

The Red Button

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INT. INTERVENTION STUDIO

A masked figure, INTERVENTION, sits behind a desk.

INTERVENTION

We are Intervention. We have
watched. We have acted.

A picture of RICHARD PIERCE, 50s, comes up next to
Intervention.

INTERVENTION (CONT'D)

Today, we have removed another
threat to our society. In life,
Senator Richard Pierce collaborated
with Greenwood lobbyists to pave
the way for the way for the
greatest GMO food disaster in
history. To add insult to injury,
Pierce used his influence to ensure
that Greenwood escaped all legal
and financial responsibility.
Those who have become sick and died
from Greenwood's greed demanded
justice. In death, Pierce no longer
poses a danger to the public
health.

EXT. FOUNTAIN DAY

LAURA MEYERS sits on a bench, watching Intervention's video
on her cell phone. Don Andrews approaches her.

DON

We couldn't have done this at the
office?

LAURA

Too many eyes and ears.

Davis sits.

DON

Did you hear?

Laura gestures with her cell phone.

LAURA

I just saw it.

DON

While you've got to admire their choice of targets, I have to wonder. Who are these people? The militarized wing of Anonymous?

LAURA

Well, that's why we're here. I've got something.

DON

OK. Amaze me.

LAURA

I've been doing a lot of poking around all their various blogs and forums. Remember Cardinal Marcus.

DON

Yeah. Ran a club of priests with a thing for kids and covered it up. They got him a few weeks ago.

LAURA

Right. Six months before he was killed someone made a post about him. Now they get posts with target suggestions all the time.

DON

But this one was different how?

LAURA

The poster had highly specific information about what Marcus had done. Not quite enough to bring before a grand jury but enough to peak Intervention's interest. They must have investigated the hell out Marcus because once they had what they needed they took him out.

DON

So, they like it when someone does their homework.

LAURA

And I have a lot of homework.

DON

Rollins?

LAURA

He's right up their alley. I've got all that stuff on how he got the FDA to approve Xanatol for Alexant Pharmaceuticals and then got them off the hook when all those kids got liver pancreatic cancer from it. I'm sure he's already on their radar. What I have is exactly the sort of bait they would take.

DON

So what is your plan once they bite.

LAURA

Get an exclusive, of course.

DON

I don't think it's going to be that easy. These guys are smart...and thorough.

LAURA

I'll be careful.

DON

Right.

INT. COFFEE SHOP DAY

Laura is drinks coffee and works on a laptop. The laptop chimes.

Laura checks her e-mail. She sees an e-mail with the subject line "Regarding your suggestion".

Laura opens the e-mail.

The e-mail reads "Suggestion received. Auditorium Shores, 14:00. Stevie Ray Vaughn Statue. Look for a blue box. Come alone."

EXT. AUDITORIUM SHORES PARK AT THE STEVIE RAY VAUGHN STATUE, DAY

Laura arrives at the Stevie Ray Vaughn statue. At the statue's feet there is a blue gift box with a tag marked "For Laura".

Laura reaches for the box. A phone rings from within the box. Startled, Laura pulls her hands back. She composes herself, takes the box, opens it and answers the phone.

LAURA

Hello

GEORGE (O.S.)

Hello Miss Meyers

LAURA

Who is this?

GEORGE (O.S.)

Now that would be telling, wouldn't it.

LAURA

I have to call you something. How about George.

GEORGE (O.S.)

Will you hug me and pet me and squeeze me?

LAURA

Yeah. Funny.

GEORGE (O.S.)

Sure. George. Why not?

LAURA

How do you know my real name?

GEORGE (O.S.)

Come, come, Miss Meyers. Did you really think that we wouldn't see through your alias?

LAURA

Fair enough. So, why are we still talking?

GEORGE (O.S.)

You came to us under false pretenses, Miss Meyers. That was rather rude.

LAURA

Somehow I think you'll get over it.

GEORGE (O.S.)

Let's take a walk, shall we? Head west towards MoPac.

Laura looks around but sees know one who could be George.
She starts walking.

LAURA
So, who are you?

GEORGE (O.S.)
Ever the journalist, eh Miss Meyers? Why not? We're an informal group, really. A collective of people who have grown weary of rigged system that seeks to leach off the rest of us.

LAURA
What do you want with me.

GEORGE
We read you piece on the children working in the sweat shops hidden in Mexico city. Won a Peabody award, did it not?

LAURA
Yes.

GEORGE
You were quite vigorous in your pursuit of the story, like a woman on a mission. What became of those sweat shops?

LAURA
They were shut down.

GEORGE
Yes, but only temporarily. In two weeks they were up an running with new management. You had worked so hard to make such a difference. Tell me, did it burn when, despite the accolades, it was all for nothing.

Laura fights back tears as she reaches the bridge at MoPac.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
Take the bridge over the river.

Laura starts over the bridge.

LAURA
What's your point?

GEORGE

Consider the case of Eduard Bloch, the Jewish Austrian physician who delivered Adolph Hitler. Do you think that after the holocaust he didn't think about how he could have spared millions of his fellow Jews if he had only taken action while he had the future chancellor in his hands? If you had been in Dr. Bloch's place and knew what little Adolph would become, what would you do?

Laura reaches the other side of the bridge.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Take a right.

Laura take a right at the end of the bridge and continues along the trail.

LAURA

You still haven't told me what you want with me.

GEORGE

Call it an object lesson. I want you to understand.

LAURA

Understand what?

GEORGE

You'll see. The information you gave us on Senator Rollins was quite helpful. We were already aware of him but with what you gave us allowed us to move up our time table. Look ahead.

Jogging down the path is PATRICK ROLLINS, 50s.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

And there he is, Senator Patrick Rollins, the junior senator from Texas. In addition to being in bed with Alexant he and his family own a goodly portion of Mitchell and other military industrial companies.

(MORE)

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Like the good Christian fundamentalist that he is, he has joined up with an influential dominionists who are just looking for a way to start a war with Iran in the hopes bring about the second coming of Christ. Crazy, I know. But you'd be amazed at how many people follow that line of reasoning.

Rollins stops at a park bench just a bit ahead of Laura and sits down.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

He stops there every day at the end of his run. Do you see the large rock under the bench?

LAURA

I see it.

GEORGE

Keep walking.

Laura continues down the path.

LAURA

Is it a bomb.

GEORGE

Very good. Similar to a claymore mine, aimed upward. Designed to take out only its intended target.

Laura passes Rollins.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Just a little further down you'll see another blue box. Go to it.

LAURA

What's in the box?

GEORGE

Come, now. What's the point of a gift box if you give away the surprise.

Laura gets to the box and pauses.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Go ahead. Open it.

Laura kneels down by the box. She looks back down the path and sees Rollins still sitting on the bench.

She opens the box and finds a small black device with an antenna and a red button.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

So like the sweat shop in Mexico
you once again have the opportunity
to make a difference, this a time
on a much more decisive basis.
Before you is the next Adolph
Hitler. You can take him out and
no one will ever know. All you
have to do is press the red button.

Laura's jaw drops as she continues to watch Rollins.

CUT TO BLACK