you know who I am?

CASSIUS

No.

JOHN

Ah! You wound me.

CASSIUS

So...who are you?

JOHN

None of your business? I'll prove my loyalty to you. I'll go and stab Caesar myself!

He leaves.

RUBY

A madman, surely. Now, where were we--

The doors slam open again, and John returns.

JOHN

Woe is me! I need help! He was outside...I tried to stab him but he stabbed me first... Im bleeding.

CASSIUS

Gods... we must get this man help!

JOHN

Before Caesar ran off, he told me something... He knows of your plans, so you'll need to act quickly and assassinate him as soon as possible before he gets to you too... he said there is a woman that is infiltrating your group to gain information...I fear it is her!

CASSIUS

Throw her in chains!

RUBY

Before you bandage him, you may want to check the wound.

JOHN

Wait, don't--

CASSIUS

...Why is there a crushed tomato in your shirt? You weren't stabbed at all!

JOHN

I was, I was, uh, I... happened to also have a tomato, because I was feeling snackish.

BEAT.

CASSIUS

Throw him in chains too!

BRUTUS

Oh gods... This is only more proof. What kind of monster would kill their own friend? I can't go through with it.

JOHN
Yeah, he's got a point.

RUBY
Can you shut up about the fish?

CUT TO
ARENA
()

Leticia is still swordfighting, talking to random gladiators about their woes and then killing them immediately after. The gladiators are extremely confident about their abilities but Leticia kind of kills them like it's nothing and it's really easy. Leticia eventually starts to realize they can't relax and put off dealing with their problems forever.

LETICIA
Thank you for listening to me. I haven't gotten this much off my chest in a long time. I needed this.

[dying sound] [sword being pulled out sound]

From the distance we can hear Lucy and CALAMITY calling for Leticia.

LETICIA
Duty calls. Can't relax forever.
Leticia knocks him down.

LETICIA
(They think for a moment.) Hm. You can live. Consider it a gift, for giving me the most relaxing day I've had in a long time. Thank you, my friend.

SPECTATOR
That gladiator is running away!

CUT TO
GATE OF ARENA

CALAMITY
That's our cue, open the gate quick.

GUARD
Excuse me. I'll have to insist you stop at once.

CALAMITY
You and what... army...

There is a bunch of gladiators standing right there.

CALAMITY
I should have probably taken into account that this place is teeming with gladiators and guards before making my statement. I apologize.

The guard cracks their knuckles.

LUCY
Who's your bet on?

CALAMITY
Not gonna lie, I think that guy is gonna kill us. So, him, for \$200

Lucy
I'll take us. and I'm all in.

CALAMITY
All in? What do you have in your bank account right now, a dollar twenty five?

Lucy
Don't ask questions you already know the answers to.

CALAMITY
Hold on. I think I see the answer to our problems.

There is the sound of hooves clopping getting closer and closer.

() they steal a chariot.

CALAMITY
Hey, y'all, wanna hop in?

CALAMITY
They left the timeline indicator device() in the seat, and it looks like Caesar's back from the dead. My guess is that the others are already at the Curia of Pompey trying to kill him.

LUCY
They're at the what?

CALAMITY
Does nobody else read the packets?

LETICIA
They're doing what?!

CUT TO
CURIA OF POMPEY.

John and Ruby are chained back to back on chairs in the middle of a room.

JOHN
Really? You had to sabotage my plan?

RUBY
You started it.

Rattling sound as John messes with the chains.

RUBY
What are you doing?

JOHN
Getting us out. Let's try and grab the chains, I forgot my lock picking stuff but we could--

RUBY
No, I'll get it, don't try to--

They fumble and drop the chains.

JOHN
Great. And they're out of reach. I had it, yknow. This is so typical for the queen of micromanagement.

RUBY
If you didn't constantly go behind my back, I wouldn't need to micromanage you.

JOHN
What am I supposed to do?!... You don't let me do anything, because you don't trust that I could actually think of a good idea and execute it!

BEAT.

JOHN

I'm sorry, okay? I shouldn't have wrecked your car, but can you be less insufferable about it?

RUBY

(sarcastic) I'm sorry too. I shouldn't have told you I killed your fish. I was planning to deny it even if you found proof, I had this whole gaslighting routine planned out and everything, and now I never get to use it.

JOHN

I hate you.

RUBY

I know.

BEAT.

RUBY

I've got a toothpick in my back pocket.

JOHN

You're telling me this now?!

RUBY

Yeah. I know you don't carry a lock pick for some reason despite it being *your literal job*, so I brought one, to make up for your shortcomings. You're welcome.

JOHN

Let me get this straight. We've been sitting in here for hours, and you had a way out the entire goddamn time, but you decided to pointlessly trap us here out of a grudge over a car that you didn't even like, from six years ago.

RUBY

Yes.

BEAT.

RUBY

So... I need you to reach into my pocket, I can't get to the toothpick from where I am.

JOHN

You're the one who got us into this mess. I'm not gonna get us out at your beck and call. My life doesn't revolve around you. In fact, you know what? I'm not getting us out until I get a sincere apology.

RUBY
So, never.

JOHN
Never it is.

CUT TO
THE MAIN ROOM OF THE CURIA DE POMPEY

A chariot crashes through the side of the building, carrying Leticia, Lucy and Calamity.

LETICIA
I told you not to do that! Why wouldnt you just park!

BRUTUS
Another omen! What is going on today?!

CALAMITY
Did I hit him?

BRUTUS
Who?

CALAMITY
Caesar!

BRUTUS
No! He isn't here yet!

CALAMITY
(Sigh.) Guess I could keep crashing into the wall and hope it hits him eventually.

CASSIUS
Quickly. Caesar is coming up outside, and he will be in here within the next few minutes. We need to come to a consensus. Are we doing this today? All in favor raise a hand.

BEAT as they raise their hands. All except Brutus.

CASSIUS
That's 20...21...22...Brutus?

BRUTUS
I... need a moment. To think.

He leaves the room.

CALAMITY
Should someone talk to him?

CASSIUS
We have tried. All day long, we've been going over this.

LUCY
I'll try.

CALAMITY
Are you sure that's a good idea? You might end up convincing him not to kill Caesar at all.

LUCY
Can't make it worse, right? I either do my job right for once, or I save somebody's life.

CUT TO
INT. CLOSET. DAY.

Ruby and John are still arguing.

RUBY
I'm sorry you feel that way--

JOHN
Try again.

RUBY
I'm sorry you're unable to understand logic and--

JOHN
No, no, no. I don't want a fake apology.

RUBY
Please grab the toothpick.

JOHN
No.

LONG BEAT. They sit in silence.

RUBY

The fish. I hated it.

BEAT.

RUBY

It was back when we were planning the bank heist. You would leave planning meetings twenty minutes early every time to go feed that stupid fish. You did the same with your ex, you would sneak off and spend time together--

JOHN

It wasn't 'sneaking!' We were *married!*

RUBY

Whatever it was, it was interfering with your work.

JOHN

It's all about work with you. I had a life back then--

RUBY

I didn't give you permission to have a life!

BEAT.

RUBY

I'm sorry for not telling you I had the toothpick and making you think we were trapped in here. I just...

BEAT.

RUBY

I didn't want you to think you could leave without my permission.

BEAT.

JOHN

I'm never leaving, you know. After all these years you should know that.

RUBY

I meant the room.

JOHN

No, but seriously, I mean it. You're my boss, boss.

RUBY

(As genuine and emotionally charged as Ruby is capable of being)

And you're my employee.

BEAT.

RUBY
So, are we... good?

The guard rattle the door, about to enter.

JOHN
Well, we're still in chains, and a man is about to come in here to either kill us, torture us, or interrogate us. So not *that* good.

RUBY
If you can reach my toothpick we can slip out of these, but we'll need to distract the guard while you do.

JOHN
The guard will probably be in a toga. You thinking what I'm thinking?

RUBY
I certainly am.

The guard enters.

RUBY
Sir, have you heard of Metal Gear Solid 2?

CUT TO
THE OTHER ROOM OF THE CURIA DE POMPEY

(*)Note: have Lucy make this conversation all about herself

Lucy walks into where Brutus has gone. She knocks on the wall.

LUCY
Mr. Brutus? They sent me and my friend here to talk to you. To find out where your heads at. Regarding the whole... thing with Caesar. Like, let's weigh the pros and cons and stuff.

BRUTUS
I know Caesar better than anyone. He's power hungry. One person who believes himself able to rule better than anyone cannot be trusted. but... like I've said. I know him better than anyone.

BEAT.

BRUTUS

He's my friend. It's not that I want to hurt him, but I must, you understand?

LUCY

If you know you have to, then what's keeping you?

BRUTUS

It may not be written in the stars that this should happen, I've seen bad omens, I'm sure the others told you. And I don't know if I'm doing it for the right reasons. I can't do it unless I'm certain. I can't take it back once it is done. Everyone wants me to do it, but I don't know. Caesar saved my life, he took me in. But he's not the same person he used to be.

LUCY

Brutie. Can I call you Brutie?

BRUTUS

No.

LUCY

Understandable. Listen. You've gotta get confrontational. You've gotta get hard. But not in the way you're thinking. Scratch that. You gotta be ruthless, right? Willing to take what you want. If you want to kill him that is. If you want to save him, you've got to think about who he is to you. You guys probably been through a lot together, right?

BRUTUS

Yes.

LUCY

But, ultimately, the person who's got to decide who you are or what you'll do, is you. Not the stars, or omens, or all those guys in there, or me. Just yourself. So ask yourself. What do you want to do?

()pacing

CUT TO

THE MAIN ROOM OF THE CURIA DE POMPEY

JOHN

We did it! We escaped!

LUCY

Hey guys, where have you been?

RUBY

Lucy. Move out of the way, John and I have a new plan to kill him, we're going to--

LUCY

No need. Caesars dead. They stabbed him, like, ten minutes ago.

JOHN

Who was it, Calamity? Damn, she really destroyed that whole wall. I should have known she would end up winning the stupid bet, it's just like last time.

LUCY

No, it was Brutus.

BEAT.

RUBY

But...Brutus has been indecisive about it all day. I tried everything.

LUCY

I handled it.

RUBY

What? What did you do?

LUCY

I don't know, I just talked to him.

RUBY

But...you...

LUCY

Never too late to change someone's mind! Or to stop accepting grand pianos for that matter!

BEAT.

LUCY

So, uh, I heard there was a bet going. I expect payment by Monday. Cos my rent is due.

BEAT.

CASSIUS

You all have rendered your country an immense service today. You'll help with the cleanup of this assassination, yes? And help us rouse the public to our cause? **We cannot let the history books read that Brutus betrayed his fellow man. You've proven yourselves noble allies.** We want to prepare speeches for the funeral, there is much work to do.

LETICIA

Uhhhh.... Yes, we'll be right there. Let us go get something first.

LUCY

(under breath) We're leaving, right?

LETICIA

Absolutely. It's our day off, isn't it?

CUT TO
TIME MACHINE

The time machine doors whoosh shut.

JOHN

Leticia, where were you all day? Slacking off while we did all the work? Not cool, buddy.

LETICIA

You all slack off every day while I do all the--! (sighs, gets composure) you know what? Good work today, everyone. That actually went more smoothly than it could have.

JOHN

Are you being sarcastic?

LETICIA

No. I got a nice day off, and while you did almost horribly wreck the timeline, you fixed it without needing to be watched every second of the way, so... all is well.

BEAT.

CALAMITY

The sarcasm ain't cute, sweetheart. Cut it out.

LETICIA

No, I'm not-- (sigh). Jesus Christ.

JOHN

Who?

MID SCENE CUT TO

CALAMITY and Lucy are sitting at the other end of the time machine.

CALAMITY

Looking out the window pretty hard there, Lucy.

LUCY

I'm thinking. I kinda caused somebody's death today. Like, I didn't stab him, but I did convince Brutus to do it, so it's on me too.

CALAMITY

It's normal to feel guilty after your first murder, even if it's indirect.

LUCY

That's the thing! I dont! Maybe it'll sink in later, but I feel kinda... fine about it. Makes me feel kind of--

CALAMITY

Ruthless?

LUCY

Yeah.

CALAMITY

Welcome to the team.

MID SCENE CUT TO

John and Ruby are sitting elsewhere in the time machine.

()A little dialogue to show that John and ruby are at leasttrying to be less toxically codependent, but that they have a long way to go. I think we can get better dialogue here that closes things off better, whats there is just an example of the vibe im looking for. Ideally id like the dialogue to have at least one of these: discussion of the fish, the car, inderect/vague mention of their dead friend and the wedge that has put between them, ruby being controlling and wanting work to be above all things, john being overly dependant but also blowing off work, rubys irritation that lucy won the bet (maybe could tie into their dead friend bc he would have done smthn like that too?), they could discuss whether in brutus situation they would have killed their friend, could make fun of calamity and lucy for going back for leticia, could talk about monopoly, make another bet over something insignificant, talk fondly about memories of times theyve destroyed each others property, talk about more maneuvers like the three step whammy, just something like that to cap off the themes of the episode and their characterization nicely. And then () add a section where the others talk with them too, the team is all talking.

JOHN

So. I forgot to tell you, I'm going to the pet store next Tuesday. And... I'm taking a day off.

RUBY

That's fine.

JOHN
Good.

RUBY
Yeah.

BEAT.

RUBY
I kind of wanted a day to myself anyway.

JOHN
Cool, cool. Makes sense. It'll be good to, y'know, establish some, uh, healthy boundaries.

RUBY
Absolutely.

BEAT.

JOHN
...Do you wanna come with?

RUBY
(Immediately) Yes.

JOHN
Oh thank God because I actually don't know anything about fish so I need someone to tell me which one to get and how to train it. I kind of want a goldfish, what do you think?

RUBY
No. Get a beta.

JOHN
I will. But not because you told me to.

RUBY
Right.

CUT TO
LETICIAS PLACE.

It's the next day. The phone rings. Leticia picks up on the first ring.

LETICIA
Hello?

CALAMITY

Hello, Leticia, how are you?

LETICIA

I'm well.

CALAMITY

Oh, good to hear, good to hear. I tell you, I'm doing pretty well too. Except my hip's been acting up, on account of I went to the grocery store and-- well lemme start from the top, you see we're planning to have game night tonight and since people keep cheating we decided to make it fair by all using loaded dice, you're invited too by the way, bring your own dice! So back to the story, I'm making a surprise casserole and I tried a new recipe but I told ruby, I said, "I will NOT take the raisins out of the recipe, come hell or high--

LETICIA

--What exactly is the purpose of your call?

CALAMITY

Oh, right! The time machine is on fire.

LETICIA

It's-- what??

CALAMITY

Yep, we were wondering if you knew what to do about that.

LETICIA

Let me make a call and then I'll be right there.

Leticia dials the number for the sponsor. The sponsor picks up on the third ring.

SPONSOR

Agent. Anything to report? It's an odd time to call. (Dangerous voice) You're not having problems, are you?

BEAT.

LETICIA

I was calling to let you know that...

BEAT.

... that all is going according to plan.

SPONSOR

Alright. Call again next week. And agent?

LETICIA

Yes sir?

SPONSOR

Keep up the good work.

LETICIA

Sighs* *Talking to themselves dialouge

Click. Leticia dials another number and it rings. Someone picks up.

PERSON ON THE OTHER LINE

Darryl's game store.

LETICIA

Hello. I was wondering if you sell loaded dice?

END EPISODE