

A MIGHTY HEART

Screenplay by
John Orloff

Based on the book by
Mariane Pearl

FINAL SHOOTING SCRIPT

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NOTES ON OUR APPROACH.

Given the emotional power of the film comes from the fact that it is a true story, we have tried to be as accurate as possible to the chronology of the real events.

Real events don't come in the neatly shaped packages of conventional drama. They are disorganised, sometimes random, often without explanation. We feel that not only is it more honest to remain true to these events, but it will also add a sense of authenticity. We want the audience to trust that they are seeing an accurate account of what happened. If they are convinced the film is authentic the emotional power of the film comes from the real, terrible situation that Mariane and Danny found themselves in.

Our main source of information is obviously Mariane's book. However we have also talked to all the key characters before making the film. We have met with Mariane, Asra, Randall Bennett, Zahoor, Asif the Fixer, Jameel Yusuf, Captain, Bussey, Dost and communicated with Steve Levine. Each meeting adds extra details to the story.

Given this approach to the overall story telling it is obviously important that the detail within the scenes also seems natural, spontaneous and honest. The dialogue script is therefore a blueprint. A starting point for the actors, giving a guide to the content of the scene. When we have cast the actors we would expect them to spend time with the real characters, getting to know them, hearing how they talk, getting details of their personal stories, seeing their point of view on the events of that time.

When we film the scenes in Asra's house - the heart of the story - we will film on location in Pakistan or India. We will shoot in chronological order, allowing the actors to build relationships with each other that mirror the relationships the real characters had. The camera is hand held, natural lighting is used where possible, allowing the actors the freedom to go where they want to go, to improvise when they want. Often in the script a scene may be boiled down to three or four lines of key dialogue. This may well be what ends up in the finished film. But during the filming we usually shoot the whole scene as it would naturally happen. And we shoot the whole scene on each take to allow a natural rhythm to develop. It also means the scene can change and develop with each performance.

We therefore have a huge choice of material when it comes to the edit. However, the intention is that the editing should be crisp and fast, creating the pace of a thriller. So, although the script is currently 140 pages, we expect the film to run somewhere between 100 and 110 minutes.

This is an approach we have used before on films such as THE ROAD TO GUANTANAMO, TRISTRAM SHANDY, 24 HOUR PARTY PEOPLE and WONDERLAND.

A MIGHTY HEART

A BLACK SCREEN

We hear the sound of a baby crying. Maybe his first cry.

MARIANE (V.O.)

This film is for Adam. So that he knows his father was not a hero but an ordinary man. An ordinary hero.

1A EXT KARACHI DAY

1A

We start high above the sprawling city. We see the noise, the traffic, the people, the energy, the chaos of Karachi streets. And we hear Mariane's voice:

MARIANE (V.O.)

Karachi. One of the biggest cities in the world. The main port of entry to, and departure from, Pakistan. There are so many people in this city that no one knows how to count them. How would you find one man amongst all this?

We see DANNY being driven in a car as it dodges in and out of the traffic.

CAPTION: 15.50 23rd January 20021B EXT - ASRA'S - DAY

1B

The car passes the SKINNY GUARD at the guardhouse of a private road in the Defence area of the city, pulling up outside a large house protected by its own gate and guard. DANIEL gets out of the car which drives away as he goes into the house.

2 OMITTED

2

3 INT - ASRA'S - DAY

3

DANNY hurries through the house, calling out to let people know he is home. He sees ASRA (30s) a petite and fair-skinned Indian woman with an American accent.

DANNY

Hi.

ASRA

Hi there. How's it going?

DANNY smiles at ASRA. We sense the easiness and warmth between the two long-time friends.

DANNY
Good. Where's Mariane?

ASRA
In bed I think.

DANNY rushes to their room.

4

INT - MARIANE'S ROOM - DAY

4

The bedroom is decorated with flowers and scented candles, with DANNY's clothes scattered everywhere from his suitcase in the corner. MARIANE is lying in bed.

DANNY
Hi. How're you feeling ?

MARIANE
Sweaty. Fat... It's so hot.

He goes to the window, a little girl - KASHVA - is playing in the courtyard. Danny waves hello and draws the curtain.

DANNY
This time tomorrow we'll be in a beautiful air-conditioned hotel in Dubai.

DANNY lies down next to her.

MARIANE
I like it here.

He nuzzles her neck.

DANNY
Mmmmm... my sweaty smelly, fat pregnant wife...

They kiss.

MARIANE
How was your day?

DANNY
Not bad. I've only half an hour then I have to go back out.

MARIANE
Me too.

He wriggles down the bed and kisses MARIANE's tummy. He whispers something to the baby inside.

DANNY

I've thought of a name for him.

He slides back up the bed and kisses her on the mouth, very gently.

MARIANE

What?

DANNY

Adam. What do you think?

MARIANE

(not impressed)

Adam?

He pretends to be annoyed.

DANNY

What's wrong with Adam?

MARIANE

Why Adam?

DANNY

It's a good name.

Then starts to tickle her and kiss her. We leave them laughing and kissing.

5

INT - ASRA'S OFFICE - DAY

5

CAPTION: 16.30 23rd January 2002

ASRA is writing when DANNY comes in, puts his phone on charge and checks his e-mail.

DANNY

Do you know where the HQ of Cybernet is?

ASRA

Yeah.

DANNY

Is it far?

ASRA

No. Why?

*
*
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*
*
*
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*
*
*

DANNY

You know Richard Reid - the shoe
bomber? I've got an email address
for his contact.. his handler.
Cybernet the service provider.

*
*
*
*
*

ASRA

Ok.

*
*

DANNY sees the confirmation of their flight to Dubai.

*

5A A FEW MINUTES LATER

5A

ASRA is on the phone to the Sheraton car office. DANNY hurries through collecting his belongings.

ASRA
The Sheraton hasn't any cars today.

*

DANNY
Really?

MARIANE appears from her room - collecting all her stuff.

MARIANE
I need one as well.

ASRA
I know. I know. I'll have to get Shabir to get you two taxis. Sorry.

DANNY appears again.

DANNY
That's fine as long as he's quick. I can't be late.

DANNY holds a tape recorder. MARIANE sees it.

MARIANE
Make sure it's yours!

ASRA
You going to be back for dinner tonight?

DANNY
Sure. I may be a little late.

MARIANE
Don't be. I'm cooking.

6 EXT - DEFENSE PHASE 5 GATES - DAY

6

DANNY and MARIANE are waiting for SHABIR. DANNY looks at his watch, and starts to pace a little, craning his neck, hoping to see a cab at any moment. MARIANE notices his impatience.

MARIANE
There he is!

DANNY turns and sees two cabs coming their way, SHABIR riding his bike in front of them.

DANNY opens the door of the first cab. He looks at MARIANE apologetic.

DANNY
I'm really late.

As he is about to get in, DANNY cups MARIANE's neck, pulls her to him, and kisses her cheek. He looks at her for a beat then he jumps in the back of the cab. And he is gone.

The second taxi is driven by a little old man with a white beard. ASRA appears to give him instructions.

ASRA
(In Urdu)
Kheyal Karoe (Take care of her)

ASRA
(To Mariane)
See you later.

MARIANE
Yes. Bye.

7 EXT - KARACHI STREETS - DAY 7

DANNY in the taxi checking he has everything he needs. Maybe he looks a little tense.

8 EXT - KARACHI STREETS - DAY 8

MARIANE in the taxi being driven to her interview.

9 EXT - THE COURT VIEW APARTMENTS - DAY 9

MARIANE's taxi pulls up outside a a crumbling block of lawyers offices. The driver helps her out.

MARIANE
Wait here OK?

He nods.

MARIANE
You'll wait?

DRIVER
Yes.

KALEEM

Fire away.

DANNY

I'm supposed to be meeting Sheikh Gilani today. I just wanted to know if it was safe?

KALEEM

Where are you meeting him?

DANNY

The Village restaurant. You know it?

KALEEM

Of course.

DANNY's phone rings.

DANNY

Hello?

DANNY listens to the person on the other end of the phone. Danny is serious, listening to instructions. It is someone connected to the Gilani meeting.

DANNY

I'll be there. Yes.

DANNY switches the phone off.

DANNY

Sorry.

KALEEM

No problem. Stay in a busy place and you should be fine. But be careful.

DANNY

I will.

DANNY knows that he will probably have to leave the restaurant in order to meet GILANI.

13 EXT - THE COURT VIEW APARTMENTS - DAY 13

MARIANE hurries out of the building. The TAXI DRIVER is there, waiting by his car.

14 EXT - STREETS - DAY 14

MARIANE's taxi is driving through the noisy Karachi streets. She is on her cell phone, talking to Asra.

MARIANE
I'll see you in the supermarket.
OK? I'll be there in - I don't
know - ten minutes?

15 EXT/INT CYBERNET HEADQUARTERS DAY 15

The CYBERNET HQ is on a busy street in central Karachi.
Danny's car waits as he goes inside.

CAPTION: 17.45 23rd January 2002

16 INT - OFFICE - DAY 16

DANNY is talking to a TECHNICAL SUPERVISOR.

DANNY
I'm trying to find a person who
was using Cybernet as his ISP. I
have the e-mail account name and
I was wondering if you would be
able to give me the IP number or
the name of the account holder?

TECHNICIAN
It's possible. But that
information is private.

17 INT - AGHA'S SUPERMARKET - DUSK 17

MARIANE and ASRA are in the vegetable section, shopping for
the big dinner. MARIANE'S cell phone rings. MARIANE
searches through her purse, retrieves it, sees it's DANNY.

MARIANE
Hi...

DANNY
Hi. Where are you?

MARIANE
We're at the market... Yes,
picadillo. How was Cybernet?

DANNY
Ok. They wouldn't say much.
Privacy issues. How are you
feeling?

*
*
*

MARIANE

OK. Bit of a headache. What time will you be back?

DANNY

About 9.00 I think. Don't wait for me. I'm just on my way to see Gilani now.

MARIANE

OK. We'll see you later. Take care.

DANNY

Bye.

18 EXT - STREETS - DUSK

18

The city is rushing to make it to prayer before the sun sets. Street vendors are packing up, the traffic is terrible, and pedestrians (overwhelmingly male) crowd the sidewalks. DANNY is in his taxi. He stares out of the window thinking about the meeting to come.

CAPTION : 18.30 23rd January 2002

DANNY dials a number.

DANNY

Masud. It's Danny... yeah I'm on my way.. the Village Restaurant.

19 INT - MASUD'S HOUSE ISLAMABAD - DUSK

19

We see a chubby, nervous looking man.

CAPTION: Masud the Fixer

MASUD

Is Mariane going with you?

DANNY

No.

MASUD

That's good.

20 EXT - STREETS KARACHI - DUSK

20

DANNY

Is there a problem?

MASUD

No, it should be OK. Just stay in a public place.

DANNY

I know. That's what everyone says.

MASUD

That's because it's true. Good luck.

DANNY:

Thanks.

We hear over city wide loudspeakers the call to prayer.

MUEZZIN

(singing)

'All-ah u Ak-bar!

21 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DUSK 21

The GUARD lifts the gate and waves through the taxi with ASRA and MARIANE.

22 EXT - VILLAGE RESTAURANT - DUSK 22

DANNY gets out of his taxi and goes into the restaurant.

INSERT: CNN/BBC TV news footage of the build up of troops on the India/Pakistan border.

REPORTER:

Pakistan and Indian troops still massing on the disputed Kashmir border despite Pakistan President General Pervez Musharraf's recent speech promising to prevent terrorists operating from Pakistan territory.

23 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 23

The TV is on in the background as MARIANE, ASRA, and NASRIN all chop vegetables. MARIANE is preparing her picadillo (a Cuban beans and rice dish) and plantains. KASHVA silently watches from a chair across the room.

CAPTION: 20.00 23rd January 2002

MARIANE takes out her cell phone and quickly dials a number. It rings then:

RECORDING ON PHONE
 (female robotic - first
 in Urdu, then in
 English)
 Your correspondent cannot be
 reached at this moment. Please
 try again later.

MARIANE frowns and hangs up.

24

INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - THE DINING ROOM - NIGHT

24

The GUESTS - clean-shaven handsome YOUNG MEN in tailored suits and YOUNG WOMEN elegant in simple black outfits, all from the Karachi moneyed elite - are seated around the table. They smoke and drink beer bought from a bootlegger and eat the dish of Picadillo MARIANE has prepared for them.

They are boisterous and cheerful, their mixing of Urdu and English punctuated by laughter.

ASRA is in mid-flow.

ASRA
 ... And he delivered the chicken Biryani within half an hour like he promised he would. I took it as a sign from God. This society is capable of being functional after all.

ASRA exchanges a warm glance with AZFAR, one of the YOUNG MEN. She's obviously in love.

MARIANE is distracted.

MALE GUEST 1
 This is excellent.

MARIANE
 It's a Cuban dish.

MALE GUEST 1
 Is that where you're from?

MARIANE
 No, my mother's from there. I'm from Paris.

MALE GUEST 2
 So where is the C.I.A. agent?

Several of the GUESTS laugh.

MALE PAKISTANI GUEST 1
All American journalists are
C.I.A aren't they?

ASRA
Really? I work for the Wall
Street Journal. Does that make me
an American spy?

*
*
*

AZFAR
No. You're a spy for India, my
little Indian maiden.

ASRA gives AZFAR an annoyed look. She knows how deep the
paranoia runs in Pakistan, a fragmented country on the
boil.

MARIANE is getting more tense about DANNY and looks at the
clock: 10.40.

MALE GUEST 1
Do you think Americans know
anything about Pakistan? Or
Afghanistan - except how to bomb
it?

ASRA
Well that's the point of being a
journalist. To let people know.

MARIANE gets up from the table and takes some plates
through to the kitchen.

25 INT - KITCHEN - NIGHT 25

MARIANE has her ear to the phone.

RECORDING ON PHONE
(female, robotic voice)
Your correspondent cannot be
reached at the moment. Please
try...

She hangs up with a growing feeling of dread.

25A EXT- ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 25A

ASRA and AZFAR say goodbye to their GUESTS as they leave.

26 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT 26

MARIANE comes into the room as AZFAR is lighting up a
joint.

AZFAR
He's probably out of town. In a
Madrassa.

AZFAR hands the joint to ASRA who refuses.

AZFAR
When you get out of Karachi you
get out of reach, you know?

MARIANE
He would call me. I'm going to
check his computer.

MARIANE heads for ASRA's office. ASRA goes with her leaving
AZFAR smoking dope.

27

INT - ASRA'S OFFICE - NIGHT

27

MARIANE sits down and powers DANNY's computer. ASRA sits
next to her.

MARIANE's eyes anxiously scans DANNY's e-mails.

MARIANE
Here.... From Bashir.

An e-mail from Chaudrey Bashir Ahmad Shabbir.

MARIANE
He's the guy who arranged Danny's
meeting with Gilani tonight.

MARIANE scans the e-mail. We see that BASHIR has given
DANNY a contact number for someone called IMTIAZ SIDDIQUE -
a mureed or disciple of GILANI supposed to take DANNY to
GILANI. *"I will arrange an appointment with the Sheikh in
Karachi... He will give me the number of one his mureeds
whom you can call... the mureed will take you to see him".*

*
*
*

ASRA is leaning over MARIANE's shoulder. She is puzzled by
something she sees.

ASRA
That's weird.

MARIANE
What?

ASRA
His e-mail address. 'Nobadmashi'.
It means 'no wrongdoing' in Urdu.

MARIANE frowns.

MARIANE
Let's try the number.

ASRA
What's the number?

She looks over MARIANE's shoulders, sees the number and dials.

ASRA
Nothing. It's been disconnected.

That's not good. MARIANE continues scrolling through DANNY's e-mails. Several of them are from BASHIR. We see glimpses of them: AZFAR appears in the doorway.

AZFAR
I have to work in the morning.
(to Mariane)
Don't worry, they've probably asked him to stay for the night. They won't want to drive back so late.
(smiles reassuringly)
He'll be here in the morning.

MARIANE ignores AZFAR who goes to ASRA's room.

ASRA
Who is this Bashir guy?

MARIANE
Danny met him a couple of weeks ago.

28

INT - CHEZ SOI GUEST HOUSE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

28

MARIANE is asleep in bed when DANNY walks out of the bathroom and gets into bed.

MARIANE
Hey.

DANNY
I missed you.

MARIANE groans, half asleep.

MARIANE
How was it?

DANNY
Interesting.

DANNY cuddles up to MARIANE from behind, 'spooning' her.

DANNY
It's always interesting to see how other people's minds work.

MARIANE

So you met him?

DANNY

Gilani? No. Someone who says he knows Gilani. The usual story.

He kisses her neck gently.

DANNY

Go back to sleep.

MARIANE grimaces and sits up, one hand on her pregnant belly.

MARIANE

I have to pee.

Half asleep, she heads to the bathroom. DANNY looks lost in his own thoughts.

29

INT - ASRA'S OFFICE - NIGHT

29

MARIANE and ASRA look at more of BASHIR's e-mails: "thank you very much for your articles", "my wife is back from hospital", "you can call my brother's mobile no. 0300-9486929. I think I gave you my other brother's number last time only to return home and find out he has sold it!", "it is sad you are leaving Pakistan so soon".

MARIANE

It's strange. Danny said Bashir was pretty offhand. But here he's extra friendly.

ASRA

Let's try Gilani.

MARIANE types into the search engine : SHEIKH GILANI.

On the computer screen, lots of hits. MARIANE selects one. We see photos and headlines describing the activities of Gilani and his group. Mariane reads from the screen.

MARIANE

Gilani heads a group called the Jamaat Al-Fuqra.... most of his followers are in the United States... they aim... to purify Islam through violence...

We see quick flashes of articles about Al-Fuqra.

MARIANE

10 unsolved assassinations. 17
fire-bombing cases between 1979
and 1990.

ASRA

Shit.

Video news footage of the 1993 bombing of the world trade
centre.

MARIANE

Suspected to have connections to
terrorists who bombed the World
Trade Center in 1993...

SEE BOSTON GLOBE ARTICLE

MARIANE

.... has sent fighters to wage
Jihad against Indian rule in
Kashmir, against Russians in
Chechnya, Serbs in Bosnia and to
fight Israelis.

MARIANE is stunned.

MARIANE

I didn't know Gilani was that
serious.

*DANNY gets in that last cab from that afternoon. He smiles
at MARIANE. And then he's off.*

CUT BACK TO :

MARIANE

Why didn't he tell me?

ASRA

He didn't want you to worry.

MARIANE

He always tells me everything. He
never hides anything from me.
Never.

ASRA

Why did Danny want to meet
Gilani?

MARIANE

He was researching a story on
Richard Reid - the shoe bomber.

See a brief clip of news footage of RICHARD REID - the British man who tried to blow up American Airlines flight 63.

MARIANE

The Boston Globe claimed Reid was connected to Gilani.

MARIANE re-dials DANNY's number. She hangs up after the first word or two.

MARIANE looks up at ASRA.

MARIANE

Do we call the police?

ASRA makes a face.

ASRA

I don't know if they can be trusted.

MARIANE

We have to trust someone.

It's pitch black outside. The place is very quiet. MARIANE sits back at the computer, gathering her thoughts. She scrolls through DANNY's e-mails.

*

ASRA picks up the phone.

ASRA

I know a reporter for Jang. I'll try him.

MARIANE

Doesn't Jang support the jihadis?

ASRA

That's why he might know something.

CAPTION : 00.25 24th January 2002

MARIANE is hanging on ASRA's every word, trying to guess what is being said as ASRA speaks to the REPORTER in Urdu.

ASRA hangs up.

ASRA

He doesn't know anything about Danny. But another journalist is missing. Ghulam Hasnain, a stringer for Time Magazine.

MARIANE:

Does he think there's a link with
Danny?

ASRA

He doesn't know.

CAPTION : 01.00 24th January 2002

MARIANE is on the phone again.

BAILEY (V.O.)

(sleepy)

The American consulate - Corporal
Bailey speaking. How can I help
you?

MARIANE

Hello my name is Mariane Pearl.

The sound of a car out front. MARIANE and ASRA rush to the window hopefully. SOMEONE is being dropped off across the street from a night of partying. They blunder out of the car, laughing. It's not DANNY.

MARIANE

I am calling because my husband
is missing. He was supposed to be
back at nine. He's a journalist.
He... OK... OK. Thanks.

MARIANE hangs up. ASRA looks at her.

MARIANE

"call back in the morning". We
should speak to their diplomatic
security special agent, Randall
Bennett.

MARIANE's hands absently go to her belly.

ASRA

Let's call the Journal.

30

INT - WALL STREET JOURNAL NEWSROOM - DAY

30

The chaos of a large open-plan busy newsroom. A cacophony of ringing phones. STAFF mill about or sit glued to their computers, their desks decorated with little stuffed animals, family photos etc...

ASRA

John Bussey Please.

JOHN BUSSEY - the foreign editor - picks up his ringing phone.

I read that stress, especially on the 26th week of pregnancy, when the brain develops, can cause autism in the child, take good care of your wife and make sure not to stress her out (including not to tell her about this).

*
*
*
*

Have a safe trip.

*

Love,

*

Mom.

*

BUSSEY

Look - maybe he's just been picked up by the police or the ISI.

ASRA

It's possible.

BUSSEY:

I'll contact Washington. Get them primed. Let me know if you hear anything or you need anything.
OK?

ASRA listens to BUSSEY and hangs up. MARIANE looks at ASRA. The grim fact of what is happening is sinking in. A very bad feeling.

MARIANE

(blankly focused)
I'm going to call his parents.

32

INT - MARIANE AND DANNY'S ROOM - NIGHT

32

It's still pitch black outside. MARIANE stands in their room alone, surrounded by DANNY'S things, on the phone to DANNY'S parents. She's trying to keep herself focused and calm. Someone picks up the phone on the other end.

RUTH - DANNY'S MOM

Hello?

MARIANE

Ruth? It's Mariane.

There's a pause.

RUTH

*(sensing something is
amiss)*

What's wrong? Is everything
alright? *

MARIANE

Danny went on an interview
yesterday. He's not back. *

DANNY'S FATHER picks up and immediately joins in the conversation.

DANNY'S FATHER

Mariane, it's Judea. Have you
called the embassy?

MARIANE

It's the middle of the night
here. I'm calling them back in
the morning.

JUDEA

Who was he interviewing?

MARIANE

A religious leader. Called Sheikh
Gilani.

Silence.

JUDEA

Does anyone there know we're
Jewish?

MARIANE

(lying)

No. I don't think so.

33 INT - KHALID KHAWAJA'S HOUSE - DAY - (FLASHBACK) 33

DANNY and MARIANE sit in KHALID KHAWAJA's office. DANNY is interviewing KHAWAJA - an ex ISI pilot and friend of Bin Laden -.

CAPTION : 10th January 2002

DANNY is taking notes in a shorthand only comprehensible to him.

KHAWAJA

You know who was behind the attacks on the World Trade Centre?

DANNY

Who?

KHAWAJA

The Jews. Mossad are the only ones who would have had the means to organize such an event. Do you know that four thousand Jews who normally work in the towers did not show up that day?

DANNY stops taking notes.

DANNY

(without irony)
Really?

KHAWAJA is taking DANNY's measure.

KHAWAJA

What are you? A Christian?

DANNY

No. Jewish.

KHAWAJA

Are you?

They stare at each other.

34 INT - ASRA'S OFFICE - DAWN 34

MARIANE comes into the office, looking pale and drawn from the lack of sleep and drained with anxiety but intent on keeping her emotions in check.

CAPTION : 05.58 24th January 2002

ASRA is dialling a number.

ASRA
 (on the phone)
 As-salam alaykum.

35 INT - KHAWAJA'S HOUSE - DAWN 35

KHALID KHAWAJA freshly showered, wearing traditional robes, answers the phone in his kitchen. His WIFE and SEVERAL CHILDREN are eating, preparing for the day, etc.

CAPTION : KHALID KHAWAJA

KHAWAJA
 Walaikum salaam.

36 INT. ASRA'S HOUSE - THE DINING ROOM - DAWN 36

MARIANE watches ASRA. (Intercut with KHAWAJA as required)

ASRA
 I'm sorry to call so early. I'm with my friend Mariane Pearl. Her husband Danny Pearl was meant to meet with your friend Sheikh Gilani last night at seven...

KHAWAJA
 (interrupts)
 Sheikh Gilani? Not possible. Sheikh Gilani would never meet a Western journalist. Never. It's against his beliefs.

ASRA looks at MARIANE surprised.

MARIANE
 What?

KHAWAJA
 Maybe you should try the C.I.A.

ASRA
 The CIA?

KHAWAJA
 They probably took him to embarrass Pakistan in the eyes of....

ASRA looks frustrated but tries to stay calm. MARIANE is restless, getting edgy.

ASRA

Put politics aside for a minute.
Mariane is pregnant. She's
worried sick. You have...

KHAWAJA

Think about the plight of Afghan
women whose husbands are right
now being killed by American
bombs. Think about the innocent
Afghan children that Americans
are slaughtering every day.

ASRA

This has nothing to do with...

MARIANE

(frustrated)

What is he saying?

They are interrupted by the morning call to prayer. We hear
the MUEZZIN's voice in the distance, through loudspeakers
throughout Karachi.

37 INT - KHAWAJA'S HOUSE - DAWN

37

A MUEZZIN in Islamabad is starting the same call near
KHAWAJA.

KHAWAJA

It is the call to prayer. I must
go.

KHAWAJA hangs up.

38 INT - ASRA'S OFFICE - DAWN

38

ASRA hangs up.

ASRA

The fucker.

MARIANE dials DANNY's cell number. Her sense of dread
growing.

RECORDING ON PHONE

(female, robotic voice)

Your correspondent cannot be
reached at this ...

39 EXT - STREETS OF KARACHI - DAWN

39

The streets of Karachi at dawn. The sun a large red disk.
The rooftops already ablaze. A city coming to life.

MUEZZIN

All-ah u Ak-bar. All-ah u Ak-
bar! Al-la Ilaha ill All-ah!

40 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE/VERANDAH - DAWN

40

MARIANE stands on the verandah, dialing another number. She can see ASRA talking to a WOMAN NEIGHBOUR across the road. The WOMAN a silhouette with a dupatta on her head. MARIANE can sense the hostility of the woman as she talks to ASRA.

MARIANE

Randall Bennett? My name is
Mariane Pearl. I'm the wife of
Daniel Pearl, a journalist for
the...

RANDALL

Yes I know your husband.

MARIANE

You do?

RANDALL

I met him yesterday.

41 EXT - AMERICAN CONSULATE - DAY

41

DANNY'S taxi pulls up at the barrier in front of the consulate. A PAKISTANI GUARD comes over to the taxi. DANNY rolls down his window.

DANNY

I'm here to see Randall Bennett.

GUARD

Who are you?

DANNY

Daniel Pearl, Wall street
Journal.

The GUARD goes back to the gate to get permission to let DANNY's car through.

42 OMITTED

42

43 INT - US CONSULATE - DAY

43

RANDALL BENNETT (50's, in impressive shape, hair slicked back, a gold stud in his left ear, dressed all in black) sits behind his desk.

DANNY

I wanted your advice. I'm supposed to be meeting Sheikh Gilani. I wondered whether you thought that was a good idea.

RANDALL

Who arranged the meeting?

DANNY

My fixer in Islamabad.

RANDALL

Is he with you?

DANNY

No. I left him in Islamabad. Why? You think there's a problem?

RANDALL

Well, I wouldn't recommend it obviously. Where are you meeting?

DANNY

The Village Restaurant.

44

INT - VERANDAH - DAWN

44

MARIANE paces on the verandah on the phone to RANDALL.

MARIANE

He didn't come home from the meeting last night. It's been twelve hours.

AZFAR is rushing down the stairs, late for work, his hair uncombed.

MARIANE glances at him as he hurries out of the house without looking at her.

RANDALL

Have you called the police?

MARIANE

No. We didn't know who to trust.

RANDALL

Okay. Call Luqman Sadiq. He's a friend. He's deputy inspector general. And call Kaleem Yusuf at the Citizen Police Liaison Committee. They specialize in kidnapping. They're good people.

45 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAWN 45

Up and down the street, NEIGHBOURS get into their cars and start leaving for work. The banal start of a new day.

ASRA is saying goodbye to AZFAR in the garden. As she reaches for his hand he pulls it quickly away afraid of people seeing.

46 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE/LIVING ROOM - DAWN 46

ASRA walks back in.

MARIANE

I spoke to Randall Bennett.

MARIANE hands ASRA the list of names and phone numbers RANDALL has just given her.

MARIANE

He says they can be trusted.

ASRA picks up the list, looking dubious.

47 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE/LIVING ROOM - MORNING/LATER 47

NASRIN crouches and sweeps the floor. KASHVA, her daughter, barefoot, stands, watching the world with a curious rounded stare.

ASRA and MARIANE, showered and dressed. MARIANE reads out names and numbers as ASRA writes them down on some paper - REID, GILANI, BASHIR, MASUD..

The place has been cleared from the previous night's debris.

PICK UP ON

MARIANE dialing yet another number.

CAPTION : 08.00 24th January 2002

48 INT - MASUD'S HOUSE IN ISLAMABAD - DAY 48

A phone rings insistently. Masud - DANNY'S FIXER - holds his crying baby girl in his arms, trying to soothe her. Masud's wife appears, flustered and holds out the phone to him. She takes the crying baby from Masud into her arms.

MARIANE

Masud? It's Mariane.

Masud looks worried.

MARIANE

Danny's missing. He didn't come home last night.

Masud glances at his wife who is trying to calm the BABY down. Masud looks upset.

MARIANE

Do you have a number for Bashir?

MASUD

No... I have a number for the contact who took us to Bashir.

49 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - EARLY MORNING

49

ASRA sits next to MARIANE as she talks to MASUD. ASRA writes things/names down.

MARIANE

Who was that?

MASUD

A spokesman for the Harkat-ul-Mujahideen.

MARIANE

What was his name ?

MASUD

Arif.

Mariane SIGHS.

50 INT - TAXI - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

50

DANNY and MASUD are in the car. They see a MAN waiting by the side of the Pindhora road. MASUD tells the taxi to pull over. A young, sophisticated looking MAN with a beard gets in. This is ARIF.

ARIF

Do you know the Hotel Akbar in Pindi?

MASUD

Of course.

ARIF

That's where we are going.

51 INT- HOTEL AKBAR - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

51

A MAN behind reception watches DANNY and MASUD as they wait whilst ARIF looks for BASHIR. He returns from the dining room with a skinny man with no beard.

 ARIF
 (to Masud)
This is him.

 DANNY
Hi. I'm Danny

 BASHIR
 (Punjabi accent)
Good evening.

BASHIR takes them up to his bedroom.

52 INT BEDROOM HOTEL AKBAR - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

52

DANNY and BASHIR sit opposite each other whilst MASUD and ARIF watch.

 BASHIR
You know Sheikh Gilani is a descendant of the prophet. He is a pir - a holy man.

 DANNY
And you are one of his followers?

 BASHIR
Yes. You know many of his followers are Americans.

 DANNY
I know.

 BASHIR
Why do you want to meet him?

 DANNY
I want to write about him.

 BASHIR
What do you want to write?

 DANNY
Well, I can't know that until I meet him.

 BASHIR
Most journalists who are here just want to write stories about terrorism.

DANNY waits.

BASHIR
Is that what you want?

DANNY
I just want to write the truth.

53

INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

53

ASRA writes down: ARIF-JIHADI SPOKESMAN

MARIANE
Bashir? He is a jihadi?

MASUD
I don't know. I just met him that once.

MARIANE
And Arif?

MASUD
I think so. He's connected to jihadis.

MARIANE
And to al Qaeda?

MASUD
It's possible.

MARIANE
Why didn't you say anything to Danny? That's your job. To protect us!

MASUD
Mariane... I did tell Danny. But he wanted to meet Gilani. You know that. I'll call Arif.

MARIANE
Call me straight back.

She slams the phone down.

MARIANE
Fuck.

ASRA
Okay so there's Bashir and Arif.

MARIANE
And Siddique and Gilani.

ASRA

We need a bigger sheet of paper.

ASRA gets out a large piece of paper and starts to draw up a Chart in order to visualize the sea of information and start to piece it all together.

ASRA writes down DANNY in the middle and all the names and information they have to date. Telephone numbers, names of organization etc...

The phone rings. It's Masud.

54 INT - MASUD'S HOUSE - DAY

54

Masud is looking worried.

MASUD

Arif's phone is switched off.

MARIANE

You'd better get down here.
You're the only one who has met
these people. The police are
going to want to talk to you.

MASUD

Mariane, you know I only wanted
to help Danny. You have to
protect me from the police.

MARIANE

Just get down here Masud.

55 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

55

A phalanx of jeeps and beat-up police cars are slamming to a stop in front of ASRA's house. The NEIGHBOURS come out of their house to see what is going on.

CAPTION : 09.00 24th January 2002

56 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE- DAY

56

ASRA and MARIANE are hiding the chart they have just begun as well as DANNY's computer in the bedroom. ASRA decides to put her high heel party shoes back on in honour of their guests.

Downstairs. Chaos.

More than TWENTY PAKISTANI POLICEMEN and ARMY SOLDIERS -- uniformed and plain clothed - rifle through the house, as though DANNY is hiding somewhere in a closet.

Sitting quietly to one side is a man who is watching all the activity. The man we will know as Captain.

Books are stacked and unstacked. Cabinets are opened and closed. Papers are read.

KASHVA, barefoot and dirty, wanders around amidst the chaos.

The door bell keeps on ringing.

LUQMAN SADIQ talks into his phone in Urdu.

CAPTION : LUQMAN SADIQ - KARACHI'S DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

MARIANE and ASRA observe the scene in disbelief.

MARIANE

How is this helping to find
Danny?

LUQMAN SADIQ approaches MARIANE and ASRA.

MARIANE

(to Jamil)

Why aren't you combing the
streets of Karachi? Why aren't
you out trying to find Gilani?

LUQMAN SADIQ

Mrs. Pearl, we will make every
effort to find your husband but
we need to know a bit more about
his purpose here.

MARIANE

Purpose? He's a journalist for
the Wall Street Journal.

The door bell rings again.

LUQMAN SADIQ walks off to greet someone at the door. There's an air of excitement amongst the men. This is a high profile case. KAMAL SHAH has arrived. He is in charge of Karachi police.

LUQMAN talks in Urdu to his men but then notices ASRA listening and realizes she understands. He lowers his voice.

AN OFFICER hands LUQMAN DANNY'S notebooks. JAMIL looks through the pages filled with DANNY'S incomprehensible shorthand and hands them back to the OFFICER pointing him to MARIANE. The OFFICER walks up to her.

OFFICER 1

Can you read those?

MARIANE

No. It's a shorthand that my husband created for himself. No one can make any sense of it.

OFFICER 1

Do you have a photograph of your husband?

MARIANE nods.

A second officer, FAROOQ, is examining ASRA's Passport. He talks to her in Urdu.

FAROOQ

(Speaking in Urdu)
You were born in America?

ASRA

(Speaking in Urdu)
No.

FAROOQ

(*Tuning pages of the passport,
Speaking in Urdu*)
Where then?

ASRA

(Speaking in Urdu)
India.

He looks up at her, instantly suspicious.

FAROOQ

(Speaking in Urdu)
India?

MARIANE searches DANNY's computer bag and pulls out a set of recent ID photos. DANNY is smiling out at her. MARIANE's heart sinks as she sees his face. Tears come to the back of her throat but she collects herself. She hands the ID snapshot to OFFICER 1.

The FAROOQ continues to question ASRA.

FAROOQ

(Speaking in Urdu)
Why are you in Pakistan?

ASRA

(Speaking in Urdu)
I'm researching a book.

LUQMAN SADIQ looks at MARIANE without smiling.

LUQMAN SADIQ

You are pregnant.

MARIANE

Yes. I am.

She is clearly not impressed.

LUQMAN SADIQ

Can you tell me something? Is your husband a cautious man?

MARIANE feels what is implied. She holds his gaze coolly.

MARIANE

How do you mean?

ASRA walks to LUQMAN and hands him her phone.

ASRA

This is the foreign editor of the Wall Street Journal. He wants to talk to you.

LUQMAN SADIQ

*(immediately
deferential, on the
phone to Bussey)*

Let me assure you. The police will make every effort to find Mr. Pearl.

MARIANE is not impressed by LUQMAN SADIQ. She notices TWO MEN who stand across the room watching her.

One of the men - elegantly dressed in a tailored suit - is in his mid forties. MARIANE hears a police officer call him CAPTAIN. His hair and mustache are flecked with grey. There's something noble about him. A certain gravitas that immediately inspires the confidence MARIANE desperately needs. A younger MAN, DOST, is with him, equally well-dressed. They both look alert and focused, taking in the scene.

MARIANE approaches the TWO MEN.

CAPTAIN

(shows his ID)

I am S.S.P., C.I.D. And this is Dost, M.I.

MARIANE

Mariane Pearl.

ASRA

M.I.? Military Intelligence?
Are you guys Army?

CAPTAIN

I am Chief of C.I.D.

MARIANE confused waits for him to explain.

CAPTAIN:

The unit in charge of counter-
terrorism. Randall Bennett called
me.

MARIANE looks at CAPTAIN's composed gaze. These are men she
instinctively feels she can trust. CAPTAIN looks at ASRA's
shoes.

CAPTAIN

(to Asra)

Please take those off.

MARIANE smiles. ASRA takes off her high heels.

57

INT - ASRA'S DINING ROOM - LUNCHTIME

57

Lunchtime. The place is quieter after the morning mayhem.

MARIANE, ASRA, CAPTAIN and DOST sit around the table.

ASRA studies DOST and CAPTAIN still trying to decide
whether they are any different from the other cops and
whether they should be trusted.

CAPTAIN

When did you last see Danny?

*(a brief moment of DANNY getting into the car. The look on
his face as he waves Mariane good-bye).*

MARIANE

He left here, it must have been
around five. Then I spoke to him
about six thirty. He called to
check in and tell me where he was
going. He always does.

CAPTAIN

Where was he going?

MARIANE

The Village Restaurant.

ASRA and MARIANE exchange a glance, their trust still
tentative. How much should they tell?

MARIANE

What do you know of Sheikh
Gilani?

DOST

Who is he?

MARIANE looks at CAPTAIN and DOST stunned, her beautiful trust already faltering. How can they not know more?

ASRA:
I thought you said you were
intelligence?

MARIANE's cell rings. She picks up.

MARIANE
Hello?

Frustrated, she moves to another part of the room to take the call.

CAPTAIN lights a cigarette. ASRA is looking at DOST and CAPTAIN, her trust also wavering.

DOST
I was in New York on September
the 11th.

ASRA
You were?

DOST
With Captain. We were there for
an anti-terrorist conference.

ASRA
You're kidding?

DOST
No.

MARIANE is pacing on the phone to RANDALL.

MARIANE
I feel great. My husband has been
kidnapped and no one knows
anything about the people he was
meeting and you're sitting in an
office somewhere doing nothing.

58 INT- US CONSULATE - DAY

58

RANDALL stands, pacing around in his office as he talks to MARIANE. He has an intent focused look in his eyes.

RANDALL
Mariane, you have to calm down.
I'm not doing nothing. I am
getting people to work on Danny's
case.

He looks out into the gated consulate yard and then turns back to his desk.

MARIANE

Who?

RANDALL's desk is piled with a number of files. There is one file open which we assume to be DANNY's. His voice is calm and steady.

RANDALL

Look I'll be over as soon as I can.

59 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

59

MARIANE puts the phone down. She looks over at CAPTAIN. She makes a decision. She has to trust someone. She instinctively feels that person should be Captain. MARIANE crosses the room to him.

MARIANE

Asra and I are your best allies. We are both journalists. We want to work with you.

CAPTAIN

I would have it no other way Mrs. Pearl. I need you to be open with me. In return I will share any information I receive with you.

CAPTAIN watches her carefully. MARIANE glances across to ASRA to gauge her reaction. ASRA looks doubtful but MARIANE continues.

MARIANE

We have Danny's computer. And we have a chart.

CAPTAIN

May I see them?

ASRA says nothing but we feel her reluctance.

MARIANE

Yes.

60 INT - ASRA'S OFFICE - DAY

60

MARIANE pulls the computer out of its hiding place while ASRA opens up The Chart - an already tangled web of overlapping connections giving little away.

CAPTAIN

It's good. We start with three people. Siddique who was to take Danny to Gilani. Bashir who introduced Danny to Siddique. Arif who took Danny to Bashir.

MARIANE

But it's so little no?

CAPTAIN

It's a start. Then there is Masud the fixer. And Danny's driver who took him to the restaurant.

ASRA

He got a taxi. There were no cars available. Shabir got the taxi.

61 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY/LATER 61

DOST is interviewing SHABIR. They speak in Urdu.

SHABIR

(Speaking in Urdu)

I went to the two swords roundabout. To the taxi rank there.

62 EXT - TWO SWORDS ROUNDABOUT - DAY (FLASHBACK) 62

SHABIR on his bike is hiring two taxis.

SHABIR

(Speaking in Urdu)

I got two taxis. One for the man and one for the lady.

63 EXT - TWO SWORDS ROUNDABOUT - DUSK (PRESENT) 63

A WHOLE GROUP OF UNIFORMED POLICE and A COUPLE OF PLAIN CLOTHES POLICEMEN are stopping and questioning every TAXI DRIVER at the taxi rank. One of the plain clothes policemen we recognise from the house. He is FAROOQ AWAN - CAPTAIN'S assistant.

64 OMITTED 64

65 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DUSK 65

CAPTAIN looks at MARIANE.

CAPTAIN
How many months pregnant are you?

MARIANE
Six.

CAPTAIN
And when did you last sleep?

MARIANE doesn't answer.

CAPTAIN
And eat? Have a meal?

She doesn't say anything.

CAPTAIN
So..
(with a warm smile)
Perhaps you should have something
to eat and then get some sleep.

The CAPTAIN's cell phone rings. He ignores it. He looks
into MARIANE's eyes.

CAPTAIN
We will find your Danny. But you
must take care of yourself and
the baby.

CAPTAIN's tone is that of a father, firm and calming.

66 INT - MARIANE AND DANNY'S ROOM - NIGHT

66

MARIANE lies in bed. She resists closing her eyes. She
closes her eyes.

*Peace. The scene is softly suspended. MARIANE lies in bed,
safe, curled up in DANNY's embrace. They are both naked.
Pressed against each other, spooning, each fitted to the
other's shape like two spoons in a drawer.*

MARIANE opens her eyes. Not sure where she is. She doesn't
know if she's been asleep for five minutes or the whole
night.

67 INT - PLANE - NIGHT

67

MASUD is on the plane flying towards Karachi. The person
sitting next to him is asleep but MASUD can't sleep.

She seems edgy. MARIANE seems calmer. MASUD looks around nervously.

MASUD

Mariane... I am sorry. Did you hear anything yet?

MARIANE

No.

ASRA

Just tell us what you know.

MASUD looks at the TWO WOMEN uneasy. MARIANE is watching him like a hawk.

MASUD

I wanted to help Danny. He wanted to meet Gilani.

74 INT - TAXI ISLAMABAD - PINDI ROAD DAY (FLASHBACK) 74

DANNY and MASUD are in the taxi. They pull up and ARIF gets in.

MASUD

We met with this Arif who said he knew where Gilani lived. He took us to a compound in Pindi.

75 EXT - COMPOUND - DAY (FLASHBACK) 75

The taxi pulls up and ARIF, MASUD and DANNY get out. It looks deserted.

MASUD

But there was no one there.

76 EXT - VERANDAH - DAY 76

ASRA stares hard at MASUD who sits looking nervous and on the defensive.

ASRA

I thought you met with Bashir?

MASUD is collecting his thoughts. A feeling of dread seems to be hanging over him.

MASUD

That was the next day. Danny wanted to try again. Arif said he knew one of Sheikh Gilani's disciples.

MARIANE
Who is Arif?

MASUD
I don't know.

MARIANE
What do you mean? How did you
contact him?

MASUD
I can't tell you.

MARIANE is shocked by Masud's unwillingness to help her.

MARIANE
What?

MASUD
A friend helped me. I promised I
wouldn't tell his name.

ASRA
How much money did they pay you
for Danny?

MASUD
What?

ASRA is now seething.

MARIANE
Masud. I don't think you
understand how serious this is.
Danny is missing. Anything might
have happened.

MARIANE is right - Masud hadn't really thought through how
serious the situation is until now.

MARIANE (CONT'D)
If you want me to protect you
from the police you have to help
me.

MASUD
He is a journalist. A friend of
mine. He works for Jang in
Islamabad. I asked him to help
me.

MARIANE
What's his name?

MASUD
Please, don't bring trouble to
him.

MARIANE
What's his name?

MASUD
Jamal Paracha.

77 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE /VERANADAH - LATER 77

MASUD plugs in a recording device into the telephone to record their conversation with JAMAL.

MASUD
Jamal, it's Masud. I'm with Mariane Pearl in Karachi. They want to talk to you...

MARIANE and ASRA sit across from Masud

MASUD
I'm sorry.... They will protect you from the police...

ASRA
Bullshit.

The tape is turning.

78 INT - JANG OFFICE ISLAMABAD - DAY 78

JAMAL is very matter of fact.

JAMAL
I don't know much. Arif is a Jihadi. I met him at a Harkat-ul-Mujahideen meeting about a year ago. He seemed educated. Well connected. I don't know anything about him personally. You know until a few weeks ago his organization was completely legal. Now, they've all gone underground.

79 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY 79

As JAMAL speaks, MARIANE punches DANNY's number on her cell phone. Still the mechanical voice. She hangs up.

80 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY. 80

An hour later. The police have arrived. MASUD sits across from CAPTAIN and DOST, MARIANE and ASRA.

CAPTAIN

Why didn't you come with Danny to Karachi?

MASUD

He didn't ask me to.

DOST

Why not?

MASUD looks up at MARIANE.

MASUD

I don't know.

MASUD looks up at MARIANE. He's upset and fearful.

MASUD

I told Danny it would be best to keep contact with Bashir through me.

81

INT - BASHIR'S ROOM HOTEL AKBAR - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

81

DANNY, MASUD and ARIF are leaving. DANNY shakes BASHIR's hand.

DANNY

Thank you for your time. Obviously a meeting with Sheikh Gilani himself would be incredibly helpful.

BASHIR

I don't know if that is possible.

DANNY feels BASHIR's eyes studying him.

DANNY

I'm interested in putting everyone's point of view across.

BASHIR

(with Punjabi accent)

Do you have a card?

DANNY

Sure.

DANNY hands over his Wall Street Journal card. MASUD gives DANNY a look.

82 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

82

MASUD glances up at CAPTAIN, uneasy. He avoids MARIANE's eyes.

MASUD

When Danny was leaving Islamabad
I went to see him to get my
money.

83 INT - CHEZ SOI GUESTHOUSE/ISLAMABAD - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

83

MASUD is signing a receipt for his money. While DANNY and MASUD speak, MARIANE moves in and out of the bathroom, packing toiletries.

MASUD

What time is your plane?

DANNY

10.00.

MASUD is surprised.

MASUD

Really? But there is no plane to
Dubai at 10?

DANNY realizes he is caught out.

DANNY

We're going to Karachi first.

He looks up at MASUD.

DANNY

(trying to be casual)
I have a meeting with Gilani.

MASUD

What?

DANNY proceeds cautiously.

DANNY

Bashir e-mailed me. He says
Gilani is in Karachi and I can
meet him there and I have a
friend there that I'd like to see
before leaving Pakistan, so...

MASUD looks at DANNY, taken aback.

84 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

84

CAPTAIN looks up at MARIANE, checking that this is true. MARIANE is looking at MASUD. She feels MASUD is trying to make excuses, but she isn't going to argue with him.

MASUD

I told Danny not to contact the Jihadis directly. I told him I should be with him if he met Gilani. I told him only to meet in a public place.

CAPTAIN lights up another cigarette.

CAPTAIN

Could you describe Bashir to a,
a (*says a word in Urdu*)

ASRA

(*translating*)
Sketch artist.

MASUD nods.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

Good.
(*calling out*)
NOOR!

NOOR comes to take MASUD to the police station.

85 INT - CPLC

85

On the wall are examples of sketches and the real photographs of criminals when they are caught. MASUD compiles a sketch of BASHIR.

86 EXT - POLICE STATION - DAY

86

DANNY'S TAXI DRIVER is being taken into the police station for interrogation. He looks nervous.

87 INT - CPLC - DAY

87

On a computer screen we see a whole list of numbers and times. DANNY'S NAME is there. The last phone call recorded is 19.11 - 19.18 Jan 23rd.

88 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

88

CAPTAIN is reading through DANNY's e-mails.

CAPTAIN

Is there a way you could print
all of your husband's e-mails for
us?

ASRA

Why can't you print them?

CAPTAIN looks at MARIANE and ASRA, a little embarrassed.

CAPTAIN

We don't have a printer at the
moment.

MARIANE

What?

CAPTAIN

My department has only just been
set up. Fighting terrorism wasn't
considered very important until
quite recently.

MARIANE

What else do you need?

CAPTAIN

Printers. Cell phones. Fax
machines.

89 MONTAGE : VARIOUS SHOTS - OFFICE SUPPLY STORE

89

HASAN and TWO OTHER PAKISTANI MEN in an office supply
store, are buying the items as the CAPTAIN's voice lists
them.

CAPTAIN (V.O.)

File folders. Pens, tape,
bulletin boards, answering
machines.

90 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

90

CAPTAIN'S MEN dart this way and that. They are unpacking
the office supplies. Cell phones are being programmed. Cell
phones are ringing. A laser printer is being hooked up by
HASAN, an unassuming young man in his 20's, one of
CAPTAIN's recruits.

THREE ATTACHES FROM THE FRENCH CONSULATE are talking with MARIANE. They have brought supplies of French food.

NABIL *
Comment vous sentez vous? *
(How are you feeling?) *

MARIANE *
Ca va. *
(I'm Ok). *

NABIL
Nous ferons tout ce qui est en
notre pouvoir pour vous aider.
(anything we can do to help you,
we will do)

MARIANE smiles *

MARIANE *
Merci pour les quiches. C'est *
gentil. *
(Thanks for the quiches. It's *
nice of you). *

91 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY 91

RANDALL BENNETT's 4X4 pulls up outside.

CAPTION: 15.30 25th January 2002

The FRENCH voices are drifting out as RANDALL, ZAFIR - his trained aid, a PAKISTANI with sophisticated good looks - and THREE FBI PROFESSIONALS - two men and a woman - get out of the car and make their way to the house. RANDALL carries a thick file. SOME NEIGHBOURS take a peek.

92 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY 92

RANDALL BENNETT and MAUREEN PLATT (the FBI BOSS) enter with JOHN SKELTON and another FBI man. *

NABIL *
(faintly sarcastic)
Voila le FBI. *

MARIANE stands up, pleased to see the Americans, finally.

RANDALL *
I'm Randall Bennett from the *
consulate. *

MARIANE

I'm Mariane Pearl. This is Nabil
***, *** and *** from the French
embassy.

MAUREEN takes one cold look at the FRENCH.

MARIANE

It's good to meet you, at last.

RANDALL

Mariane, this is Maureen Platt,
John Skelton and Matt McDowell
from the Federal Bureau of
Investigation.

Sensing hostility from MAUREEN, the THREE FRENCH ATTACHES
smile politely, ready to leave.

NABIL

Si l'on peut faire quelque chose
pour vous, n'hésitez pas.
(don't hesitate if we can we do
anything for you)

MARIANE

Merci.

RANDALL

Maureen would like to take a look
at Danny's computer.

MARIANE stiffens. She doesn't like the idea. She looks
coldly at PLATT.

A phone rings. Everyone turns. DOST answers.

DOST.

Agent Platt, it's for you, F.B.I
calling from New Jersey.

PLATT takes the phone and turns to RANDALL. She motions
towards ASRA and MARIANE.

PLATT

Could you ask them to leave the
room?

ASRA is furious but RANDALL ushers ASRA and MARIANE out to
the verandah before ASRA can think of anything to say.

93

EXT - VERANDAH - DAY

93 *

RANDALL sits with ASRA and MARIANE.

RANDALL
I'm sorry it's taken me so long
to show my face.

He passes a thick file folder to MARIANE. It's labelled "sensitive but unclassified".

RANDALL (CONT'D)

Here.

MARIANE looks through. RANDALL observes her, studying her energy.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

That's as much as I could get on Gilani in 24 hours.

MARIANE flicks through the articles and photocopies of information gathered on GILANI. She knows most of this already.

MARIANE

Why haven't we heard anything from the kidnappers?

RANDALL

They probably want to get Danny to a safe place before making contact. The police are doing everything they can to make it difficult for them.

94 EXT - STREET/ROAD BLOCK -DAY

94

Road blocks are being set up. ARMED MEN laden with machine guns stand by sandbags and barbed wires. A POLICEMAN motions for a TAXI DRIVER to pull over.

RANDALL

So maybe it's taking them longer than they'd want.

Behind his windscreen, the TAXI DRIVER's eyes widen in fear. The POLICEMAN pulls the TAXI DRIVER out of the car.

95 INT - ASRA HOUSE - VERANDAH - DAY

95

RANDALL looks straight into MARIANE's eyes.

RANDALL

Danny is a high value hostage. They'll want to keep him alive.

MARIANE looks back at RANDALL. She has not even thought that DANNY might be dead.

96

INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DUSK

96

The Chart is up on the wall. They are all gathered for the end of day debriefing.

CAPTAIN glances at MARIANE.

CAPTAIN
Hasnain, the Time journalist has been released.

MARIANE looks back at CAPTAIN.

CAPTAIN
We don't know who was involved. He's not saying anything. But it doesn't seem to be connected to Danny.

DOST
And we found the taxi driver.

ASRA
What did he have to say?

DOST
He took Danny to the Village Restaurant for 7. Danny went in, came back out. He received a call. Then he told the driver he could go.

MARIANE takes in the information blankly.

ASRA
Do you believe him?

CAPTAIN
Yes. There is no reason why we shouldn't.

BENNETT:
Waiters at the Village Restaurant corroborate his story.

ASRA:
Why would he let his driver go?

DOST
It was quite a long call. Whoever it was must have been able to speak good English.

ASRA writes the phone call information down onto the chart.

CAPTAIN

No luck so far with Gilani.

MARIANE

Or Bashir. Or Siddique.

CAPTAIN

No.

ASRA

What about Masud?

DOST

He's here. NOOR is taking him
back to Islamabad tonight.

MARIANE crosses the room and sees MASUD sitting with TWO
OTHER MEN and NOOR in the verandah.

MARIANE

Who is he with?

DOST

Two journalists. One of them is
his brother in law. He works at
Takbeer. A Jihadi newspaper. Very
anti U.S.

MARIANE goes through to where MASUD and the MEN are
sitting.

*
*

MARIANE

What are you doing? Why have you
brought these men into my house?

MASUD looks scared.

MASUD

Mariane! You have to help me.
I've told the truth. This guy is
coming to Islamabad. He's a
torturer. He will torture me.

MARIANE turns to CAPTAIN and DOST who have followed her in.

MARIANE

Is this true?

DOST

(sternly to NOOR)

This is a very important case,
yar. No torture. No bribe. OK?

NOOR

No problem.

MASUD is still nervous but there's nothing more he can do.
He leaves with NOOR.

97

EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

97

CAPTAIN sits on the front steps of the house, alone, a cigarette in his mouth, thinking. MARIANE comes out to join him. They share a silent moment of peace, away from the commotion of the house.

MARIANE

So now what?

He takes a drag from his cigarette.

CAPTAIN

We wait.

MARIANE

For what?

CAPTAIN

Contact.

MARIANE

Are they going to ask for a ransom?

CAPTAIN

I don't think so.

MARIANE waits for CAPTAIN to elaborate but he doesn't.

MARIANE

You're used to dealing with all of this.

CAPTAIN

You never get used to it.

He takes another drag on his cigarette.

CAPTAIN:

You know I lost a daughter in a car accident. She was seven years old. She was our only daughter at the time.

MARIANE:

I'm sorry.

CAPTAIN:

I think of her everyday.

MARIANE

What was her name?

101 EXT - HOUSE LAHORE - NIGHT 101

POLICE knocking the door.

CAPTION: Sheikh Gilani's House, Lahore, Pakistan

A SERVANT comes to the door. The POLICE search the house, but GILANI isn't there.

102 INT - US CONSULATE - NIGHT 102

The FBI with ZAFIR work away on their computers, checking hard disks.

RANDALL BENNETT sits at his desk typing up his report for Washington: the clock says 5.50am

103 EXT. ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY 103

CAPTION: 26th January 2002

A Sheraton car pulls up and STEVE LeVINE, a discreet and serious looking man, gets out. His driver brings boxes of office supplies from the car. There are various phone company workers in the street and an argument going on with one of the neighbours in the background.

CAPTION : STEVE LeVINE, CENTRAL ASIA CORRESPONDENT, WALL STREET JOURNAL

He shows his US passport and is let through by the GUARDS.

104 INT. ASRA'S HOUSE - THE LIVING ROOM - DAY/MOMENTS LATER 104

HASAN is busy setting up and plugging in speaker phones. The information has to be shared by all. TWO PAKISTANI COMPUTER EXPERTS work on computers.

STEVE LEVINE enters and sees MARIANE. STEVE hugs her. *

STEVE *

I got here as soon as I could. *
How are you? *

MARIANE *

I'm Ok. *

STEVE *

No news? *

MARIANE *

No. *

ASRA comes down the stairs. *

MARIANE *

You two must know each other. *
Working for the same paper? *

STEVE *

We've never met. I'm Steve *
LeVine. *

ASRA *

Asra Nomani. *

STEVE *

I brought some office supplies. *

ASRA *

Great. *

ASRA notices a PAKISTANI PHONE COMPANY MAN is putting in
extra phone lines. They speak in Urdu.

ASRA

(to the Phone Man)

How many lines are you hooking
up?

PHONE WORKER

Six. We're getting the lines from
your neighbours.

ASRA

What about their phones?

PHONE WORKER

Cut off.

ASRA

Oh my God, we're going to need
extra police just to keep us safe
from the neighbours.

(To Steve)

Would you like some tea?

*
*
*

STEVE

That'd be great.

ASRA goes off to ask SHABIR to make some tea. STEVE tries
to gauge MARIANE's state of mind. He's immediately
impressed by her focus.

*

MARIANE

How was the honeymoon?

STEVE

Good.

MARIANE introduces STEVE to HASAN. The TWO MEN shake hands.
The two immediately like each other.

MARIANE

Steve and Danny worked together
in Islamabad.

105 INT - MARRIOTT HOTEL RECEPTION ISLAMABAD - DAY (FLASHBACK) 105

The reception is crowded with JOURNALISTS and CAMERA CREWS. STEVE and DANNY are eating breakfast. MARIANE is talking to other JOURNALISTS by the reception. She sees a famous US correspondent crossing to the exit and dashes after her.

CAPTION: DATE, MARRIOTT HOTEL, ISLAMABAD

MARIANE

Hi, I'm from French radio and I'm doing an article about the way the Western media is covering the war in Afghanistan.

US CORRESPONDENT

Yeah? Well I'm part of the Western media and I'm covering the war in Afghanistan.

The journalist walks off leaving MARIANE a little crestfallen. She glances across to DANNY and STEVE. DANNY laughs.

PICK UP ON

106 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

106

The Chart. It's gradually becoming more and more detailed. As we hear STEVE we see the names he mentions:

STEVE

So they still need to find Arif the go-between... Bashir in Rawalpindi, Imtiaz Siddique here in Karachi and Gilani wherever he is.

MARIANE

And Danny.

STEVE

And Danny.

STEVE looks at MARIANE.

STEVE

Do you think it's connected to the story he was working on?

MARIANE

We don't know. You saw this?

MARIANE hands STEVE the story from the Boston Globe which made the link between Richard Reid and Gilani. We see glimpses of the text as the conversation continues.

MARIANE

But it could be something else. Every story here leads back to jihadis.

ASRA

Or the intelligence services. Or both.

STEVE

I can go through all the stories we worked on together. See if anything connects.

ASRA

I'll help you.

PICK UP on the office later.

STEVE and ASRA are working away on their computers checking through DANNY's old stories and going on the internet to get more information. ZAFIR and HASAN are working on the e-mails sent by BASHIR. The CAPTAIN arrives with DOST.

CAPTAIN

Sheikh Mubarak Ali Shah Gilani.

*
*

DOST hands a photograph over to ASRA. She sticks it onto The Chart.

*
*

CAPTAIN

We sent officers to his house in Lahore. No one's there. None of his wives.

MARIANE looks at the photo of GILANI.

MARIANE

How many has he?

DOST

Three. The latest is a 23 year old Canadian.

ASRA writes this on the chart.

CAPTAIN

The only person they managed to find is his sister-in-law. She says he isn't capable of organizing a kidnapping.

STEVE

Who needs enemies with relatives like that?

PICK UP ON

On a computer screen, an article from the Independent. January 24th.

STEVE

Hasan - can you print this out?

ASRA

What is it?

STEVE

It's from the London bureau. About a British Pakistani - Omar Saeed Sheikh.

HASAN brings a printed copy of the article over to ASRA.

STEVE

It claims he wired \$100,000 to Mohammed Atta just before 9/11.

MARIANE

How does this connect with Danny?

ASRA is reading the article on Steve's computer.

ASRA

He's based in Rawalpindi and he specialises in kidnapping Westerners.

MARIANE and ASRA look at CAPTAIN.

MARIANE

Do you know him?

CAPTAIN

Only by reputation.

MARIANE starts to read the article when the phone rings. ASRA answers it. KHAWAJA is shouting at her down the line.

ASRA

(Speaking in Urdu)

Don't talk to me like that. It's nothing to do with us.

CAPTAIN motions for ASRA to hand over the phone to him. He walks off with the receiver talking in a low controlled voice.

CAPTAIN
(*Speaking in Urdu*)
This is the SSP CID

He listens to KHAWAJA as he walks away with the phone.

STEVE
Who was that?

ASRA
Khalid Khawaja. He's a friend of Gilani's. He keeps on calling. Gilani's father died last week and now he's screaming at me claiming he died from shame - because of the Boston Globe article connecting his son to the terrorists.

STEVE
The power of the press.

CAPTAIN comes back with the phone.

CAPTAIN
Mr. Khawaja won't be phoning you again.

MARIANE
Thank you.

PICK UP ON RANDALL BENNETT coming into the house, full of energy.

CAPTION: 13.15 26th January 2002

RANDALL
Okay girls, I'm taking you to McDonald's.

MARIANE
No. I can't... I'd rather stay here.

RANDALL
You need some air. Come on. Think of your son.

ASRA
What about the phones?

RANDALL
Don't you trust Hasan and Dost?

RANDALL

Five years. You're only supposed to be here for a year because it's a high risk posting. But I love it here.

MARIANE picks at her salad.

MARIANE

Why?

RANDALL

The people. Like Zafir. He's my brother.

ZAFIR smiles.

ZAFIR

Thank you.

ASRA

Should we be worried about the I.S.I. bugging the house?

RANDALL

You can trust Dost and the Captain. But you can never be sure with the other guys.

MARIANE has another go at her salad but gives up.

110 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY 110

RANDALL's black chevy drops ASRA and MARIANE back at the house.

CAPTION : 15.30 26th JANUARY 2006

111 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY 111

The CAPTAIN, DOST, KALEEM YUSUF, HASAN and everyone are there. STEVE hands over a printed out e-mail to MARIANE as soon as she and ASRA enter the room.

STEVE

There's been another e-mail from Bashir. The Journal sent it over from Washington.

As we see the text of the e-mail beginning - *Dear Mr. Pearl how did the meeting with the Shaikh go?* - we hear ASRA's immediate reaction.

ASRA

The fucker. He knows Danny's missing. I e-mailed him the first night.

DOST

He's trying to look innocent. As though he knows nothing.

CAPTAIN

(to Mariane)

You should do the same. Answer as though you suspect nothing.

PICK UP on MARIANE as she writes her e-mail to BASHIR. Her features are tense. She hates this man. On the screen, we see fragments : *I am Danny Pearl's wife...I am very concerned...I appreciate your concern... thank you so much..*

The phone rings. ASRA answers.

ASRA

Hello. Oh hello John. Yeah we saw it. Yes. Here she is.

She passes it to MARIANE.

ASRA

It's Bussey. He wants to talk to you.

MARIANE paces around the room on the phone to BUSSEY.

MARIANE

Yes I'm ok. We need you here.

112 INT - WALL STREET JOURNAL NEW JERSEY - DAY

112

BUSSEY is on the phone in his office.

MARIANE V.O

Come to Karachi. Make the diplomatic rounds with us. We need to put pressure on the authorities.

JOHN

OK. That's what I thought too.

113 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

113

CAPTAIN looks at MARIANE. She looks drained from lack of sleep. She puts the phone down.

MARIANE
Can I talk to you?

114 EXT - VERANDAH - DAY

114

MARIANE and CAPTAIN sit, watching the parrots. CAPTAIN lights up a cigarette.

MARIANE
I need to tell you something.

CAPTAIN looks up at MARIANE waiting for her to continue.

MARIANE (CONT'D)
Danny isn't religious. But he is Jewish by birth.

CAPTAIN takes a moment, registering the importance of this fact. He knows how deep the hate runs.

CAPTAIN
Who else knows this?

MARIANE
He didn't advertise it, but he'd never deny it if someone asked.

They sit there in silence.

CAPTAIN
I am religious. I go to the mosque for Friday prayers. I have faith. But you know Islam teaches peace. Not hatred.

MARIANE
I know.

CAPTAIN
My faith has been kidnapped by the same people who have taken Danny.

115 INT - US CONSULATE - DAY

115

The FBI TEAM and ZAFIR work on the new e-mail. RANDALL BENNETT walks in.

RANDALL
Have you traced where it's from?

ZAFIR
Not yet.

116

INT - DINING ROOM - DUSK

116

The house is quiet but for the distant sound of the call to prayer before sunset. EVERYONE has gone home to their families for dinner.

MARIANE is on the phone to SATCHI, her brother.

INTERCUT : SATCHI stands in his Paris flat.

CAPTION: SATCHI VAN NEYENHOFF, MARIANE'S BROTHER

SATCHI

Le gens envoient leur soutien du monde entier. Ils appellent tous les jours. Il faudrait que le monde entier medite avec nous.
(*People from all over the world are sending their support. I am receiving calls every day. What we need is for the whole world to chant with us.*)

MARIANE

Oui... imagine.
(*Yes... imagine.*)

As MARIANE listens to SATCHI, she starts going through some of DANNY's stuff. She finds and tapes up on the wall the comical photo of a giraffe and her baby that DANNY likes so much. It looks like the giraffes are winking.

SATCHI

Ca va?
(*How are you?*)

MARIANE

Oui... Ca va. Le bebe bouge.
(*Yes... I'm okay. The baby's moving.*)

MARIANE lies down on the couch.

MARIANE

Il ne me donne pas de coups de pieds. Il veut just dire qu'il est la.
(*He doesn't kick. He's just saying he's here.*)

SATCHI

Ca va aller. Tout va bien se passer.
(*It's going to be all right. You're going to be fine.*)

- 119 INT/EXT - CAR/HOTEL AKBAR - NIGHT 119
- NOOR looks at MASUD expectantly as the MEN are being brought out of the hotel.
- NOOR
Recognise anyone?
- MASUD
No.
- 120 INT - MARIANE AND DANNY'S ROOM - NIGHT 120
- MARIANE lies in bed with her "what to do when expecting" book. Unable to sleep. Unable to read.
- 121 INT - HOUSE/RAWALPINDI - NIGHT 121
- NOOR and TWENTY POLICEMEN IN PLAIN CLOTHES armed with AK47 automatics, storm through rooms, climbing up stairs, searching and examining furniture, rummaging through drawers.
- The house was the HQ of the Harkat- ul-Mujahideen in Rawalpindi. There are quite a FEW MEN, posters and piles of videos.
- 122 SCENE CUT 122
- 123 INT - CONSULATE - NIGHT 123
- RANDALL is typing up a report of the days events including the raids in Rawalpindi.
- 124 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 124
- MARIANE lies in bed awake. She keeps her hands on her swollen belly and chants to herself.
- 125 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - MORNING 125
- DOST walks into the house, looking stressed, carrying copies of the newspaper Jang.
- CAPTION: 09.00 27th January 2002**

126 INT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

126

A newspaper - Jang - lies on the table with a picture of DANNY on the front page, smiling out at us. The same photograph MARIANE gave to the police the first morning after DANNY's kidnapping.

DOST and CAPTAIN look at MARIANE.

MARIANE, expressionless, waits for them to talk. A tense silence.

MARIANE

What does it say?

DOST

It says that Danny is suspected of being a Mossad agent and of having relations with India's intelligence agency.

MARIANE looks like she's just been kicked in the stomach.

MARIANE

What?

She stares at the photo of DANNY smiling at her. Her voice cracks with anger.

MARIANE

I gave them that photo! The police asked me for a photo of Danny. Who was that guy I gave the photo to?!!

DOST

Military intelligence.

MARIANE paces like a wounded animal, drowning in her own powerlessness.

MARIANE

'Mossad,' for fuck's sake!
They'll kill him if they think he's Mossad! What are we going to do? What are you people doing?

She picks up the phone and dials a number she gets from The Chart.

MARIANE

I want to speak to Minister Haider. Mariane Pearl....Mariane Pearl...

MARIANE is almost shouting

MARIANE

Mariane Pearl..the wife of the
kidnapped journalist.

She sees CAPTAIN watching her. He's upset and angry but
hides it.

CAPTAIN

Let me deal with it. You are
right but let me deal with it.

DANNY smiles out of the paper at MARIANE.

127 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY/LATER

127

ASRA and LeVINE are glued to their computers. The tension
is palpable. Everyone is demoralized after the morning's
Jang headline. They're all hot, exhausted and on edge.

The phone rings. ASRA picks up. She listens, digesting what
is being said at the other end and rushes to her computer.

ASRA

There's an e-mail. It's from the
kidnappers.

EVERYONE stops in their tracks.

ASRA

The Journal's forwarding it to
us.

EVERYONE gathers around the computer to look at the e-mail
from kidnapperguy@hotmail.com

MARIANE

There's an attachment.

ASRA clicks on the attachment.

The first photo opens : DANNY, in front of a blue screen,
wearing a shiny hot pink and baby blue jogging suit. His
wrists are in chains and his glasses have gone. A MAN in a
white salwar kameez grips the back of his head shoving it
forward and with his other hand, levels a revolver an inch
from his head.

DOST

They do it to shock you.

MARIANE looks at the photos without flinching, torn by
conflicting emotions but shocked back into defiance when
she notices DANNY's smile on the third photo.

MARIANE

He's smiling.

As we see the photos ASRA reads out the e-mail.

ASRA

The national movement for the restoration of Pakistani sovereignty has captured CIA officer Daniel Pearl who has been posing as a journalist of the Wall Street Journal.

MARIANE is focusing on DANNY's face, on his smile.

ASRA

Unfortunately he is at present being kept in very inhuman conditions quite similar in fact to the way that Pakistanis ...are being kept in Cuba by the American army...if America wants the release of Mr. Pearl all ..Pakistani prisoners in Cuba must be returned to Pakistan...

MARIANE

Who the fuck are they?

CAPTAIN

Some group they made up for this.
(to Dost)
Call Randall Bennett.

MARIANE

There's more in Urdu.

CAPTAIN leans in with his cigarette.

MARIANE

What does it say?

CAPTAIN

They are asking for the release of fighter jets that Pakistan bought from the US in the eighties.

MARIANE

This is crazy. It makes no fucking sense.

Print outs of DANNY's photos are being spewed out of the laser printer.

MARIANE

What are they up to? They don't want to negotiate with us.

ASRA spreads the photos on the table.

A piece of paper has been taped to a phone : "DO NOT TOUCH!
INCOMING CALLS ONLY -FOR DANNY"

A new answering machine is being attached to it. CAPTAIN is
instructing ASRA and MARIANE.

CAPTAIN

Nobody touches this line. This is
the number Danny knows. This is
the number he will use to contact
you.

CAPTAIN and DOST are busy making hundreds of calls.

128

EXT/INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

128

CAPTION: 11.00 27th January 2002

RANDALL, ZAFIR, MAUREEN PLATT, JOHN and TWO OTHER FBI
AGENTS stride into the house.

CAPTAIN

They've made contact.

The FBI AGENTS immediately start their work to source the
computer who sent the e-mail.

ZAFIR

We need the original e-mail so we
can see the header. That might
give us an IP address.

STEVE

It was originally sent to the
Washington Post.

MAUREEN PLATT

OK

RANDALL and MAUREEN PLATT study the photos for authenticity
around the table.

RANDALL

That's a doctored photo. Check
out the angle of the shoulder.
That doesn't look right with the
head. The legs are too big.
That's not Danny.

ASRA

I don't think it's Danny either.

MAUREEN PLATT

Let's send them to the lab in Honolulu.

RANDALL

Maureen, look at the gun.

EVERYONE has a theory. Only MARIANE is silent. CAPTAIN is looking at her.

CAPTAIN

Mariane? What do you think?

MARIANE

It's him. It's Danny.

EVERYONE becomes silent.

MAUREEN PLATT

We should still send it off to Honolulu.

The phone rings. MARIANE goes and picks it up.

129 INT - THE PEARL'S HOUSE / LOS ANGELES - NIGHT

129

RUTH is on the phone.

RUTH

Have you seen them? The photos of Danny?

MARIANE

Yes. You've got them too?

RUTH

They just came.

MARIANE

People here weren't sure they were Danny.

RUTH

Of course they are. I recognise his hands.

We see the photograph of DANNY, and RUTH looking fondly at her son's hands.

130 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - KARACHI - DAY

130

MARIANE

I know. I recognise his wedding ring. It's loose on his finger. It's always been loose.

RANDALL

I'll take you.

MARIANE doesn't want to go now - but she knows she has to.

134 INT - HAIDER'S HOUSE - DAY

134

MARIANE and the whole ENTOURAGE are led into the MINISTER's office. MARIANE shakes hands with MINISTER HAIDER who is in traditional mourning dress.

MARIANE

Thank you for meeting us. I know you have your own problems.

HAIDER

Please, sit down.

PICK UP later. The meeting has already been going on for a while and everyone is getting tense.

MINISTER HAIDER

Mrs. Pearl. Let me tell you something. We had three thousand journalists in Pakistan during the war in Afghanistan and not one of them got into trouble.

MARIANE

Danny and I were two of those journalists. I don't see your point.

MINISTER HAIDER

Why did your husband have to meet these people? This is not the business of a journalist.

MARIANE feels the hostility.

MARIANE

It depends what you mean by journalist.

Their eyes lock. MARIANE holds the MINISTER's gaze.

MINISTER HAIDER

Our information is that the Indian intelligence services are behind the kidnapping.

MARIANE

What?

MINISTER HAIDER

They want to embarrass Pakistan by blaming Islamic extremists or the ISI for the disappearance of an American journalist.

MARIANE is furious. EVERYONE is tense. Then MARIANE's cell phone rings. Mariane answers.

MARIANE

Hello .. Yes. One second. (to Haider) It is Paul Steiger, managing editor of the Wall Street Journal. He wants to talk to you.

We see HAIDER talking on the phone. He is much more polite to Steiger.

PICK UP ON

EVERYONE is leaving, shaking hands and so on. ASRA, still angry, can't help responding to HAIDER's criticism of Danny.

ASRA

(in Urdu softly)

With all due respect minister, would you blame your brother for having been murdered just because he was driving the streets of Karachi?

RANDALL BENNETT immediately intervenes

RANDALL

Asra we're leaving. (to Haider) I'm sorry. We're all very tired.

135 INT/EXT HAIDER'S HOUSE - DAY

135

RANDALL is striding along - frustrated and angry. MARIANE and ASRA hurry to keep up with him.

RANDALL

A person can't stay rational with lack of sleep. You both need some rest.

(to Mariane)

And you should know better. You know that you have chemicals running loose in your body.

MARIANE can't help a very faint smile.

136 INT - HAIDER'S HOUSE- DAY

136

HAIDER is also frustrated with his men.

HAIDER

What's wrong with you people? Why haven't you found him yet? Get me the journalist!

137 EXT/INT - MADRASSA - NIGHT 137

FIFTEEN PLAIN CLOTHES POLICE - some with AK 47s - raid the place - pulling out half a DOZEN MEN.

138 EXT/INT - CYBER CAFE - NIGHT 138

Pictures of the World Trade Center and Osama Bin Laden on the Wall. ANOTHER BUNCH OF POLICE storm in and take away computers.

139 EXT ASRA'S HOUSE NIGHT 139

A car pulls up and KALEEM YUSUF gets out and is let into the house.

140 INT ASRA'S HOUSE NIGHT 140

CAPTAIN, DOST, ZAFIR, BENNETT, STEVE, ASRA and MARIANE are there.

CAPTAIN

Mr. Yusuf founded the Citizens Police Liaison Committee. They specialize in kidnappings.

KALEEM

I'm sorry I wasn't able to come sooner. I've been in Lahore.

MARIANE

But you met Danny on the day he was kidnapped?

KALEEM

That's right. He told me he was meeting with Gilani. While he was with me he received two phone calls.

ASRA

Two?

KALEEM

Yes.

He produces a print out of phone calls connected to Danny. We see the lists of calls.

KALEEM

The calls were connected to the meeting with Gilani. From the same number. The Imtiaz Siddique number. Then at 19.11 he received another call.

CUT TO

141 EXT VILLAGE RESTAURANT NIGHT FLASHBACK 141

Danny is waiting on the sidewalk outside the restaurant. He is on the phone. We see him talking but we don't know what he is saying.

CAPTION: 19.11 23rd January 2002

KALEEM

The phone call lasted five minutes. We think it was from abroad as there is no record of the number.

Danny crosses to the taxi.

DANNY

You can go. I'm going to wait here. Thanks.

He pays him and the taxi drives off, leaving Danny alone outside the restaurant.

142 INT ASRA'S HOUSE NIGHT 142

KALEEM

That was the last call he received.

We see Mariane struggling to control her emotions.

KALEEM

We work with telephone numbers. We start with Danny's number. And Arif's, Imtiaz Siddique's and Bashir's. From these numbers we find their contacts. Then we obtain the numbers that they called. And so on. Until we find the kidnappers.

STEVE

It's a lot of work.

KALEEM

It is. We have a team of ten people working on it. This is our business. We know what we are doing.

CAPTAIN

Mr. Yusuf and his team have a very high success rate.

143 INT CPLC NIGHT 143

We see people working at their computers. We see the screens. Lists of numbers are converted into charts. Any number called more than 5 times is then traced. It is a very sophisticated system.

144 INT JANG OFFICE ISLAMABAD 144

NOOR comes and takes JAMAL PARACHA away for questioning.

JAMAL

Why are you doing this? You know I've done nothing wrong.

NOOR

Do I?

145 EXT/INT - OFFICE - NIGHT 145

The office/house of a political party. MORE POLICE break in, but the house is empty.

RANDALL and CAPTAIN watch from outside.

146 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 146

MARIANE is lying in her bed. ASRA is lying behind her, stroking her neck and hair.

ASRA

How does that feel?

MARIANE

Good.

The house is quiet.

ASRA

You think you will be able to sleep.

MARIANE

No.

MARIANE closes her eyes.

(Danny is having his hair cut in Bombay. He sits in a dirty white leather barber chair with red armrests. MARIANE follows the action in the mirror. Everything is silent but for the snip of the scissors. Danny gives Mariane a goofy smile. His haircut is terrible).

147 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - MORNING 147

A phalanx of TV cameras. CNN, FOX, AL JAZEERA. CREWS get out of vans. Cameras, monitors, microphones, rolls of cables.

CAPTION: 28th January 2002

148 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY 148

CAPTAIN stares out at the international media circus gathering outside the house. He doesn't look too happy about it.

MARIANE

I don't want to talk to the press. I want Bussey to handle it all.

The front door bell goes. DOST crosses the room to open the door to a skinny BEWILDERED MAN with an unkempt beard and piercing black eyes. He looks like he's just come from the caves of Afghanistan.

DOST takes one look at the MAN and bursts out laughing.

DOST

Here is the driver for Bussey.

ASRA

If Bussey sees him he'll be straight back on the plane to America.

CAPTAIN

Get a new driver.
(To the driver)
I'm sorry.

CAPTAIN hands the driver a small note.

149 EXT/INT - KARACHI STREETS/TAXI - DAY 149

BUSSEY sits in the back of the taxi being driven from the airport to the house by a new CLEAN-SHAVEN DRIVER.

He looks out of the window, taking in all the heat and squalor of this hallucinatory, fragmented third world city.

150 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY 150

BUSSEY sits in the office. EVERYONE is there.

BUSSEY:

We're doing everything we can to make sure Danny's safe.

MARIANE

We need you to pressure the politicians.

BUSSEY:

We're on to it. Paul Steiger has been talking to Colin Powell. He's been talking to President Musharraf.

ASRA

To do what?

Bussey moves on.

BUSSEY:

Paul has also issued a statement saying that Danny didn't work for the CIA or the US government. And we're getting the CIA to confirm that.

ASRA

They'll confirm that publicly?

BUSSEY

Yes. Also, there's huge media interest. Steve in the press department has had hundreds of requests for interviews.

*

MARIANE

I don't want to do it. I don't want to play into their hands. They want publicity.

NOOR

Arif is trying to leave for
Kashmir.

The jeep races off.

154B EXT PIWHADAI BUS STATION PINDI 154B

The Jeep arrives and NOOR and MASUD get out. They get on a Karachi bus - but Arif is not there. Montage sequence of increasing frustration as they keep searching buses which are heading for Muzaffarabad

155 INT - US CONSULATE - NIGHT 155

See the FBI TEAM with ZAFIR working the phones, searching through hard drives of computers. One of the e-mails was sent from a landline.

156 INT CPLC NIGHT 156

KALEEM YUSUF is being shown more computer generated charts showing networks of contacts. Each new number generates more possible suspects.

157 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 157

Some of the CPLC charts are pinned on the wall next to Asra and Mariane's own. The labyrinth is growing.

On a computer screen, a new e-mail. Two photographs of DANNY. In one there is a gun to his head, but he is still smiling. The second is more depressing. He looks tired.

CAPTION: 03.00 30th January 2002

Asra reading the message

ASRA:

We have come to the conclusion...
that he is not working for the
CIA. In fact he is working for
Mossad.

MARIANE

Bastards.

158 INT - BATHROOM - NIGHT 158

MARIANE is lying in the bath, gently stroking her bump, rehearsing for her CNN interview.

MARIANE

I have a message. I have three main points I want to talk about. First, my husband and I are both journalists. We believe in dialogue between civilizations.

PICK UP ON Mariane staring in the mirror. Putting her make-up on. Putting on a public face.

159 INT - HOUSE - NIGHT

159

MARIANE is dressed up ready to go. BUSSEY, STEVE and ASRA are there waiting for her.

ASRA

You look great.

MARIANE

Wait... one second.

She rushes back to her room and grabs a Kashmiri shawl and drapes it round her shoulders. Then she is back with the others.

BUSSEY

That's good.

As Mariane leads the way out Asra tells Bussey

ASRA

It was Danny's.

160 EXT/INT - ASRA'S HOUSE/POLICE CAR - NIGHT

160

A starry night sky.

BUSSEY walks MARIANE to the police car which is waiting for them.

CAPTION: 30th January 2002

BUSSEY

You okay?

MARIANE

Fine.

They get into the police car. The car jerks forward then stops.

BUSSEY

Great.

MARIANE can't help smile.

BUSSEY gets out of the car and joins A HANDFUL OF GUARDS to push the car. The police car finally starts.

161 INT - POLICE CAR - NIGHT 161

ASRA and MARIANE are in the back seat. BUSSEY is coaching her from the front seat.

BUSSEY

Emphasise the baby. For a Muslim
it is a sin to harm a baby.
Emphasise your innocence. Danny's
innocence.

162 INT - A ROOM AT THE KARACHI SHERATON - DAY 162

ASRA, RANDALL and BUSSEY watch a feed of the CNN story on a monitor on a table. It's live, and is leading to an introduction of an on-camera interview with MARIANE. Across the room, a CNN camera crew is preparing. The SOUND GUY mics MARIANE. The VIDEO CAMERAMAN adjusts his camera, and a PRODUCER is quietly talking into a cell phone. MARIANE is interviewed by JOURNALIST 1. *

PRODUCER

In five, four, three...

JOURNALIST 1 *

Mrs Pearl, the group holding your husband has given a twenty-four hour deadline for the United States to meet their demands or they say they will kill your husband Daniel, do you have a message to that group?

MARIANE as she answers the questions.

MARIANE

Yes, I have a message, three different points I want to talk about. The first one I want to remind them that my husband and I are both journalists and we are two people who met and fell in love because we have the same ideal you know...And all my life, all his life and our life together is a big effort to create a dialogue between civilizations..

JUMP CUT

The reason we are in Pakistan was because we wanted to know more about the Pakistani people and write about their views.

JUMP CUT

MARIANE

His religion, I'd say is truth. I've never met anybody who is so honest about people. That's really what Danny is.

JUMP CUT

MARIANE

I am six months pregnant. This is completely wrong, to hold us. It's just creating more misery, and that's it. Nothing can come out of this.

JUMP CUT

MARIANE

Danny is my life.

JOURNALIST 1

And how are you coping with this? *

MARIANE

I haven't slept in more than a week but I hope... I am not desperate because if I stop believing in creating this dialogue then I stop believing in everything else. I can't do that. I'm pregnant.

JUMP CUT

JOURNALIST 1

And if you could speak to your husband now, what would you tell him? *

MARIANE

I love you.

And she smiles.

CUT TO :

171 EXT - HOUSE MULTAN - DAY 171

PLAIN CLOTHES POLICE arrive at a house. A whole houseful of MOURNING RELATIVES are there.

MAN 1

Hashim is a martyr.

The POLICE arrest the RELATIVES anyway.

172 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 172

HASHIM's photograph is being put up on The Chart by ASRA. We recognise him from earlier.

CAPTAIN:

Hashim also goes by the name of Arif. The man who took Danny to see Bashir.

ASRA writes on The Chart: ARIF = HASHIM. She then draws a line connecting Arif/Hashim to Bashir.

The de-briefing continues.

CAPTAIN

Hashim's family claims he died in Afghanistan.

MARIANE

But he told Danny he was going to Kashmir.

CAPTAIN

Exactly. We do not believe Hashim is necessarily dead.

BUSSEY

Is there a body?

CAPTAIN

We don't think so.

STEVE

For fuck's sake.

MARIANE looks at the photo of HASHIM/ARIF. It is a few years old - taken at a wedding. He has a moustache and short hair, wearing a sweater over his salwar kameez. He looks very unhappy.

173 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

173

All the NEWS CREWS are still there outside the house, waiting, hungry for news.

CAPTION: 31st January 2002

Inside everyone is looking at another e-mail that has arrived.

MARIANE

If America will not meet our demands we will kill Daniel.

Mariane looks completely drained.

BUSSEY

Do people think this is genuinely from the kidnappers?

RANDALL

Yes.

PICK UP LATER ON

Everyone gathered round the TV screen:

COLIN POWELL

With respect to Mr. Pearl we are deeply concerned about his safety and our hearts go out to his family..but the demands that the kidnappers have placed are not demands we can meet or deal with or get into a negotiation about

Everyone is dispirited. No one knows what to say.

BUSSEY

They always say that. They have to say that in public.

MARIANE

Yeah.

MARIANE is suddenly in despair. She doesn't want to break down in front of everyone. She hurries to her room.

174 INT - MARIANE'S ROOM - DAY

174

We see MARIANE chanting in front of her shrine, trying to control her emotions.

PICK UP ON MARIANE lying on her couch. She stares at the ceiling. A GUARD paces outside on the verandah. There is a knock at the door. RANDALL comes in, dressed all in black. RANDALL sits next to MARIANE.

RANDALL
You can't collapse now.

MARIANE doesn't say anything.

RANDALL
It's not like they're going to have a good time when they get caught.

MARIANE remains silent.

RANDALL
You want to know how the authorities treat bad guys?

MARIANE doesn't really want to know but RANDALL tells her anyway.

RANDALL
They hang them upside down and beat their feet with wooden sticks so not to leave marks on the bodies.

MARIANE listens to RANDALL doing his best in his own way with his own words of consolation.

RANDALL
You're a strong woman. You're stronger than they are.

175 INT - ASRA HOUSE - VERANDAH - NIGHT

175

MARIANE stands on the verandah alone. The slow, interminable passing of time weighing on her. The nights worse than the days.

DANNY stroking Mariane, kissing her, making love to her

CAPTAIN joins her. She looks round.

CAPTAIN
Everyone is worried about you.

MARIANE
Did Bussey send you up?

CAPTAIN
No. But he's worried about your baby.

MARIANE

I know.

CAPTAIN

We need you to be strong. I know that's unfair. But we do. You have to have faith.

MARIANE

Do you?

CAPTAIN

Yes. I believe I will bring Danny back, and when I do I want to see the smile on your face.

MARIANE can't help but smile a little.

176 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - MARIANE AND DANNY'S ROOM -NIGHT 176

MARIANE lying in the bed, ASRA sleeping next to her. It's the middle of the night. She looks around. She finds her cell phone. She dials DANNY's number. The same old recording comes up. She's about to put the phone away, but changes her mind and types a text message:

INSERT - ON THE CELL PHONE SCREEN : I LOVE YOU.

She pushes "send".

177 INT ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 177

BUSSEY walks around the house doing his rounds, making sure all the doors are locked and checking on the number of GUARDS for the night.

177A INT PLANE - NIGHT 177A

NOOR is sitting next to a very fat, unhappy man.

CAPTION: PIR MUBARAK SHAH GILANI

177B EXT KARACHI STREETS - NIGHT 177B

NOOR and GILANI are taken to CID headquarters.

177C INT CID HQ - NIGHT 177C

CAPTAIN is sitting opposite GILANI. DOST watches.

KALEEM

Let me find out.

PICK UP ON

KALEEM on the phone to a friend in the ISI.

KALEEM

It is important....I met the man personally...if he is found it will be good for the image of our country abroad..

PICK UP ON

A MAN IN A CHECK JACKET sits on a sofa.

BUSSEY

What's your name?

MAJOR

Major

Everyone is a little confused.

BUSSEY

Erm..what's your rank?

MAJOR

Major.

BUSSEY

Major Major?

MARIANE and ASRA laugh.

CAPTION : Major Major, ISI officer.

ASRA

So what do you know about Khalid Khawaja?

MAJOR MAJOR gets out the most ludicrously small notebook and reads.

MAJOR

Khalid Khawaja is a retired airforce officer.

Then he puts the book away.

ASRA

That's it? That's all you know?

MARIANE

This is just stupid.

MARIANE leaves the room. MAJOR MAJOR just sits there.

PICK UP ON

The night time debriefing. CAPTAIN is talking.

CAPTAIN
We have caught Gilani..

MARIANE looks at CAPTAIN, tense. She senses some underlying frustration and waits to hear more.

ASRA
Where?

CAPTAIN
He was in Muzaffarabd. But he is here now.

DOST.
His son led us to him.

ASRA
And?

DOST
Nothing.

STEVE
What?

CAPTAIN
He's a third rate idiot. But he's not involved.

ASRA
What are you going to do with him?

CAPTAIN
We'll hold him till we have verified his story. Of course.

EVERYONE is very down. ASRA goes to The Chart and puts a big cross through GILANI's name.

BUSSEY
I thought this guy was supposed to be the mastermind.

CAPTAIN
He was just the bait.

We see a brief sequence: a telephone box being opened; a mass of landlines; an engineer testing lines whilst FAROOQ watches; roads being dug up, FAROOQ and police entering an equipment room in an apartment block:

DOST

Zafir and Farooq have traced one of the e-mails back to a server that supplies internet access for 80 customers.

A block of flats - NOMAN APPARTMENTS. A series of narrow alleys hemmed in by 12 storey flats. All the walls are criss-crossed with a labyrinth of illegal phone, TV and power lines.

CAPTAIN

We have copied the hard drive and have a team of people searching for the computers that were using the server when the e-mail was sent. It's just a matter of time before we find him.

FAROOQ and the police starting to knock on doors.

181

INT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

181

The exhausted, weary TEAM sits around the plushly laid out table ready for a princely meal. Napkins are folded accordion like in glasses.

IBARHIM brings a silver tureen to table. *

IBARHIM *

Cucumber soup with mint.

MARIANE *

Thank you Ibarhim.

IBARHIM *

Followed by stuffed turkey and lemon pie.

STEVE

Wow. The American Consul really knows how to survive in Pakistan.

ASRA

It's delicious.

MARIANE

Yes.

IBARHIM is happy and goes back through to the kitchen to work on the next course. *

MARIANE

Thank you for organising this
John.

BUSSEY

(to Mariane and Asra)

No problem. An army marches on
its stomach. I just wish you two
would agree to move to the
Sheraton with us.

MARIANE

No way.

BUSSEY

For your own safety.

LEVINE

That's what he said to get me to
change rooms and be on the same
floor as him.

BUSSEY

Then when he found out you two
were sharing a bed he wanted us
to do the same.. I had to put my
foot down.

ASRA and MARIANE laugh.

ASRA

Rooms on the same floor of the
same hotel, that's a guy's
version of intimacy.

182 INT - DORMITORY STYLE BUILDING - NIGHT 182

TEAMS OF POLICE knock on doors. Wherever they find a
computer they take it away.

183 INT - US CONSULATE - NIGHT 183

The FBI and ZAFIR work on the computers - trying to source
the e-mails or photographs on the hard drives. RANDALL's
head lies on his keyboard. He's fallen asleep while writing
his report. The letter J fills the whole screen.

184 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY 184

A NEWS HEADLINE : BAFFLING QUESTIONS ABOUT INDIAN LADY IN
PEARL CASE

CAPTION: 3rd February 2002

BUSSEY
The perfect word for Asra,
baffling.

ASRA hides she is upset.

ASRA
Ha ha.

STEVE
Security agencies are probing
several baffling questions
pertaining to the unauthorized
stay of American passport holder
Indian Muslim lady Asra Q Nomani.

MARIANE makes a half-hearted attempt at eating IBARHIM's
food. We see a montage of headlines and articles from
different Pakistani newspapers with translations for us: *

The News - smears Danny and Asra. The Dawn - says Asra has
been arrested, The Frontier Post - claims kidnapping
arranged by India. Pakistan's foreign minister makes the
same claim.

184A EXT SHERATON NIGHT 184A

BUSSEY and STEVE LEVINE arriving back at the hotel

185 INT SHERATON HOTEL RECEPTION - NIGHT 185

BUSSEY and STEVE LEVINE are having their regular late night
debriefing. BUSSEY's phone rings.

BUSSEY
Hello

CAPTAIN
It's captain here. There's bad
news.

BUSSEY
What?

185A INT CPLC NIGHT 185A

CAPTAIN is there with RANDALL and others

CAPTAIN
Danny's body has been found. He's
in the morgue. Dost is on his way
over to collect you.

BUSSEY
Shit. Does Mariane know?

CAPTAIN

No.

LeVINE senses what the news is.

A TV SCREEN : It's day time in America. The scene of a pre-super-bowl football game plays in the background of a breaking news report. Footage of JEFFREY KOFMAN announcing DANNY's body has been found.

186 INT - THE PEARL'S HOUSE LOS ANGELES - DAY 186

RUTH and JUDEA are there. The phone is ringing off the hook. Outside there are even more CAMERA CREWS. REPORTERS are doing pieces to camera.

186A EXT - STREETS NIGHT/DAWN 186A

DOST, BUSSEY and LEVINE are speeding through the deserted night streets of Karachi. *

187 INT - MORGUE - NIGHT/DAWN 187

RANDALL, CAPTAIN, DOST, BUSSEY and LEVINE are led into the Karachi morgue. The sheet is pulled back on a body. A YOUNG MAN that has been shot and thrown out of a car. The body is turned over. RANDALL is pretty sure it isn't DANNY. There is something odd about the mouth. *

RANDALL

Open the mouth.

The ATTENDANT opens the mouth. The corpse has a dental brace.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

It isn't Danny.

187AA EXT. MORGUE - DAWN 187AA *

STEVE and BUSSEY are trying to handle the crisis. *

BUSSEY

(on the phone to Steve
Goldstein in New York)

It isn't true... It isn't Danny's body... I don't care, it isn't Danny... *

He passes the phone over to Steve. *

BUSSEY

He doesn't believe me. He wants
two sources before he'll deny
it's Danny.

*
*
*
*

STEVE takes the phone.

*

STEVE

It isn't Danny. It's an Iranian
student for God's sake.

*
*
*

187A INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT/DAWN

187A

The phone is ringing. MARIANE and ASRA wake up and MARIANE
picks up.

BUSSEY

Have you heard the news?

MARIANE

No, what?

BUSSEY

I'm telling you this because
everything is Ok. ABC have
announced Danny is dead.

*
*
*
*

MARIANE
What? What do you mean?

BUSSEY
But it's not true

MARIANE
It can't be true. *

MARIANE is up and pacing the room, angry and agitated.

MARIANE
What's going on?

187B EXT/INT DOST'S CAR NIGHT/DAWN 187B

DOST, STEVE LEVINE and BUSSEY on the way to Asra's. BUSSEY on the phone to Mariane.

BUSSEY
It isn't true. I have been to the
morgue. I've seen the body. It
isn't Danny. *

188 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE OFFICE - DAWN 188

STEVE, BUSSEY, ASRA and MARIANE are back at work trying to handle the crisis. *

ASRA
I can't believe they announced it
without confirmation.

BUSSEY
In the middle of Super Bowl
Sunday. Everyone in the world is
calling the Journal for a quote. *

MARIANE is talking to Ruth and Judea on the phone. *

MARIANE
I know... I know it's crazy. *

189 INT - THE PEARL'S HOUSE LOS ANGELES - DAY 189

RUTH is on the phone. JUDEA listens next to her.

MARIANE

We know it isn't Danny.

RUTH

I know. I've been talking with
the Journal. It's totally
irresponsible the way the media
is acting.

*
*
*
*

MARIANE

We've just got to be strong.

RUTH

We are. We will be.

190 INT MARIANE'S BEDROOM DAWN 190

*MARIANE and DANNY in bed together. DANNY strokes MARIANE's
tummy.*

DANNY

*It's amazing how much you can
love someone you've never met.*

191 INT MARIANE'S BEDROOM MORNING 191

MARIANE AND ASRA are asleep. The phone rings.

CAPTION: 08.57 5th February 2002

They both are immediately awake. Asra gets to the phone
first. But when she picks up, the line goes dead.

MARIANE

Who was it?

ASRA

I don't know.

PICK UP ON them still lying in bed, waiting for another
call.

CAPTION: 09.24 5th February 2002

The phone rings again. Mariane answers.

CAPTAIN
I've got them.

MARIANE
Danny?

CAPTAIN
No. But some of the kidnappers.
We have the beginning of the
thread. We just have to keep
pulling and we will find Danny.

192 INT - DORMITORY BLOCK OF FLATS - NIGHT(FLASHBACK) 192

The same flats that we have seen the police searching before.

CAPTION: 22.30 4th February 2002

They knock on number 66. The door is answered by a YOUNG MAN - FARHAD NASEEM. The police go in.

He shows the police his computer.

FARHAD
This is mine. But it isn't
working. The hard drive crashed.

The POLICE start to take it away.

FARHAD
I can help you with inspecting
other computers if you like. I
have studied computing.

FAROOQ
What's your name?

FARHAD
Farhad Naseem.

FAROOQ
Sure. Come with us.

193 EXT - CID - NIGHT 193

FAROOQ with TWO OTHER POLICEMEN leads FARHAD into the station.

194 INT INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

194

CAPTAIN is there with DOST and FARHAD.

CAPTAIN
How many computers did you set up
in the building?

FARHAD
Twenty, maybe a few more... What
are you looking for?

CAPTAIN
Photographs of Daniel Pearl.

Captain is watching Farhad's reactions.

CAPTAIN
We have handed your computer over
to the Americans.

CAPTAIN
They have new software which can
recover any material from your
hard drive in a matter of
minutes.

CAPTAIN sees a flash of panic in FARHAD's eyes and knows he
has something to do with the kidnapping.

CAPTAIN
You should tell us now if you
know anything

FARHAD looks defeated but doesn't say anything.

PICK UP ON

FARHAD
I only know my cousin. Suleiman.

CAPTAIN
We need you to take us to him.

Farhad nods.

195 INT - CID - CORRIDOR

195

CAPTAIN and DOST walking quickly away from the cell.
RANDALL is now with them.

CAPTAIN:
We need to get to Danny tonight.
Before they realize we have got
them.

195A EXT KARACHI STREETS - NIGHT 195A

A convoy of police cars. Captain, Dost, Farhad in Captain's Toyota Crowne. Farooq in a white Toyota. Randall and 2 FBI agents in his black 4x4.

196 INT/EXT - BUILDING/ STREET/CAR - NIGHT 196

They are parked, watching a building. Farhad is handcuffed in the back. OTHER PLAIN CLOTHES POLICEMEN are waiting. One or two have AK 47s. All are armed. A MAN with a limp comes to the PCO. Farhad nods, CAPTAIN gives a signal. FAROOQ and TWO POLICEMEN rush out and grab the man - SULEIMAN.

The POLICEMEN holding him by the hair, throw him into a car, flattening his face on the floor. In a few seconds, in a screeching of tires, they are gone.

197 EXT/INT - POLICE STATION- NIGHT 197

CAPTAIN, DOST, RANDALL and SULEIMAN and OTHER POLICE enter.

CAPTION: 01.00

SULEIMAN looks like a much more serious proposition. A trained jihadist.

198 INT - POLICE STATION - NIGHT 198

We hear screams. CAPTAIN and RANDALL walk towards the cell the screams are coming from.

199 INT - CELL - NIGHT 199

CAPTAIN and RANDALL stand in front of a beaten and bruised SULEIMAN. He is broken.

CAPTION: 02.00

SULEIMAN is handed a phone.

CAPTAIN

Say exactly what I told you.

The phone is answered.

SULEIMAN

Is Adil there?

The man on the other end sounds like he has just been woken up.

ADIL'S RELATIVE

Who is this?

SULEIMAN looks nervous. He is having to go off script.

SULEIMAN

I need to talk to Adil.

ADIL'S RELATIVE

He doesn't live here anymore.

He hangs up.

CAPTAIN

Call Adil's cell phone.

Suleiman dials. ADIL picks up.

SULEIMAN

I've got something very urgent to tell you.

ADIL

What?

SULEIMAN

It's important.

ADIL

No way. We can meet in the morning

ADIL hangs up. SULEIMAN looks very nervous. CAPTAIN takes Suleiman's phone and leaves the cell

200

INT POLICE STATION NIGHT

200

CAPTAIN is talking to the cell phone operator. He gets more and more frustrated as the call progresses.

CAPTAIN:

This is Commander*** CID. I need some information about the last call made on this phone...I need to know the location of the person who received the call...which cell tower received the signal...I don't have time to wait...

RANDALL and DOST wait, gradually realizing the phone company is refusing to give the location of Adil's cell phone.

213 INT ASRA'S HOUSE DAY

213

The whole team is there listening to CAPTAIN

CAPTAIN

I suddenly realized that Bashir
was Omar Saeed Sheikh. Now we had
to find him.

214 EXT - OMAR'S AUNT'S HOUSE - DAWN 214

CAPTAIN, RANDALL and their MEN are ready to raid the house. There are 60 POLICEMEN there now.

CAPTAIN gives the signal. They batter down the door and storm the rooms

215 INT - OMAR'S AUNT'S HOUSE - DAWN 215

The HOUSE INHABITANTS are being dragged out of bed. Phones and computers confiscated.

OMAR'S AUNT

Why are you doing this?

CAPTAIN

I am very sorry. I am arresting you all until we find your nephew, Omar Saeed Sheikh.

OMAR'S AUNT

We don't know where he is. And we don't like the things he does.

CAPTAIN

I am sorry.

216 EXT - OMAR'S FATHER'S HOUSE - LAHORE 216

A POLICEMAN is outside watching.

A phone rings.

217 INT - HOUSE - DAWN 217

OMAR'S FATHER picks up the phone.

218 INT - OMAR'S AUNT'S HOUSE/ KARACHI - DAWN 218

The CAPTAIN is on the phone

CAPTAIN

(Speaking in Urdu)

This is ***, CID. I'm calling from Karachi. I am investigating a kidnapping case and I need to contact your son. Could you give me his cell phone number please?

CAPTAIN writes the number down as OMAR'S FATHER dictates it down the phone.

CAPTAIN turns to one of HIS MEN.

CAPTAIN
Give me Adil's phone.

A POLICEMAN hands ADIL's phone over. CAPTAIN dials OMAR's cell phone number. OMAR answers.

CAPTAIN
Is this Sheikh Omar?

OMAR
Yes.

CAPTAIN
I know what you did. I have Farhad, Adil and Suleiman. If you don't believe me check your caller ID.

CAPTAIN gives OMAR a moment.

CAPTAIN
Is Daniel Pearl alive?

OMAR doesn't answer.

CAPTAIN
Do you know where he is?

Again no answer.

CAPTAIN
You come from a respectable family. Don't humiliate them.

The line goes dead. OMAR has switched his phone off.

219 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY

219

MARIANE, ASRA, STEVE, BUSSEY still listening to CAPTAIN, DOST and RANDALL recount their story.

MARIANE looks hopeful. The CAPTAIN and RANDALL are optimistic they have had their biggest breakthrough.

DOST
We arrested the two cousins.

CAPTAIN
They are our bargaining tool. We fight kidnappers with kidnapping.

*

RANDALL

The FBI found the photos of Danny
on Farhad's computer.

ASRA

So... Bashir is Omar Saeed
Sheikh.

ASRA exchanges a look with MARIANE. We see ASRA printing
off a photo of Omar from the Internet - from when he was
arrested by Indian police.

*
*
*

ASRA sticks a photo of OMAR SAEED SHEIKH next to the sketch
of BASHIR. They look identical. Underneath she writes
BASHIR = OMAR.

We see the edge of The Chart where Omar's name was before.

ASRA draws a big loopy line round to connect him to BASHIR.

PICK UP ON

STEVE, BUSSEY, MARIANE and ASRA work away, getting
background research on OMAR.

A MONTAGE of the articles MARIANE is seeing : things like
'Osama's top aide'. Asra is reading the print out of the
article about Omar which they were sent 10 days earlier.

ASRA

British born and educated...A
known jihadist... Arrested for
kidnapping four tourists in India
- one American, three British.
The four were freed - unharmed.

A photograph of OMAR lying bearded and skinny in a hospital
bed in India in 1994 after a gunfight with the Indian army.

Mariane is reading from her computer.

MARIANE

Then on Christmas Eve 1999 an
Indian Airline flight was
hijacked and taken to
Afghanistan.

VIDEO of the Indian airlines flight IC-814 at Kandahar
airport.

MARIANE

The terrorists slit the throat of
one passenger... a young man on
his honeymoon..

(MORE)

MARIANE (cont'd)
 and made the others watch as he
 bled to death. The 178 passengers
 were then swapped for 3
 militants. One of them was Omar
 Saeed Sheikh.

MARIANE's face. None of the information she is uncovering
 makes her feel optimistic.

220 INT - MARIANE'S ROOM - NIGHT 220

MARIANE is chanting in front of her shrine.

*DANNY is about to get into the taxi, the door open. He
 cups MARIANE's neck, pulls her to him, and kisses her
 cheek.*

*He looks at her for a beat then he jumps in back of the
 cab. And he is gone.*

221 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 221

MARIANE comes back into the main room. ASRA is reading
 Saint Exupery's "The Little Prince". She looks sad.

MARIANE

You ok?

ASRA

No.

MARIANE sits next to her on the sofa.

MARIANE

You're exhausted.

MARIANE starts to massage ASRA's shoulders.

MARIANE

What is it?

ASRA

I don't have my period. I'm three
 weeks late.

MARIANE

Oh shit.

Then she can't help laughing.

222 INT - CAR - NIGHT 222

ASRA and MARIANE are being driven through the Karachi
 streets by ONE OF THE GUARDS. They arrive at a 24 hour
 pharmacy.

223 INT - PHARMACY - NIGHT 223

ASRA and MARIANE are buying ten different pregnancy testing kits. The GUARD hovers in a corner of the pharmacy.

224 INT - ASRA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 224

Pregnancy kits are spread out everywhere.

MARIANE

Ten out of ten. You are definitely pregnant.

ASRA

Oh God, can you believe it?

MARIANE

Is it Azfar's?

ASRA

What do you mean? Of course it's Azfar's. Who else could it be? Dost?

And they start to laugh.

MARIANE

Bussey.

They laugh more.

ASRA

No, the ISI guy.

And they laugh even more.

224A INT - ASRA HOUSE - DAY 224A

The house is quieter now as RANDALL, CAPTAIN and DOST are away most of the time on raids. Just BUSSEY, LEVINE, ASRA and MARIANE. They are eating chocolate brownies brought by Bussey to celebrate ASRA's pregnancy. IBARHIM is working in the kitchen. *

MARIANE suddenly doubles up in pain.

ASRA

What's wrong?

MARIANE

It feels like a contraction.

BUSSEY exchanges an alarmed look with STEVE.

BUSSEY:
We need a doctor.

MARIANE
I'm fine.

ASRA
I'll call one.

MARIANE goes to sit down. She takes a deep long breath. ASRA is on the phone. BUSSEY goes to the kitchen and brings water to MARIANE. STEVE doesn't know quite what to do.

ASRA finishes her call. She gives STEVE a dark look and brings a cushion to put behind MARIANE's back.

ASRA
Oh for God's sake.

She sits holding her hand while MARIANE breathes through the contraction.

224B INT MARIANE'S ROOM DAY

224B

The doctor from the Sheraton is just about to leave. MARIANE is lying in her bed. BUSSEY and ASRA are listening.

DOCTOR
It's very important you keep hydrated.

BUSSEY
We're on to it.

DOCTOR
The more rest you have the better.

ASRA leads him out, talking to him in Urdu. Leaving MARIANE alone in bed.

PICK UP LATER

224C INT ASRA'S

224C

ASRA, BUSSEY and STEVE are working. We see an e mail: We have killed Mr Danny. Now Mr Bush can find his body in the graveyards of Karachi...

LEVINE:
Shit.

ASRA
It's probably a hoax.

BUSSEY:

Let's collect all the phones. Put them on silent. Make sure Mariane doesn't see this.

224D MARIANE is in bed looking through DANNY's Palm Pilot file on Danny's computer. She sees a file: PLACES WE HAVE BEEN. Mariane opens the file. She looks through the impressive list of countries they have visited together. As she gets to the last one - PAKISTAN-

224E We see DANNY writing Pakistan into his list on his palm pilot. We see DANNY and MARIANE are on a plane. We hear the loud speaker announcement that this is a flight to Islamabad

MARIANE

This is weird.

We now see that they are the only two passengers on the plane.

CAPTION: 12th September 2001

DANNY

It's our own private jet. I could get used to it.

They sneak a kiss. Mariane looks radiantly happy.

DANNY

You're not allowed to lose your smile, OK? We're going to get old and fat - and bald - but you can't lose that smile.

224F EXT GRAVEYARD KARACHI DAWN

224F

We see rows of police searching for a body. DOST is watching from his car. He is on the phone to BUSSEY.

DOST

There's no body. We've searched every graveyard in Karachi...No problem.

224G EXT/INT MOSQUE DAY

224G

It is Friday prayers. The mosque is packed. We see CAPTAIN amongst the crowd. Saying his prayers

225 INT ASRA'S HOUSE DAY

225

BUSSEY, STEVE, ASRA and MARIANE on their own, de-briefing.

BUSSEY

Ok. Possible motives for picking Danny?

ASRA

Danny wanted to meet Gilani because he was connected to Richard Reid the shoe bomber. The Journal discovered and handed over to the CIA a computer connected to al Qaeda which had records tracking Richard Reid's movement prior to his attempt to blow up American Airlines flight 63. His code name was Abdul Ra'uff.

ASRA writes this into the Chart.

MARIANE

And the worst thing was the Journal then told everyone what they had done.

226

INT CHEZ SOI GUEST HOUSE DAY (FLASHBACK)

226

DANNY is working on his computer. MARIANE is reading Nelson Mandela's autobiography. DANNY sees the Journal article about handing the computer over to the CIA.

DANNY

Shit. We're in trouble.

MARIANE

What?

DANNY

The journal's telling everyone how its co-operating with the CIA. Brilliant.

MARIANE

You're kidding.

MARIANE comes over to look at the article.

MARIANE

Are they crazy? Now everyone can claim you are a spy.

DANNY is quiet and focused on the story.

DANNY

Great.

227 INT ASRA'S HOUSE DAY

227

PICK UP on the discussion.

BUSSEY

What else could we do? That computer was stuffed with information about al-quaeda. It had been used by Al Zawahiri - Osama Bin Laden's chief strategist. It gave information on the assassination of Ahmed Shah Massoud in Afghanistan. It had Richard Reid's itinerary on it. If we hadn't handed over the computer we would have been withholding information. If Reid's shoe had detonated and destroyed the plane we would have been culpable.

MARIANE

But where does that leave your journalists?

STEVE

Look - now's maybe not the time for this debate. And the computer wasn't directly connected to Danny. Anything else?

There's a palpable tension in the room.

No-one says anything till MARIANE, determined to keep her focus, continues.

MARIANE

According to Masud, he and Danny visited militant training camps in the Punjab just before coming to Karachi. These are supposed to have been closed by Musharraf. But they saw plenty of jihadists still training. These camps are connected to Jaish-e Mohammed - Omar's organization.

Asra writes this on The chart.

STEVE

Two days before Danny was kidnapped the US asked Pakistan to hand over Omar Saeed Sheikh. Omar is supposed to have wired \$100,000 to Mohammed Atta just prior to 9/11.

(MORE)

IBARHIM bringing a beautiful plate of crabs to the table. *
He waits for some appreciation. But everyone falls silent.

IBARHIM *
What is the matter?

BUSSEY:
They look delicious. But...

STEVE
I don't eat crabs.

ASRA
I've an allergy to shellfish

MARIANE
I'd love to eat them. They look
amazing. But being pregnant...

IBARHIM is very fed up they don't trust his crabs. *

BUSSEY:
Look. You've been cooking for two
Jews, a French/Cuban/Dutch
Buddhist, an American Indian
Muslim, a Lebanese Christian and
lots of Pakistanis and this is
the first time we haven't all
wolfed down your food. That's
pretty impressive.

IBARHIM looks wounded all the same. *

231 SCENE CUT 231

232 INT - ASRA HOUSE - MARIANE'S ROOM - DUSK 232

The sun is setting. MARIANE standing in the room,
surrounded by DANNY's belongings.

The sound of the MUEZZIN and the familiar call to prayer.

232A INT PLANE NIGHT 232A

CAPTAIN is on the plane sitting next to a bearded man,
wearing a shalwar kameez, who is shackled at his wrists and
ankles.

CAPTION: OMAR SAEED SHEIKH

A steward walks by.

OMAR
Maybe I should tell them I am a
hijacker?

233 EXT - KARACHI STREETS - NIGHT 233

A car speeds through the crowded streets. In the back OMAR with a bag over his head - CAPTAIN sitting next to him.

234 INT - ASRA HOUSE - MARIANE'S ROOM - NIGHT 234

A phone rings in the middle of the night.

CAPTION : 12th February 2002

MARIANE picks up. ASRA waits anxiously next to her.

CAPTAIN

We have him. We have Sheikh Omar.

MARIANE

How?

CAPTAIN

He handed himself in. He was in the Punjab. He's here in Karachi now.

MARIANE's face as she digests the news.

235 INT - POLICE CELL - NIGHT 235

OMAR sits opposite the CAPTAIN. DOST and RANDALL are there.

CAPTAIN

Is Daniel Pearl still alive?

OMAR

I don't know.

They all watch OMAR's face, studying him, trying to figure him out.

CAPTAIN

Do you know where he is?

OMAR

No.

CAPTAIN

Who is holding him?

OMAR

I don't know. That is how the operation was planned. So each person knows as little as possible.

CAPTAIN
Why did you kidnap him?

OMAR
Because he was there. He was an American.

CAPTAIN
Just that.

OMAR
Yes.

We see RANDALL struggling to contain himself.

236 INT. ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

236

A full TV screen. Footage of a joint White House press conference between Presidents Musharraf and Bush.

PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF (V.O.)
I am reasonably sure Mr. Pearl is alive and we are as close as possible to getting him released.

MARIANE, ASRA, BUSSEY and STEVE LEVINE watch the news conference on TV.

MARIANE
Is it just me, or is the timing of Omar's arrest very convenient. The day Musharraf is in America he has a bit of good news to announce.

BUSSEY:
Maybe. Or it could be the opposite. Maybe the whole kidnapping has been arranged to embarrass Musharraf.

We see Musharraf at the press conference criticizing Danny for being: "overly intrusive in whatever he was doing and getting into the thick of these extremists."

MARIANE stares at The Chart.

MARIANE
It's too crazy. Everything has links to everything else. Every person has three different names. Three different phones. Every jihadi works for the ISI. Every government official has connections to the jihadis.

(MORE)

MARIANE (cont'd)
Everything is possible. Nothing's
for sure.

MARIANE walks around the room, turning endless unanswered
questions over in her head.

Pick up on CAPTAIN, RANDALL, KALEEM, DOST with everyone. A
debriefing.

CAPTAIN
Omar Saeed Sheikh handed himself
in over a week ago on February
5th.

RANDALL
The same night the Captain raided
his aunt's house.

Everyone's faces. Dismay as they digest the troubling news.

MARIANE
What? Where has he been?

DOST
He handed himself in to Brigadier
Ejaz Shah, home secretary of the
Punjab.

RANDALL
He's ex ISI. And connected to
Omar's family. He kept Omar's
arrest a secret for a week.

MARIANE hides her anxiety. This is not good.

MARIANE
Why?

RANDALL
We don't know.

MARIANE
Was he being interrogated by the
ISI?

CAPTAIN
I don't know. I am sorry. I just
don't know.

MARIANE
A week? Are you serious? They've
had him for a week. Without
telling anyone?

MARIANE can't take this in. She has to leave.

We see the CAPTAIN and RANDALL'S reactions.

240 INT POLICE CELL NIGHT 240

BENNETT and CAPTAIN sit opposite Omar. No one speaks. A guard throws a bucket of cold water over Omar.

241 INT MARIANE'S ROOM - DAWN 241

Mariane drifts in and out of sleep. Danny is spooning her from behind, stroking her back, tracing patterns on her belly.

DANNY and Mariane in their flat in Paris, in the money market in Peshawar, on the beach in LA, Danny performing James Brown's sex machine in Bombay. All intercut with the two of them in bed together in Karachi.

Then Mariane wakes up. And Danny is gone.

242 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY 242

The mood is somber. BUSSEY pours a glass of water for MARIANE to drink but MARIANE doesn't drink it. CAPTAIN smokes. ASRA and DOST sit.

MARIANE

Four days ago he said he was alive! It's all bullshit. He's a liar. They're all psychos and liars.

ASRA

If he's dead, where's the body?

CAPTAIN

He claims he doesn't know.

BUSSEY

It's all mind games.

CAPTAIN

Mariane, I wouldn't carry on searching if I didn't think Danny is alive.

MARIANE puts her hands on her belly, emotionally drained. BUSSEY looks at her.

BUSSEY

You need to get some fresh air, get some exercise.

MARIANE
What if they call?

ASRA
We all have cell phones.

MARIANE
I can't.

BUSSEY
For the baby.

243 EXT. ZAMZAMA PARK - DAY 243

The sun is beating down. ONE OF THE GUARDS talks to ONE OF THE PARK GUARDS. ASRA turns to MARIANE and BUSSEY.

ASRA
They're not allowed in with their guns.

MARIANE barely hears. She nods as they turn around. The brilliant glare of sunlight in her eyes makes her feel dizzy.

244 INT ASRA'S HOUSE OFFICE -DAY 244

MARIANE and the OTHERS are there. Still trying to work. MARIANE reads old articles written by DANNY - we see headlines - After the Bombings: The Difficult search for Truth, Tehran Wanderlust, How Many ways can you Skin a Cow, In Iran's Holy City, Islamic Factions Fight For Soul of a Nation. She stops at - Amid Global Turmoil, Wild Times in Trading Afghanis and we hear Danny's voice.

DANNY (V.O.)
Peshawar, Pakistan - As a Muslim and ethnic Pashtun, Fazal-e-Maula has some sympathy for the ruling Taliban in Afghanistan. But on September 11th as he watched the television replays of airplanes crashing into the World Trade Center in New York, he knew what to do: Buy Afghanis

245 EXT PESHAWAR MONEY MARKET - DAY 245

DANNY and MARIANE wander through the bustling chowk, meeting people carrying huge piles of money, interviewing them. Enjoying the energy.

DANNY: (V.O.)

..Some traders acknowledge mixed feelings about profiting from the demise of the Taliban, which had its roots in Peshawar's religious schools. "It's not my regular job," Younus Khan, a 25 year old cloth trader with a shaggy Taliban style beard, said by way of an apology, after gaining the equivalent of \$1,500 in Saturday's trading. Then his face brightens. "I'll give this money as a donation for jihad purposes," he says.

245A INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - OFFICE - DAY

245A

MARIANE suddenly looks up from the articles. She looks worn out, her features drawn from severe sleep deprivation. STEVE and BUSSEY look at her.

MARIANE

(blankly)

I'm not going to make it if Danny is dead.

STEVE and BUSSEY look at each other taken aback. It's the first time they hear MARIANE mention the prospect that DANNY may not come out alive.

STEVE

Mariane listen, I've been going in and out of this country for the past 13 years and no one has ever been touched. There is no reason to kill him.

MARIANE composes herself.

MARIANE

I know.

She feels a contraction in her stomach.

ASRA

Are you OK?

MARIANE

I think so.

BUSSEY brings a bottle of water over.

BUSSEY:

You've got to keep hydrated.

246 INT - MARIANE AND DANNY'S ROOM - DAY

246

MARIANE and ASRA are lying on the bed. MARIANE's cell phone rings. The bright little screen lights up. It says: DANNY. ASRA quickly answers.

MALE (V.O.)
 (Speaking in Urdu)
 Give me the wife of Daniel Pearl.
 I want to speak to her.

ASRA looks at MARIANE panicked.

ASRA
 (Speaking in Urdu)
 Okay, I'm going to put you
 through to her but you should
 know she doesn't speak Urdu.

MALE (V.O.)
 (to someone else in the
 room with him)
 She doesn't speak Urdu.

The line goes dead. ASRA is on edge.

ASRA
 Oh God. They hung up! What have I
 done?

247 INT - ASRA HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DUSK

247

MARIANE sits, lost. Nothing is making any sense.

RANDALL
 It's fine. They were making
 contact.

MARIANE
 Why aren't they making any
 demands?

RANDALL
 They called Dost as well. They
 threatened to kill him, his wife
 and his children.

MARIANE
 They just called to make a
 threat?

MARIANE feels dazed with the meaninglessness of it all.

248 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - MARIANE AND DANNY'S ROOM - NIGHT 248

MARIANE sits at her shrine, chanting.

CAPTION: 21st February 2002 *

MARIANE hears voices downstairs.

249 INT - ASRA HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 249

BUSSEY storms into the living room. He looks frenzied, yanking his cell-phone earpiece out.

BUSSEY
(to Steve)
We have to go.

STEVE
Why?

ASRA
What's happening?

BUSSEY
We have to go now.

BUSSEY is already leaving with STEVE.

ASRA
Tell me what's happening.

MARIANE hears BUSSEY and STEVE leave. She is worried. She goes downstairs. MARIANE walks into the living room.

MARIANE
What's happened? Why did they
leave without us?

But they've gone.

MARIANE
What's happened?

ASRA
I don't know. They wouldn't say.

MARIANE
What do you mean? Why wouldn't
they? Call Randall.

ASRA gets on the phone. MARIANE is very anxious. She tries several numbers - but no one is answering.

250 EXT - STREETS - NIGHT 250

BUSSEY and LeVINE are being driven in a Sheraton car. They arrive outside RANDALL's house.

251 INT - BENNETT'S HOUSE - NIGHT 251

BUSSEY and LeVINE are brought into the TV room. RANDALL, JOHN FBI AGENT, CAPTAIN, DOST and several other FBI PEOPLE are already there.

BUSSEY

What is it?

RANDALL

It's a tape. We got it half an hour ago. John was contacted by a local journalist.

JOHN

He said he had a tape showing the execution of Daniel Pearl. He wanted a hundred thousand dollars for it.

CUT TO:

252 INT - SHERATON HOTEL - NIGHT 252

There are probably 15 or TWENTY UNDERCOVER MEN there - FBI and CAPTAIN'S MEN. We see RANDALL is there. JOHN FBI arrives and walks over to a PAKISTANI MAN

JOHN is given a brown paper package tied with string. The PAKISTANI JOURNALIST leaves - followed by SEVERAL OF THE UNDERCOVER MEN. RANDALL goes over to JOHN.

JOHN:

We'd better x ray it.

252A INT US CONSULATE NIGHT 252A

We see the package going through their x ray machine. It shows that it is a camera.

RANDALL (V.O.)

The camera wouldn't connect to the equipment at the Sheraton - so we had to come back here.

CUT TO:

253 INT- RANDALL BENNET'S HOUSE - NIGHT 253

There are HALF A DOZEN MEN there. They photograph the package as they unwrap it.

Very cautiously RANDALL opens the camera - there is a tape inside.

The camera is wired into the TV. RANDALL presses the play button. Everyone watches in silence.

The tape starts to play.

DANNY

My father is Jewish, my mother is Jewish, I am Jewish. In the town of Benei Beraq in Israel there's a street called Chaim Pearl Street, which is named after my great-grandfather, who was one of the founders of the town.

We watch Dost, Randall, Captain.

254 OMITTED 254

255 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 255

ASRA is still trying numbers. RANDALL answers.

ASRA

Randall? It's Asra. What's happening?

256 INT - CAR - NIGHT 256

RANDALL, BUSSEY and STEVE LEVINE are being driven.

RANDALL

I can't say right now.

ASRA

What are you talking about?

RANDALL

I can't tell you on the phone.
We'll be there as soon as we can.

RANDALL hangs up. Everyone in the car looks grim.

257 INT - ASRAS'S HOUSE - NIGHT

257

MARIANE

What did he say?

ASRA

He didn't. He won't talk on the phone.

MARIANE doesn't know what to do. She's about to explode.

MARIANE

What do you mean? Phone him back! Get him back on the phone!

ASRA

They're on their way back.

MARIANE

(irrational with
apprehension)
Let's get out of here.

ASRA

Mariane, wait. Where are you going to go? They're on their way.

MARIANE

I need to get out of here.

ASRA

Where?

MARIANE

I don't care.

MARIANE goes to her room to put her boots on. Her hand is shaking so much she can't tie her laces. She explodes with anger.

258 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

258

A bunch of cars are waved through by the GUARD at the end of the road. RANDALL's SUV, CAPTAIN's car. A couple of others. BAUMAN, the US CONSUL. BUSSEY and RANDALL exit the SUV. DOST and CAPTAIN out of his car. ZAFIR and a PAKISTANI STRANGER exit a third car.

259 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

259

MARIANE and ASRA see everyone arriving. The front door opens... And the MEN come in.

Their faces are dead white against the night. All are ashen, silent.

BUSSEY
He didn't make it.

MARIANE hardly understands him.

BUSSEY (CONT'D)
They have proof.

MARIANE rushes to CAPTAIN, whose face has turned a horrible yellow-brown.

CAPTAIN
Mariane... I'm sorry. I didn't bring your Danny home.

He hugs her, holding her. He begins to tear up. She rests her head on his shoulder. And then, she stands back.

MARIANE
(to everyone)
Leave me alone...

And she steps backwards a few steps, then turns and hurries back to her room.

She slams the door closed.

259A INT MARIANE'S ROOM - NIGHT 259A

MARIANE finally lets out all the emotion she has been holding in. And she screams. With all her might, she screams. Over and over and over.

260 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - THE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS ACTION 260

ASRA turns to RANDALL.

ASRA
Who's he?

RANDALL
A doctor. For Mariane.

ASRA
Make him leave. No strangers.
Not now.

260A INT MARIANE'S ROOM - NIGHT 260A

MARIANE bangs her head against the wall in spiritual agony.

260B INT ASRA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

260B

We see ASRA chanting a Muslim prayer outside the door.

Then MARIANE comes out of her room.

MARIANE

How do you know he's dead?

CAPTAIN

There's a video.

MARIANE registers.

MARIANE

That's easy to fake. Anyone can do it. With editing, you can...

CAPTAIN

Mariane. Your Danny is dead.

She shakes her head.

MARIANE

No, it's easy to...

CAPTAIN

Mariane, you have to accept it. He's dead. He's dead.

CAPTAIN puts his arms around Mariane.

MARIANE

What makes you so sure?

BAUMAN

They... had a knife, and they used it in a way that leaves no doubt.

MARIANE

'No doubt'? What does that mean?

Everyone is beginning to silently cry. Everyone. No sobs, Just tears.

BAUMAN

Mariane, he... He was beheaded.

MARIANE's eyes widen in revulsion.

MARIANE

You all watched this video?

RANDALL nods. MARIANE stares at them, stunned.

ASRA
Where's the video?
Do you have it?

RANDALL
Not here.

MARIANE
(to Asra)
I don't want you to watch it.
Ever.

261 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - MARIANE AND DANNY'S BATHROOM - DAY 261

MARIANE is crying.

262 INT - ASRA'S HOUSE - MARIANE'S ROOM - DAWN 262

MARIANE wakes up alone. She stares into space. She starts to murmur, over and over: I love you. I love you. I love you.

263 EXT - ASRA'S HOUSE - DAY 263

A day later. Sheep are milling around in people's gardens.

MARIANE (V.O.)
The day my brother arrived was
the day of Eidh-ul-Adha. The day
when every Muslim family
sacrifices an animal to God. In
remembrance of Ibrahim's
willingness to sacrifice his son
Ishmael. The meat is then divided
into three parts: one for family,
one for neighbours, one for the
poor.

A car arrives and a man gets out. As he enters the house
Mariane throws her arms around him and they hug and hug.

MARIANE
Asra, this is my brother Satchi.

And he hugs Asra.

264 EXT - STREETS - DAY 264

Another convoy of cars with MARIANE, SATCHI, ASRA, BUSSEY,
etc. They arrive at the Sheraton.

265 INT - SHERATON - DAY

265

They arrive on the 11th floor where an interview with CNN is going to take place. MARIANE is greeted by the PRODUCTION TEAM. There is all the usual activity. A JOURNALIST - JOURNALIST 2 - hugs her and asks if she can sit in. *

CNN INTERVIEW

JOURNALIST 3 is interviewing MARIANE. We see the interview: *

JOURNALIST 3 *

Mariane thank you for joining us
- you came to Pakistan in peace -
you came here seeking the truth
with your husband. You leave
Pakistan as a widow after your
husband was brutally murdered.
What message to you have for the
people of Pakistan?

MARIANE

Well, first of all I would tell
them that my feelings and my
affection for this country have
not changed because of what
happened here ..on the contrary,
people ... the people.. have shown
tremendous support for me they
have shared my sorrow. I know
they feel bad, ashamed... sad...
about what happened... also the
people who have actually been
around me during this ordeal...
this terrible time... have
been... people of heart, of
tremendous professionalism.. with
very very limited resources. They
have shown unlimited amount of
courage, of commitment,
individual commitment as well to
try and find Danny. That has
meant a lot to me.

CHRIS

Did you see the video?

MARIANE

Vous n'avez aucune decence? Have
you listened to anything I just
said? How can you ask me such a
question?

BUSSEY:

OK. That's enough. We're going

MARIANE gets up and leaves. She goes over to SATCHI who is being hugged by JOURNALIST 2. *

JOURNALIST 2
I'm so sorry. So sorry. *

Pulling him tighter.

JOURNALIST 2
Do you have a middle name? *

SATCHI pulls away from JOURNALIST 2 and takes MARIANE's hand. *

MARIANE
Let's get out of here.

They are led away by BUSSEY.

266 OMITTED 266

267 INT - ELEVATOR - DAY 267

BUSSEY, MARIANE, SATCHI and the HOTEL MANAGER are in the elevator. The doors open. There is a huge herd of JOURNALISTS and PHOTOGRAPHERS. BUSSEY presses the door close button.

BUSSEY
Is there another way out?

268 INT - HOTEL KITCHENS - DAY 268

They hurry through the hotel kitchens and out the back.

269 EXT - HOTEL - DAY 269

They race into their car.

BUSSEY
OK. Get us out of here as fast as you can.

The car lurches off and screams past the journalists at the hotel exit.

SATCHI
`Ye-e-e-e-e-esssss!

MARIANE laughs.

273 INT - A CAR - DAWN 273

MARIANE sits in the backseat, completely devoid of emotion. She looks out the window blankly. For the first time we see the streets of Karachi empty and calm.

274 EXT - CASTLE GARDEN/FRANCE - DAY 274

A perfect dazzling summer's day in the French countryside. A cloudless blue sky. It's MARIANE and DANNY's wedding day.

CAPTION : 21st July 1999

MARIANE and DANNY in their wedding outfits, hold each others' gaze, glowing in happiness. The exterior sounds are muted

MARIANE AND DANNY'S V.O

We promise to discover new things, places and people together.

We see DANNY's PARENTS AND SISTERS, TAMARA AND MICHELE, his NEPHEWS and NIECES, MARIANE'S MOTHER AND BROTHER SATCHI and their FRIENDS - a mixed crowd of bohemians and journalists types (we recognize ASRA) gathered around on the lawn to listen to the couple's vows.

DANNY and MARIANE look at each other, deeply in love. DANNY tenderly picks some grains of rice and streamers from MARIANE's hair.

MARIANE AND DANNY'S V.O

We promise to treasure each other's happiness at least as much as our own.

MARIANE smiles as she watches DANNY shatter a glass on the grass. There is joyful applause and cheers of Mazel Tov and some French and Spanish congratulatory shouts of encouragement.

Tables are laid out in the open grounds. GUESTS mingle. KIDS chase each other. MARIANE watches DANNY as he plays the fiddle. FRIENDS MUSICIANS join in playing with him, an impromptu spontaneous jam.

DANNY smiles up at MARIANE.

MARIANE AND DANNY V.O

... and always to keep faith in the strength of the other's love.

MARIANE throws her bouquet into the CROWD. We see the faces of the PEOPLE we know. ASRA, SATCHI, MICHELE, DANNY's PARENTS etc...

A blast of upbeat music cuts in. A band plays live. A Cuban beat. And the place is bursting with life. Music, laughter the high pitched voices of children.

COUPLES, YOUNG and OLD, dance, laughing, twirling. CHILDREN run around.

DANNY whirls MARIANE, making a dramatic flashy turn into the brilliant sunlight.

275 EXT/INT - A CAR - DAWN 275

The car glides through the empty quiet streets of Karachi. MARIANE sits in the back of the car.

MARIANE (V.O.)

They found Danny's body cut into ten pieces. Nobody told me this. I learned it in an e-mail that was attached by accident to another e-mail sent to me.

276 INT - MARIANE'S FLAT - PARIS - DAY 276

MARIANE lying on the bed, very calm. The phone is off the hook.

MARIANE (V.O.)

I decided that before Adam is born I have to confront everything that happened to Danny. He was held in an isolated shack in a compound on the outskirts of Karachi. One day, when he was unshackled to go to the toilet, he tried to escape. They caught him and chained him to the engine of a car. Another time he tried to break loose when he was walking with his captors. Once he shouted to a passerby. Then one day - probably February 1st - three Arabs were brought to the compound. Danny argued with one of them. Then they turned on the video and asked him questions about his religion.

*

VIDEO INSERT

DANNY ON CAMERA SAYING:

DANNY
My father is Jewish, my mother is
Jewish, I am Jewish.

277 INT - MARIANE'S FLAT - PARIS - DAY

277

MARIANE still lying on the bed. Still imagining DANNY.

MARIANE: (V.O.)
Maybe they made him say this. But
I know he was undefeated because
of the next thing he says,
something the kidnappers could
not have known, something he says
for me, for his parents and for
Adam.

VIDEO INSERT

DANNY ON CAMERA SAYING:

DANNY
In the town of Benei Beraq in
Israel there's a street called
Chaim Pearl Street, which is
named after my great-grandfather,
who was one of the founders of
the town.

278 INT - MARIANE'S FLAT - PARIS - DAY

278

MARIANE is still there in bed, tears on her face.

MARIANE (V.O.)
I force myself to imagine it all
and when it is over I know there
is nothing that can happen that I
won't have the courage to face.

279 INT - MATERNITY WARD - NIGHT

279

MARIANE is chanting. The MIDWIFE is with her. Then the
contractions start and MARIANE screams with pain.

PICK UP

On ADAM being delivered, he starts to cry and is handed
over to MARIANE. MARIANE holds him to her breast.

MARIANE (V.O.)
This film is for Adam. So that he
knows his father was not a hero
but an ordinary man. An ordinary
hero.

THE END

end credits

We see Mariane with Adam as the end credits play.

As the credits roll:

"On May 14th, CBS broadcast excerpts of the video. Andrew Hayward, the president of CBS News justified his decision by saying that it had news value."