

Crosswired
Episode 5

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Final

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SCENE 1:

Simon speaks to the listener

SIMON

It was a simple attack, really. Made simpler by years of preparation. A backdoor, embedded in a common library. Code name: Abyss. I guess because it was so deep no one was going to find it. I'd love to know who's in charge of coming up with code names.

We send a slow stream of code, just a few characters a day, until it builds up into an exploit. After that, it was a simple matter of activating a solenoid here, a switch there... Suddenly the entire plant vents enough toxic gas to send thousands to the hospital.

Seems like a nasty thing to do to an ally, but better than if the North Koreans had taken control first. The intel was rock solid. It was this or millions would--

SOUND OF A RECORDING STOPPING

FARADAY

Why'd you stop it?

YOUNTS

The rest is just a bunch of his musings. IAD is totally--

FARADAY

Well, this can't get out!

YOUNTS

We're more concerned about what happened to the rest.

FARADAY

There's more?

YOUNTS

We suspect he's been at it for a couple years.

FARADAY

A couple years? Holy hell...

YOUNTS

Forensics says the storage unit has been wiped clean a number of times.

(CONTINUED)

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FARADAY So everything he's been working on...
 Someone has that?
 (pause)

KANTO?

YOUNTS We don't know. Maybe.

FARADAY Shit.

ASTER Gentlemen, you're both missing the
 big picture.

FARADAY Someone has two years worth of top
 secret information about our cyber
 warfare unit!

ASTER By way of a goddamn cyborg!

FARADAY A what?

ASTER The plant is a goddamn cyborg, Cal.
 Who the hell has that technology?

FARADAY Well, don't we have--

ASTER Are you kidding me? What do you think
 this is, Star Trek?

FARADAY Well...

YOUNTS Madam Director... So, who do you
 think it is?

ASTER We'd better goddamn find out and
 fast.

FARADAY Think he'll tell us? The kid, I mean?

ASTER As far as we can tell, he doesn't
 know himself.

YOUNTS He says he just found out a few days
 ago.

FARADAY That had to be a bloody shock and a
 half.

YOUNTS Still, we're hoping my forensics team
 can dig up some more--

FARADAY How do you do forensics on something
 like that?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

YOUNTS Mr Faraday, my team is the best. If it can be done...

ASTER No offense to you and your team, but I'm going to have to raise a flag on this one.

YOUNTS Give us a couple more days.

ASTER I can't, Roger. This needs to go up.

YOUNTS Shit.

FARADAY How can I help?

ASTER For now? Keep your mouth shut and your eyes open.

FARADAY You think there might be more?

ASTER I'm worried it might be an inside job.

FARADAY An inside...?

ASTER The plant was picked up by a couple of... well, let's just say they weren't my men.

FARADAY So how...?

YOUNTS Luck, really. May I?

ASTER No details.

YOUNTS Right. Let's just say I happened to be at the right place at the right time to intercept them. There's more than one interrogation going on right now.

SCENE 2:

Simon undergoes forensic examination. He shifts positions to assist the examiner.

SIMON How's that?

CHET Better, thanks. This is still kind of freaking me out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SIMON Not used to your subjects talking to you, huh?

CHET And I thought Siri was bad.

SIMON If you run across anything about my brain being put into this body, you'll let me know, right?

CHET Uh...

SIMON Come on! I'm being helpful. Tit for tat.

CHET I've got my orders.

SIMON Well, your hands are cold.

CHET Can't you turn off whatever kind of sensors you have?

SIMON I don't think I work like that.

CHET I can't tell how the heck you work at all. I mean, that memory chip was pretty standard stuff, but...

SIMON Made in China?

CHET Hell, most of our own equipment is. Doesn't mean anything. But the rest of this...

SIMON Like something from outer space, huh?

CHET Funny. I mean, yeah, the design is pretty out there, but the manufacturing? Looks pretty terrestrial if you ask me.

SIMON Russian?

CHET Well it's-- Shit. Stop it. I can't talk about it. Please, just stop talking and let me get on with it.

SIMON You ever eat at that bistro over in Dupont Circle?
(pause for answer)

God, they have the best mussels. I love the ones with white wine and garlic. Isn't that strange?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GRETCHEN Window. End of the hall. Aim for the bushes then run to the green Nissan.

SIMON Got it.

GRETCHEN We've got 2 minutes, tops, before your NSA boys catch on.

SCENE 3:

Simon and Gretchen are in a fast-moving car.

SIMON Where are we going?

GRETCHEN To see some friends.

SIMON Friends? Friends of whose?

GRETCHEN Friends who don't want to see you dismantled >

SIMON Dis--

GRETCHEN or terminated.

SIMON How do they...? (changes tactics)
Well, what happened to you? The last I saw, you were being hauled away in big black truck.

GRETCHEN Some friends got me out.

SIMON More friends? How many friggin' friends do you have?

GRETCHEN Look, Simon, things are a bit... crazy right now. You're going to have to trust me.

SIMON A bunch of government agents - serious ones - haul us off, you escape and rescue me thanks to some "friends" and I'm just supposed to nod and accept it?

GRETCHEN It's not safe. You're not safe.

SIMON Who are you?
(pause)

You're not the same Gretchen I went to Cambridge with.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GRETCHEN That Gretchen was a lie.

SIMON So, who...

GRETCHEN KANTO. We made you and now, you're going to need to be quiet.

SIMON Uhn...

BUZZ

Gretchen flicks the switch on a device in her hand and Simon goes rigid.

SCENE 4:

Simon speaks to the listener.

SIMON I couldn't move. At the flick of a switch, Gretchen... disabled me. My mind was trapped inside this shell. I was aware of us driving. We reached a dark building in the countryside that night. Strong hands, but not harsh, carried me into a shipping container of some kind. After that all I knew was vague movement.

KANTO. Terrorists, or so they were called. They certainly instilled terror in people. And they had me. They made me. My girlfriend... had been a total fabrication.

In the darkness of that metal box, I gathered my facts. She must have been sent to keep track of me. To protect me? Or to destroy me should I fall into enemy hands?

The fact I was still alive, if alive is the right word, suggests the former. But KANTO claimed the bombing that almost destroyed me. Something tells me I'm not safe yet. And those spidey senses? Strangely quiet through this entire ordeal.