

THE TARANTINO HEIST

written by

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FADE IN

INT. - THEATER - UNIVERSITY FILM SCHOOL - 1996

A student film is being reviewed and it finishes. The student audience goes wild. Only one student doesn't clap. The other students stand. JOHN MULLER (25) is surprised and turns to appreciate the recognition. He stands and shyly bows. The applause ends. There is a lot of chatter among the students. The PROFESSOR (72) stands in front. There is a long beat as the professor contemplates this rare ovation.

PROFESSOR

I have to say I've seen only one other standing ovation, and he never graduated (so we can't officially say he is alumni), but he was something like a discipulus sine signo, he was around here for two years and the next time I saw the guy he was on "Happy Days". So you are in good company.

The students are amazed and whisper. More applause.

PROFESSOR

And I have to say Mr. Muller, you are the most upbeat student I've ever... experienced. A bit hyperactive at times.

MULLER

Spirited?

PROFESSOR

Yes, we've had our differences but I will admit that.

The students all chuckle.

PROFESSOR

But, that being said. All fame is fleeting. This is solid work, actually fantastic and you are the "star" here today. Your talent is promising. But I get the idea you

are impatient and clearly self-indulgent. Don't let this be your fatal flaw. But for now congratulations.

After the showing, Muller is out in the hall and congratulated by many other students. He is very happy and charismatic looking. He clearly has a lot of friend and the future is bright.

INT. - OFFICE - PRODUCTION COMPANY

PRODUCER (59) is behind the desk and Muller has been pitching his script. The producer puts the screenplay on the desk.

PRODUCER

It's too forward (or backward) thinking. I'm not sure which. I don't think I can find the funding. Remember there isn't any art without commerce.

MULLER

It'll sell. It's a tribute to the old classics people went to the theatres to see.

PRODUCER

To a small "art" group, movie enthusiasts. Remember the Ziegfeld Theatre is closed.

MULLER

What?

PRODUCER

It was an ornate movie palace in Midtown Manhattan, proof that the once-vital theatre-going culture is finished.

MULLER

It's too bad. But there is still cable, pay per view and video.

PRODUCER

You are still in film school
right?

MULLER

Yes, for another month.

PRODUCER

Graduate, work on it some more, I
want to see some moderation; think
box office. Think marketing. Come
back then.

Beat. Inside, Muller is enraged (just a tiny amount of rage
shows) but he calms and eventually smiles.

MULLER

Okay. I will.

Muller exits the office with a certain look on his face.

MONTAGE

The same result in numerous meetings.

END MONTAGE

INT. VIPER ROOM - LOS ANGELES

Muller and his FILM SCHOOL BUDDIES are at the drinking
establishment, chilling out. Celebrating graduation. But
Muller is depressed and drinking heavily.

There is a genuine MOTORCYCLE GANG in the bar; they are
rough looking but poor and have shabby biker gear.

In contrast, a rough group of YOUNG MEN (dressed in
expensive biker gear) enter the bar. They are too affluent
to be a genuine gang.

The affluent bikers' leader is MURPHY. Murphy knows Muller
from the past.

Both Murphy and Muller are very drunk.

MURPHY

Muller, is that you?

MULLER
Murphy? Yeah. It's me.

MURPHY
I haven't seen you since high school.

MULLER
Damn, how you been?

MURPHY
Good. I'm good.

MULLER
Good to see you.

MURPHY
I got to piss.

MULLER
Me too.

They enter the restroom and stand at the urinals.

MURPHY
You making movies?

MULLER
Not yet. Been in school, fucking school.

MURPHY
Fuck college.

MULLER
(drunk)
Fuck film school. What a fucking waste of time.

MURPHY
Bunch of artsy fartsy bull? But, you like that shit.

MULLER
It's more than that.

MURPHY

What goes on there?

MULLER

Basically?

MURPHY

Just curious, man.

MULLER

Film directing.

MURPHY

Shit.

MULLER

Organizing people not so creative
as yourself.

MURPHY

Shit, I could use a little bit of
that.

MULLER

Fuck, I need money.

MURPHY

Do you know that you live in the
bank robbery capital of the world?

There is an awkward long beat.

MURPHY

You have a film you want to make?

MULLER

Fucking awesome idea. Millions if
I can get it done.

MURPHY

Hey, I have an idea.
(half beat)
Give me your phone.

Murphy dials his number into Muller's phone. The phone in
Murphy's pocket rings.

MURPHY

I'm gonna call you next week.

Later...

EXT. VIPER ROOM - LOS ANGELES

Closing time. The bar empties and everyone leaves at the same basic time. Murphy's gang exits and we see a long line of motorcycles - five old junkers and five premium high dollar bikes.

Muller and his film buddies exit. Muller notices that Murphy's friends are on the premium bikes. They start them up and the roar is impressive. Clearly the Murphy gang is successful at something.

Muller is in a drunken stupor, but he notices the contrast between the two bike gangs.

INT. BIKER GARAGE HANGOUT -LONG BEACH

It is dark. Murphy's gang has some very expensive tattoos and they are sitting around a table. We can gather that Muller has just given them a pitch/presentation. Muller is standing.

Everyone is holding or have a copy of a script on the table in front of them. There are one pages there with bullet points.

CHAPLIN

You are forgetting one thing.
We've successfully robbed banks
before.

MONROE

More than one.

CHAPLIN

More than three, actually.

WAYNE

We got it down.

MULLER

Small banks.

CHAPLIN

Small banks are safe.

WAYNE

You want to do a shopping cart job. That is a problem for us.

MONROE

That takes time.

MULLER

It's all about risk. Every time you do it you risk getting caught.

MURPHY

Or killed.

MULLER

If you are going to take a risk you might as well get paid.

(beat)

I propose we...

CHAPLIN

We?

MULLER

You do one big job. Masterful. An Oscar worthy bank takedown.

Everything super well organized.

(beat)

Or not. Do it your way.

MULLER

But then you invest in films. And then you're retired. You will have capital and you don't have to rob banks. No more risk, you will be producers. I will put your name on the screen and you'll be legit.

(beat)

Or not. It doesn't matter to me. But you can parlay whatever you take into legitimacy.

(beat)

No more risk of long prison sentences. The only downside are people will start sending you the stupidest fucking scripts and you'll have to take out the trash every day. Tons of it.

(beat)

Shopping carts of cash in.
Shopping carts of scripts out.

MURPHY

No hiding. We can be legit.

Time passes...

INT. BIKER GARAGE HANGOUT - LONG BEACH

MONTAGE: The gang is watching a series of films - The Searchers, Seven Year Itch, The Tramp and Pirates of the Caribbean.

INT. BIKER GARAGE HANGOUT - LONG BEACH

MULLER

I propose we film the entire thing with these cop like body cams.

CHAPLIN

What?

MULLER

The cameras are necessary to show them the fake tats.

The gang doesn't understand.

MULLER

The bank cameras are probably such poor quality, they might not pick up the false clues we are giving them.

(beat)

Misinformation.

(beat)

No?

The nuances of the plan seem to miss half the crew. Murphy understands.

INT. INDUSTRY BANK - CENTURY CITY

CHARLIE CHAPLIN, JOHN WAYNE, MARYLYN MONROE and Murphy (dressed as JACK SPARROW) walk into a bank. Earlier, we have seen the real tattoos on their torso and arms, but now they are covered by long sleeve shirts. They have new fake tattoos on their necks and hands. Monroe has her/his tats covered in makeup. It is all done very professionally.

The characters all have Go-Pro cameras fixed to their chests. And there are several Go-Pros affixed to a shopping cart.

EXT. INDUSTRY BANK, CENTURY CITY - DAY

The gang exits the bank literally with a shopping cart of money. Chaplin, Wayne, Monroe and Sparrow lift it into the back of a van.

As they rob the bank, each actor gives his trademark line. Either Muller has them totally in character or it's all been rehearsed.

A bank employee is looking down filling out paperwork.

CHAPLIN

You'll never find a rainbow if
you're looking down.

A bank employee gives Monroe an odd look.

MONROE

It's better to be absolutely
ridiculous thn absolutely boring.

A female employee of the bank drops a load of cash.

EMPLOYEE

I'm sorry.

WAYNE

Never apologise, mister, it's a
sign of weakness.

Exiting the bank, clearly its been a success so Sparrow turns to the employees...

SPARROW

If you were waiting for the opportune moment, that was it.

He leaves the bank.

INT. VAN - DAY

Muller is sitting in the driver seat. He's been watching it all on tiny but high tech monitors inside the van. They drive.

MULLER

Cameras.

Muller holds out a cardboard box. And Go-Pro cameras are deposited into the box.

MULLER

Tats.

Muller hands them a second cardboard box with rubbing alcohol and towels. They rub the bogus tats off.

MULLER

Costumes.

There is a larger cardboard box and they fill it with the costumes. They change clothes as the van moves.

Muller turns down an ally and stops.

MULLER

Signs.
(beat)
Plates.

Murphy exits with a magnetic sign for the sides of the van. Chaplin changes the front plates. Monroe changes the plates on the back.

On the street again, they all look at Muller who is occupied driving. There is no honor among thieves. In the back of the van, each member digs through the money,

setting stacks of \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20 to the side. They reach to take a bundle or two of \$100s and slip it into their pockets. Murphy shakes his head to discourage them, but they do it anyway.

Muller looks into the rear view mirror. Everyone is looking at Muller to determine if he saw them pilfer the cash.

MULLER

What?

MURPHY

Nothing.

MULLER

It's a haul?

MURPHY

It looks clear?

MULLER

Looks good to me.

As Muller watches at the traffic, left and right. Driving carefully. The gang takes two stacks of hundreds each; even Murphy. They conceal the money in their clothing.

They drive to the gang's garage. They drive inside.

They unload the shopping cart and stack the money on the table.

MURPHY

How much is there?

MULLER

Let's count.

They all sit.

MULLER

Put the \$1 here. Put the \$5 here.
Get it?

The gang members divide the money into stacks on the table by denominations.

Time passes...

MULLER
1.8 million. I'm going to make a
hell of a picture.

WAYNE
Shit. That's \$360,000 each.

Every member paws at the money.

MULLER
Hell no. That's not the deal.

CHAPLIN
Fuck you. We're out.

MULLER
No, you are going to ruin things.
We have long term plan.

CHAPLIN
Tough.

MULLER
We have a plan to turn this into
\$100 million. I can do it.

WAYNE
You are like everyone else in this
town. Always talking bullshit.

MULLER
No, no. You guys need to think
about this. I'm going to take this
and turn it into a hundred
million. Everyone gets an equal
share of the film's profits. Legal
profits. You will look like
geniuses and legitimate.

MONROE
Dude, I don't know how to tell
you. I don't like your script.

WAYNE
Not enough violence.

CHAPLIN

Too few titties.

MONROE

No bush.

CHAPLIN

And your hero is a pussy!

MULLER

No. You guys can't handle this sort of money. You are going to get us all caught. This much money will set off so many alarms.

(beat)

I have bank accounts for fake movie theatres set up. We will deposit it over time. The money will look clean.

(beat)

These big bills, the serial numbers maybe?

MONROE

Bullshit.

MULLER

I beg you; don't spend this. Not a penny. You aren't organized for it.

They all just look at him as if he's crazy.

They begin to count out their share from the \$100s and \$50s.

MONROE

Fuck this is taking too long.

They give up counting and guess with each man pushing his "fair share" into athletic bags. They seem okay with a rough cut.

Muller is in a catatonic state. He just watches the mob gone wild.

MULLER

Hang on. I have the cameras.

Muller holds up the cardboard box.

MULLER

And we are sticking to the original plan.

Wrong move to threaten these guys.

The gang takes the box from Muller and begins to beat the hell out of Muller. They break his face and ribs.

The gang will beat him to death, but Murphy gets in between them.

The gang members leave. Only Murphy looks back in regret.

MULLER

Why are you doing this?

Murphy has always been Jack Sparrow or he is still in character from the robbery.

MURPHY

I'm dishonest, and a dishonest man you can always trust to be dishonest.

Murphy leaves.

The gang burns the cameras with the costumes in a barrel outside.

Inside, on the table are the stacks of \$1, \$5, and \$10s.

On the floor is a seriously beaten Muller.

INT. - EDITING ROOM - UNIVERSITY FILM SCHOOL - 2001

The other students are energetically editing a music video. They are all pretty jazzed about it. Muller is sitting very still, not participating. His ribs are broken. His face is black and blue. He has hate boiling in his veins. He looks very volatile.

A STUDENT enters the room with news. The other students continue editing. Only Muller pays attention to the news.

STUDENT
Morton Downy Jr. died.

MULLER
Television?

STUDENT
So?

MULLER
Come on really? The Morton Downey Jr. Show?

STUDENT
I sort of liked that show.

MULLER
Screaming matches between Downey, his guests, and even the audience members.

(half beat)
He had this huge silver bowl for an ashtray, he would chain-smoke during the show and blow smoke in his guests' faces.

STUDENT
Well he made it, that's all that counts.

MULLER
He made it on television, you mean.

STUDENT
(reading the newspaper)
It says he had four kids by four wives.

MULLER
Okay, he gets a wiki-page for that, but not for the television.

STUDENT
You really hate television.

MULLER
I hate fucking everything.

Muller storms out of the room.

STUDENT
What is wrong with him? He used to
be Mr. Positive.

MONTAGE

Chaplin buys a very large boat. Monroe buys a big house in the hills. Wayne buys a very expensive sports car. The seller in each instance has a strange suspicious look on their face. We can guess they are paying cash.

Each are arrested by SWAT teams, even Murphy, who hasn't spent his share of the money but hasn't dropped the Jack Sparrow image.

END MONTAGE

INT. - BANK - LOS ANGELES

Muller enters the bank with a very secure and official looking money satchel. Muller is dressed in a security guard's uniform. Most of the bruising to his face is gone.

The CLERK is a cute young female.

MULLER
9387-0309, the deposit slip is
inside.

CLERK
I know, you come in everyday.

MULLER
I do, that is true.

She takes the satchel into a back room. She brings it out again (empty) after a short time.

CLERK

Your face is getting better.

(beat)

What happened?

MULLER

You might say, I was robbed.

CLERK

How much did they take?

MULLER

About 1.7 million.

CLERK

That's crazy. Oh, poor thing.

MULLER

I'm okay.

CLERK

What theatre is this from?

Beat.

MULLER

University Park.

CLERK

Well...

MULLER

See you tomorrow.

Muller turns.

CLERK

You want your receipt?

Muller returns to the counter?

MULLER

The manager will want that.

Thanks.

CLERK

What about your balance?

MULLER

He might. Might as well.

The clerk furtively smiles and hands him two slips of paper.

Muller is clearly turning down romance.

INT. APARTMENT - LOS ANGELES

Muller enters his apartment. He looks into a large cardboard box in his closet. There are three bundles of small denominations. The deposit receipt says \$3,106. Muller looks at the balance from the bank - \$57,394.

Muller is visually affected by the realization, all this risk and work has resulted in very little money and certainly not enough to make a film.

Muller wads the two receipts up and stuffs them inside an empty soda can. He crushes it and throws it in his kitchen trash. He takes the trash to the dumpster.

EXT. APARTMENT DUMPSTER - LOS ANGELES

Muller throws his trash in the dumpster and turns back to the apartment. Suddenly a tactical police team rolls up and swarm on his apartment. Muller stands in awe. He doesn't run; he is in shock. They break down his door and enter the apartment. After a time, they emerge with the three bundles of money in plastic evidence bags.

One cop sees Muller standing there outside. They rush at him.

POLICE

On the ground!

Muller doesn't move. Again he is in shock.

They violently throw him to the ground. They also beat the hell out of him.

INT. JAIL INDUCTION - DAY

Muller is processed into the jail. Medical. Fingerprints, photos, etc.

INT. COURTROOM - LOS ANGELES

JUDGE

The court, in determining the particular sentence to be imposed, considered - the nature and circumstances of the offence and the history and characteristics of the defendant;

(half beat)

the need for the sentence imposed- to reflect the seriousness of the offence, to promote respect for the law, and to provide just punishment for the offence;

(half beat)

to afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct;

(half beat)

to protect the public from further crimes of the defendant; and

(beat)

Mr. Muller. I understand you had a great future in front of you. The testimony of your professors and classmates was somewhat compelling but I had to balance that with the testimony from the other participants in the crime.

Muller's family is there. Mom is crying. Sister crying. Muller's father looks defeated.

JUDGE

You have made a serious mistake. You have acted like many who come to this town for a career in film... impatient and you have been clearly self-indulgent. And while you have expressed your contrition and regret, I must deal with this in a way to satisfy society.

(beat)
I sentence you to 20 years in the
Federal prison at Victorville.

Muller is surprised and thought perhaps the punishment would be far less. In shock, again. Muller is taken into custody and walked out of the room.

INT/EXT. PRISON VAN - LOS ANGELES

Muller looks out the window leaving the city. The van travels through Hollywood. Walk of Stars. The tourists. The billboards. They pass his old campus. Almost everything he focuses on through the window is linked to the industry - movie billboards.

INT. PRISON INDUCTION

Muller is processed into the prison. More fingerprints. More photos. The guards are all robotic drones. Physical examination looking for contraband. Medical examination.

INT. PRISON OFFICE - PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL BEING

A SOCIAL WORKER is behind a desk. She is an attractive lady. Too cheerful and too optimistic.

SOCIAL WORKER
You know what you are here for?

MULLER
Bank robbery.

SOCIAL WORKER
No, what will you be working on here.

MULLER
I have no idea.
(half beat)
I was in school. I got messed over in this thing.

SOCIAL WORKER
School? You were a graduate student.
(half beat)

In what?

MULLER

Film.

The social worker picks up the folder off her desk and she reads.

MULLER

You guys were not even on my radar. I mean who thinks about prison.

SOCIAL WORKER

It's okay. "Rehabilitation".
(half beat)
I'm in charge of that. Okay?

MULLER

Okay.

SOCIAL WORKER

On the other hand there are people that work here for your "correction". There isn't much balance. Almost everyone else working here is pretty much about the "correction".

MULLER

The dark side.

SOCIAL WORKER

Interesting way to look at that. Film school huh?

Muller nods.

SOCIAL WORKER

I'm here to help. There are teachers here to help. Please don't take advantage of what we are trying to do here.

MULLER

What are you trying to do here?

SOCIAL WORKER
Education chiefly.
(half beat)
We can teach you a vocation.

MULLER
I have one, thanks.

SOCIAL WORKER
Mostly we can help keep you busy
(out of trouble) while you are
here.

She reads in the folder "20 years."

SOCIAL WORKER
You are going to be here a while.

MULLER
Unfortunately.

SOCIAL WORKER
Well, you seem like a smart
individual.

MULLER
Evidently not.

SOCIAL WORKER
Oh, maybe that was a one time
momentary lapse in judgment?

MULLER
Sure.

SOCIAL WORKER
The library will be very useful.
The lady in charge of that is very
progressive. She worked years
writing letters and lobbying to
get the library into the
interlibrary loan program.

MULLER
Really?
(half beat)

That's sort of funny. Who would loan anything to a prison full of thieves?

SOCIAL WORKER

Actually, I think it is working out pretty well. You can get almost any book.

MULLER

Any film?

SOCIAL WORKER

No porn.

MULLER

Well of course.

SOCIAL WORKER

Within reason. So long at it has to do with your education.

(beat)

You can get anyone of 68 associate degrees, 28 different bachelor's degree, master's degree in 16 different fields and..

The social worker looks up something in her papers.

SOCIAL WORKER

... and film communication is one of them. We can even get you into a psychology Ph.D. program. We might even expand that to other fields. Maybe communications.

MULLER

Really. I never would have guessed.

SOCIAL WORKER

Well, prison isn't really like it is in the movies.

MULLER

You mean its not "Cool Hand Luke" anymore?

SOCIAL WORKER

That was a very long time ago and
in a very different place. Things
have changed a lot.

(half beat)

There is overcrowding and your
sentence might be shortened.

MULLER

I know that's bullshit. The
federal government has unlimited
money. When it gets overcrowded,
instead of letting inmates out,
they just build another facility.

(half beat)

And the problem with that is
someday you are going to run out
of other people's money.

SOCIAL WORKER

Well...

(beat)

This is just the most boring place
on earth. That is your punishment.
That might bother you, being
bored?

MULLER

Are you telling me there isn't a
film in this for me?

SOCIAL WORKER

(gesturing out to the yard)

Well there might be a screenplay
out there somewhere in the yard.
Keep your eyes and ears open.

(chuckles)

You will have access to a computer
for your school assignments.

MULLER

I can write a script?

SOCIAL WORKER

So long as it is for school, just don't write another, "Escape from Alcatraz".

MULLER

You know something about film. And prisons. What is the most realistic prison movie?

SOCIAL WORKER

Maybe Shawshank Redemption.

MULLER

Okay. Why?

SOCIAL WORKER

Time. It's all about time. I know your type. You will have never wasted more time than here.

MULLER

So you want me to keep busy?

SOCIAL WORKER

Yes. Exactly.

MULLER

Sign me up for the film communication masters. I will work on that, if I can. You persuaded me.

SOCIAL WORKER

But you already have that degree.

MULLER

Doesn't hurt to have two, does it?

SOCIAL WORKER

Wonderful. Just mind your own business; stay out of trouble. You will be fine here.

(half beat)

Stay out of the politics in the yard.

Beat.

SOCIAL WORKER

Here is your movie. Those guys spend all their time moving up the chain to the top... power out in the yard. Top inmate. And then they are released and end up outside with little or no power.

MULLER

And the main character can't adjust. I think that has been done.

SOCIAL WORKER

Well... any power you build here will disappear the minute you leave.

MULLER

Unless... the main character becomes a career criminal like them.

SOCIAL WORKER

Unless... he spends the time wisely. And it's just a story.

MULLER

Two inmates, one uses his time well, and the other wastes the time climbing the hierarchy of criminals. It might work. So why don't you write it?

SOCIAL WORKER

I can't. I just don't have that gift. I tried when I was a young. You know how it goes.

MULLER

I certainly do.

INT. PRISON - DAY

Muller moves from intake through the yard on his way to his new cell. Muller walks past all the various outlaws. The guard points out each group.

GUARD

The prison yard is broken down into seven distinct racial categories and segregation is strictly enforced, not by us but by your guys. There are the "woods" (short for peckerwoods), Skin Heads (young racists), Arian Brotherhood (old racists, the "kinfolk" (blacks), the "Raza" (American-born people of Hispanic descent), the "Paisas" (Mexicans), and the "chiefs" (American Indians).

INT. PRISON CELL

Time passes. BEN BARTOK is Muller's cellmate. He is well groomed and clearly was a professional at one time. Bartok is reading a book on medical procedures.

Muller has a book on film.

MULLER

What are you here for?

BARTOK

I was a doctor.

MULLER

Medicare fraud?

BARTOK

I understand you robbed a bank?

MULLER

I did.

BARTOK

How much did you get?

MULLER
How much did you get?

BARTOK
After the \$28 million in
restitution?

MULLER
Damn.

BARTOK
I have nothing.
(beat)
What about you?

MULLER
The guys I was in on it with. They
pretty much stole my share. Left
me the \$1s, \$5s and \$10s.

BARTOK
And the government took that?

MULLER
No.

BARTOK
Hah!
(half beat)
That's funny. What did you tell
them when they asked you?

MULLER
They never asked. I guess the rats
they told them they stole my most
of share. Which they did.

BARTOK
Lucky.

MULLER
I'm NOT lucky. It's a lousy 57K.

BARTOK
Well that is something.

MULLER

Yea, but for 20 years. What is that \$2,700 per year to be in here?

BARTOK

I guess crime really doesn't pay.

MULLER

Maybe.

Time passes...

INT. PRISON COMPUTER LAB - DAY

The FILM PROFESSOR (58) and Muller speak via Skype.

FILM PROFESSOR

You have fulfilled the required classroom credits from your time in film school.

(beat)

But you are going to need to write a master's thesis.

MULLER

I can't make a film?

FILM PROFESSOR

Well under most cases, yes, but in your situation... I'm afraid we will have to do this the old fashion way.

(half beat)

You have a topic?

MULLER

Tarantino.

FILM PROFESSOR

That isn't going to be easy. It has to be totally original. No one can have ever written on the subject.

MULLER

Tarantino and foreign film
markets.

FILM PROFESSOR

Really?

The film professor types something into his computer.

FILM PROFESSOR

Amazing.

(half beat)

It's free. Interesting.

(half beat)

You will need more than just this
but we can work on that later.

MULLER

So for now, we are good?

FILM PROFESSOR

Read some books on this topic. I
will send you a list.

MULLER

Watch some films?

FILM PROFESSOR

If there are sources (books or
films) that you can't get through
your library there, let me know.

MULLER

The librarian said she could get
me almost anything in the world.

FILM PROFESSOR

You will need the box office
figures.

MULLER

I can get the foreign versions?

FILM PROFESSOR

Yes. Of course.

(half beat)

Take notes.

(half beat)
And keep a list of your sources.

MULLER
I can do that.

FILM PROFESSOR
You have a computer there, I'm told.

MULLER
Yes.

FILM PROFESSOR
Skype me next week and we will get organized.

MULLER
I will.

INT. PRISON RUNNING TRACK - 2000

When in prison, the DOUBLEGANGER is recognized and is a near look-alike for a young Quentin Tarantino.

Muller is in the yard walking around the track. An extravert inmate, who is always talking, yells out.

EXTRAVERT
(to the doubleganger)
Hey Tarantino!
(to others)
That guy looks like Tarantino.
Doesn't he?

Muller's exercise group ignores the extravert, but of course Muller is curious. We get the idea the extravert is always talking and thus the value of any particular phrase is watered down.

EXTRAVERT
Dude. There is a guy in C wing. I swear he looks like Santa Claus.

The group he is hanging out with ignores the extravert again. The extravert ignores all prison advice, keep quiet and mind your own business.

EXTRAVERT

Man, what a place. We got Santa
Claus and QT, wouldn't it be weird
if they were cellies?

The extravert is pretty much talking to himself. But Muller
is listening.

INT/EXT. PRISON - DAY

MONTAGE on the monotony of prison life. Muller reads and
watches three films each day. He and the doctor exercise
and they eat meals. Sometimes they are joined by others.

As time passes, Muller watches from a distance as the
Doubleganger grows to look identical to the famous film
director. Other prisoners recognize the similarities and
they nickname him "Tarantino".

DOUBLEGANGER

I don't like it when you call me
that.

MULLER

Why? The man is the greatest
director in the history of film.

EXTRAVERT

Sure man, you ought to be proud.
Man nobody can splatter blood
better than QT.

MULLER

He's much more than that you know.

The Doubleganger is trying to sort it all out in his head.
Muller gives him a reassuring look.

INT. PRISON MESS HALL - 2001

The extravert inmate walks by and then sits by Muller and
Bartok. The Doubleganger is there. Muller has befriended
him.

EXTROVERT

Tarantino. What's happening?

DOUBLEGANGER

I didn't realize the food would be so good.

EXTROVERT

This is almost like club fed. I was in with the non-violent inmates. We had pool tables. The food was great there. Man you don't want to be in CDCR. Or worse a county jail.

DOUBLEGANGER

Where you been in a jail?

EXTROVERT

Jail Jail-jail or prison? Here, Texas, Okalahoma, Kentucky and New York.

DOUBLEGANGER

What was the best situation?

EXTROVERT

Butner, North Carolina. Club Fed. But this is okay. Other than the violent inmates up in here... some of these people are violent.

(beat)

But, look at you man. Man you got it made. After watching all your movies. No body is fuckin' wit you.

DOUBLEGANGER

But, I'm not him.

EXTROVERT

Oh, I know but still.

(beat)

I got to go. I got to go see a man about some contraband.

(beat)

Dude when you get out. You can work as an impersonator in

Hollywood. You look just like
fucking Tarantino, dude.

The extravert gets up and moves to a different table. He starts talking them to death.

ABSOLAN JACKSON comes to sit beside Muller and the Doubleganger.

JACKSON
Tarantino. You gonna eat your
bread?

DOUBLEGANGER
No man, you can have it. I can't
eat bread. I'll drink your milk
though.

JACKSON
Deal.

INT. LIBRARY - 2002

A very nice looking LIBRARIAN is at her computer in her office. The inmate working at the desk hands Muller three dvds that are waiting for him. The LIBRARIAN looks up and smiles.

The guards are all stone faced. But the social worker and the librarian are very congenial. We are certain they admire Muller for his work ethic. Intellectuals are rare in the prison and their "rehabilitation" facilities are underused, so Muller is a star.

Outside, there are 60 guys crowding around the weight lifting center. There are 10 guys on the basketball court and 40 guys waiting to play. There are 100 Mexicans watching a soccer match.

There are 2 guys in the library.

INT. COMPUTER LAB - DAY

Muller is watching Hollow Triumph from 1948.

BARTOK
(joking)

Hey that's not Tarantino. You are going to solitary.

MULLER

I'm sick of Tarantino. Every once in a while, I order something different.

He gestures to the other DVDs - Jaws and Wet Hot American Summer. Also there is the French version of Reservoir Dogs and an Italian version of Pulp Fiction.

Bartok gestures to the screen.

CUT TO THE HOLLOW TRIUMPH FILM: they see the scene where.. a chance encounter with dentist reveals that the main character looks exactly like a psychoanalyst who works in the same building.

The film is about a white-collar criminal successfully impersonating a psychoanalyst.

BARTOK

I think I saw this ages ago. What's it about?

MULLER

Ex-con gets out and learns he is an identical match for this psychiatrist. So he impersonates him. Kills him and takes his place. Screws the secretary, where the real psychiatrist never had the balls for it. Well that is all it takes, she knows her old boss wouldn't do that.

BARTOK

You mean her boss wouldn't do it that well.

MULLER

Never fucked her at all.

BARTOK

Insightful. So, what happens to him?

MULLER

Well, back then they had an
unwritten code... Crime can't pay.

BARTOK

So, he gets caught?

MULLER

I'm sure. We are about to see.
I figure he is about to get shot.

BARTOK

I don't think I've seen it.

MULLER

So the secretary knows he's an
imposter but she doesn't care. She
loves it. And they are gonna run
away together.

Time passes...

CUT TO the last one minute of the film. The secretary boards a ship headed to Europe. The impostor follows her to the dock. He is about to board the ship to be with the secretary. However, the impostor is intercepted by two men who want to discuss the psychiatrist's \$90,000 gambling debt. When the impostor tries to break away and get on the ship, they shoot him. The secretary sails away and doesn't even know the impostor is bleeding out on the dock. THE END.

INT. PRISON MESS HALL - DAY

The extravert inmate walks by Muller, Jackson and Bartok's table. The Doubleganger eats with them now.

EXTRAVERT

Damn, you look like Tarantino. I
just can't get over it.

Muller stops eating. He has a creative idea.

JACKSON

Dude, you want your bread?

Muller doesn't respond. He is deep in thought.

The guy slowly reaches over and takes the bread.

BARTOK
What's the matter?

Muller doesn't respond.

BARTOK
Are you okay? You aren't having a
stroke or anything are you?

Bartok takes his head in his hands and looks at his pupils.

MULLER
I just had an idea.

BARTOK
What sort of idea?

MULLER
For a film.

BARTOK
That's great.

Muller was so detached (thinking), Bartok had been worried.

INT. PRISON CELL - DAY

Bartok and Muller are resting.

BARTOK
How much money did you make today?

MULLER
Million dollars.
(beat)
I have this crazy plan.

BARTOK
So what is this movie about?

MULLER
It's not a movie.

BARTOK

No?

MULLER

It's pretty much a crime.

BARTOK

Everything is against the law.

Doctor Bartok shuts the cell door.

MULLER

Think about it. We have a new cold war with China and Russia both. Probably Russia however. Americans are all highly suspicious of the Russians. Russia is in need for legitimacy after seizing the Crimea and economic sanctions.

(half beat)

The languages and frankly the two nations are literally on the other side of the world.

(half beat)

But mostly it will be the mistrust of each other.

BARTOK

I don't follow you.

An inmate opens the cell door.

PRISONER

Hey doc. This guy just fell down the stairs and doesn't want to go to the clinic. Can you come check him out?

Bartok gets up and leaves the cell.

An inmate has a cut over his eye.

BARTOK

It might need a single stitch but it could do without just as well. You fell or you got punched.

BLEEDING PRISONER

I fell.

BARTOK

You fell just then. Were you dizzy. Did you get up too fast? You need your blood pressure taken. Go tell the guard, you need your blood pressure taken. You might have low blood pressure, or a tumour or some other condition.

BLEEDING PRISONER

I got punched.

BARTOK

You want a single stitch?

BLEEDING PRISONER

No.

BARTOK

Well, put this over it and hold it.

The doctor takes a napkin from his pocket and places it over the wound. He walks with the inmate into the cell.

Muller is in deep thought.

The doctor puts the inmate on his bunk and pinches the napkin and wound.

A skinhead brings a makeshift first aid kit. Bartok refuses it.

They wait in awkward silence as the bleeding stops.

INT. PRISON LIBRARY

We see a Russian book and some Russian language CD-ROMS that have arrive in the library. Muller arrives to pick them up. The inmate at the library desk is PYTOR UVAROV. Uvarov sees the material.

UVAROV

(in Russian)

Hello. How are you today?

MULLER
(in Russian)
I'm a fine man. It is a wonderful evening.

UVAROV
(in Russian)
Not bad.

MULLER
(in Russian)
I'm improving my Russian.

UVAROV
(in Russian)
I'm a native speaker and I will be happy to help you.

MULLER
(in English)
Huh?

UVAROV
(in English)
You speak a little Russian?

MULLER
(in English)
I have a business opportunity in Russia.

UVAROV
(in Russian)
Well, you have some knowledge then.

MULLER
(in English)
I need to be fluent.

UVAROV
(in English)
You met a nice Russian woman.

MULLER
(in English)
Unfortunately, business.

UVAROV
(in English)
Fluent. How fluent?

MULLER
(in English)
Good enough to direct a Russian
film.

UVAROV
(in English)
Directing a Russian film is a
lofty goal.
(in Russian)
Directing a Russian firm is a
lofty goal.

Uvarov opens the Russian language textbook.

Uvarov points to two pages in a book.

UVAROV
(in English)
Tomorrow come by and we will speak
in Russian. Learn this.

INT. PRISON COMPUTER LAB

Muller takes film theory classes, Russian language and
business finance via the internet.

INT. PRISON SCHOOL - DAY

TEACHER
What? Are you back?

DOUBLEGANGER
I want to try to get my GED.

TEACHER
You were in my class for three
years. You never really tried.
And now you want to come back?

DOUBLEGANGER

Yes.

MULLER

He has a job waiting for him when he gets out.

TEACHER

If he passes the GED test?

MULLER

I'm willing to help tutor, not just him but your other students as well.

TEACHER

(sarcastic)

Well, by all means come in and have a seat.

The teacher writes on the white board several simple fifth grade math problems. Muller looks over at the Doubleganger in awe. He didn't realize the extent of the Doubleganger's education. But he's not discouraged. He writes the problems down on a sheet of paper and slides it over to him and he hands him a pencil.

INT. PRISON LIBRARY - DAY

We see Muller uses the prison library loan program to study board games and board game memorabilia.

LIBRARIAN

Old board games. How interesting.

MULLER

Do you collect?

LIBRARIAN

No, not really. So, what made you interested in board games?

MULLER

Tarantino. My thesis, he is a big collector. The biggest.

LIBRARIAN

Oh, I see. Tarantino?

MULLER

Tarantino. Yeh. That's right.

LIBRARIAN

Well, if there is any materials
that you need please let me know.

INT. PRISON CELL

Muller and the Doubleganger are playing an old board game.

The Doubleganger is practicing sounding like Tarantino.
Clearly Muller has been coaching him.

DOUBLEGANGER

Do you find me sadistic?

The Doubleganger seems to be winning the game.

Get ready to fly, bitch!

A large gruff prison SUPERVISOR enters the cell.

SUPERVISOR

Mr. Muller, we periodically review
your use of the library. These
materials are about board game. I
understand you are working on film
communications.

You can't use the...

(half beat)

We are suspending your library
loan and internet privileges.

MULLER

The book is an auction catalogue.
The librarian approved it.

SUPERVISOR

Operating a business while
incarcerated is strictly
prohibited.

MULLER

It is strictly research related to my master's work.

SUPERVISOR

You damn college boys make me sick. You are a criminal and you don't deserve privileges.

MULLER

I'm sorry you feel that way. But I'm just trying to improve myself.

SUPERVISOR

Well like I said your library and internet privileges are suspended.

MULLER

You can't do that.

The supervisor slams Muller up against the wall.

SUPERVISOR

I run this prison and I can do whatever I want.

MULLER

Okay, Okay. You win.

SUPERVISOR

Win?

The supervisor punches Muller in the gut.

SUPERVISOR

You are thinking about winning?
You pissed that away son.

Calmly Muller takes out a yellow legal pad and writes a letter. He doesn't have an envelope or stamp. The doctor, who has been watching, offers him an envelope and a stamp.

A week passes...

INT. PRISON YARD

The Doubleganger and Muller are at a table. The Doubleganger is practicing signing Tarantino's autograph.

UVAROV

They want to see you in the library.

INT. PRISON LIBRARY

The librarian and the social worker are waiting for him. The librarian hands him the board game memorabilia catalogue.

LIBRARIAN

I want to personally apologize to you. That was wrong to suspend your privileges. From now on it is up to us and your professor what materials you have access to.

MULLER

Well, thanks.

SOCIAL WORKER

The next time something like this happens, ask to see me. You don't have to bother your professor.

MULLER

I didn't think of that, I'm sorry.

SOCIAL WORKER

It's okay.

LIBRARIAN

Well, you are back on your horse now.

SOCIAL WORKER

Listen, there is something of a war going on here.

Muller's stomach is still a bit tender.

MULLER

I noticed.

LIBRARIAN

We want to ask you, "Are you writing a film?"

MULLER

Uh, that depends what your definition of a film is.

SOCIAL WORKER

We need proof. We need a narrative and a success story to get our facilities utilized.

MULLER

And to get your ideology accepted.

LIBRARIAN

Ideology?

MULLER

Rehabilitation.
(half beat)
Sure I understand. Prison politics.

LIBRARIAN

Well, okay. We were thinking of all the prisoners here, you are the one most likely to get it done.

SOCIAL WORKER

We have looked it up and even spoken with the warden. You can write a screenplay in prison but you can't sell it.

MULLER

Hypothetically. Later, I would be able to sell it?

SOCIAL WORKER

Yes. After you are released.

MULLER

And that will make you happy?

SOCIAL WORKER

It should make you happy too.

MULLER

Yes. As a matter of fact it would.

Muller takes a library loan request form and completes it -
Alf, Adams Family, Baretta, Dukes of Hazard.

LIBRARIAN

Vintage board games?

MULLER

Tarantino. Old board games that
relate to old television shows.

LIBRARIAN

He's a collector.

MULLER

They say he's the biggest.

The ladies are happy to learn something new.

EXT. PRISON LIBRARY

Muller exits the library into the yard. The supervisor
gives him a dirty look and signals to him that he is being
watched.

EXT. PRISON YARD

The Doubleganger is taking practice GED test. Muller is
supervising. The entire group is there watching.

Jackson moves to correct a mistake. Muller stops Jackson.

MULLER

No, don't help him. He had to do
it himself.

The Doubleganger takes the clue and goes back and erases an
answer. He recalculates.

Later, Muller grades the test. The Doubleganger scores 71%.

The group have a small celebration when the Doubleganger accomplishes the goal.

INT. TARANTINO MULHOLLAND DRIVE HOME

We see that the real TARANTINO is playing a vintage Gomer Pyle game.

INT. PRISON CELL

Muller, Doubleganger, Jackson, Uvarov and Bartok are playing M*A*S*H.

DOUBLEGANGER

Are you gonna bark all day, li'l doggie, or are you gonna bit?

INT. PRISON COMPUTER LAB

There are three professors on three Skype connections. Off screen, Doctor Bartok is observing. It is Muller's thesis defense.

MULLER

Tarantino saw it coming. Speaking at a University of Southern California event, he said, "There's going to be an implosion overseas where three or four or maybe even a half-dozen mega-budget movies are going to go crashing into the ground, and that's going to change the Hollywood paradigm" - forcing the industry to rethink its reliance on gargantuan spectacles.

PROFESSOR #2

How was Tarantino right?

MULLER

The most high-profile calamity at the box office was the ill-buzzed R.I.P.D., which followed such heavily marketed titles as Pacific

Rim, The Lone Ranger, White House Down, and After Earth in failing to attract its expected foreign audiences.

PROFESSOR #3

How did he know?

MULLER

Politics. The wars I believe. Mr. Tarantino and I both understand that politics influence foreign box office receipts.

(half beat)

In Iraq, there were 112,667 civilian deaths. Here in the US people don't realize. We only were told the number of American soldiers killed. The European, the Russian and the Asian, media they are still responsible for the facts. They have a truer picture of the carnage. And so we aren't so sympathetic overseas.

PROFESSOR #2

What are some other levels of proof you advance in your paper?

MULLER

These two aggressive wars against Muslim countries has harmed the "American" brand.

(beat)

And just think of who still goes to film theatres - the enlightened and the culturally aware. They know the politics and they are less interested in subsidizing the American superpower status. We have worn out our 'film welcome'. Simply put.

FILM PROFESSOR

Okay. Good. Are there other questions?

(half-beat)

Mr. Muller we are going to step out and talk about this.

Later...

FILM PROFESSOR

Congratulations.

(half beat)

If everything goes as expected. You will receive your Master of Arts degree. It will be in the mail to you.

MULLER

Wow. That is terrific.

FILM PROFESSOR

The committee approved your paper.

(half beat)

And I might add, I'm particularly pleased.

MULLER

Wow. I'm blown away.

FILM PROFESSOR

Now let me bring up something new and exciting.

(half beat)

I expect the University to expand their extension degrees and a film communications Ph.D. is on the list.

(half beat)

It might happen.

MULLER

For me?

FILM PROFESSOR

Very possible.

MULLER

Russia. Tarantino films in Russia. They haven't performed as well in Russia.

FILM PROFESSOR
Something of a mystery to solve?

MULLER
It is a puzzle to me.

FILM PROFESSOR
Wonderful. You already have an
area of study. I will take it that
means you are willing to progress
in this direction.
(half beat)
I will let you know what happens.

INT. PRISON MESS HALL - 2005

This scene between Doubleganger, Muller and Uvarov is
entirely in Russian. The two men are eating. Others are
near but they can't understand.

MULLER
Anyone else here speak Russian?

UVAROV
I think only you and I.

DOUBLEGANGER
I do.

MULLER
You do?
(beat)
How?

DOUBLEGANGER
My grandmother.

MULLER
Okay. How lucky can I be?
(half beat)
I will speak plainly.

Long beat. This conversation is in Russian.

MULLER
We are going to make a film in
Russia.

UVAROV

When?

MULLER

The very minute we're released.

UVAROV

Him too.

DOUBLEGANGER

Especially me.

There is a long pause. Uvarov thinks. He's a smart guy but things aren't entirely clear yet. He looks at Muller and then at the Doubleganger, trying to put things together.

UVAROV

A film in Russia?

UVAROV

The two of you?

MULLER

And the doctor.

UVAROV

And you expect big profits?

Muller gestures hope.

UVAROV

And I'm able to join your studio?

MULLER

Yes, of course. I'm telling you about it and you are the key to Russia - Mr. Tarantino's Russian agent.

There is a very long beat. Uvarov is an intelligent man but it takes something near 10 seconds for him to understand.

Uvarov is in awe and momentary disbelief.

Uvarov looks at the Doubleganger from a few different angles. Muller pulls a magazine. Uvarov compares the photo of Tarantino to the Doubleganger.

Uvarov understands and becomes very serious.

UVAROV

I will be happy, but I don't know anything about film. I'm vor, a professional criminal. I really only know about drugs, extortion and prostitution.

MULLER

But you speak well. And don't worry you'll fit right into the business.

UVAROV

Why are you doing this?

MULLER

Income security. Not just for me, but my friends as well.

UVAROV

Income security?

MULLER

Well, we could do some good for ourselves.

UVAROV

But the details surrounding a film are immense.

(beat)

I don't know if I can.

DOUBLEGANGER

Blessed is he who, in the name of charity and good will shepherd the weak through the valley of darkness.

MULLER

It is okay. I know a little something about the film industry.

And we will learn together. You have been magnificent teaching me the Russian language.

UVAROV

I didn't mind.

MULLER

It is a beautiful language.

UVAROV

Yes. It is. The poetry you should soon appreciate.

MULLER

I hope.

UVAROV

What is your film about?

MULLER

I don't know. I have a problem.

UVAROV

I would say 'yes, you do'.

MULLER

But I'm aware of this.

UVAROV

How can you make a movie without a script?

MULLER

We have time.

(half beat)

I just need a hook.

UVAROV

I see your problem. Relations are so strained, the geography and the language.

MULLER

What will interest them?

UVAROV

Russia is a mysterious place for
an outsider.

MULLER

I've been reading Variety and the
Hollywood Reporter for years and
only very rarely does any news of
Russian film trickle in.

UVAROV

But in Russia they know all about
the American films.

MULLER

I'm writing a dissertation for
school. I can't figure it out.
Russians don't so much like
Tarantino.

UVAROV

Maybe it is the violence?

MULLER

No. Can't be. The Bratva.

UVAROV

A product of socialism.

MULLER

Hockey and boxing.

UVAROV

Sports.

MULLER

Nuclear weapons. A huge army.

UVAROV

These things are reluctantly
necessary to the average Russian,
whose soul is peaceful.

Muller frowns in scepticism.

UVAROV

Russia is now a very moral and
Christian country.

MULLER

Communism is over, of course.

UVAROV

And the socialist in the West now
rejects the Russians because they
are too capitalist.

MULLER

Or the language is too difficult.

UVAROV

Some of that is correct. In the
West we are so self absorbed. What
does any foreign film mean to an
American?

MULLER

Nothing.

UVAROV

But also there is the Great
Patriotic War.

MULLER

How is that?

UVAROV

Russia is a grumpy bear. A wounded
bear. We are very defensive.

MULLER

Why?

UVAROV

America lost only 300,000 men.
Soldiers.

MULLER

Only?

UVAROV

The Russians lost 25 million - men
woman and children.

MULLER

Shit.

UVAROV

Yes. It was terrible.

MULLER

The Germans did that?

UVAROV

Every Russian was involved in the
fighting and the Soviet leaders
kept throwing people at the
Germans.

MULLER

Oh. 25 million?

UVAROV

Yes. Russia was so depopulated
after the war they gave mothers a
medal when they had children.

DOUBLEGANGER

My grandmother showed me her
medals.

MULLER

I have it.

UVAROV

What?

MULLER

The hook.

Long beat.

MULLER

The Nazi's discover a time machine
in the Ukraine. And Hitler is
jacking around with it - pushing

buttons. They tell him they don't have the instructions.

UVAROV

They claim not to hate German's but... well of course.

MULLER

Well, Hitler accidentally sends an invasion force to modern day Moscow.

UVAROV

Yeah.

(beat)

What happens?

MULLER

Well, of course, the Russians fight off the invaders. But it isn't easy.

(half beat)

It can be a surprise attack.

UVAROV

It would be a surprise if that happened.

MULLER

And the Muscovites are thrown onto their heels. The German soldiers get down into the Metro system.

UVAROV

And they are working their way toward the Kremlin?

(half beat)

The Russian President is threatened.

MULLER

Yes. The President of Russia is underground and in the Metro system when the attack occurs and must fight himself free.

UVAROV

Something Stalin never did.

MULLER

Yes. Everyone is heroic. And every Russian (computer salesman, street artist and hair stylist) must join in.

UVAROV

Of course the soldiers and police.

MULLER

And the firemen also help.

UVAROV

I like it.

MULLER

And, what if the writer/director is an American - Quentin Tarantino?

Uvarov contemplates.

MULLER

Hundreds of explosions. Tens of thousands of bullets fired.

UVAROV

Gallons of blood.

MULLER

Right, German blood.

UVAROV

There will be protests.

MULLER

Over a little movie violence? I don't see that happening.

UVAROV

No, about the propaganda.

MULLER

Propaganda?

UVAROV

The President of Russia is the
hero you said?

Muller smiles at his diabolical "political" idea.

UVAROV

You will need the support of the
government and the president will
love this film if he looks to be
the hero.

MULLER

You know he does this judo and
firearms thing.

UVAROV

He goes hunting without a shirt.

MULLER

We will find an actor that
resembles him. And it will be a
film but it will be like the
Russian president is killing all
these Nazis.

UVAROV

And in Russia if they like a film
the government subsidizes it. So,
you will have your funding.

The meeting ends well. Everyone seems happy.

INT. PRISON CLASSROOM

The extravert, Doubleganger and Muller take a simple
rhetoric and composition class.

Welcome. This is Rhetoric and
Composition. It's probably your
first college experience. I
realize this isn't the ideal
situation, but that doesn't mean
you can't learn to write well.

This might be interesting.

You are only taking the class so
you have access to the computer.

I have to write a screenplay.

And you have to look over your
interest.

The extrovert knows about the plan? Or is he just guessing?
It's very possible that the extrovert just throwing stuff
out there to see what sticks. He may want to use the
information to join the gang.

INT. PRISON COMPUTER LAB - DAY

The papers the Doubleganger turns in are short and
succinct. Muller proof reads everything his friend turns in
and after a few corrections, gives him the thumbs up.

Muller's screenplay grows.

INT. PRISON CELL - DAY

The doctor and Muller arrive. The mail has arrived and
waits for them in the bunks. On Muller's bed is a large
envelope. It however, looks like it was run through a hay
baler. It is wrinkled and torn.

The supervisor enters.

SUPERVISOR
Everything okay here?
(beat)
You get your mail?

MULLER
Yes.

The supervisor smiles and leaves.

Muller sits and opens the envelope. It contains his
wrinkled diploma.

INT. TARANTINO MANSION - DAY

The real Tarantino is being interviewed by a journalist.

JOURNALIST

Let me ask you about violence. You said, you know, everyone knows you make violent movies, you like violent movies. Why do you like making violent movies?

TARANTINO

Erm... I don't know. It's like asking Judd Apatow: "Why do you like making comedies?"

JOURNALIST

You just get a kick out of it? Or you just enjoy it? Or...

TARANTINO

It's... It's... It's a... I think... I think it's good cinema. I consider it good cinema. You know, it's... You sit there in a movie theatre when these cathartic, violent scenes happen...

(half beat)

Then there's the cathartic violence of Django paying back blood for blood.

JOURNALIST

Really?

TARANTINO

Look, one reason Thomas Edison invented the camera is to show people violence, because it's so good.

(long beat)

I'm serious.

JOURNALIST

Is that why you think people like watching violent movies -- people who are not violent people or twisted people in any way, but why it's OK to go into a movie and enjoy the violence?

TARANTINO

Yeah, well, it's a movie. It's a fantasy. It's a fantasy -- it's not real life. It's a fantasy. You go and you watch. You know, you watch a kung-fu movie and one guy takes on 100 people in a restaurant. That's fun!

JOURNALIST

But why are you so sure that there's no link between enjoying movie violence and enjoying real violence?

TARANTINO

I don't... I'm going to tell you why I'm so sure? Don't ask me a question like that -- I'm not biting. I refuse your question.

JOURNALIST

Why?

TARANTINO

Because I refuse your question. I'm not your slave and you're not my master. You can't make me dance to your tune. I'm not a monkey.

JOURNALIST

I can't make you answer anything. I'm asking you interesting questions.

TARANTINO

And I'm saying... and I'm saying I refuse.

The journalist and cameraman pack up and leave. Harvey Keitel is revealed sitting at Tarantino's bar having an adult beverage.

TARANTINO

Gee I'm sick of repeating the same thing over and over again. It's a

gun control and mental health
issue.

HARVEY KEITEL
Some people, they never learn.

TARANTINO
No they don't. And, the reason is
they don't listen.

INT. PRISON

Muller is using Google images, maps and street view to
cruise through the Moscow subway system.

The librarian enters the computer lab.

LIBRARIAN
Moscow?

She gives Muller a startle. Ordinarily Google maps would be
prohibited.

MULLER
It's the setting.
(half beat)
It's a combat movie. You know like
Saving Private Ryan or Inglorious
Bastards. But even more violent.

LIBRARIAN
Oh. How interesting.
(half beat)
I ironed your diploma. It looks
fairly good up on the wall.

MULLER
Thank you for doing that.

LIBRARIAN
I was only too glad.

MULLER
Russia, the other side of the
planet. No American entertainment
media or very few.
(beat)

It's mostly set in the underground. Filming it shouldn't draw too much media attention.

LIBRARIAN

I thought filmmakers want the press.

MULLER

Not until I'm finished.

LIBRARIAN

Interesting. Good luck.

EXT. PRISON YARD

Muller and an inmate ARTIST are working on a storyboard. Muller brings him soups from the commissary as payment. We see the artist draw the background (rough) and then fills in a detailed foreground - contemporary Muscovites tripping, choking, pummeling and shooting Nazi soldiers.

MULLER

Blood.

(half beat)

More blood. Draw some blood spatter on the wall behind that guy.

The artist draws blood spatter and bullets flying.

Muller looks at the storyboard pages and then hand them to the Doubleganger for his opinion. Basically, they are planning every scene in the film.

The supervisor and a guard are watching all this from a distance. The supervisor whispers something to a clearly extroverted inmate and the crazy inmate now is interested in Muller's activities.

The extroverted guy moves off.

The extroverted inmate meanders over and sits next to the artist and watches the drawing.

GUARD

Movie? What Movie?

SUPERVISOR

Those pussies aren't planning a movie. Those two are about the stupidest inmates we have. Dumb asses.

TIME LAPSE PHOTOGRAPHY

In Doubleganger's prison cell, on a desk, the stack of papers - script and storyboard grows. Most of the story board is up on the walls.

END TIME LAPSE PHOTOGRAPHY

BARTOK

You have a problem.

MULLER

What?

BARTOK

How will you handle the money?

MULLER

If you are going to do this..

MULLER

Oh, I agree. We are going to do this right.

BARTOK

We?

MULLER

So I'm not 'really' a criminal but it seems to me that if someone tells you about a scam, it's not the same as an invitation?

(half beat)

What you don't want in?

BARTOK

Sure, I do.

MULLER

Right, it's common sense.

BARTOK

Buon senso.

Beat.

MULLER

You Italian?

BARTOK

You notice that we're always the first people to eat. It's part of a compromise I worked out with the skinheads. Under this compromise, I'm allowed to sit at the whites' tables, but only after the "heads," and then the "woods," and then the "lames" have eaten. I'm (Jews are) lowest on the totem pole.

MULLER

Gee, I didn't notice. I've been here 10 years. You're Jewish? I thought you just didn't like standing in line.

BARTOK

It's a bit more complicated than that.

MULLER

It's more complicated here than on the outside.

BARTOK

Eating with another race is strictly forbidden, right? Violating this rule leads to harsh consequences. If you eat at the same table as another race, you'll get beaten down. If you eat from the same tray as another race, you'll be put in the hospital. And if you eat from the same food item as another race, that is, after

another race has already taken a bite of it, you can get killed.

(half beat)

Jews, as we all know, are not white but impostors who don white skin and hide inside it for the purpose of polluting and taking over the white race.

MULLER

I'm not going to get stabbed over this, am I?

BARTOK

Probably not. The skinheads simply can't allow me to eat with them: that would make them traitors of the worst kind - race traitors!

(half beat)

I can sit at certain white tables after all the "skins" have finished eating. In exchange, I work as a doctor. I must do free medical work as directed by the heads. The prison doctor is a Cuban émigré. They hate him and doctors, even Jewish doctors, are hard to come by in prison).

(half beat)

I have to remit to them the fees "they" collect from everyone else I help.

(half beat)

This compromise was brokered by the more "mainstream" Nazis on the yard, the Aryan Brotherhood. They became involved because when I first got here, one of the first knifings that I saw almost resulted in the guys death. Well I got the bleeding stopped and their member lived. This gave me instant credibility: even if a "hands-off-the-Jew" policy could not be established, a "hands-off-the-Jewish-doctor" policy could.

MULLER

So, if you will teach me what I need to know, they don't need to know.

BARTOK

Exactly.

INT. PRISON CELL - NIGHT

BARTOK

What are you reading?

MULLER

Story plot. Camera angles. Lighting. Marketing.

BARTOK

You are serious about this?

MULLER

The quiet guy that likes bread.

BARTOK

Jackson?

MULLER

Yea.

BARTOK

Trustworthy?
(half beat)
I don't know really.

MULLER

He says he can hack into Tarantino's email.

BARTOK

From here?

MULLER

He says he can.

Later...

INT. PRISON MESS HALL

Jackson is a computer hacker; working on a degree, he has access to the computer lab.

JACKSON

There is an email about the "unsolicited material" - 89 automatic rejections yesterday. He has some policy to reject everything that comes into their office.

MULLER

Okay. I know. That's his office. He pays people to reject ideas.
(beat)
What about his personal email? You said you could...

JACKSON

He emailed an Ennio Morricone.

Bartok looks curious.

MULLER

Composer.

MULLER

What about?

JACKSON

Something about an apology.

MULLER

The tabloids have been screwing with them. What else?

JACKSON

Real estate agent. He turned down six million. Wants eight.

MULLER

You seen that place?

JACKSON

I google imaged it.

Bartok looks curious.

MULLER

Off Mulholland Drive. It is sweet.

JACKSON

His wife is having a baby. Samuel L. Jackson, Uma Thurman, Tim Roth and Zoë Bell.

Bartok looks curious.

MULLER

Uma Thurman is his muse.

JACKSON

And it appears they called too.

Beat. Muller contemplates. He can't figure it out. Muller is puzzled.

JACKSON

It was his birthday yesterday.

MULLER

(angry)

God, I'm dumb. I'm fucking locked up in here. How the fuck am I supposed to keep up with stuff?

Beat.

JACKSON

He took Courtney Hoffman, a fairly talented costume designer, to the New Beverly Cinema. She she's a friend of his wife and she didn't want to go.

MULLER

What from his agent?

JACKSON

A gift. UPS delivered just after noon. An encyclopaedia of Soviet films off Amazon.

MULLER

See, he IS interested in Russia.

JACKSON

Dude, the man is a film
encyclopaedia. They say
photographic memory of every film
ever made.

EXT. PRISON LIBRARY - DAY

The Doubleganger checks out "1001 Films to See Before You Die." He

EXT. YARD - DAY

Uvarov, Muller, Jackson and Bartok are walking around the track. Uvarov is calling out the film term in English and Muller and the Doubleganger are responding in Russian. The Doubleganger has his head in an encyclopedia of films and is still responding better than Muller. So long as it is in the Russian language, the Doubleganger is passing Muller in his knowledge of film.

Each time Uvarov calls out a term, the Doubleganger answers first the Muller is late answering.

UVAROV

I need more light.

DOUBLEGANGER

(in Russian)

I need more light.

UVAROV

I need less light.

DOUBLEGANGER

(in Russian)

I need less light.

UVAROV

Can I change the direction of the
light?

DOUBLEGANGER
(in Russian)
Can I change the direction of the
light?

UVAROV
Geographic comedy.

DOUBLEGANGER
(in Russian)
Geographic comedy.

UVAROV
More light.

DOUBLEGANGER
(in Russian)
More light.

UVAROV
Move that camera here.

DOUBLEGANGER
(in Russian)
Move that camera here.

UVAROV
Jump Cut

DOUBLEGANGER
(in Russian)
Jump Cut

UVAROV
L Cut

DOUBLEGANGER
(in Russian)
L Cut

UVAROV
J Cut

DOUBLEGANGER
(in Russian)
J Cut

UVAROV

Cut on Action

DOUBLEGANGER

(in Russian)

Cut on Action

UVAROV

Montage

DOUBLEGANGER

(in Russian)

Montage

UVAROV

I hope you enjoy our film.

DOUBLEGANGER

(in Russian)

I hope you enjoy our film.

UVAROV

(in Russian)

What is your birthday?

DOUBLEGANGER

(in Russian)

December 18, 1946.

UVAROV

(in Russian)

What is your social security
number?

They all pause and look at Muller. Muller doesn't have an answer. Eventually they will all turn and look at Jackson.

Jackson understands that it will be his job to gather this sort of information.

MULLER

Houses he's owned.

UVAROV

(in Russian)

In Russian please.

MULLER
(in Russian)
Houses he's owned.

BARTOK
From even when he was a kid.
(half beat)
Geneology/Family tree.

MULLER
Automobiles

JACKSON
He drives a Aston Martin DB9
Volante.

BARTOK
Birthdays of children.

UVAROV
(in Russian)
Birthdays of wife.

MULLER
(in English)
Birthdays of wife.

BARTOK
Anniversaries.

UVAROV
Staff at that big ass house.

JACKSON
Birthdays?

MULLER
No. Just their names.

BARTOK
Employees.

UVAROV
His kids spouses?

MULLER

His kid is like in elementary school.

JACKSON

Names of his kids teachers?

Jackson takes out a piece of paper.

BARTOK

No. Don't write anything. Just when you learn something, tell him and he can remember it.

MULLER

Nothing is written but the script and the storyboard.

INT. PRISON CELL - NIGHT

DOUBLEGANGER'S DREAM SEQUENCE

The Doubleganger dreams in the Russian language. They fly to Moscow, start making the film and are promptly arrested.

MULLER'S DREAM SEQUENCE

It is 1930s in the Moscow Metro. The people are milling about. The conversations are in Russian.

In the metro we see is an official portrait of Lenin, he is particularly a saintly figure.

In the dream we see a contemporary HOMELESS WOMAN speaks with another poor but WORKING CLASS WOMAN.

HOMELESS WOMAN

You know I met Lenin in the street yesterday.

WORKING WOMAN

And what did you say?

HOMELESS WOMAN

I said, 'Grandpa Lenin, please give me a piece of bread.'

WORKING WOMAN

And what did he say?

HOMELESS WOMAN

He just looked at me and gave me
the finger. But his eyes were so
kind..

Suddenly Nazi soldiers from the 1940s upset the dream. They
are shouting and shooting up the place. Modern Russian
interior police return fire and the Nazi soldiers disappear
into the tunnel.

INTERIOR SOLDIER #1

Who is to blame?

INTERIOR SOLDIER #2

What is to be done?

INTERIOR SOLDIER #3

Where to begin?

The modern Russian interior ministry soldiers give chase.

Muller chases after them but lags behind. Suddenly a Nazi
jumps out of the dark, confronts him and pulls the trigger
on his gun.

DREAM SEQUENCE ENDS

Muller awakes startled.

MULLER

Fuck!

BARTOK

A dream, friend.

MULLER

It was in Russian.

BARTOK

All of it?

MULLER

Yeah.

BARTOK

That is a sign you are ready.

MULLER

One problem; seven more years.

INT. MESS HALL - 2008

MULLER

The plan is done. There isn't anything left to plan.

BARTOK

Perhaps everyone is tired of the planning.

The group is relaxed and confident. They eat and don't talk about the con (Tarantino). The extrovert cruises by the table. He is going from table to table telling this joke.

EXTROVERT

Recently, a female sheriff's deputy arrested this guy, a 22 year old white male, who was fucking this pumpkin in the middle of a field at night. The suspect explained that he was passing a pumpkin patch on his way home from a local bar when he decided to stop. In the process of doing the deed, Lawrence failed to notice an approaching sheriff's car and was unaware of his audience until Deputy Brenda Taylor approached him. she said: 'Excuse me sir, but do you realize that you're having sex with a pumpkin?' He froze and was clearly very surprised that the deputy was there, and then he looked right straight into her face and said: "A pumpkin? Shit ... is it midnight already?"

The group roars in laughter. The other black and brown tables don't laugh so much. In fact, they look jealous the white guys have such a storyteller.

EXT. THE PRISON YARD - DAY

The Muller group is walking around the track.

We see the supervisor give "the nod" to the extroverted inmate, who begins to follow them around the track.

JACKSON

I just looked inside the pentagon computer system. Didn't do a damn, thing.

BARTOK

They went ape-shit?

JACKSON

Yep. Tried to seize my mom's house.

BARTOK

Uvarov, what did you do anyway.

UVAROV

I bought oil from our "enemy".

BARTOK

In violation of the economic sanctions?

MULLER

That's a bunch of bullshit.

BARTOK

Whatever happened to liase fair?

MULLER

I thought things are supposed to be between the buyer and the seller.

BARTOK

I love that word "supposed", it means absolutely nothing.

JACKSON

What?

BARTOK

Name one thing that "is" sold now days between the buyer and the seller. The government injects itself into everything.

UVAROV

It's not a free country here anymore. People have more liberty in Russia, who used to be communist.

BARTOK

Prisons are full of libertarians.

JACKSON

If they let us all out, that would be the end of them. Politically.

BARTOK

Best thing we can hope to do is bankrupt them. If they want to make everything against the law well then they can just pay for prisons.

JACKSON

Good idea. We'll just bankrupt those mother fuckers.

Long beat. Everyone contemplates.

UVAROV

Assholes, they will just print more money.

JACKSON

Damn, I thought we were on to something.

MULLER

I remember a Coach Williams. A football coach, red hair, crew cut. He was my history teacher.

(half beat)

He said someday everything will be against the law.

JACKSON

That's true; half the people are in here cause when everything is against the law it boils down to if you are liked.

MULLER

And he said one day Russia would be free and we would be slaves of the government.

(half beat)

And you will never get rich working for someone else.

(half beat)

Now, Bartok I clearly broke the law. A bank. But do you guys deserve to be in here?

BARTOK

I broke the law.

MULLER

Medicare isn't a legitimate function of government. Without socialism, to tempt you, you would still be a doctor.

BARTOK

That's an odd way of rationalizing it.

The extroverted inmate closes the distance.

EXTROVERT

I was smuggling puppies.

The group stops and turns. They are a bit peeved the inmate was eavesdropping.

EXTROVERT

Does that count?

BARTOK

Why did you do that?

EXTROVERT

Government. They've harassed all
the dog breeders out of business.

They begin to walk again.

EXTROVERT

So I'm in your group here?

JACKSON

Probably not.

BARTOK

Well, he might have a point.
Supply and demand. The government
killed the supply by making
breeding dogs illegal. But people
still wanted nice quality dogs.

EXTROVERT

And those rescues. At the
beginning well they were sick or
psycho.

(half beat)

If you wanted a nice healthy dog
you had to come to me.

(half beat)

But when the rescue people got the
idea they could get the government
to steal pure breed dogs from
breeders and hand them over
(without a trial), well then there
was some real competition.

BARTOK

How did you do it?

EXTROVERT

I put them on airplanes.

JACKSON

Any of them die?

EXTROVERT

Not a one. But honestly on the
ground some died. Life ain't no
sure thing.

UVAROV

In 1963, the socialists in the Soviet Union they executed two young men for smuggling blue jeans... So you are lucky.

BARTOK

How many years you get?

EXTROVERT

Ten years.

JACKSON

I bet you made a ton of money.

EXTROVERT

Hell yea, I did. When I started the price of a purebred puppy was \$300 and then \$500 and \$800. The last price I was getting was \$1200.

JACKSON

Gee. So all the government did was drive up the price.

EXTROVERT

Pretty much.

BARTOK

Government take your money?

EXTROVERT

Hell yea. My cash, my house, my van, bank accounts. They stole everything.

MULLER

The government seizes more property than thieves.

BARTOK

If you ask me, giving cops the power to take your stuff and then not even charge you with a crime that is wrong.

JACKSON

People think because they wear a uniform and look all official they are honest. They are criminals too... just one step up from us. A little better junior college education, but still just criminals.

DOUBLEGANGER

I'm about to graduate junior college.

EXT. TARANTINO'S MANSION - DAY

ACHMED, the terrorist, is driving up and down Mulholland Drive. He takes note of the security around Tarantino's home.

Later...

EXT. PRISON YARD - 2008

Muller, Bartok, Jackson and Uvarov frequent the same table in the yard. They are playing a board game - Mork and Mindy.

BARTOK

The plan is coming into shape?

MULLER

Damn right. I'm doing it. We are doing it, right guys?

UVAROV

I need to get out of here and paid.

JACKSON

Me too.

MULLER

Everybody needs a big check.

FLASHBACK

The extroverted inmate has been skirting their conversations for the last year. Walking slightly behind them, or sitting just near enough to them to hear parts of the plan.

END FLASHBACK

The extroverted inmate, turned snitch, joins them at the table.

EXTROVERT

You guys going to rob Tarantino?

MULLER

No, why?

EXTROVERT

Rich bastard, you should rob him.

MULLER

We aren't robbing anyone.

EXTROVERT

Come on, you can't bullshit a bullshitter.

MULLER

We are just hanging out. Nothing to do but time.

EXTROVERT

You been stalking Tarantino.

JACKSON

No.

MULLER

I wrote a paper on him.

(half beat)

About to write another one.

EXTROVERT

You are going to knock him over the head and take his money. You four are badass criminals. I like that. But, I hate being lied to.

BARTOK

Really, you think we are capable
of something like that? He must
have an army of security.

EXTROVERT

See! You been looking into that.
(half beat)
Fuckers, I got ears.

JACKSON

Huge, funny ears.

The extroverted inmate pulls a shiv and in a flash attacks Jackson's neck. Jackson dodges the thrust, but the shiv cuts the Doubleganger in the face. The Doubleganger receives a serious laceration to the face.

Jackson takes the shiv away from the extroverted inmate and beats him fairly well. Eventually the guards come and wrestle them apart.

The doctor immediately pinches the wound closed and takes Muller to the cell. Bartok nods his head to a certain SKINHEAD, who controls the medical monopoly.

BARTOK

You might want this looked at in
the clinic.
(half-beat)
You need stitches. The sooner the
better.

MULLER

How long will it take them to do
that?

BARTOK

It's Sunday there isn't a doctor
here. They would have to call him.
He might not even want to come in.

MULLER

Just do it yourself then.

BARTOK

We don't want it to scar. Cuts that are spread apart for too long generally scar.

MULLER

But we pinched it off pretty fast. Huh?

BARTOK

Maybe.

MULLER

Just do the best you can, doc.

A SKINHEAD brings a (contraband) stolen medical kit, and holds up five fingers. Bartok agrees. It isn't much more than a first aid kit. However it does have surgical suture, gauze, peroxide and soap.

The skinhead also hands him two pills, we can assume are pain-killers. Bartok immediately gives both pills to the Doubleganger who ingests them.

The doctor takes out a condom and urinates in it. Ties it off and hands it to the skinhead. Bartok then drinks a glass of water. He drinks a second glass.

The doctor washes his hands with anti-bacterial soap from the first aid kit. Everything needed to dress a wound is there and was clearly stolen from the clinic.

Bartok cleans the wound and the skin around the wound. Bartok threads the needle and is about to begin.

BARTOK

It's going to hurt.

DOUBLEGANGER

Of course, it will.

BARTOK

Ready?

A few minutes pass and the Doubleganger is feeling the pain killers.

DOUBLEGANGER

I'm a little buzzed? What were those pills?

Still, Doubleganger winces in pain and the doctor stitches him up.

BARTOK

The key seems to be not to suture it too tight. Not too tight and not too loose.

MULLER

What are the odds?

BARTOK

Of a scar?

(beat)

Well, it will scar; the question is how bad. Noticeable or hardly noticeable.

MULLER

I see.

BARTOK

(to the Doubleganger)

Keep it moist. I will get some antibiotic cream.

(half beat)

Massage it every two or three hours.

Later when in Russia, the Doubleganger will still be massaging the wound out of habit. Nervous habit.

BARTOK

Avoid the sun.

(half beat)

And be patient.

DOUBLEGANGER

Patient?

BARTOK

That is pretty funny.

MULLER
He is a patient.

Uvarov looks into the cell for an answer. Will their Tarantino/Russia heist be possible? Muller doesn't say, but Bartok shakes his head and shows his pessimism.

The skinhead arrives for the medical kit. Bartok takes another condom and fills it.

BARTOK
(to Uvarov)
You don't use do you?

Uvarov shakes his head, no.

BARTOK
Here piss in that for me.

Bartok hands him a condom and Uvarov urinates in the condom.

BARTOK
Drink some water. This is going to cost us plenty.

INT. MESS HALL

Everyone, minus Jackson, is sitting at a mess table. The Doubleganger has a gauze patch over the wound.

The skinhead puts triple antibiotic gel on the table. Burtok hands him his food tray.

SKINHEAD
You didn't touch this did you?

BARTOK
No.

The skinhead leaves.

DOUBLEGANGER
You gave up your dinner?

BARTOK

Yep.

Muller slides his tray over in front of Bartok.

UVAROV

For how long?

BARTOK

Dinner for week.

(beat)

Dinner and a movie.

Beat.

BARTOK

(to Muller)

They want you to check out
"American History X" from the
library.

MULLER

What? I guarantee they (every one
of them) they've seen that.
Probably 5 times or more.

Beat.

DOUBLEGANGER

What about "Dog Years"? "Russia
88"?

The doctor looks at the skinheads. We are fairly sure
Bartok has already negotiated the deal. Bartok looks at the
skin head's table. They stare back.

DOUBLEGANGER

What about "This Is England",
"Romper Stomper", "Made in
Britain"?

Bartok gives no response to the Doubleganger.

MULLER

They want that particular movie?
The movie they've already seen?

The ending doesn't change every
time it's shown.

Bartok gives no response to Muller.

MULLER
Will I get it back?

Bartok looks over at the skinheads.

BARTOK
Probably not.

MULLER
They can watch it in the computer
lab with me then? Three or four at
a time.

BARTOK
Now that is negotiable. It might
work.

INT. PRISON CELL

DOUBLEGANGER
I wonder what Tarantino is doing
today?

BARTOK
Jackson will be out of the hole in
three more weeks.

DOUBLEGANGER
Just as well, this is not going to
happen.
(half beat)
I'm scarred.

BARTOK
Maybe not. Stay out of the sun and
keep massaging it.

DOUBLEGANGER
I don't think this is going to
happen. I'm sorry.

BARTOK

Well, don't give up just yet.

MULLER

Researching and planning, 10 years
of work, ruined.

BARTOK

Maybe not. I still like it.

MULLER

Please be real. The scar.

Beat.

MULLER

You three guys. What are you going
to do when you are 70?

(half beat)

No pension. No money.

BARTOK

You are in that same boat with us.

MULLER

I know it.

(half beat)

I just want to live by the ocean.

(beat)

In a trailer.

BARTOK

What?

MULLER

A tiny little trailer with a view.

BARTOK

How much?

MULLER

This trailer park I found online.
They get \$55 per night.

BARTOK

Probably \$75 by the time I get
out.

MULLER

But if I live there...
(half beat)
Well that is the plan.

BARTOK

I thought the plan was...

MULLER

You three will be out in the next
two years and I have five more.
(half beat)
It's just not going to work.

BARTOK

Time for good behavior.

MULLER

How does that work anyway?

BARTOK

You should be out in 3 years and 3
months.

MULLER

Funny I never even calculated fore
that. I just want one of those
tiny travel trailers and a view of
the Pacific.

BARTOK

Okay. Sounds like a plan.

MULLER

And the plan for now is scuttled.

Muller's expression is something near depression.

INT. LIBRARY - 2009

Muller picks up some books and DVDs. History of Soviet
Film. Russian Box-Office Records and The Life of Sergei M.
Eisenstein. Burnt by the Sun, Leviathan, Russian Ark.

INT. RESTAURANT - LOS ANGELES

Tarantino and his wife are eating. Achmed the terrorist receives a text, "Kill Tarantino". He is about to shoot him right there in front of his wife and infant kid. He maybe will shot her as well. But a group of policeman enter and sit right next to the director and family.

And Achmed is a coward. He leaves the restaurant.

INT. COMPUTER LAB - 2010

Muller dials his film professor via Skyp. It simply goes unanswered.

Time passes...

Muller dials his film professor via Skyp. It simply goes unanswered.

Time passes...

Muller dials his film professor via Skyp. Finally a SECRETARY or clerk answers. In the background we see the professor's office. The secretary seems to be boxing things up.

SECRETARY

Can I help you?

MULLER

Professor Dobrygin, please.

SECRETARY

You are a student?

MULLER

He was my Master's degree advisor.
I want to sign up for the adjunct
Ph.D. program.

SECRETARY

Well, I'm afraid I have some bad
news. Professor Dobrygin passed
away.

MULLER

Oh?

SECRETARY

He had a heart attack. I'm sorry
to say.

Long beat.

MULLER

What about the Ph.D. program?

SECRETARY

I'm afraid he was the only one
advocating it and I'm guessing
that it will not be established.

(half beat)

I'm sorry.

MULLER

I understand.

(half beat)

His wife and family, please convey
to them my condolences.

INT. MESS HALL - 2010

They are all (Muller, Uvarov, Jackson and Bartok) eating
their food. There are others there at the table also. There
is very little or no talk. Everyone is depressed. They
occasionally look up at the Doubleganger's scar.

JACKSON

Too bad it's not lower were a
beard would cover it up.

BARTOK

Jackson.

(half beat)

Don't even bring it up.

JACKSON

Well, I'm just saying.

EXT. STREETS OF LOS ANGELES

Tarantino is hot-rodding about Los Angeles in his Aston-Martin. Achmed the terrorist pulls up next to him and points a weapon at Tarantino. Tarantino isn't aware, but out of the blue he hangs a right and escapes. Achmed wrecks his car looking back at the Aston-Martin. Face bloodied and mangled.

INT. MESS HALL - 2011

They (Muller, Jackson and Bartok) are eating their food. Uvarov has been released; we can assume. There are others there at the table also. There is very little or no talk. Everyone is still depressed.

INT. MESS HALL - 2011.5

They (Muller and Bartok) are eating their food. Jackson has now been released; we can assume. There are others there at the table also. There is very little or no talk.

INT. COMPUTER LAB - 2012

Many of the skinheads are all enrolled in a class and are using the internet. They enter the lab.

SKINHEAD

What's up Tarantino?

The Doubleganger respectfully nods to them. We can assume he or Muller is the one that he persuaded them to study film.

DOUBLEGANGER

What are you watching today?

SKINHEAD

Gone with the Wind.

DOUBLEGANGER

That beats the fuck out of television, huh!

SKINHEAD

That's what the professor said.

DOUBLEGANGER

Well good.

The Doubleganger is depressed.

The Doubleganger watches Russian language cartoons for children.

EXT. PRISON - 2013

Muller is released. An incredibly old couple is waiting for him. His former prison buddies are absent.

INT. BANK - DAY

Muller visits the bank where his money was deposited.

MULLER

9387-0309

The now older female clerk checks her computer.

CLERK

Oh, I remember you. You were a young student and working as a security guard for a chain of theaters.

MULLER

You have an amazing memory and you are still working here?

CLERK

Oh, this is a dormant account.

Beat. Muller looks near panic.

CLERK

Normally we close accounts like this. But this was/is a business account.

MULLER

Well, I own the theaters now and there was a mix up back in 2000-2001 and first they forgot about

the account and then I forgot about it.

CLERK

I'm afraid we have been charging you a dormant fee.

Again, Muller looks near panic.

MULLER

Oh. How much is that?

CLERK

Last month it was about \$7.00.

MULLER

Oh, that's not too bad. What is the balance?

The clerk hands him a piece of paper - \$84,395

MULLER

Oh. That much. That's wonderful.

CLERK

Interest earned.

MULLER

I guess I just need access to the money.

(half beat)

We are expanding.

CLERK

Oh, sure. Checks or debit card.

Beat.

MULLER

Checks.

CLERK

Are you sure you don't want a debit card?

MULLER

Uh...

CLERK

You can have it today. We make them right here.

MULLER

Okay. Sure.

CLERK

You know I remember you being nervous around me 20 years ago. I could tell you liked me. And here you are today, still nervous.

MULLER

I should have well... you know... gotten to know you better.

CLERK

It's never too late.

MULLER

I know. I've just been out of circulation you know.

CLERK

I understand. Me too.

The clerk hands Muller some papers.

CLERK

Well, just fill this out, we will update your information and then you will have your money.

INT/EXT. SKID ROW - LOS ANGELES - 2014

MONTAGE "THE FORMER INMATE BLUES"

Bartok is working as office manager for a Beverly Hills plastic surgeon. Bartok is allowed to observe the outpatient surgery. We see him stealing material. Antibiotic drugs and suture materials. And later we see him helping the homeless man on Skid Row. We see Bartok's apartment and car and he is clearly underpaid.

Uvarov is living in homeless shelters. He is gambling for shoes and socks on the street. He wins a nice new shirt (still in the package), which was obviously shop lifted. He gets in line at a soup kitchen.

Jackson is doing computer gigs on fiverr.com, but his Skid Row apartment is very shabby. No internet. Jackson goes to McDonalds to use their free wifi. He has a crappy old laptop. The other patrons have nice new computers. He works there all day and takes advantage of the soda refills.

END MONTAGE

INT. TRAVEL TRAILER PARK - PACIFIC PALISADES - 2015

Muller has a tiny trailer, and the exact view of the ocean that he said that he wanted. He works there at the park. The management has a golf cart. Muller visits each trailer in the park and picks up their garbage each morning. A dog has scattered one trash bag's contents. Muller picks it up and takes everything to a dumpster.

Muller then returns to his laptop and view of the ocean.

INT. PRODUCERS OFFICE

Producer gets up and is very cordial but we get the idea he has only agreed to the meeting out of morbid curiosity.

PRODUCER

Hey, how are you?

MULLER

Good to see you.

PRODUCER

I remember you from film school.

MULLER

And that trouble.

PRODUCER

Well yes. Of course that was big news.

MULLER

What you never financed a film
with bank loot?

PRODUCER

(chuckles a bit)
No, but I will give you credit for
the novelty.

MULLER

Well, I have a script.

PRODUCER

Don't tell me... a prison drama.
(beat)
I'm sorry. That was insensitive.

MULLER

I don't care.

PRODUCER

Will I like it?

MULLER

Of course.

PRODUCER

I get a lot of scripts, these
days.

The producer gestures to a stack of twenty or more on a
table behind him.

PRODUCER

I will tell you what. As a
courtesy, we'll have a look. I
need to let my girl read it first.

MULLER

Great.

PRODUCER

And I can't tell you when we will
be done evaluating it.

MULLER

Take your time. Just let me know.

The producer calls a GIRL into his office by intercom. She is young and attractive. He hands the girl Muller's script. She smiles.

PRODUCER

A prison drama.

GIRL

The next Shawshank Redemption?

MULLER

It could be commercial.

PRODUCER

It better be.

MULLER

It's different. But you'll like it.

GIRL

Great.

Muller and the producer remain in the office.

The camera follows the girl and the script to her office. Her office has more than 500 scripts resting on the floor and (stacked 20 high) on large tables.

We get the idea it will be years (or never) before the script is read.

INT. TRAVEL TRAILER PARK - PACIFIC PALISADES

Muller sits and types into his laptop. He watches the ocean. He is miserable. The manager comes by and points to a dumpster at the other end of the park. Someone has pitched a plastic bag and missed. It is on the ground. Muller gets up, uses the golf cart to go solve the trash problem.

INT/EXT. SKID ROW - LOS ANGELES

Uvarov, Jackson and Bartok go about their routine activities, but accidentally meet each other on the street.

For Lunch, they go to the McDonalds. The Doubleganger is in the parking lot using a pressure washer to clean the asphalt.

Doubleganger takes a break from his work and Bartok buys them all something off the dollar menu. We can see them from the manager's POV. They sit and exchange basic information, but soon they have nothing more to say. They simply sit.

INT. TRAVEL TRAILER PARK - PACIFIC PALISADES - 2016

Doubleganger, Bartok, Uvarov and Jackson come to Muller's trailer. Bartok has a crappy \$2500 car. Everyone have been depressed and three are without money. The trailer is too small to accommodate five men. They stand around outside the trailer for a time, laughing and joking. Muller uses his cell phone now.

About dinnertime, they greet a pizza delivery man. They take the pizza to a picnic table.

Time passes...

INT. PICNIC TABLE - PACIFIC PALISADES

BARTOK

The scar can be dealt with. You will not believe in the progress medical science has made in the last 10 years.

JACKSON

Right, we put a scar on the real Tarantino.

BARTOK

No. No.

MULLER

Far too much risk.

UVAROV

Fairly cruel too.

JACKSON

Fuck that.

(half beat)
We will knock him out before we
cut him.

MULLER
No. No.

JACKSON
I'll do it.

MULLER
We will get arrested before we
even get to Russia.

BARTOK
Listen, Dr. Chow in Beverly Hills.
Plastic surgeon. He can fix that
scar. \$5,800.

JACKSON
Shit.

UVAROV
That's \$5,800, we don't have.

MULLER
No, let's do that.

BARTOK
I'm thinking there will be a big
discount as I'm his office
manager.

INT. DR. CHOW'S OFFICE - BEVERLY HILLS

Bartok checks Muller into the office. Bartok pretends to
swipe the card. He produces a receipt (from a previous
client) and staples it to the Doubleganger's paperwork.

BARTOK
Now, lets get you ready.

Time passes and DR CHOW is standing over the Doubleganger
who is on a table.

CHOW
(Chinese accent)

Mr. Tarantino.

(beat)

I see. Quentin, you don't want to use your real name here? But there isn't any shame in having a procedure like this and your privacy is entirely secure. There isn't any risk. Our patients enjoy the best of level of secrecy.

MULLER

Thank you doctor. I have all the confidence in your office.

After the procedure...

BARTOK

How did it go?

CHOW

Very good. It will be hardly visible. Have him come back in a week.

Time passes...

INT. BARTOK APARTMENT

Jackson goes to live with Bartok. Jackson works on computer hacking and investigation of Tarantino. He also hacks into various Russian producers.

INT. MULLER'S TRAILER

Uvarov lives with Muller at the beach. They have animated conversations in Russian.

INT. DR. CHOW'S OFFICE - BEVERLY HILLS

Dr. Chow takes the bandage off Muller's face. Chow is pleased with his work.

INT. MULLER'S TRAILER

Each evening Jackson and Bartok bring a stack of printed emails. They read and discuss the content. They drink beer

and eat pizza at the picnic table each night. Afterwards they shred the emails and throw them in the trash.

Time passes...

INT. BAR - PACIFIC PALISADES - 2017

TINA VASILIEV, a beautiful actress is in the bar. Perhaps a bit drunk.

She spots the Doubleganger across the room and think he is Tarantino. the Doubleganger is walking away from her. She makes a bee-line for him.

TINA

Quentin.

(beat)

Quentin.

(beat)

Quentin Tarantino!

The Doubleganger doesn't turn. She pinches the Doubleganger on the ass.

TINA

(slight Russian accent)

Act like you don't know me?

(beat)

Quentin, why are you here?

DOUBLEGANGER

Looking for you, I guess.

TINA

You looking for a distraction?

DOUBLEGANGER

All work and no play makes...

TINA

I've tried to distract you from your work before... and well...

DOUBLEGANGER

Well that was a while back wasn't it?

TINA

You could have had me. How do you men say, on a silver platter?

Muller is at a lost for words.

DOUBLEGANGER

When was that?

TINA

Don't worry. For you, I'm always game.

DOUBLEGANGER

Lucky me.

TINA

Why is that?

DOUBLEGANGER

Well look at you.

TINA

Same girl you could have had last year and the year before that.

(half beat)

You changed your mind yet?

DOUBLEGANGER

I was clearly an idiot.

Tina lays a wickedly long kiss on Muller.

TINA

Well, let's get out of here.

DOUBLEGANGER

I have to see some guys about a film... can you get us a cab?

At a table with Muller, Bartok, Uvanov and Jackson.

MULLER

What is her name?

(half beat)

She thinks I'm Tarantino.

Bartok signals to Uvarov.

Uvarov leaves the table and questions the bartender.

BARTOK

Let her go.

MULLER

You might not be ready to play
Tarantino.

JACKSON

It's a good test, a nice tight
test.

BARTOK

Still the risk.

DOUBLEGANGER

Are you nuts, I've been in prison
for 17 years.

Uvarov returns from speaking with the bartender.

UVAROV

Tina Vasiliev. Russian actress.

Jackson has his smartphone out and has looked it
up on IMDB.com

BARTOK

Go back to your wife and kids.

DOUBLEGANGER

What wife and kids?

JACKSON

Inglourious Basterds. Six
television appearances since
then. Three before.

DOUBLEGANGER

Got it.

(half beat)

Say her name again?

UVAROV
Tina Vasiliev.

Muller returns to Tina, who has been watching them from near the door.

Muller hands the Doubleganger the keys to his trailer.

INT. BAR - PACIFIC PALISADES - 2017

As Tina and the Doubleganger are getting into a taxi, the paparazzi show up and snap a photo. It's not a good photos but the tabloids will pay for it and run it probably on the front page, considering the real Tarantino his wife is pregnant.

Uvarov is on it and being a mafioso, jumps right on it. Tricks the paparazzi into taking a bribe for the photo. As they move out of sight to the side of the bar, Uvarov beats the paparazzi and takes his camera.

INT. TAXI PACIFIC PALISADES - NIGHT

DOUBLEGANGER
Tina. Hotel or my trailer.

TINA
Trailer?

DOUBLEGANGER
It's very small.

TINA
Really.

DOUBLEGANGER
My getaway. No distractions.

TINA
I didn't know you "got away".

DOUBLEGANGER
About five minutes away. Private.

TINA
That's okay.

DOUBLEGANGER

When we wake up, the ocean will be
right there in your face.

TINA

Really. In the morning?

DOUBLEGANGER

Sure.

TINA

Promise?

INT. MULLER TRAILER - MORNING

Tina is awake and Doubleganger has gone. Tina wanted for him to be there still, of course. She looks around the trailer. Nothing is really interesting. She opens his laptop but there is a password. There is a script on the kitchen cabinet. She finds a cardboard box in the closet and inside she finds the storyboards drawings.

She dresses and leaves, but outside she finds Doubleganger.

INT. TARANTINO BEDROOM - MORNING

The real Tarantino is awake and feeding his child and watching the news. The paparazzi is on television telling his version of the story, taking the photos and then being beaten and robbed of it. It's laughable, and just a strange story, to QT who knows he was caring for their infant all night, but then it does occur to him that someone is impersonating him. He reaches for the phone as his wife, DANIELA, wakes up.

EXT. MULLER TRAILER - MORNING

Uvarov, Muller and Doubleganger are sitting in a lawn chair facing the Pacific. The sun is just rising behind them. The city is just waking up.

MULLER

So, how was it?

DOUBLEGANGER

Are you asking me if the
dishonesty interfered?

MULLER

Okay.

DOUBLEGANGER

That's what you are asking really.

MULLER

Well?

DOUBLEGANGER

Hell, no. I feel great.

Muller has slept there, outside. He pretends to be asleep when Tina arrives. Uvarov is still asleep.

TINA

What project are you working on?

DOUBLEGANGER

(in Russian)

A film in Russia.

TINA

(in Russian)

So take me with you? We can fuck like this every day.

(half beat)

Twice!

DOUBLEGANGER

(in Russian)

All this is hush hush. You can't talk about it.

She points to Muller.

TINA

Who is that?

DOUBLEGANGER

I don't know.

She points to Uvarov.

TINA

Who is that?

DOUBLEGANGER
My Russian agent.

She looks at Uvarov, who is under a blanket (sound asleep) in a reclining lawn chair.

DOUBLEGANGER
(in Russian)
You want a cab?

Tina kisses him passionately.

Time passes...

EXT. MULLER TRAILER

Love, sex, romance montage. The Doubleganger falls in love with Tina. Tina's emotions will always be suspect (she thinks he is Tarantino), but most filmgoers will give a released convict a break. Everyone deserves a little bit of happiness.

Doubleganger wears sunglasses and a hat, but still. Several people out on the beach see the Doubleganger and Tina and they gawk. Many pull out their cell phone cameras and post photos of the two on the beach.

EXT. RESTAURANT - LOS ANGELES

Tarantino's wife, Daniela, is having lunch with her friends. Rumor's of infidelity have been inevitable. Their intuition dawns on her. Daniela feels the gossip circulating about the room. Her friends are being far too nice to her.

INT. TARANTINO MANSION - DAY

QT's wife, Daniela storms through the house and she slams a door.

Tarantino rises and follows her. The door is locked.

TARANTINO
Daniela. Honey. What's the matter?

There isn't an answer. Tarantino knocks again.

EXT. MULLER TRAILER

In Russian, Uvarov and a Russian film MOGUL are on the phone. At the picnic table Jackson and Bartok are watching.

Muller is cooking hamburgers on a grill.

This conversation is entirely in Russian.

UVAROV

You are Russia's premier film producer. I'm Russian as well. Mr. Tarantino is, well, an international film icon.

(half beat)

I think it will not be simple. Please we should resolve to calmly negotiate an agreement where both sides can profit.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Unfortunately your imperialist government has instituted economic sanctions. And for what? For our claiming the land many of our fathers died for.

UVAROV

My client, Mr. Tarantino, and myself. We both have a good understanding of your conflict with the Ukraine. He is a very well educated man and he understands the difficulty of politics.

(half beat)

I have heard my client explain "if the U.S. had lost 25 million lives in World War as a result of an invasion through Mexico, Mexico would be a bumper state and not be so independent today."

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Every nation has a right to protect themselves. This includes Russia.

UVAROV

We see eye-to-eye.

(half beat)

My client is willing to make a film in direct opposition to the sanctions. Can you keep a secret? In the up most confidence, my client will be renouncing his citizenship and be moving to Switzerland.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Why not move to Russia? He can make all the films he wants with the full support of the powers that be.

UVAROV

Yes, Yes. That is possible, he will spend time in our beautiful nation. He is fluent and personally he is looking forward to this project.

(half beat)

Did you receive the script?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Yes. Of course. The Kremlin is reviewing it at this time.

UVAROV

My client was very intrigued when your president went on television and persuading the world's business class to ignore the U.S. lead sanctions and invest in Russia.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

It is not the job of the government to pick winners and

losers. Not your government or our government.

UVAROV

Politics aside, what about money?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

We can't pay out money until the film is complete.

UVAROV

Perhaps a small amount of cash could be paid as honest money?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Perhaps.

UVAROV

Well my client is taking a huge risk by even negotiating.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

I understand.

UVAROV

Plane tickets?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Of course. First class. Aeroflot.

(half beat)

How many?

UVAROV

Five. From Los Angeles To Moscow and from Moscow back to Geneva.

The Doubleganger's eyes become large and he waves his hands. He holds up six fingers.

UVAROV

I'm sorry. We are bringing six individuals.

(half beat)

I can send you their names, once we agree on terms.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER
Hotel rooms, five?

UVAROV
Four will do.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER
What schedule do you have in mind?

Uvarov draws a blank, they didn't prepare for this obvious question.

Muller hold up six fingers.

UVAROV
Six months.

Muller's eyes become large.

MULLER
Weeks.

UVAROV
My apologies, six weeks. I misspoke.

Tina arrives in her car beside the tiny trailer.

UVAROV
Two more issues. One the financials. You received our fax with our expectations?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER
Yes. Negotiable?

UVAROV
Of course.
(beat)
And second, publicity. It doesn't matter how the publicity is made so long as nothing is done until my client is safe in Switzerland.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER
I follow you.

UVAROV

But if the government would contemplate such a move and time this with the release of the film.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

We have friends in the Russian government. It is not a problem.

UVAROV

Good to know. But their price comes out of your pockets.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

We would not expect foreign entities to compensate our government officials.

UVAROV

Agreed.

(half beat)

Release of the film during a politically heated presidential election will maximize profits.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

We are not neophytes here about publicity and elections.

UVAROV

Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to imply.

(half beat)

Can I be frank? The culture and language and traditions are so different, don't you think it will be best for us to be thorough.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

I agree.

UVAROV

Well, I will expect your call in perhaps a week?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

I think we can let you know what will happen next week, once our president has had time to read the script.

UVAROV

Thank you.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Good-bye.

UVAROV

Good-bye.

Russian language ends. English begins.

DOUBLEGANGER

Tina. This is my Russian agent, Pytor Uvarov.

TINA

Nice to meet you.

TINA

What is wrong with Mike Simpson?

DOUBLEGANGER

With the sanctions in place... there are sticky laws. And Mike is an American and of course the language.

UVAROV

Nice to meet you dear. You have a wonderful look and I understand you are a wonderful actress.

(half beat)

I will be happy for such a beauty to return to her homeland even for a short time.

DOUBLEGANGER

This is my computer friend, Jackson.

TINA

Nice to meet you.

Jackson shyly nods.

DOUBLEGANGER

This is my doctor friend Ben
Bartok.

BARTOK

Nice to meet you.

DOUBLEGANGER

My friend, Muller, the manager of
my newest theatre and an excellent
projectionist.

TINA

Nice to meet you too.

(to Muller)

What an eclectic group of friends.

DOUBLEGANGER

(in Russian)

Thank you. And not a banker among
us!

TINA

(to Muller)

You know I had no idea your
Russian was so good.

MULLER

I've been practicing.

TINA

So what happened with the
negotiations.

UVAROV

They don't want to hire you. They
think Russian men, being denied
such a beauty for so long, will
resent it at the box office.

TINA

Is that a joke?

UVAROV

Yes dear. And I think you will
like your compensation.

TINA

Thank you.
(beat)
And this is legal?

BARTOK

Are you a Russian citizen?

TINA

Yes.

BARTOK

Then there aren't sanctions for
you.

MULLER

Everyone will be paid in Swiss
Franks.

Tina is happy.

A week passes...

EXT. MULLER TRAILER

Again everyone is there at the trailer. The sun is setting
and they are cooking on the grill again. Waiting for a
phone call.

Jackson, Bartok and Uvarov are swimming in the trailer
park's swimming pool.

TINA

You know for a fifty-year-old man,
you are really virile.

DOUBLEGANGER

You want to be alone?

TINA

There is time for that.

DOUBLEGANGER

Are you sure?

TINA

Well, no but your friends need to eat.

There is a yellow legal pad under the phone and a sharpie pen. The pad has several issues written there.

- Publicity
- Front money
- End money
- Contract
- Flights

Uvarov's phone rings. Uvarov leaves the pool and runs to the phone. There is the realization that he might not make it in time. The Doubleganger, Muller, Bartok and Jackson are fully focused on Uvarov making it to the phone in time. Tina is less apprehensive.

Uvarov reaches the phone just in the nick of time.

With one exception the following scene is conducted in Russian.

UVAROV

Hello.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

I have some good news. All the parties here are in agreement. We will do it.

UVAROV

(in English)

Green light.

The group hug and quietly congratulate each other.

UVAROV

For various reasons legal reasons, we need this not to be announced until the film is finished and my client safely in Switzerland.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

We understand the intricacies of
the sanctions.

Uvarov places a checkmark on the yellow pad beside
"publicity".

UVAROV

Okay. I just want to be on the
same page.

(half beat)

Also, the upfront money?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

One million Swiss Francs will be
transferred on your arrival in
Moscow.

Uvarov places a "1" on the yellow pad beside "front money".

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Eight million will be transferred
upon completion and screenings.

Uvarov places an "8" on the yellow pad beside "end money".

UVAROV

You have contracts drawn up and
ready for signature?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

You can sign them at the airport
when you arrive, if you like. I've
faxed them to your office.

Dr. Chow's office is closed and dark, but the fax machine
at Bartok's work is activated.

Uvarov places a checkmark on the yellow pad beside
"contracts".

UVAROV

The return tickets are to Geneva,
correct?

Uvarov places a checkmark on the yellow pad beside
"Tickets".

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Yes. Is there anything else that is needed?

UVAROV

Anything else that arises, we will be in touch.

(half beat)

Quinton is here with me now. He would like to express his appreciation.

The conversation continues in Russian.

DOUBLEGANGER

Hello. Thank you. I think this is going to be the beginning of a beautiful friendship.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Mr. Tarantino. I've spoken to the Kremlin. There are a number of freedom loving Americans living in Russia. Escaping oppressive taxation, government eavesdropping, loss of civil liberties.

(half beat)

If you feel like you need political asylum, we will welcome you with open arms.

DOUBLEGANGER

Well, I never say 'never'. But thank you.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Officially, it will be our pleasure should you need to come to Russia for economic or artistic freedom.

DOUBLEGANGER

Thank you again for this opportunity. Thank you for confidence in my script.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER
Okay. It is an honour to do
business with you.

DOUBLEGANGER
Same here.
(half beat)
Good-bye.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER
Good-bye.

The Doubleganger ends the phone call and puts his fists in the air in triumph. Tina and he make eye contact.

Jackson is dirty dancing and howling.

Bartok is celebrating by picking Uvarov up into the air. He falls and they crash into the pool hugging each other.

It is clearly excessive celebration. The grown men are jumping up and down, slapping high fives like a youth baseball team.

Tina is happy. But she thinks for the first time. Tarantino would have made 20 movie deals and his friends (one would think) should be more sophisticated than this. Tina pauses for five seconds but then celebrates with the others.

Tina and Doubleganger kiss like a hundred New Year Eves.

INT. FLIGHT FROM LAX TO GENEVA

Doubleganger, Tina, Muller, Bartok, Jackson and Uvarov fly first class. Tina is happy. The men are nervous. Doubleganger is trying not to be noticed; but, of course, he fails.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Welcome aboard Mr. Tarantino.

INT. GENEVA BANK - DAY

The group checks into a hotel. The Doubleganger, Muller and Bartok go to a bank with a SWISS ATTORNEY. The men sit waiting until the BANKER gives the attorney some papers.

The attorney reviews the papers then deliver them to the Doubleganger. Everyone shakes hands.

INT. FLIGHT FROM GENIVA TO MOSCOW

Tina appears as she always has. The Doubleganger looks like Tarantino. But Muller, Bartok, Jackson and Uvarov have altered their appearances slightly.

INT. SHEREMETYEVO AIRPORT - DAY

As the group clears customs, there is a surprise volley of camera flashes. A herd of media are there. Everyone but Tina is traumatized. She is happy to be photographed.

Muller freezes. The Doubleganger freezes.

MULLER

This was not the deal.

UVAROV

I will speak to the Russians.

UVAROV

(to the Russian producer)

We didn't want this publicity until after the film is finished.

There is a table set up and Muller is taken to the chair there. Tina sits beside him. The Doubleganger looks reluctant. There are three chairs - one for Tina, one for the Russian mogul and Muller is in the other.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Yes. That is correct.

UVAROV

That is the deal and there are fifty photographers here.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Publicity is how you call it.

UVAROV

What? You are putting my client in a very precarious position.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

No.

UVAROV

Yes.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Oh, I understand. This is not
America.

UVAROV

But they are taking photographs.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Yes, they are taking photos, they
are prohibited from publishing
them until later.

UVAROV

Later today?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

No. No publishing until filming is
complete.

UVAROV

And you have control over these
people?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

Yes.

(beat)

Well, not me but the President.

UVAROV

The President of the film company?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER

No, the President of Russia.
President Karpov will be here in a
minute.

UVAROV

Oh, okaym that's just great. This
will not be on the internet later?

RUSSIAN PRODUCER
Correct. No internet.

UVAROV
No newspapers. No TV.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER
Nothing will appear.

UVAROV
Okay. Thank you.

Before the agreement and press conference begins, Uvarov approaches the Doubleganger and Muller with a whisper that everything is okay.

UVAROV
They are recording but they will not broadcast anything until the film is complete.

Doubleganger signs the contract. The mogul signs also. Photographers do their work.

The Russian President arrives out of nowhere and they all shake hands. The President has his picture taken and then disappears.

There is a rumor that a famous movie star is arriving and the speculation is that it's Nicole Kidman or Jennifer Lawrence or both. Outside the airport terminal, American and British journalists try to enter and are prohibited.

The press conference begins.

RUSSIAN JOURNALIST #1
Do you think your proclivity for violence will be transferred to the Russian people?

DOUBLEGANGER
I've had this question 100s of times and I really don't think in those terms.
(half beat)
I don't think of violence in those terms; for me it's, 'I'm a

conductor in the sounds the audience makes this my symphony'. It's laugh, laugh, laugh, stop laughing? And then it's laugh, be horrified, more horror, horror, horror still more for horror, laugh!

Bartok seems to be on the phone with the Swiss bankers. He signals that the \$1 million upfront money has arrived. Thus far, the Russians are living up to their bargaining.

RUSSIAN JOURNALIST #2

Can you tell us something about your training in filmmaking?

DOUBLEGANGER

When people ask me where I went to film school, I tell them, 'no, I went to film.'

RUSSIAN JOURNALIST #3

When James Cameron was here in Moscow, I asked him if he had any advice for young people and he said "grab a video camera and go." No, no. No. That's terrible advice. Video is far too cheap. Get a FILM camera. You must avoid video. It will be the death of great movies.

The Doubleganger is waving his hands wildly, just like QT, gesturing to drive home the point. It's not the reaction the Russian's expect, but the Doubleganger is playing QT perfectly.

RUSSIAN JOURNALIST #4

People say you are arrogant.

DOUBLEGANGER

I can see that some people would think that. Sometimes I do come across as that. Just like just then questioning the advice of a great like Cameron. I just disagree and if it comes across

badly, I like think its just my
passion for the art.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER
Finally, one last question.

RUSSIAN JOURNALIST #5

You are known for being frenetic
and moving about at light speed.
When you are in Russia will you
slowdown and do some tourism?
Well, I'd love to.

INT. HOTEL - MORNING

The Doubleganger gets out of bed in a panic. Tina doesn't stir. He runs downstairs and takes a complementary newspaper from the concierge. Muller is already there and he asks the concierge to bring him other newspapers.

Later...

The additional newspapers are brought to Doubleganger's suite. Tina is up and the entire group enters the hotel room. Muller distributes the newspapers. They are all frantically flipping through the newspapers.

They can't find any reference to them or the movie. They are relieved. Only Tina appears disappointed.

Again she is disappointed about the media. But she notices that the others seem relived. She ponders this for five or ten seconds. Flowers from the Russian mogul, arrive at the door and Tina feels like a movie star. She stops suspecting.

EXT. MOSCOW STREETS - DAY

In Red Square, there are 10 look-alikes who make their living posing with tourists in photographs. Lenin, Stalin, all the Russian leaders - Tsars, Communists and Presidents. Everyone has a double out posing for photos.

An American family has their photo taken at Red Square, posing with a look-alike Lenin and Tarantino. The Doubleganger hesitates but reasons refusing would only

bring attention to himself. And the American family insists. The photo is taken and they give Lenin and Doubleganger five dollars each for posing with them.

A few nominally visited websites publish tourists cell phone photos. They tag the photos as a "Tarantino look-alike on Red Square". TMZ picks up on it.

TMZ

In Russia's most popular tourist destination, Not only are there look-alikes of Lenin, Stalin and Gorbachev having their photos taken with tourist, there is also a Tarantino look-alike.

A tourist takes a photo in a restaurant. TMZ carries the story, but report it as an "incredible look-alike". They also publish a photo of the real Tarantino taken at a restaurant in Los Angeles.

EXT. MOSCOW STREETS - DAY

The Doubleganger and the group are offered a limousine.

MONTAGE "SCOUT THE LOCATIONS"

The Doubleganger and company drive to the various Moscow Metro locations. Muller gets out and checks the light and clearly he has everything planned out but is confirming everything.

Vnukovo airport.

Metro2 underground. Muller and group have a government guide them through the Metro2 line aboard the President's personal subway car.

Kremlin.

Lenin Library, Kievskaya, Mayakovskaya and Park Pobedy metro stations.

Clearly Muller is preparing to shot these locations.

END MONTAGE

INT. HOTEL - AFTERNOON

The group sleeps all morning, jet lag. Russian actors and technicians wait in the hotel. Afternoon arrives and Doubleganger awakes and begins to interview cast and crew. Muller watches nervously, fearing someone will see through the ruse.

INT. RUSSIAN STUDIO - EVENING

The Doubleganger enters a large room used for rehearsals. There are at least 100 actors dressed as German and Russian soldiers. Russian police and firemen. Muller and the Doubleganger reviews everyone and seems to be approving.

In a different part of the studio, there are a number of men and women rehearsing their gun and explosion stunts.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Tarantino and Bartok, with much of the Russian film crew, they attend a great celebratory meal. Most notably there are several Ministry of Culture officials there.

INT. HOTEL - NIGHT

Doubleganger and Muller begin to make a movie. Muller acts as his assistant.

We revisit the previous locations to actually film the movie.

INT. 2014 THE VNUKOVO TERMINAL WAITING AREA

Doubleganger and the film crew are filming a scene.

On film... the Doubleganger directing.

A band of GERMAN SOLDIERS make their way into the waiting area. All the waiting passengers remain seated as they Nazi soldiers approach. They are trying to comprehend this odd unbelievable situation.

A YOUNG GIRL is accompanying her blind GRANDFATHER and his dog. She tells him everything that she sees in detail.

YOUNG GIRL

Grandfather, do you remember when we were at the park and I said there was a lion lose and walking around?

GRANDFATHER

Yes.

YOUNG GIRL

I'm sorry. There wasn't a lion.

The German Sheppard becomes anxious to go.

GRANDFATHER

Yes, I know. But why did you wait until now to tell me.

YOUNG GIRL

Because you won't believe me now unless I confess.

They hear distant gunfire.

GRANDFATHER

Okay. Tell me what you see.

YOUNG GIRL

Soldiers. Nazi soldiers from the Great Patriotic War.

The dog growls to confirm to the grandfather there are NAZI soldiers in the airport.

DOUBLEGANGER

Cut! Marvelous. Wonderful.

INT. HOTEL - DAY

The group sleeps all day. Night arrives and the Doubleganger and group continue to make a movie.

INT. MOSCOW METRO UNDERGROUND STATION - NIGHT

Doubleganger and the film crew are filming a second scene.

Nazi soldiers storm into the subway tunnels. Russian's panic and retreat. The soldiers throw WWII era grenades and advance.

INT. HOTEL - DAY

The group sleeps all day. Doubleganger refuses to go out during the day. Night arrives and Doubleganger continues to make a movie. Hair stylists use their tools as weapons on the Nazis. Blood. A parking policewoman runs over some Nazi's in her tiny little vehicle and then runs over him a second time. Grandmother's come out of their apartments with butcher knives and kill the invading Nazis.

INT. STREETS OF MOSCOW - NIGHT

The streets are practically empty. It is a running battle movie; the camera and characters are constantly moving. Clearly it is the fog of war, Muller and the Doubleganger are filming. Gallons of fake blood.

INT. MARKET/HOTEL - DAY

Tina buys a rare Russian TV board game for Muller, but it sits in the hotel room. Doubleganger has cabin fever but doesn't watch want to play the game she has bought for him. Tina is clearly suspicious now. She spends long hours looking at him for some clue.

TINA

You aren't going to play?

(beat)

I bought this game for you. 'Nu, pogodi!' Soviet era television. So you wouldn't be bored waiting for dark.

The Doubleganger reluctantly opens the box. Tina, Uvanov and Muller play the game. Doubleganger tries to play but he just can't get into it.

DOUBLEGANGER

I can't play I'm just too nervous.

TINA

Okay. I thought it would relax you.

Long beat.

DOUBLEGANGER

I feel sort of funny.

TINA

You've made movies before.

Long beat. Doubleganger is thinking about a million small things.

TINA

Is there a reason all your films have two-word titles?

DOUBLEGANGER

I've never thought about that before, but I guess that's right. I guess it just always worked out that way.

TINA

It wasn't 'what would look good on the poster?'

DOUBLEGANGER

If for some reason I couldn't have used the title *Metro2 Moscow*, I probably would have called the movie *Once Upon A Time Under the Streets of Moscow*.

TINA

So what are you worried about?

DOUBLEGANGER

I don't want to be an old-man filmmaker, making old-man movies who doesn't know when to leave the party. And I don't want to fuck up my filmography with a bunch of old-man stuff.

TINA

You aren't an old man.

DOUBLEGANGER

I want to stay away from all the silly war movie clichés. You know, those scenes where a bunch of guys have to take out a guard, so they very lightly strangle him and that takes care of that.

(hard beat)

They kill a German soldier and all of a sudden, not only is there no blood on his uniform, or even a bullet hole, but it miraculously fits them when they put it on! All that kind of stuff.

TINA

It won't kill you or them to re-shot something.

DOUBLEGANGER

There isn't any manyana, manyana. We have to get this done and get the hell out of here.

TINA

But there is a manyana, manyana. You're Tarantino. Take an extra day or two. Take a week. What are they going to do?

DOUBLEGANGER

I don't think you understand.

TINA

I'm trying.

DOUBLEGANGER

I know.

TINA

I see. And you fell that you are under pressure?

DOUBLEGANGER

Yes. Of course.

TINA

Why?

Tina tries to find the truth looking onto the Doubleganger's eyes.

MONTAGE "FILMING METRO2 MOSCOW"

The RUSSIAN PRESIDENT (actor who looks similar to the real Russian President) and the NAZI COMMANDER (blonde 6'3 fit genetically superior fighting machine) fight in the underground.

Tina plays the part of a flight attendant on Russian President's plane. Her character is in the Air Force, grew up with Russian commando brothers and she fights well.

There are five or more scenes where Tina and the Russian President dodge bullets, grenades, bayonets and fists. They move through the underground backwards through the subway brutally killing Nazis as the retreat back to the Kremlin.

Brave Russians from above ground descend into the underground to repel the invaders. Traditional Tarantino blood and gut scenes.

There is a final last stand. It is the Russian President and Tina vs. the two final Nazi attackers. They are at the underground entrance to the Kremlin and our Russian character stop retreating.

TELEVISION - LOS ANGELES - DAY

TMZ reports that Tarantino will make a movie in Moscow after the end of U.S. sanctions.

TMZ

We have it on the best of sources. When the Russian sanctions end, Quentin Tarantino will make a film in Russia, a bloody bio-pic of Vladimir Lenin, starring Leonardo Dicaprio.

Interviewed in LA, Tarantino of course denies the rumor.

TARANTINO

What is this a joke? Leo would never make a bio-picture of Lenin. Now as for bloody; he might. No, I'm kidding. First of all, most people don't even know who Lenin was. Our schools really suck and that limits the number of pictures we can make. You're being pranked.

INT. FILMING WRAP PARTY - MOSCOW - DAY

The film characters, Tina and the Russian president, emerge victorious from the Lenin Library Metro. They ride through the smoke up the escalator to the surface. The Nazi soldiers are all dead. Air Force Private First Class Tina and the Russian president walk hand in hand to the Kremlin gate. Evidently the fighting has made them fall in love with each other.

The Metro2 film has been competed.

As the "wrap" is announced, the Doubleganger's eyes contact his compatriot's and not Tina's. The harm is very slight but Tina begins to suspect.

Tina is growing more suspicious each day.

TINA

Something is just not right.

Celebrating the end of filming is one thing but Tina notices the relief in the men's faces.

The cast and crew has a huge "Russian" style drinking party.

INT. EDITING ROOM - MOSCOW - DAY

We see a glimpse of post-production. Editing. The Doubleganger and Muller are hands on and directing the editors.

Tina finds her way into the room; she sits watching and evaluating. She is growing more distant from the Doubleganger. Muller becomes more engrossed in the job/movie.

Both men have been planning this film for nearly 15 years and they are not distracted.

INT. VIEWING FOR THE OLIGARCHS - MOSCOW - DAY

The mogul and his investing partners/friends enter the theater. Tina, the Doubleganger, Muller, Bartok, Jackson, Uvarov and the Russian producer are there near the front.

The film is shown. The scenes bring out both groans and laughs. The few laughs are subdued. Billionaires and Russians both, go figure.

Startled, Muller almost jumps out of his seat (startled) when a FAT OLIGARCH right behind him shouts.

FAT OLIGARCH

Bravo.

Muller holds his chest as his heart has stopped.

Afterward the house lights come on. The man behind him gives the Doubleganger a kiss on each cheek and hugs him.

FAT OLIGARCH

Tarantino is a genius and he is making Russia his home!

We hear from the third row..

SKINNY OLIGARCH

Fuck you.

A hand grabs the fat oligarch by the lapel and spins him around.

SKINNY OLIGARCH

We have invested in horse-shit and presidential propaganda. I'll see you never get a dime of the tax payer's money.

FAT OLIGARCH

You are opposed to truth telling.

SKINNY OLIGARCH
Reactionary.

FAT OLIGARCH
Radical.

The Doubleganger and Muller really can't get a feel for the whole audience's reaction. Tina leaves the room. She walks the streets of Moscow, depressed.

The debate slowly grows until oligarchs are in each others face and there is a fistfight. And then there is a second and third fistfight.

Clearly the group of investors are divided. Many of the investors look hatefully at Doubleganger. Others try to communicate their approval.

The Russian mogul puts his head in his hands and almost cries.

MULLER
Do we get paid?

The Russian mogul shrugs as security guards rush into the room and the billionaire combatants are pulled apart.

INT. HOTEL - MOSCOW - NIGHT

Uvarov is standing in the front of the hotel smoking a cigarette. Tina enters the hotel, she has been walking and thinking.

TINA
(to Uvarov)
We need to leave and leave now. We got paid a little bit right? Tell him we need to leave now without hesitation. You aren't real and he's not real. This is going to end badly. This is Russia and there is an election, they will kill us.

UVAROV
Get dressed were going to the Kermlin. Formal.

INT. VIEWING FOR KREMLIN AND PRESIDENT - KREMLIN - NIGHT

We see one of the most ornate rooms in the palace. There are perhaps sixteen people in the room. The Minister of Culture, Muller and his friends and 10 or 11 of the Russian President's advisors. They all look concerned.

DOUBLEGANGER

If you thought we were nervous at the screening for the oligarchs, the pressure is really on for this.

TINA

This room is like it's out of a fairy-tale.

The President enters, and greets everyone.

To the actor who played him in the film.

PRESIDENT

You are too good looking to play me.

ACTOR

Funny, sir.

PRESIDENT

Mr. Tarantino, they say you are a genius. Come live here.

DOUBLEGANGER

I certainly might. I've had a lovely time. This is a marvelous palace.

PRESIDENT

You want to live here?
(looking at aides)
Because I can arrange it.

DOUBLEGANGER

Not right now, maybe later?

PRESIDENT

Okay. Good. Just let me know. You will be welcome.

(beat)

You know I was in the KGB when America took Solzhenitzen from us, I've always wanted revenge, for Russia to take something from America. I think maybe you are him?

DOUBLEGANGER

I'll take that as a compliment.

PRESIDENT

Oh, yes. Any mention in the same sentence as Solzhenitzen is the highest compliment.

DOUBLEGANGER

Thank you.

PRESIDENT

And you young lady. How beautiful. Will you sit with me during the film?

TINA

Of course, Mr. President.

He takes Tina's hand and they sit. The film begins.

Later...

When the film is finished, there is no reaction. Not a word. The President is contemplating. House lights up.

There could be a political backlash, if the people find out the government has funded such a movie. A movie that seems almost like an advertisement for the incumbent candidate.

RUSSIAN PRESIDENT

(deep powerful voice)

Tina. You seem to have a foot in each pasture. What do you think of this film?

There is a long beat. Tina thinks about spilling the beans. Everyone involved in the scam is nervous. Clearly she's been contemplating things.

TINA

I think it's genius. It's patriotic in an election year.

Long beat.

RUSSIAN PRESIDENT

I think you are right.
(beat)
But, one more showing. And then you can get paid. Okay?

INT. VIEWING FOR THE PUBLIC - BOLSHOI - NIGHT

The Bolshoi is full of a wide assortment of Russians. The film aficionados, the connected political class, the business class, Russian writers and celebrities. There are even some common Russians in the back. It's a very large focus group. Not so much a premier, but a test.

There are no media and some jackass pulls out a Go-Pro to bootleg the film and the guards take him down roughly.

The Doubleganger is speaking with the President's mother at the time.

DOUBLEGANGER

What happened there?

MOTHER

I think he had a camera.

DOUBLEGANGER

I hate film piracy.

Tina appears not very sedate. Jumpy and afraid of arrest.

After the viewing, one particularly ENERGETIC MUSCOVITE, approaches the Doubleganger and over shakes his hand. The reaction of the audience is 99% positive.

There is an old couple (90s), nostalgic in their sentiment. They have tears in their eyes.

ENERGETIC MUSCOVITE

I want you to know, you are a just
a man. That Nazi's put us through
hell. Years of hell. And if their
soldiers are shot, stabbed and
blown up in a film... no one is
shedding a tear over justice.

DOUBLEGANGER

Thank you for saying that.

ENERGETIC MUSCOVITE

You have Russian blood?

DOUBLEGANGER

Well part.

Beat.

The ENERGETIC MUSCOVITE is puzzled.

ENERGETIC MUSCOVITE

Ukranian?

Beat.

ENERGETIC MUSCOVITE

But you have the heart of a
Russian.

MULLER

Thank you.

Now Tina looks relieved. She is mobbed by fans from the
very highest society. From the Doubleganger's POV, Tina
speaks with the public who seem to worship her.

WOMAN

I understand your parents escaped
the Soviet Union?

TINA

Yes.

WOMAN

(to her husband)

No wonder.
 (to Tina)
Only Russians can make such art.

HUSBAND
You and Mr. Tarantino have said
something profound.

As people talk to her she begins to smile and appreciate
the film.

From Tina's POV, the Doubleganger shakes many hands and
makes a lot of small talk.

The Russian mogul is mobbed with compliments.

MULLER
Now can we get paid?

The Russian mogul is all smiles.

RUSSIAN PRODUCER
Yes.

The Russian mogul signals his ACCOUNTANT.

The accountant uses his cell phone.

INT. HOTEL - NIGHT

The group are all in their rooms rushing to pack.

The Doubleganger is in his and Tina's room packing.

TINA
Can you get us out of here,
tonight?

Doubleganger pauses and looks at her. He begins to pack
again.

MULLER
That is the plan.

Jackson sticks his head in their door.

JACKSON

We got paid.

DOUBLEGANGER

Airport. Fast.

Jackson just leaves his suitcase and clothes in the hotel. He leaves with only his laptop and portable printer.

Tina is packed and waits for the others a foot from the taxi. She is the most impatient of the group.

INT. MOSCOW TO GENEVA FLIGHT - NIGHT

The Doubleganger's group are very nervous waiting for the flight to take off. They hardly say a word.

TOURIST LADY

So did you enjoy Moscow?

TINA

Ma'am. I'm sorry. I'm just a wreck. Right now.

TOURIST LADY

What did you see?

Tina ignores her.

Once in the air, they all have GPS (or flight tracker apps) on their phones. When they cross over the Russian border, they all let out a sigh. And they begin to chatter and socialize.

Each member of the group approach Doubleganger and shake his hand. Muller feels a little let down.

JACKSON

We came a long way friend.

DOUBLEGANGER

Thanks for all you've done.

UVOROV

(in Russian)

You are the most graceful person under pressure I've ever know. And

I've known some outlaws, and you
are the coolest.

DOUBLEGANGER
(in Russian)
Couldn't have done it without you.

BARTOK
Really proud of you.

DOUBLEGANGER
Appreciate all you've done.

The Doubleganger notices Muller, who is sitting quietly. He gives the Doubleganger the thumbs up but the Doubleganger gets up and physically hugs Muller.

DOUBLEGANGER
Love you man.

MULLER
Thank you. Love you too man. We
did it. You did it.

DOUBLEGANGER
Couldn't have done it without you.

The Doubleganger returns to his seat.

TINA
I don't know how you got away with
it.

Doubleganger is speechless. Clearly she knows, but out of gentility she doesn't actually say it.

TINA
Speechless?

She kisses him on the forehead.

DOUBLEGANGER
So what will you do now?

TINA
I don't know you've broken my
heart.

DOUBLEGANGER

Again?

TINA

Yeah, again. But I don't know if that other time counts, because that man is over in Los Angeles. See what I mean?

Beat.

MULLER

So?

TINA

I think I'm going to Tahiti.

The plane lands in Geneva.

INT. GENEVA AIRPORT - NIGHT

There is a short lay over before their flight to LAX.

Jackson pulls out his laptop and portable printer. He moves the money from the "Tarantino" corporation account to their various other personal accounts. Bartok and Jackson divide the 9 million in a matter of seconds to accounts controlled by the Doubleganger, Tina, Muller, Jackson, Uvanova and Bartok.

Jackson prints their account information.

Bartok folds his account information and places it in his shirt pocket.

Bartok delivers this information to each participant.

Muller is watching a German language film on the terminal television and is handed his banking information.

Uvanov is on the toilet when he is handed his banking information.

Tina is in a duty free shop. She is shocked by the amount. She figured actors wages, not part of the haul.

The last page to print is Jackson's. Jackson stops and smiles. Jackson packs up his computer and portable printer.

Tina books a flight from LAX to Tahiti. The Swiss ticket agent tells her she will have to rush between flights in LA.

INT. GENEVA TO LAX FLIGHT - NIGHT

They board the flight home. Each revert to their old appearance. Beards and mustaches are cut/trimmed.

The Doubleganger returns to his seat to find the entire gang sleeping soundly. Except...

Muller, who watches the in-flight movie.

INT. STREETS OF LOS ANGELES - DAY

We see Achmed, driving in an automobile through Los Angeles. This is the same guy who has been stalking the real Tarantino the entire film.

The radical Islamic terrorist's phone receives a message from his imam, "Kill Tarantino. Flight #1947 from Geneva." There is an app photo of the flight's progress. It shows the flight very near landing.

Achmed turns the car toward the LAX.

INT. LAX AIRPORT - DAY

The group disembarks the plane. Tina rushes to the transit line through customs. The others are in a different and slower line for custom's processing.

INT. LAX PARKING LOT - DAY

Achmed has a collection of celebrity photos on his phone - Alicia Vikander, Jared Leto, Matt Damon, Seth Rogen, Natalie Postman, Jennifer Lawrence, Finn Wolfhard, Blake Lively, Ben Stiller. He flips through them like baseball cards. He stops on the Tarantino photo.

INT. LAX - TELEVISION - DAY

Achmed is waiting for the passengers to emerge. He sits to watch the passengers exit.

The news/media and the world are highly confused.

NEWS ANCHOR

We honestly don't know what to report. Producers of a film that premiered last night in Moscow, claimed the film was directed by American director Quentin Tarantino. And to complicate things more the current economic sanctions would prohibit such participation in a Russian film.

(half beat)

The film premiered in Russia and seems to have been a great hit.

(half beat)

While the Russian population seems to love the film, Tarantino speaking from his home in Los Angeles denies participation. Tarantino told reporters he was not involved and does not even speak Russian. He added that he's not really a fan of Russian cinema. The director claims to have never even visited Russia.

Change channels.

ENTERTAINMENT REPORTER

We think Tarantino directed the film, but experts are speculating that perhaps Tarantino wasn't happy with the film's end result and so now he denied it.

Change channels.

BUSINESS ANALYST

I speculate there was an issue about payment. Russians have shown themselves in the past to be

notoriously unreliable in business dealings. I expect the director to continue to deny participation until he is paid what he is owed.

Change channels.

POLITICAL ANALYST

I hypothesize that the Russians are trying to make a political statement about U.S. sanctions. But whatever is going on it is very damaging to international relations. Both sides are highly suspicious of the other's motives.

Change channels.

LEGAL ANALYST

Of course legal and security analysts speculate that this was the greatest con job of all time; most of the online bloggers are sceptical about this "Russian story". Even in a global economy it seems unbelievable.

Change channels.

KREMLIN SPOKESMAN

More White House tricks, the Americans are embarrassed to have lost their greatest film director to a superior system of free markets and open minds. I expect Mr. Tarantino to renounce his U.S. citizenship at any moment.

INT. LAX TO TAHITI - DAY

Tina makes her flight to Tahiti and takes off.

INT. LAX MEN'S BATHROOM - DAY

Also, Bartok, Uvarov, Jackson all dispose of their fake IDs. Big smiles to be back in the USA safe and sound, with money in the bank. They flush their fake passports and ID.

After a short wait and the traditional searches, the Doubleganger exits the U.S. customs security area. He enters a restroom and flush his "Tarantino" IDs in the toilet.

Achmed is watching him. A TSA agent is watching Achmed.

Just as it looks like they have succeeded, Achmed the terrorist pulls a gun on the Doubleganger.

OMAR

Death to Tarantino. Allahu Akbar!

DOUBLEGANGER

Wait. I'm not...

Achmed the terrorist shoots the Doubleganger in the chest twice before TSA agent kill him.

Doctor Bartok runs to Doubleganger's side and tries to save him but it is a losing battle. The Doubleganger hands the Muller his bloody bank account printout (the money).

Jackson is clearly affected by the violence, he freezes and watches but slowly departs the airport.

Uvanov is also decimated by the act of terrorism.

INT. TARANTINO MANSION - DAY

Tarantino is watching a film. There are 12 televisions in the mansion, but only one is actually tuned to a television station. The cook in the kitchen is watching a Spanish-language Los Angeles station.

SPANISH ANCHOR

(in Spanish)

In breaking news from LAX, witnesses are telling us that American film director Quentin Tarantino has been shot in the chest by a dark complected man who shouted "Allahu Akbar!". Mr. Tarantino's condition at this time is not know. We will bring you information as we receive it.

The cook runs out of the kitchen, through the house, shouting.

COOK
(Spanish accent)
Mr. Tarantino!
(beat)
Mr. Tarantino!

Eventually she finds the theater. She opens the door and her eyes are like saucers. Tarantino isn't accustomed to being interrupted; his eyes are large as well.

COOK
(Spanish accent)
Mr. Tarantino! Someone shot you
are the airport.

INT. LAX - DAY

Finally, as emergency paramedics arrive, Bartok gives up CPR and admits to himself the Doubleganger is dead or soon will die.

Presumably Uvanov, Jackson and Bartok escape.

FADE OUT

END CREDITS

Film and show the after the credits.

ALTERNATE ENDING

Muller gets in the transit customs inspection line and gets on the flight with Tina to Tahiti. Achmed is left high and dry at the airport.