

# MACGYVER

**“The Rising”**

Episode 101

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**REVISED NETWORK DRAFT**

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TEASER

FADE IN:

1 **EXT. PALATIAL ESTATE ON THE WATER - EVENING** 1

"Palatial" should cover it right? The kind of place that borders on needing a second zip code. But you can't buy taste.

**CHYRON: LAKE COMO, ITALY**

There's a party tonight. Nothing but beautiful PEOPLE heading inside and six-figure cars parked out front. A 1970 FERRARI DINO pulls into an open spot and out steps our hero -- **ANGUS MACGYVER**. Tiny earwig transmitter hidden in his ear canal. He's also wearing a TOM FORD tux, which he adjusts the tie of.

MACGYVER  
How do I look?

He says this glancing up to God.

2 **INT. DXS SURVEILLANCE VAN - EVENING - INTERCUT** 2

Only it's **NIKKI CARPENTER** (late 20's) behind a nest of surveillance equipment. One of which is a live satellite feed featuring MacGyver looking up at her. INTERCUT:

NIKKI  
Yummy.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
That's Nikki Carpenter. MIT grad. Passed up offers from Google, Space X and Apple to save lives. Best senior analyst in the business. No one's better with a keyboard.

3 **INT. NIKKI'S DXS OFFICE - NIGHT** 3

FLASHBACK: Nikki, straddling MacGyver, is lifted up onto her desk -- right on top of her keyboard -- her monitor going nuts as they kiss passionately. But before it gets even hotter, we --

4 **INT. DXS SURVEILLANCE VAN - EVENING - INTERCUT** 4

Back to Nikki in mobile command. A super high-tech beast.

NIKKI  
You really should wear a tux more often, Mac.

MACGYVER  
Doesn't really go with the grease under my fingernails.

NIKKI

If you decide to ditch it, keep the tie. I'm sure you'll find other ways to use it.

MacGyver looks up to the satellite again.

MACGYVER

I already got a couple ideas.

JACK (O.S.)

Guys you know this is an open channel. I can hear you.

5 **EXT. LAKE BEHIND PALATIAL ESTATE - EVENING** 5

This is **JACK DALTON**. Stealthily pulling up in a speedboat. Docks next to another pricey 40-footer.

MACGYVER (V.O.)

Meet Jack Dalton. Security and Intel. Former Delta Force. After the army he guarded spies as a member of the CIA's secret arm: Global Response Staff. Jack's the kind of guy you want watching your back. He's been watching mine for years now...

6 **EXT. AFGHANISTAN - DAY** 6

FLASHBACK: The shit has veritably hit the fan. As U.S. Army Specialist Angus MacGyver diffuses a nasty-looking IED, he HEARS SOMETHING -- turns his head to see four ISIS SOLDIERS advancing on him.

MACGYVER

(calm)

Jack --

PPFFT! PFFFT! PFFFT! PFFFT! All four go down. PUSH ZOOM TO: GRS hotshot Jack Dalton a few football fields away in a sniper's perch, keeping MacGyver safe. The word "ALOHA" stenciled on the barrel's sound suppressor.

JACK

Who loves ya baby?

7 **EXT. PALATIAL ESTATE ON THE WATER - EVENING** 7

MCGYVER (V.O.)

And my name's Angus MacGyver. What do I do? A little of this... a little of that.

During this he closes the car door, but not before we see the screwdriver sticking out of the ignition.

He moves to the rear of the Ferrari -- uses his handkerchief to inconspicuously collect soot from the tailpipe.

NIKKI  
What are you doing?

MACGYVER  
Thornton said we were going to need a fingerprint to access the safe.

8 **EXT. LAKE BEHIND PALATIAL ESTATE - EVENING** 8

As Jack kills the engine --

JACK  
Does it bother anyone else that we don't know what's in that safe?

9 **INT. DXS SURVEILLANCE VAN - EVENING** 9

Back to Mission Control with Nikki.

NIKKI  
Thornton said it was a weapon our host plans to sell to the highest bidder tonight. Hundred bucks says it's nuclear.

JACK  
Excuse me. Can we not bet on what's probably gonna get us killed?

10 **EXT. PALATIAL ESTATE ON THE WATER - EVENING** 10

MacGyver gets what he needs. Heads for the house.

MACGYVER  
Relax. It can't be worse than Cairo.

JACK  
We don't talk about Cairo, remember?

NIKKI  
What happened in Cairo, stays in Cairo.

JACK  
Sister's right... Cairo is off limits. Except for my therapist.

NIKKI  
You see a therapist?

JACK  
Massage. But she's also a good listener.

He sets his watch.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Okay. You got thirty minutes, hoss.  
If you're not out by then, I'm  
crashing the party.

MACGYVER  
See you in twenty-nine.

11 **EXT. PALATIAL ESTATE ON THE WATER - EVENING** 11

UPCUT: MacGyver gives his name to the **DOORMAN** --

MACGYVER  
Joshua Greene.

As the Doorman scans the guest list on his tablet, MacGyver spies another name on the list with a +1 who hasn't arrived yet.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
I'm a guest of Hans Heinrich.

Doorman sees Hans' name on the list. Checks it.

DOORMAN  
Welcome Mr. Greene --

As MacGyver enters --

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
Joshua Greene. Super lame, right?  
It's generic for a reason. So anyone  
suspicious will get multiple hits if  
they run a background check. And by  
the time they sort that out -- I'm  
gone --

Before he can finish, the Doorman interrupts --

DOORMAN  
Mr. Greene...

MacGyver turns back to the Doorman as he gestures to the security station.

DOORMAN (CONT'D)  
If you don't mind.

MACGYVER  
Of course.

He steps up. A SECURITY GUY wanders him. Gets a hit on something in MacGyver's pocket. Everyone tenses.

MACGYVER (V.O.)

It's not a gun. In fact the number one thing that gets an operative busted is a concealed weapon. If I don't have one, I don't get busted. And if I need a weapon, I'll make one.

Security pulls out... a well-worn Swiss Army knife. And folks, get used to seeing this thing, it's going to be a staple. MacGyver shrugs --

MACGYVER

What can I say? Lifelong boy scout.

The security team have no idea what he's saying as they pass around the "harmless weapon" chuckling -- then hand it back to MacGyver, who enters the party --

MACGYVER (V.O.)

Actually, I only lasted six weeks in the scouts. But if there was something I learned in my brief stint in short pants and female repellent tie, it was always "be prepared."

He says this putting away the pocket knife.

MACGYVER (V.O.)

And don't let anyone outside the troop see you in uniform. They'll beat the snot out of you.

He pulls a pair of Google-like glasses from his pocket. Puts them on. Transmits a "LIVE FEED" to --

12 **INT. DXS SURVEILLANCE VAN - EVENING**

12

-- Nikki, who sees everything MacGyver sees. She taps keys. Runs FACIAL REC on the guests. FBI and INTERPOL dossiers pop up.

NIKKI

All right. We got some serious badassery here tonight. 3 on the FBI's Most Wanted. 2 on Interpol. That guy in front of you is tied to 4 terror networks --

13 **EXT. LAKE BEHIND PALATIAL ESTATE - EVENING**

13

Jack is also watching the LIVE FEED -- on his phone.

JACK

And Betty and Veronica over there are undressing you with their eyes.

14 INT. PALATIAL ESTATE ON THE WATER - MAIN ROOM - EVENING 14

MacGyver notices the BLONDE and BRUNETTE. Returns their inviting smiles.

MACGYVER  
They're just being polite.

JACK  
God gave you a gift my friend and  
you are wasting it.

MacGyver moves, deft and confident, eyes landing on the previously mentioned **PATRICIA THORNTON**, a stunner in a spectacular dress coming down the staircase. As she hits the bottom step --

THORNTON  
Mr. Greene, nice to see you again.

She knows his alias. Of course. She's on the team.

MACGYVER  
You look lovely this evening, Miss  
Elcar.

Following a polite faire la bise --

THORNTON  
You should really take the tour.  
The art here is magnificent.

MACGYVER  
I certainly will.

As they each take a glass of champagne from a passing tray, Thornton whispers, all business:

THORNTON  
That's the seller.

MacGyver follows her eyeline to the HOST. Ex-Russian military. Sipping champagne. Chatting up two BUYERS.

MACGYVER  
The vault?

THORNTON  
Down that hall.

Her eyes sweep over to a huge BALD GUARD stationed by the entrance to a library.

MACGYVER  
I was hoping you weren't going to  
say that.

Thornton finishes her champagne.

THORNTON  
Exfil's in Vienna. See you in  
twelve hours. Ciao.

She taps out. He watches her go -- his Director of Field Operations -- you'd never know it from that suggestive gait. Once gone, MacGyver's intense eyes work the room. Looking for options. PUNCH IN on the Guard's radio earpiece. MacGyver gets an idea. He moves through the crowd -- swings off his jacket, drops it on a chair. Now looking like a waiter, he blends in with the CATERING STAFF. Picks up a sterling silver tray -- "accidentally" bumps into the Host, spilling his champs.

MACGYVER  
(in Italian)  
*I'm sorry. Let me get you a new one.*

He collects the champagne flute and ENTERS --

15 **INT. KITCHEN - PALATIAL ESTATE ON THE WATER - EVENING** 15

Controlled chaos. Servers going in. Out. Chefs busy plating. MacGyver moves through -- and into --

16 **INT. MAINTENANCE ROOM - PALATIAL ESTATE ON THE WATER - EVENING** 16

-- locks the door. Sets down the champagne flute. Quickly collects new items -- an electric stud finder, an extension cord, a door hinge pin, a roll of clear tape. Here we go --

**MACGYVER MOMENT #1:** MacGyver sprinkles tailpipe soot over the flute and like magic the HOST'S THUMBPRINT materializes in black dust. Then: He TEARS OFF a piece of clear tape, presses the sticky side to the flute. When he peels back, the thumbprint has been transferred. MacGyver tucks it into his shirt.

In QUICK CUTS he then strips the rubber off the extension cord with his pocketknife -- pops out the stud finder's battery.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
Some of the strongest forces we  
encounter every day are invisible.  
But if you know how they work, you  
can bend them to your will. Take  
magnetic fields for example -- weak  
ones can be created by running a  
current through a wire. But coil  
that wire around an iron core such  
as hinge pins and your weak magnet  
gets stronger.

During this, he coils the wire around the door's hinge pin -- attaches the ends of the wire to the battery -- secures them with tape -- and viola... an ELECTROMAGNET.

17 **INT. MAIN ROOM - PALATIAL ESTATE ON THE WATER - EVENING** 17

MacGyver returns to the party -- hides his "ugly" electromagnet beneath a napkin on his tray.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
Coil that wire *enough* times and  
you've got an electromagnet that  
will induce an invisible force  
strong enough to cause interference  
with nearby electronics.

As he passes the Bald Guard, the magnet's field interferes with the man's radio and his earpiece starts to whine.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
The stronger the magnet, the  
stronger the interference.

Guard reacts -- yanks out the earpiece -- heads off to replace the faulty radio. That's when MacGyver slips into the hallway.

18 **INT. DXS SURVEILLANCE VAN - NIGHT** 18

Nikki notices something on the satellite feed -- someone approaching Jack standing at the end of the pier.

NIKKI (O.S.)  
Jack, you got company.

19 **EXT. LAKE BEHIND PALATIAL ESTATE - NIGHT** 19

Jack sees the **ARMED GUARD** approaching, barking in Italian:

ARMED GUARD  
*Sir, you need to leave. Now.*

Jack taps a photo app -- starts snapping pictures --

JACK  
Hey man, is this George Clooney's  
place? I promised my girlfriend I'd  
get a picture --

He turns around to snap a selfie -- unloads a back elbow to the man's throat -- SNAP!! -- caught on camera. The Guard collapses.

20 **INT. LIBRARY - PALATIAL ESTATE ON THE WATER - MOMENTS LATER** 20

MacGyver enters -- sets down the tray -- goes right to the centerpiece of the room -- a superb 17th century masterwork on the wall (thank Thornton for the tip). He grips it from both ends and turns it slightly. We HEAR what sounds like tumblers falling into place until -- CLICK! The wall behind the painting opens like a door revealing a huge high-tech vault. The vault's secured with a biometric lock, only it requires more than a thumbprint to open.... it needs a full handprint.

MACGYVER  
Nikki, you seeing this?

NIKKI (O.S.)  
Yeah. Full hand print biometrics.  
We got bad intel. That print you  
lifted is useless.

Fuck!

JACK (O.S.)  
What's the plan B?

MACGYVER  
Same as always --

NIKKI (O.S.)  
Improvise.

JACK (O.S.)  
Improvise.

MacGyver looks around -- gets an idea.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
I just need a minute. Nikki, watch  
my six.

He sets his Google-like glasses down in the hall so Nikki can  
watch his back.

NIKKI (O.S.)  
Always do.

21 **EXT. LAKE BEHIND PALATIAL ESTATE - NIGHT**

21

As Jack dumps the now tied up and gagged Guard in one of the  
yacht tenders, he scowls:

JACK  
How come you never flirt with me  
like that?

NIKKI  
Because I don't have a daddy  
fixation.

22 **INT. BACK HALL - PALATIAL ESTATE ON THE WATER - MOMENTS LATER**

22

MacGyver returns to the scanner --

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
How do you bypass a handprint  
scanner? There's the easy way and  
then there's my way. Easy is  
leveraging the host to cooperate.  
But that could get messy. My way --  
fooling the scanner into thinking  
I'm the last person who used it...



MACGYVER  
Evening, gentlemen.

They immediately draw weapons. MacGyver is out manned. Out weaponed. He's fucked.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
C'mon. This isn't fair.

He suddenly STOMPS down on the edge of the tray -- FLIPPING IT into the air -- catches it and SWINGS -- takes out one of the Guards. Second one FIRES - BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! MacGyver charges him, using the steel tray like a shield, stopping the bullets, SLAMMING the Gunman into the wall, knocking him out, just as --

-- a third GUARD appears. MacGyver simply throws the tray like a frisbee this time -- takes the man out -- bolts -- past the splayed bodies and tray which we linger on. Three 9mm dents in steel. Oh my.

26     **EXT. LAKE BEHIND PALATIAL ESTATE - NIGHT**     26

MacGyver EXPLODES from the house -- running for his life. More GUARDS on his ass, FIRING ON THE MOVE. Antique vases. Fountains. The manicured lawn. It's open season on everything.

MACGYVER  
Jack -- start the engine!!

27     **INT. JACK'S SPEEDBOAT - NIGHT**     27

Jack keys the ignition as MacGyver LEAPS into the boat. They throttle away. Security OPENS FIRE. Bullets tear into the hull. A dash alarm SOUNDS.

MACGYVER  
They hit our fuel line.

JACK  
So break out the chewing gum.

MACGYVER  
It's gonna need more than chewing gum. We're gonna be out of fuel in 45 seconds.  
(offers the canister)  
Hold this.

JACK  
No.

MACGYVER  
So this really is Cairo all over again.



KENDRICK

That's not how these exchanges work, Mr. MacGyver. You hand me the canister. And I let your friend live.

MacGyver, unwavering.

KENDRICK (CONT'D)

The canister please.

JACK

Don't do it, Mac --

He's pistol-whipped. Drops. MacGyver is alone now. No backup.

KENDRICK

Give it to me and no one else has to get hurt.

MacGyver holds up the canister.

MACGYVER

Or maybe I drop this and we all die.

KENDRICK

I know you won't kill her...

He digs the barrel deeper into Nikki's ribs. Stares levelly.

KENDRICK (CONT'D)

... but I will.

He's right. MacGyver won't do it.

NIKKI

Mac, don't give it to him --

Kendrick hits her.

MACGYVER

Son of a bitch --

KENDRICK

You think I'm playing?

Their eyes. Locked. MacGyver. Struggling to contain his rage. Doing something stupid right now is what gets people killed.

KENDRICK (CONT'D)

The canister.

He moves the gun to Nikki's head. Tension. Thick.

KENDRICK (CONT'D)

I am not going to ask you again.

MacGyver has no choice -- reluctantly turns over the canister.  
Kendrick looks at it, then shoots Nikki -- BLAM!

MACGYVER  
NOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!

She dies on her feet -- goes over the cliff. MacGyver loses his  
shit. Rushes Kendrick - BLAM! He's shot once in the chest, blown  
backwards, plummeting to the inky black water below.

31 **EXT. LAKE COMO - NIGHT**

31

MacGyver floats, face up, blood streaming.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
I know what you're thinking, if  
this guy's the hero, it's not  
looking good. But like my  
grandfather, the master of  
motivational cliches used to say:  
Whatever doesn't kill you, makes  
you stronger.

Then suddenly: MacGyver's eyes snap wide -- and he takes a huge  
draw of air into his lungs. He's alive!

SMASH TO:

MAIN TITLES.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

32 **EXT. RUNYON CANYON - HOLLYWOOD - DAY**

32

**CHYRON: LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

**3 MONTHS LATER**

Just after sunrise. Start high, then DIP DOWN to find MacGyver jogging up Runyon. He passes Yoga Moms, Actors, service dogs. Welcome to LA.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
Runyon Canyon. Hollywood, California.  
This is where the young and hip come  
to see and be seen... and of course  
sweat. This is where I come to think.

(then)  
And I've been doing a lot of that  
lately. Thinking about what  
happened in Italy. What I could  
have done differently.

He darts around a switchback.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
I spent three years as an EOD tech  
in the army defusing bombs. I saw a  
lot of people die. But Nikki was  
different. When the person killed  
is someone you've worked closely  
with, someone you've trained,  
someone you may have even been in  
love with...

He finally makes it to the top... slows to catch his breath,  
looking out over beautiful LA, sparkling in the morning light.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
... That's a whole new world of hurt.

PUSH IN. His face. His eyes. His agony.

33 **EXT. MACGYVER'S HOUSE - DAY**

33

A sweet little bungalow high in the Hollywood hills with a  
spectacular view of the Griffith Observatory. MacGyver jogs up --  
finds an F-15 LONG RANGE MISSILE sitting on his front lawn. He  
hefts it over his shoulder, re-creating the classic image from  
the original MacGyver, and enters --

34 INT. LIVING ROOM - MAGYVER'S HOUSE - DAY

34

-- his living room -- more of a DIY workshop. Cannibalized appliances and "Frankensteined" electronics everywhere, a motley assortment of gadgets -- from old radios to late-model iPods -- all sporting MacGyver-style repairs. Even off the job, MacGyver can't stop tinkering. It's just in his blood. Across the room, awesome friend **WILT BOZER** is busy in the kitchen. Bozer is the same age as MacGyver. A young man bursting with ambition, but not much luck. Hence the In-N-Out Burger uniform he's wearing.

MACGYVER

Bozer --

BOZER

Just in time, I'm making waffles.

MACGYVER

What is this?

BOZER

It's a prop. Penny lent it to me.

MacGyver drops it on the couch.

MACGYVER

What's it doing on the front lawn?

BOZER

Dude, I told you --

He holds up a flyer for the "CELLebration Film Festival."

BOZER (CONT'D)

-- I signed up for CELLebration. Best movie shot on a cell phone wins five grand. And I'm going all Michael Bay on this thing. Chinese jet fighters attack LA. Pearl Harbor meets Dr. Strangelove. I e-mailed you sides a couple days ago.

He says this handing MacGyver a plate of waffles.

MACGYVER

Right. You want me to play General Wang?

He eats.

BOZER

Dude, you're the only guy I know who speaks Mandarin. And you said you got some time off from your job. So do me a solid. Gimme Wang.



Uses it to unlock the steel handcuffs. Nikki catches her breath. Bites down on her lower lip. Whispers:

NIKKI  
Now put them back on.

She smiles. He smiles.

38 INT. MACGYVER'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY 38

MacGyver shuts off the water. Wraps a towel around his waist. SEE more scarring on his back. Long healed. Something we'll come back to later in the season.

39 INT. MACGYVER'S HOUSE - DAY 39

MacGyver, barefoot, jeans, pulling on a well worn t-shirt, comes out of his bedroom to a surprise -- Thornton sitting on his couch.

MACGYVER  
Thornton...

THORNTON  
You look good, Mac. How's the --

She taps her chest -- where he got shot.

MACGYVER  
Coming along. You?

THORNTON  
I think about her every day.

MacGyver nods. Both of them share the same grief. Then:

MACGYVER  
What are you doing here?

THORNTON  
Vacations over. Time to go to work.

She rises holding a tablet.

THORNTON (CONT'D)  
Yesterday, at 5:07 pm local time, technicians from the Sondrestrom research facility in Greenland sent out an S.O.S. --

She unlocks the tablet with a swipe. **ON SCREEN: a LEAD TECH stares at us -- wild-eyed -- terrified -- blood stains his lips. In the b.g. we see more TECHS staggering, coughing, wiping red from their mouths. Others slump on the floor, motionless.**

LEAD TECHNICIAN (ON SCREEN)  
-- *Please, if anyone is getting  
this -- please, we need help --*  
(he coughs violently)  
*My name is Ronald Winter. I am the  
lead research technician here --*  
(blood runs from his nose)  
-- *My symptoms are getting worse --  
whatever this is, it spread like  
wildfire -- we have no idea how --*

Just then, his eyes roll back and he collapses out of frame. In the b.g. two more TECHS drop. Thornton hits pause. MacGyver is rattled -- the video was that disturbing.

THORNTON  
Ten minutes later all twenty-seven researchers were dead. The CDC sent a containment team to quarantine the building, figure out what happened.

MACGYVER  
Looks almost like Ebola -- some kind of viral hemorrhagic fever. But they've never had any cases in Greenland. Is this something new?

THORNTON  
Try something old -- 30,000 years old. The CDC thinks it's pre-historic. Something dug up while fracking in Siberia. A disease so lethal, one drop could kill 100,000 people.

MACGYVER  
Has the CDC sequenced the RNA?  
(Thornton shakes her head)  
So we don't have a cure.

THORNTON  
No. Currently, we do not. And there's something else --  
(beat, then)  
We believe this disease is the biological weapon you were sent to Italy to recover three months ago.

This hits our hero hard -- *holy shit.*

THORNTON (CONT'D)  
Intel suggests the virus was unleashed on this facility as a proof of concept demonstration. Prove the seller was actually in possession of the biologic. Up until now, the man who stole the virus from you --

MACGYVER  
You mean the man who murdered  
Nikki.

THORNTON  
(yes)  
We've been looking for him for months  
assuming he was the end user. But this  
latest intel suggests he's just a  
broker looking to make a sale.

MACGYVER  
Do we have any idea when or where?

THORNTON  
No.

MACGYVER  
If we can't find him, we need to  
find the buyer. Nikki recorded  
everything that night to her hard  
drive. The face of every guest at  
that party. That's our list of  
potential buyers.

THORNTON  
I already have our cyber team  
processing her computer.  
(then)  
Mac, I know you asked for some time  
off, but this requires someone who  
can handle a biologic.

Mac holds her look.

THORNTON (CONT'D)  
We need you. And Jack. If you can  
find him.

40 INT. BIG BUDGET MOVIE SET - DAY

40

TIGHT ON JACK --

JACK  
How did you find me?

WIDEN. We're outside video village.

MACGYVER  
How are you surprised? I found you  
after Iran. I found you after  
Benghazi. And I even found you when  
you tried to lose yourself in Machu  
Picchu. Hiding out as a tech  
consultant on a movie set in Santa  
Clarita wasn't really much of a  
challenge.

Jack smiles. But you can see it in his eyes -- he's been struggling since Lake Como as well.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
I came by a few times. Watched you work. I just wanted to make sure you were okay.

A beat. Jack is touched.

JACK  
That used to be my job. Making sure you were okay.

MACGYVER  
Trust me. There was nothing you could have done that night.

Jack half nods, appreciates the words, but it's going to take more than that to heal.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
Jack, you and I can't change what happened, but we can get even.

JACK  
How?

MACGYVER  
Thornton's got a lead on the guy who killed Nikki. You in?

Jack needs no time to think about it. Breaks into a grin:

JACK  
Oh yeah.

**VINCENT THE DIRECTOR** calls out from his chair.

VINCENT  
Hey, Tech Consultant, quit gabbing with your buddy and pay attention to this scene.

Jack marches over.

JACK  
First of all, my name's not "tech consultant". It's Jack. Dalton. But your gluten-free eating, macchiato drinking ass wouldn't know that because instead of listening to me these last two months you've been trying to figure out how to sleep with your lead actress without your producer wife knowing.

Crew gathers, enjoying this.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Oh, and since you're listening now -  
- real spies don't wear string  
bikinis or drink on the job or  
sleep with anyone that looks in  
their direction. Because if your  
genital herpes flairs up on a night  
mission in Rajasthan, you're not  
gonna find a 24 hour pharmacy.

Boom. Drop the mic. Time to go. He looks to **TIFFANY**, the beautiful starlet wearing a string bikini and holding a submachine gun.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Call me.

TIFFANY  
(nods)  
Bye, Jack.

As Mac and Jack head out,

41 **EXT. DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL SERVICES (DXS) - DAY**

41

What does it look like? Like someone dumped a truckload of cash on Norman Foster's desk and said build me the coolest, most badass-looking steel-and-glass structure in the world. AS WE PUSH IN --

**CHYRON: DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL SERVICES**

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
The Department of External Services. DXS for short. Our job is simple: protect U.S. interests domestic and abroad. But we do it differently than any other intelligence agency in the world because no one knows we exist. Which means our enemies can't point the finger at Uncle Sam. Need a prisoner extracted from North Korea? You call us. When a nuke disappears from Pakistan. That's us too. And yeah, I know this place doesn't look like your typical save-the-world type organization, but it is. If you had the clearance you'd know that. If you don't, our cover is a "global think tank". A gathering place for some of the greatest minds alive today.

Jack's having trouble PULLING open the door. MacGyver PUSHES it open for him.

JACK  
They must have changed that.

MACGYVER  
(making him feel better)  
Must have.

42 INT. DXS - PROCESSING LAB - DAY

42

A vast, empty space. In the center, stands a clear, plastic pop-up clean room. Inside is Nikki's surveillance van. Sliding door open. White-suited TECHS are hard at work on Nikki's computer. Thornton oversees. As MacGyver and Jack approach --

JACK  
Man, it's good to be back. Bring it in, Patti.

He's got his arms open. Thornton ices him out.

THORNTON  
Agent Thornton. And human resources is still on the third floor in case you need a refresher.

MACGYVER  
Nikki's laptop give us anything?

THORNTON  
Not yet. We've hit a wall of encryption even our guys can't crack.

MacGyver and Jack share a look.

MACGYVER  
Nikki was good.

THORNTON  
So good we might burn through the window we have to stop the sale.

JACK  
Maybe not...

MacGyver and Thornton turn to Jack.

THORNTON  
Care to elaborate?

JACK  
Yeah, but you're not going to like it.

43 INT. SUPERMAX PRISON - OBSERVATION - DAY

43

MacGyver, Jack, and Thornton peer through a two-way mirror at **RILEY DAVIS** (24) -- edgy beauty with Lenny Kravitz cool. The last person you'd consider bringing into an op. She's cuffed to a metal table, under the harsh light of an interrogation room.

THORNTON

That's the person you think is as good, or even better than Nikki was?

MacGyver looks through Riley's jacket. There's a picture of her paper-clipped to a thick file -- which has been so HEAVILY redacted, the only words not covered by black bars are adjectives like "highly unpredictable" and "dangerous."

MACGYVER

Jack, there's nothing here but black marker.

JACK

Which means it's a helluva resume, right? Three years ago NSA found her selling zero-day threats on the dark net. When they offered her a job, her cred went south and she did everything she could to prove to her peers she wasn't gonna sell out to the system. Starting with a full breach of the NSA's entire computer network --

THORNTON

(cuts him off)

How do you even know her? No, wait, on second thought, I don't think I want to know.

JACK

Trust me. We can have DXS work on Nikki's computer for another two months or we can give this kid a shot --

THORNTON

All right. You got ten minutes.

44 INT. SUPERMAX PRISON - INTERROGATION ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

44

MacGyver and Jack have just finished downloading Riley.

MACGYVER

-- So can you help?

Riley is elsewhere, staring daggers at Jack.

RILEY

Is there anything you want to say to me?

JACK

If you help us, I'll put a good word in with the judge.

RILEY

That's not what I'm talking about.

JACK

A reduced sentence wipes the slate clean between us.

RILEY

No it doesn't.

MACGYVER

Look, whatever happened between you two, you need to put it aside. Right now we have a serious problem and Riley, we need your help.

She finally turns to MacGyver, stows her hostility.

RILEY

What exactly do you do, Mr. MacGyver?

MACGYVER

You know how you hack computers? I hack everything else.

Riley looks from MacGyver to Jack.

RILEY

I thought you said you sold bathroom tile.

JACK

Do I look like I sell bathroom tile?

RILEY

Nah. You don't look that smart.

JACK

When we met I was CIA. People I work for now, the CIA don't even know they exist.

RILEY

So you're DXS?

WTF? Mac and Jack trade looks.

MACGYVER  
You know about DXS?

RILEY  
I may have known someone who had  
spyware shadowing the Director of  
National Intelligence. DXS was  
mentioned in some of the  
president's daily briefings.

Jack can't help but LAUGH.

JACK  
I told you she was good.

RILEY  
Not good. The best.

MACGYVER  
Then you can help us?

RILEY  
Hack into your friend's computer?  
Easy. What key length and key space  
we looking at?

MacGyver and Jack exchange a blank look. Riley rolls her eyes.

RILEY (CONT'D)  
Alright, let me try this again...  
how many characters long is the  
password you're trying to break?  
Is it alphanumeric? Symbols? We  
dealing with lowers and uppers --

Jack holds up a hand shushing Riley. He turns to MacGyver.

JACK  
It's become painfully clear to me  
that we're gonna need to find  
another one of her to even talk to  
her. And I don't think we have the  
time -- our ten minutes are up.

MacGyver nods. He looks at Riley, then --

MACGYVER  
I need to ask you something: Are  
you guilty of the crimes that  
landed you in here?

She holds his look a beat.

RILEY  
Mr. MacGyver, have you ever done  
anything to help someone knowing it  
might look bad on you?  
(MORE)

RILEY (CONT'D)

Well, that's why I'm here. Yes. I'm guilty. And if I had to do it all over again, I would.

MacGyver gets his answer. Takes Riley's hands -- and suddenly her cuffs come off. How?

**MACGYVER MOMENT #3:** MacGyver holds up a straightened paperclip - the one he took off Riley's redacted file.

45 **INT. SUPERMAX PRISON - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER**

45

MacGyver and Jack walk Riley out of interrogation. Armed guards surrounding them. Thornton exits observation, pissed:

THORNTON

What the hell are you doing?

MACGYVER

She's coming with us.

THORNTON

Are you insane? This was supposed to be an interview. Not a jailbreak.

MACGYVER

You know the way this works. I use the tools around me. This woman is one I need to succeed in this mission. Or, if you prefer, I can let a 30,000-year-old weaponized virus kill everyone on the planet.

Thornton swallows her protest. There you have it. The team is assembled.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

46 INT. DXS - CLEAN ROOM - DAY

46

Nikki's encrypted laptop is connected to an array of other computers. MacGyver watches Riley as her eyes flicker over the monitors, completely ignoring the exasperated **LEAD TECH**:

LEAD TECH

... Never seen encryption like this before. I've been trying to extract her private key, but this thing has more logic bombs in it than Stuxnet. If we're not super careful, we could easily destroy --

That's when Riley picks up a HAMMER from a nearby toolbox -- and before anyone can stop her -- WHACK! WHACK! WHACK! She BASHES OPEN the computer -- pulls out the hard drive and unscrews its casing while the Lead Tech freaks, and MacGyver just grins.

LEAD TECH (CONT'D)

What the hell are you --

RILEY

Why interrogate the prisoner when you can just look inside her brain?

47 INT. DXS - PROCESSING LAB - DAY

47

Through the clear plastic wall, Thornton and Jack watch, horrified.

THORNTON

You know your ass is hanging in the wind on this one. If this kid even looks at me funny, she's going back to prison.

JACK

Give her a break. No one else ever has.

48 INT. CLEAN ROOM - CONTINUOUS

48

Riley removes the casing to reveal the drive's reflective magnetic platter where the data is actually stored.

RILEY

We'll scan the data as read-only, then search the disk image to extract the key.

LEAD TECH  
(nodding, impressed)  
Bypassing all the logic bombs...

Riley looks to MacGyver and smiles.

RILEY  
I thought you said this was gonna  
be hard.

UPCUT TO:

49 INT. DXS - PROCESSING LAB - DAY

49

MacGyver, Jack and Thornton stand before an array of monitors as Riley plays the recovered Google-like glasses video from the night MacGyver was shot. She singles out faces. Runs them through facial recognition. FBI and INTERPOL dossiers start popping up. Riley looks back to MacGyver and Thornton, ignoring Jack completely --

RILEY  
This facial recognition is gonna  
take a few minutes.

MACGYVER  
Thanks.

JACK  
Are you really not going to be  
talking to me -- ?

Before he can finish, Riley turns back to the keyboard. MacGyver throws Jack a look -- they step away, talk low:

MACGYVER  
What happened between you two?

JACK  
I dated her mom.

MACGYVER  
And she's mad at you for that?

Jack looks at Riley's back a beat, then shares --

JACK  
She never knew it, but her old man  
was an abusive ex. He came over one  
night started throwing the mom  
around, so I tuned him up. He told  
Riley I was jealous. That I didn't  
want him to get back together with  
his wife.

MACGYVER  
So tell her the truth.

JACK

Come on, man. Who's she gonna believe? Some guy dating her mom... or dear old dad?

RILEY

All right. Secret agents gather around. I got your jam --

MacGyver and Jack move in as Riley reveals the screens: 50+ GOOGLE SNAPS from the party with dossier attachments.

THORNTON

-- This is background on every buyer Nikki recorded --

MacGyver is focused on one face -- familiar to him -- and to us.

MACGYVER

Sonofabitch. He was at the party...

He steps up -- taps a dossier picture -- blows it up to full screen.

RILEY

Who is he?

JACK

The man who shot Mac and killed Nikki.

Thornton reads the name on the FBI profile that accompanies the picture:

THORNTON

Ryan Kendrick. We need to find him.

RILEY

The guy's on eight watch lists. If he's still in the wind at this point, I highly doubt --

MACGYVER

(interrupts)

Can you enlarge his left wrist?

Riley ZOOMS INTO Kendrick's wrist watch.

JACK

What do you see, Mac?

MACGYVER

Time zones. Look -- his watch was set nine hours earlier.

THORNTON

West Coast of the U.S. is nine  
hours earlier than Lake Como.

RILEY

I might be able to find him using a  
Shodan Map.

JACK

I told you she's good.  
(then)  
What's a Shodan Map?

Riley brings it up.

RILEY

A map of every digital device  
connected to the Internet. Using  
this, I can access every traffic  
cam, ATM cam, and unsecured  
surveillance cam on the West Coast.

JACK

Is this real? Doesn't sound real.

RILEY

(rolls her eyes)  
I'm inputting Kendrick's photo and  
running an image search --

A QUICK CUT MONTAGE: Images from West Coast video cameras fly by  
at blinding speed, until finally... the face of Kendrick pops up  
on screen -- MATCH FOUND blinks ON SCREEN --

RILEY (CONT'D)

Got him.

**ON SCREEN: Live traffic cam feed showing Kendrick walking across  
a San Francisco street. Cool and predatory.**

RILEY (CONT'D)

He's in San Francisco. Right now.  
This feed is live.

THORNTON

He's not the only one there. Take a  
look -- Benjamin Chen's last known  
whereabouts - San Francisco.

She points to a potential buyer's photo -- last known  
whereabouts -- San Francisco. Jack skims his dossier.

JACK

Interesting. Old Benny boy's a  
Chinese national. Former military.  
This charmer was disavowed by his  
own government.

(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

And he possesses an incredibly well documented hatred for all things Uncle Sam. Guy sounds lovely.

**ON SCREEN: Kendrick walks out of the camera's POV.**

THORNTON

You said this was live. Can you follow him?

Riley types, hacks into a security camera that picks up Kendrick entering the Ritz Carlton San Francisco.

THORNTON (CONT'D)

If Kendrick's in California to meet Chen, you need to get there and stop the sale.

RILEY

What about me?

THORNTON

I'm afraid your work here is done.

RILEY

So what? You drop me off at the gift shop, then take me back to prison?

She looks to Jack who feels guilty.

JACK

I'd like to take her with us.

THORNTON

And I'd like to see you wear a clean shirt. Unfortunately we don't always get what we want.

MACGYVER

Ma'am, all due respect. We can use a new field analyst.

THORNTON

She's a hacker.

RILEY

Titles really don't matter to me.

MACGYVER

She's our responsibility. Until this is over.

JACK

If that virus is released we're all dead anyway, right?



JACK  
Oh, my man never jokes about  
tinfoil.

MACGYVER  
Find some and meet me at the  
cleaning supply closet.

Off she goes.

JACK  
You were serious, right?

MacGyver is already moving in the opposite direction. Jack follows.

52 **EXT. RITZ CARLTON - POOL - MOMENTS LATER** 52

MacGyver leads Jack past bikini-clad BABES sipping drinks.

JACK  
Like the way you think my friend. We  
hang by the bar. Buy these ladies a  
few drinks -- and eventually we find  
one that knows something.

As they round the bar to where the maintenance equipment is housed --

MACGYVER  
We're not here for the booze, we're  
here for the pool chemicals.

JACK  
Okay, but not to drink, right?

MacGyver gives Jack a look -- then snags a large bottle of  
Muriatic Acid from the pool shed.

53 **INT. RITZ CARLTON - CLEANING SUPPLY CLOSET - LATER** 53

Jack and Riley watch MacGyver's plan unfold --

**MACGYVER MOMENT #4:** Balling up the tinfoil, MacGyver tosses it  
into the bottle of Muriatic Acid - pours in the Ammonia - seals  
the lid. Hides the container in a ceiling tile.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
That old saying "where there's  
smoke, there's fire" isn't always  
true. Sometimes where there's  
smoke, there's just smoke. Muriatic  
Acid mixed with Ammonia and tinfoil  
creates a chemical reaction that  
releases a lot of smoke... with  
absolutely no other by-products.

As MacGyver, Jack, and Riley leave the area, thick smoke starts  
to billow from the ceiling - guests PANIC - an alarm BLARES.

54 **EXT. RITZ CARLTON - DAY**

54

MacGyver, Jack, and Riley are spread out, eyes out for Kendrick. Panicked GUESTS hurriedly evacuate past them. Through the jumble of faces and voices, MacGyver spots him -- **RYAN KENDRICK**. But what traps our heroes' attention, what makes him react as if he's seen a ghost is who Kendrick is with --

NIKKI CARPENTER!

WTF? She's alive. And MacGyver is floored, trying to process. One minute ago everything made sense.

MACGYVER

Nikki -- ?

They lock eyes for a beat. A loooong beat. Then, Nikki and Kendrick turn and bolt, pushing their way through the crowd. MacGyver catches his rhythm again -- looks to where Jack is --

MACGYVER (CONT'D)

Jack -- !! Over here!!

-- but Jack can't hear him over the din of the crowd. Fuck it. MacGyver takes off, fights through people, sprinting after Nikki and Kendrick alone.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

55 **EXT. STREET - DAY**

55

Breathless footchase. Down and dirty. MacGyver gaining at breakneck speed. Nikki and Kendrick duck into an alley. MacGyver follows. Loses sight of them, but he can hear their feet on the asphalt ahead. Following the sound, MacGyver turns a corner, and - BLAM! A bullet nearly blows his head off. MacGyver dives behind a dumpster as Kendrick advances, weapon aimed.

Crouching, MacGyver looks for a way out. Adrenaline pumping. Eyes all over. PUSH IN on a fire escape ladder above his head. He gets an idea. Finds an empty soda can, loose asphalt from a pothole, and plastic twine.

**MACGYVER MOMENT #5:** Quick. Methodical. MacGyver cuts the soda can in half with his SAK - filling each half with the loose asphalt, he bends down the thin sides of the can until he has two solid discs. Tying the two soda can discs together with the twine, he makes an IMPROVISED BOLA. Ties a long piece of twine to the middle of the twine connecting the can halves.

As Kendrick advances -- bearing down -- MacGyver spins his homemade bola. Lets it sail. The two can halves whirl as they rise -- snag the release latch on the fire escape above. At that instant, Kendrick steps around the dumpster. Traps our hero.

KENDRICK

Get up!

MacGyver rises and YANKS on the string in his hand - SHINK! The fire escape's metal latch releases. Kendrick has only enough time to look up before the ladder SLAMS into his face. He's flattened. MacGyver KICKS the gun away. But at that moment, Kendrick reaches for the gun in his ankle holster, when -- Jack charges up and BOOTS Kendrick in the face.

JACK

How many times I gotta say it, Mac?  
Always, always, always check for a  
backup weapon.

He removes the ankle weapon. Kendrick groans. Jack looks down.

JACK (CONT'D)

What's that?

He KICKS him again. Knocking Kendrick out. Flips him over. Pats him down. Finds a third gun in his waistband.

JACK (CONT'D)

And the backup, backup weapon.

But MacGyver isn't paying attention -- he's moving -- head on a swivel. Looking for Nikki. But she's gone.

JACK (CONT'D)  
What are you doing? We got him.  
It's over.

MACGYVER  
It's not. Nikki's alive.

Off Jack's flat out, blown away reaction, we --

56 INT. HANDYMAN PANEL VAN - DAY

56

MacGyver, Jack and Riley are in back with Kendrick (hands duct taped) who is coming to -- thanks to Jack's SLAPS in the face.

JACK  
That's right, wakey-wakey.

No sooner do Kendrick's eyes open than Jack punches him square in the face.

JACK (CONT'D)  
That's for making us believe Nikki  
was dead and trying to kill my  
friend.

Kendrick shakes off the punch. Looks up, lip split and bleeding.

MACGYVER  
Where's the virus?

Again. Nothing. Jack grabs a staple gun from an open tool kit -- points it between Kendrick's legs. Kendrick reacts.

JACK  
I thought that would get your  
attention.

KENDRICK  
Nikki has the virus. I don't know  
where she is.

JACK  
Because you're a bad guy, I'm going  
to reserve my right to not believe  
anything you say.

He drives the staple gun deeper into the man's crotch.

KENDRICK  
Nikki arranged to meet the buyer  
alone. She thought it would be  
safer if we met after the  
transaction. I swear.

JACK

"I swear?" Really? That's the best you can do? Why do guys like you always try to convince guys like me that you're honest? You're not honest. That's why you've got another tool between your legs.

A weighty, tense beat.

MACGYVER

How did you get Nikki to cooperate? What did you threaten her with?

KENDRICK

I didn't.

MACGYVER

You're lying --

KENDRICK

I'm afraid I'm not.

MACGYVER

Nikki wouldn't do this unless you had something on her.

Kendrick holds his eyes. Says very matter-of-factly:

KENDRICK

Look for an account in Prague. In her mother's name. You'll find five million dollars in there.

A pause. As if challenging them to do just that. Our heroes are rocked. Nikki's betrayal is palpable. Jack posits:

JACK

When you shot her, the first round was a blank.

KENDRICK

(yes)

She insisted we make her disappear after the transaction. It was non-negotiable.

MACGYVER

And me?

KENDRICK

She didn't want you hurt, but understood it might come to that if necessary.

MacGyver reacts -- an honest flash of rage, then regains his composure, turns to Riley working on her laptop. She nods.

MACGYVER  
You got enough?

RILEY  
Every phoneme in the English  
language.

Turns out she was recording the interrogation.

KENDRICK  
What did you do?

Jack slaps duct tape over his mouth as MacGyver pulls Kendrick's burner phone from his pocket -- tosses it to Riley who scrolls to the last number. Caller ID: Eliza Pittsinger.

RILEY  
Eliza Pittsinger. I woulda chose  
Beyonce as an alias, but hey --

She connects the phone to her laptop - hits send - starts a trace. After two rings:

NIKKI (O.S.)  
We shouldn't be talking right now.

Riley types as Kendrick's VOICE comes out of her laptop:

KENDRICK'S VOICE  
*I took care of your friends.  
They're not going to be bothering  
us anymore.*

Nikki takes a beat, a hint of regret when she finally speaks:

NIKKI (O.S.)  
Don't call me again. I'll see you  
in New York.

She hangs up. MacGyver looks to Riley. She shakes her head --

RILEY  
Sorry. Call was voice over IP  
routed using TOR. No way to trace  
it --

MACGYVER  
She's at an airport. I heard planes  
in the background.

RILEY  
I'll look for cell towers around  
San Francisco International. Try to  
ping her phone.

JACK

She's not at SFO. Those engines were too small to be commercial flights. And I heard a Bell Ranger. We're looking for a private airport that services both planes and choppers.

Riley's already tapping keys. Brings up --

RILEY

Got something -- it's in San Carlos. Ten minutes from here.

MacGyver looks to Jack --

MACGYVER

Call Thornton. Tell her to ground all planes. We can't let that virus leave the city.

57     **EXT. HANDYMAN PANEL VAN - TRAVELING**     57

Jack Hammers the horn -- blows a red. The man's got some serious evasive driving skills.

58     **INT. HANDYMAN PANEL VAN - TRAVELING**     58

Riley is in back with Kendrick, tied up. Jack looks over at MacGyver next to him, still badly shaken.

JACK

I'm sorry, man --

MACGYVER

We worked together for three years. How did I not see that coming?

JACK

We both didn't.

Weighty beat. There is a strong connection between these two. They are more than friends. They're brothers.

MACGYVER

I loved her.

JACK

I know.

His heart's breaking for Mac.

MACGYVER

I was going to take Nikki to Rome after Lake Como. She said she always wanted to see the Spanish Steps. I guess that was a lie too.

JACK  
They all lie, pal. Yours just  
turned out to be a psychopath.

MacGyver can't help but smile. That's one of Jack's superpowers.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Let's find Nikki and the virus,  
then hope those Rome tickets are  
still valid... 'cause you and me  
are due for one helluva brocation.

59 **EXT. SAN CARLOS AIRPORT - TARMAC - DAY** 59

Our heroes SCREECH up.

60 **INT. PANEL VAN - DAY** 60

They see a line of stationary planes. Thornton successfully grounded the place. Except -- there's one Gulfstream G550 still moving, winding its way toward a runway --

JACK  
Mac --

MACGYVER  
-- I see it.

He immediately LEAPS from the van --

RILEY  
Where's science guy going?

JACK  
I reckon he's going to stop that.

RILEY  
How's he going to stop an airplane?

JACK  
Watch.

Riley does, impressed, as MacGyver scales the chainlink fence --

61 **EXT. SAN CARLOS AIRPORT - TARMAC - DAY** 61

SPRINTS onto the tarmac -- fast and careless -- RACES UP to the plane just as it reaches the runway -- and yes, you're actually seeing this -- LEAPS onto the landing gear. The plane picks up speed, and takes off with Mac clinging to the open wheel well.

62 **EXT. WHEEL WELL - GULFSTREAM G550 - ASCENDING - CONTINUOUS** 62

**MACGYVER MOMENT #6:** As the jet streaks into the sky, MacGyver uses his SAK to disable the landing gear retracting system.

MACGYVER (V.O.)

I was six years old. Bozer and I made a bet. Who could climb the highest tree. I won. Only when I got to the top, I was too afraid to climb down. That's when I realized I was afraid of heights. Been trying to avoid them ever since.

63 INT. GULFSTREAM G550 - IN AIR - CONTINUOUS

63

CO-PILOT

We have a problem. Landing gear retraction has failed. Manual's not responding either.

PILOT

(into radio)

San Carlos Airport control, this is XN7524, we're experiencing electrical failure in undercarriage control, requesting emergency landing.

64 EXT. GULFSTREAM G550 - ASCENDING - CONTINUOUS

64

MACGYVER MOMENT #7: MacGyver hot wires the "error" circuit --

MACGYVER (V.O.)

Remember when I told you I got kicked out of the scouts? That was true. But before I left, I did learn a few things. Of course none of which have really been useful... until now.

65 INT. GULFSTREAM G550 - IN AIR - CONTINUOUS

65

SAN CARLOS CONTROL (OVER RADIO)

*Copy, stand-by XN7524 while I clear a runway for you. Proceed into designated emergency traffic pattern.*

CO-PILOT

We've got another error here.

The Pilot studies a new light. Flashing irregularly.

PILOT

It's not an error. It's Morse code.

66 EXT. GULFSTREAM G550 - ASCENDING - CONTINUOUS

66

Our boy scout is still at it.

67 **INT. GULFSTREAM G550 - ASCENDING - CONTINUOUS** 67

As the Pilots make their turn, Nikki looks out the window, gets a bad feeling. She unbuckles her belt -- draws her gun -- but before she can get to the cockpit -- the Pilots, heeding MacGyver's Morse code warning, LOCK THE DOOR. Nikki POUNDS ON IT.

68 **EXT. GULFSTREAM G550 - CONTINUOUS** 68

The plane lurches to a stop. Riley watches as MacGyver drops down from the open wheel well. Turns to Jack:

RILEY  
Congratulations. Your friend just beat you in the maddog crazy department.

JACK  
I'm glad you're talking to me again.

RILEY  
Don't get cocky. You're the only other one here.

They board. MacGyver first -- in all his pissed off glory.

69 **EXT. GULFSTREAM G550 - CONTINUOUS** 69

Nikki has gone quiet, trapped like a caged animal, back to the cabin door. Weapon aimed. Jack's got her in his sights too.

JACK  
Put the gun down, Nikki. Now! Or swear to god, I will put a bullet in you for real this time.

Nikki doesn't budge. MacGyver steps into the middle.

MACGYVER  
You want to shoot him, you gotta go through me.

She meets his eyes. His look is long and hard. Takes a step.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
Go ahead. You already killed me once.

Another step. He's right in front of her. But Nikki can't do it. Finally lowers her gun. MacGyver tosses it to Jack -- turns her towards the door -- runs his hands cursorily across her body.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
Why? I thought you died trying to do something good.

He turns her back around, satisfied she's unarmed.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
After everything we've been  
through... You let me think you  
were dead.

(darkens, intense)  
For what? Money? How much does  
treason go for these days?

His disappointment is searing. And despite Nikki's icy exterior,  
his words sink in.

NIKKI  
You once said humans are the  
dominant species because we're  
adaptable. Well I'm adapting.

As he wrestles with her cold cynicism --

MACGYVER  
Is that what you call selling a  
weapon that will kill hundreds of  
thousands of people?

NIKKI  
Did you ever ask yourself why our  
government wants that weapon? What  
they're planning to do with it?"

MACGYVER  
Don't pretend this is about  
ideology. You did it for a payday.

NIKKI  
You're the hero, Mac. I'm not.

Jack and Riley, who have been tearing the cabin apart, return:

JACK  
The virus isn't here.

MACGYVER  
Where is it?

NIKKI  
It's gone.

JACK  
What do you mean "gone?"

NIKKI  
I already sold it.

Holy Fuck! And off this unexpected turn, we --

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

70 **EXT. SAN CARLOS AIRPORT - TARMAC - DAY**

70

SFPD and FBI AGENTS secure the G550 and Nikki. MacGyver, Jack and Riley are talking to Thornton on an open ruggedized laptop sitting on the hood of one of the FBI sedans. All is tense.

THORNTON

So Nikki's alive, Benjamin Chen is in the wind and we don't know when or where he's going to unleash that virus --

During this, we see MacGyver struggling with something.

JACK

I know it looks bad --

THORNTON

Bad? Bad's when you accidentally drive over your neighbor's dog. This, this is a damn catastrophe of biblical proportions --

It finally hits him -- holy shit!

MACGYVER

It's here. The target's San Francisco --

Without further explanation, he marches over to Nikki. Jack and Riley fall in behind.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)

Chen's releasing the virus here, isn't he?

NIKKI

You're wrong. It's Tokyo.

MACGYVER

You're lying.

NIKKI

Are you willing to risk that?

MACGYVER

You're forgetting something, Nikki -- I know you. I've been watching you from the first day we met. I've seen it all. Every micro-expression -- only until now I wasn't seeing clearly.

Nikki holds his look. Stays stone.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
Eliza A. Pittsinger. I didn't realize when I saw it on Kendrick's phone, but I do now. Pittsinger wrote a poem in 1907 on the first anniversary of the San Francisco earthquake. Three thousand people died in the fires afterwards.

Nothing from Nikki. Her silence confirms it.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
Where is he?

NIKKI  
You should leave --

MACGYVER  
That's not happening.

She meets his eyes. Hers are suddenly glassy. Struggling to keep old emotions in check.

NIKKI  
Mac, please --

MACGYVER  
I'm not going anywhere. Neither are you. When Chen releases the virus, we both die.

Nikki holds his look, finally breaks:

NIKKI  
The wharf.

MacGyver blanches, looks to Jack --

MACGYVER  
Call the governor --

JACK  
There's no time for an evacuation.

MACGYVER  
What's he driving?

NIKKI  
Blue truck with a canvas top.  
Traveling north on the 101.

MacGyver's done with her, turns to the FBI Agent.

MACGYVER  
Get her out of my sight.

As FBI Agent takes Nikki away --

NIKKI

Mac --

He ignores her, never looks back, regroupes with Jack and Riley.

JACK

I'll put out an APB.

MACGYVER

That'll take too long.

RILEY

I can send an Amber Alert to every cell phone in the state. If someone sees the truck, they'll call it in.

MACGYVER

Hack it.

Off she goes. Jack looks to MacGyver.

JACK

We gotta get ourselves to the 101.

MACGYVER

This guy's got a major head start. No car in the world is fast enough to catch him.

Jack's bright devilish eyes shine.

JACK

Who said anything about a car?

71 **INT. EMS HELICOPTER - FLYING**

71

Jack piloting hard. MacGyver rides shotgun, once again airborne and still very much afraid of heights. He's going through an EMS BAG -- searching for something.

JACK

If you're looking for a barf bag, just open the window.

MACGYVER

I'm not going to barf.

JACK

It's okay to barf.

MacGyver finds what he's looking for -- a vial of morphine. He peels off the label.

JACK (CONT'D)

Morphine? How is that going to stop you from barfing?

MACGYVER  
Can you please focus on flying.

JACK  
Consider this immersion therapy.  
Face your fear of heights, Mac.  
This is how you take control of  
your life.

MacGyver just stares at him. Jack cuts a side glance.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Why are you looking at me like  
that?

MACGYVER  
Just doing some math.

JACK  
What kind of math?

MACGYVER  
I'm trying to figure out if you  
could have been conceived during  
Woodstock.

JACK  
Nah. You know my parents didn't  
like rock 'n roll.

MACGYVER  
But they liked drugs right?

Then: Riley's voice crackles on the radio --

RILEY (OVER RADIO)  
*Guys -- San Francisco PD is getting  
hits on our Amber Alert. Reports of  
a blue truck headed north on the  
Bayshore freeway --*

MACGYVER  
He's minutes away.

72    **EXT. EMS HELICOPTER - FLYING**    72

Jack banks sharply. Powers forward. Downtown SF on the horizon.

73    **INT. EMS HELICOPTER - FLYING**    73

MacGyver spots it --

MACGYVER  
There!! Blue truck. Middle lane.

Jack pours on the speed. The helicopter catches up to the truck.

74 **EXT. EMS HELICOPTER - FLYING** 74

MacGyver steps out onto the landing skid. Little unsure.

JACK  
I'd jump, but who's gonna fly?

MacGyver has no real choice -- LEAPS from the skid -

75 **EXT. TRUCK - CANVAS TOP - MOMENTS LATER** 75

-- lands on top of the roof. **BENJAMIN CHEN** behind the wheel. He SWERVES to throw our hero off. MacGyver grabs a handful of canvas before he can be blown off. Steadying himself, he slices through the canvas with his SAK -- drops into the bed --

76 **INT. TRUCK BED - CONTINUOUS** 76

-- lands hard -- catches his breath -- finds himself staring at a huge M112 block demolition charge consisting of several pounds of composition C4. In other words, a big-ass bomb with the virus canister attached to it. INTERCUT WITH JACK:

MACGYVER  
Uhm, Jack, we got a problem --

JACK  
What kind of problem?

MACGYVER  
The kind you don't want to be anywhere near.

He studies the bomb.

MACGYVER (CONT'D)  
Chen's using an IED to send the virus airborne. That'll affect millions.

JACK  
Can you stop it?

MACGYVER  
I don't know. You may want to get out of here.

JACK  
You know I'm not gonna do that. If you go kaboom, I go kaboom.

MacGyver looks up through the hole at Jack keeping pace, then gets to work --

**MACGYVER MOMENT #8:** He uses his SAK to remove a panel -- wipes his sweaty fingers -- blows on them -- carefully removes the motherboard -

JACK (CONT'D)

SOP, brother. This is what the army trained you for. You can do this in your sleep --

MACGYVER

I can do without the pep talk right now.

JACK

Okay. Cool. Just trying to do my part.

MacGyver studies the jumble of green wires --

MACGYVER

(under his breath)

Great...

JACK

That doesn't sound very encouraging.

MACGYVER

You know how you always have to pick between cutting the red wire and the blue wire?

JACK

Yeah?

MACGYVER

Well, I've got twelve different wires here and they're all green.

JACK

Well, pick one quick. Someone's about to come down that chimney and it ain't Santa Claus --

77 INT. HELICOPTER - TRAVELING

77

Jack says this as the truck's passenger door OPENS and the PASSENGER climbs onto the roof --

78 INT. TRUCK BED - CONTINUOUS

78

MacGyver cuts a wire. A light starts blinking, seemingly all by itself. A digi-counter begins: 60... 59... 58... Oh shit. But it gets worse when the Passenger drops down -- tackles MacGyver. The two bounce around the moving truck, exchanging BLOWS.

JACK (O.S.)

Mac --

MACGYVER  
Little busy right now.

JACK (O.S.)  
Catch.

MacGyver looks up -- catches the gun Jack drops -- but uses it to HIT the passenger --

79 **EXT. BAYSHORE FREEWAY - DAY** 79

-- LAUNCHING him out of the moving truck, BOUNCING like litter.

80 **INT. TRUCK BED - CONTINUOUS** 80

JACK  
Not exactly what I had in mind --

MACGYVER  
Thanks --

JACK  
Save it for happy hour. You still got work to do.

MacGyver returns to the bomb. ...45...44...43... Makes another decision. Cuts another wire. The timer speeds up.

MACGYVER  
Of course...

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
The old adage: third time's a charm isn't something I subscribe to. Sometimes in life you've got to quit while you're ahead. Or while you still have a head.

...39...38...37...

JACK  
Mac -- ?

MACGYVER  
Stopping the bomb is out of the question.

JACK  
Then get the virus and get out of there.

MacGyver works on separating the virus from the explosive. Tries his knife, but the blade won't reach the release. That's when he remembers he still has the paper clip he sprung Riley with. He pulls it out -- uses it to separate the canister from the bomb.

MACGYVER  
I got it.

JACK  
Good. Now jump.

MACGYVER  
I can't risk shattering the  
container and releasing the virus.

With a look to the bomb -- 28... 27... 26...

MACGYVER (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Although the alternative isn't any  
better.

He quickly eyes his surroundings, looking for options. His eyes  
snap to the sliced canvas roof flapping in the wind.

**MACGYVER MOMENT #9:** Using his trusty SAK, MacGyver cuts a large  
swatch of canvas from the roof. Ripping two long strips, he  
knots the canvas together -- ties it to his belt -- ...9... 8...  
7...

-- throws the canvas out the back of the truck and WHOOSH! His  
improvised parachute catches the wind -- sucks him out the back  
of the truck...3...2...1...

MacGyver is flying through the air, cradling the biohazard  
container, when -- KABOOM!

The bomb evaporates Chen's truck as MacGyver floats down to the  
asphalt, safely cradling the virus.

81 **EXT. BAYSHORE FREEWAY - LATER**

81

Jack touches down. At the same time, Riley arrives with a  
Biohazard team. MacGyver hands them the container.

MACGYVER  
Get this to Thornton.

Our heroes reunite, and of course... finally breathe.

JACK  
My man -- saving the world with  
style.

He and MacGyver exchange a low five.

RILEY  
If this is the job, I'm in. I mean  
I thought the plane stunt was sick,  
but this was a whole other crazy.  
Seriously.

(MORE)

RILEY (CONT'D)  
If you ever want to upload  
something like that to YouTube,  
we're talking mondo hits. Hashtag  
ridic.

JACK  
Hashtag who's hungry? Cause I'm  
buying.

PULL BACK, away from our little family rejoicing in their win.

DISSOLVE TO:

82 **EXT. FROZEN TUNDRA - DAY**

82

Nothing but ice and harsh conditions. A LONE FIGURE comes at us.  
Moving with determination.

**CHYRON: SIBERIA**

PUSH IN CLOSER. It's MacGyver.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
Totally agree. This is insane. But  
Nikki was right about one thing:  
our government doesn't need another  
weapon.

He stops before a three foot crevice -- takes out something from  
his pocket -- a vial. The vial.

FLASHBACK: What we didn't see in the truck -- MacGyver swapping  
out the vial in the biohazard container for the morphine vial he  
took from the helicopter.

MACGYVER (V.O.)  
Yeah. I know what you're thinking:  
My career's over if Thornton ever  
figures out I replaced the virus  
with that morphine vial. But in  
light of the alternative, that's a  
risk I'm willing to take.

With that, he puts the vial in a biohazard container and drops  
it into the abyss, then turns around and walks away.

DISSOLVE TO:

83 **EXT. MACGYVER'S HOUSE - DAY**

83

FIND MacGyver sitting by the fire pit watching old photos burn.  
The ones of MacGyver and Nikki we saw earlier. After a beat,  
Jack steps onto the deck with a case of beer, Riley and Thornton  
in tow.

JACK  
You busy, kemosabe?

RILEY

I told him to knock.

JACK

We're family. We don't knock --

Before he can finish, Bozer comes out, dressed for work.

BOZER

Jackie boy. What's up? Haven't seen my bestie in awhile.

During the bro hug, Jack throws a look to MacGyver.

JACK

We're gonna change that.

BOZER

Patti -- bring it in.

He throws his arms open.

THORNTON

(corrects him)

Patricia. And if you insist.

She let's him hug her. No real effort from her side.

BOZER

And who's this little ingénue?

JACK

Riley meet Bozer. Bozer meet off limits.

MACGYVER

Riley started in the IT Department last week.

Before Riley can respond, Jack catches her eyes, shakes his head slightly: *say nothing. Bozer doesn't know what we really do.*

BOZER

Sweet thing, you're wasting your talents fixing computers. You do any acting? I'd love to put you in my movie.

Riley looks him up and down. The In N Out uniform isn't selling it.

RILEY

Baller, you better get to work. Those fries won't cook themselves.

A beat. Bozer smiles.

BOZER

I like her. I get off at midnight.

RILEY

I'll meet you in your dreams.

Bozer LAUGHS. Sees her as a huge challenge.

BOZER

Oh yeah. This is gonna be fun.  
Catch you think tank geeks later.

He leaves. As Jack, Riley and Thornton move towards MacGyver.

JACK

Check it out. Boss lady kept her  
word, said we can keep her.

RILEY

Can you not refer to me like I was  
a pet?

JACK

Remember: You're on parole little  
lady.

RILEY

And thank you for reminding me for  
the sixth time in the last half  
hour.

Jack notices the remnants in the fire, sits across from  
MacGyver, still stinging from the betrayal. Hands him a beer.  
Says low:

JACK

You okay, brother?

MACGYVER

I will be.

Jack accepts that with a wink and a warm smile. As Riley notices  
the missile leaning against the railing.

RILEY

Whoa. Is this thing real?

JACK

Of course it's real. Today it's a  
missile. Tomorrow it's a margarita  
maker. That's the way my boy rolls.

MACGYVER

It's a prop. Belongs to Bozer.

Riley finds an empty wooden chair. Admires it.

RILEY  
Cool chair.

THORNTON  
Mac made it.

RILEY  
I'm impressed.

JACK  
My man's got skillz.

RILEY  
Please don't say "skillz." We  
already know you're old. No need to  
confirm that.

MACGYVER  
Ouch.

Riley picks up a small bronze amulet from a side table.

RILEY  
Where'd you pick this up?

JACK  
I think you've already asked too  
many questions.

MACGYVER  
We got that in Cairo.

Jack throws him a look, shakes his head.

RILEY  
You were in Cairo?

Yes.                      MACGYVER                      No.                      JACK

Thornton takes the amulet out of Riley's hand. Has the floor.

THORNTON  
Cairo can wait. Right now I need  
Mac's attention.  
(off his look over)  
As I already told Jack and Riley,  
we're shutting down DXS.  
What Nikki did compromised our  
entire operation, so we're folding  
our tent and moving all think tank  
personnel, tactical support and  
your team to a new location.

JACK  
Same job. New name.

THORNTON  
And you guys get to pick it.

JACK  
I like Three Amigos.

RILEY  
That means three guys.

JACK  
Second choice is Thunder Squad.

Riley shakes her head in amazement.

MACGYVER  
Phoenix.

JACK  
You want to name this new super  
crew after a bird?

MACGYVER  
Not just any bird. In Greek  
mythology the Phoenix rose from the  
ashes to be stronger than ever.  
That's us.

RILEY  
I like it.

THORNTON  
Me too.

JACK  
I like Thunder Squad.

RILEY  
And that's why you're alone on  
that.

She raises her bottle in a toast.

RILEY (CONT'D)  
To the Phoenix --

MACGYVER  
-- foundation.

THORNTON  
The Phoenix Foundation.

JACK  
Cool.

They CLINK bottles. MacGyver hesitates from drinking, looks back to the burnt photos in the fireplace. The very last one curls and reduces to ashes before his eyes.

