

Crosswired  
Episode 6

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Final

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**SCENE 1:**

CONWAY and Kazin sit in a secure interrogation room. An ALARM can be heard faintly in the background.

DULL ALARM

MOBILE PHONE BUZZ

CONWAY (reads his messages)

Shit!

KAZIN What's going on?

Conway bangs his fist on the table.

CONWAY Shit!

KAZIN Come on, Conway. What?

CONWAY He got away.

KAZIN What?

CONWAY Someone sprung him.

KAZIN We need to get him back. (pause)  
Conway!

CONWAY Sit. You can't go anywhere.

KAZIN You don't understand...

CONWAY Yes, I do. Sit. We still need to go through the motions. You're being interrogated. Remember?

KAZIN How much longer?

CONWAY Long enough. Look, you've been sloppy enough for one day.

KAZIN (protesting) No one should have been here. I still want to know what that agent was doing in there at 4 in the goddamn morning.

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CONWAY                    Yeah, well, now we gotta clean this up.

KAZIN                     I can do this.

CONWAY                    (pause)

I've already put a team on it.

KAZIN                     I know him better than your team does. Put me in charge.

CONWAY                    (pause) What's your plan?

KAZIN                     Better than the orders I had before. Wait. Watch. What bullshit is that? Capture. Interrogate. That simple.

CONWAY                    And you believe you can capture him?

KAZIN                     I think he still trusts me.

CONWAY                    Trusts you?

KAZIN                     We spoke. On the way down from Cambridge. He's patriotic. Wants to serve his country. Thinks he betrayed it.

CONWAY                    And you?

KAZIN                     I'm his boss. The guy he betrayed. He apologized to me. "I'm sorry, Mr Kazin. I didn't know, Mr Kazin." I think he wants to make it right.

CONWAY                    And if that should... change? If he finds out?

KAZIN                     I'll destroy him.

CONWAY                    Don't screw this up.

KAZIN                     What about Aster?

CONWAY                    I'll handle her. After I speak with our doctor friend.

**SCENE 2:**

BOYLE and Chet sit in Ms Aster's office.

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BOYLE                               Just tell her what you think, Chet.

CHET                                 I barely got anything out of him before she came in. The girl, I mean.

ASTER                               What are your impressions, though? Screw the facts. What is he? Where did he come from?

CHET                                 You're going to think I'm crazy, Ms Aster.

BOYLE                               Come on, boy. Speak up.

CHET                                 Well... He said it himself. Suggested it, anyways.

ASTER                               What?

CHET                                 Aliens.

BOYLE                               (laughs)

ASTER                               This isn't funny, Roger.

BOYLE                               You're not taking this seriously.

ASTER                               What makes you think it's aliens, Chet?

BOYLE                               You are.

CHET                                 Well, ma'am... The parts and all looked pretty normal. But the way they were put together... The seals. The connectors. It was like they were designed for a very... Like they needed to resist corrosion.

ASTER                               What kind of corrosion?

CHET                                 Well, I was reading this paper the other day. About a planet they discovered. In Tau Ceti. Earth-like but they think it might have, like, an acid atmosphere.

BOYLE                               You some kind of astronomer?

CHET                                 Always wanted to be, but my dad said there's no money in it. Anyway, as I was doing my investigation, I couldn't help but think this guy

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CHET (cont'd)

would be perfectly adapted to a planet like that.

BOYLE It's not a guy, Chet. It's a cyborg.

CHET Sorry, Mr Boyle. I dunno, he just seemed so normal. To talk to, anyway. But, yeah, some of those bits and pieces just didn't seem to have a function.

BOYLE But aliens? You ever hear of Occam's Razor?

ASTER Chet, that will be all for now. Thank you for your insights. I must remind you that this entire discussion is top secret.

CHET Yes, ma'am. I understand.

Chet rises and exits.

BOYLE You're not ser--

ASTER Roger...

BOYLE You're seriously thinking the kid is right? That there are aliens?

ASTER You ever been to China?

BOYLE What? No. Never.

ASTER I just reminded that kid what we talked about was top secret. I need to remind you of the same thing for what I'm about to tell you.

BOYLE I understand.

ASTER There was a project. It didn't even have a name. But we were watching China after some scientists tracked something. Something that landed in China.

BOYLE Something?

ASTER Given the speed and trajectory, it was a deliberate landing. We chalked it up to some experimental aircraft. But we didn't stop watching. I was

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CONTINUED: (3)  
ASTER (cont'd)

new to SIGINT. I didn't understand half of what I saw and I was told very little, but I believe the thing that got tracked was not made by human hands.

BOYLE                   You know I'm as skeptical as they come, right?

ASTER                   It's one of your best qualities. I'm just saying we need to keep the possibility open. That cyborg... that technology... I'm sure we don't have that capability, and Russia and China aren't even close.

BOYLE                   Japan?

ASTER                   I'd like to think our intel on them is strong, but sure, that has to be considered a possibility. But I find it hard to believe.

BOYLE                   Harder to believe than space aliens.

ASTER                   Wherever it came from, we need to get it back. We need to understand its purpose.

BOYLE                   And you want me to find it.

ASTER                   I dare not trust this to anyone else.

BOYLE                   Guess I better call the wife. She hates riding out storms alone, though.

ASTER                   Take Agent Abrahms with you.

BOYLE                   Abrahms?

ASTER                   I'm sure the move to management has made your hacking skills a little rusty.

**SCENE 3:**

Another interrogation room holds Dr Hadoop. Conway enters.

HADOOP                   Finally, someone... Mr Conway? What's going on? What are you doing here?

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CONWAY Good morning Dr Hadoop. Please, be seated.

HADOOP What's going on? Why am I here?

CONWAY I'll try to explain. Please. Sit.

HADOOP Simon? Ms Williams? Natalia? Are they ok? Have you...

CONWAY All in good time. Are you doing alright? Have you been given everything you need?

HADOOP Other than answers, yes.

CONWAY Good. Good. I know it's been awhile since we've discussed your project. You haven't had any funding issues, have you?

HADOOP No sir. There's been surprisingly little red tape.

CONWAY Well, we'll get you back to your lab as soon as we can. We're hoping to accelerate the progress a bit.

HADOOP I assure you we're going as fast as humanly possible.

CONWAY I know you are, but with more resources...

HADOOP It's not a matter of resources. Nine women can't make a baby in a month. Some things just take time.

CONWAY Tell me about Simon.

HADOOP Simon? I don't--

CONWAY I need to know what he talked about. I believe he's in danger.

HADOOP What happened to him?

CONWAY He's been taken.

HADOOP Yes, I was there--

CONWAY Not by us. We took him so we could protect him, but... He was taken from

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CONWAY (cont'd)

us. He's out of our custody. I'm worried. I need to know what they might do to him.

HADOOP He's a good kid. He can't have done anything...

CONWAY Then help me to help him. Tell me about him.

HADOOP He was a student of mine. One of my brightest.

CONWAY And during his recent visit, what did he... tell you?

HADOOP (cautious) He kept going on about advanced intelligence, but he had too many questions I couldn't answer. That's why I took him to see Natalia... Dr Warkovsky.

CONWAY Did he say what kind of advanced intelligence?

HADOOP No. He was all over the place. Does this have something to do with this "help" you're talking about to make my project go faster?

CONWAY We'll see.

HADOOP What about Dr Warkovsky? Can I see her? She's family.

CONWAY She's ok, but a bit shaken up. It will be some time. Don't worry about her.

HADOOP Shaken up?

CONWAY My men needed to take control of the situation quickly. Before anything could happen. Unfortunately, Dr Warkovsky had a bad reaction to the stungun.

HADOOP What happened to her?

CONWAY She'll be ok. Really. We've made her quite comfortable. She's helping us out a great deal. She's a singularly focused woman.

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HADOOP

Truer words have never been spoken.

CONWAY

Then we understand each other. Trust me. As soon as she's ready, we'll let you see her.

**SCENE 4:**

A news broadcast.

NEWSCASTER

Wikileaks is at it again. The self-professed "not for profit media organization" claims to have documents that implicate the U.S. Government in the recent tragedy at the Sumitomo plant in Ichihara City, Japan. The outlet claims that a software exploit, and not a manufacturing defect, led to the release of toxic gas responsible for the largest industrial accident in the nation's history. U.S. Officials have been unwilling to comment on the claims, though one unnamed source stated that Wikileaks founder, Julian Assange, has a history of manufacturing leaks to fuel his campaign against the United States. It has been suggested that...

Hang on... We've just gotten word that KANTO, the terrorist group associated with numerous attacks on American soil, has released a statement.

According to their statement, the cyber attack on long-time U.S. ally Japan was committed by the same team that developed and deployed the Stuxnet malware which damaged Iranian centrifuges a number of years ago and that KANTO will continue to "bring justice down on those that seek to dominate the people of this planet with their obscene agenda."

That was a direct quote.

Well, clearly we'll have more details in the coming hours. We expect the State Department will soon issue a

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NEWSCASTER (cont'd)

response to the charges leveled by  
KANTO. We'll be right back with more  
on this developing story as well as  
the latest on Hurricane Norris.