

xiv. the final act

(note: some of the dialogue may be inaccurate. the audio wasn't the best so I wasn't able to make out some of the words)

They were now lounging around at the back of the magic shop retracing their steps. "No, I had the stick, the actual stick. I swear. It was in my hand. In the lab and I put it in the little case thing then I gave it to Atlas."

"Right," he agreed with Lula. "Which I then gave to Dylan. Is there any chance that you could've possibly misplaced it at any point?"

"No," Dylan denied. "I took it from you and then slipped it back in your coat pocket and pushed you out."

"Either way, we're le holding a whole sack full of, nada."

"Yeah but they're gonna come a er us as if we do have something."

"No, okay? I agree that somebody got the better of us. I don't agree that we have a sack full of nada because we're all here, that's a sack full of something. Listen, we all know that Walter is not going to stop until he gets that chip. And we're the only ones that even know that he's alive. We can't just walk away. That's not what the Horsemen do," Lula lectured

"There's a quote, it's actually by the magician that made me wanna do this in the first place. It's, um, 'A magician's greatest power lies forever shrouded in his empty fist-'"

"-and the very idea that he can convince the world that he is, in fact, carrying the thin paper."

"Lionel Shrike," Daniel told him.

"Right," Dylan said nodding.

"So what are you saying? That we should pretend that we have something they don't?"

"That's it," Evelynn whispered.

"What?" Lula asked.

"That's it! We're the only ones that know that Walter's alive. They're gonna come a er us as if we did have something and they aren't going to stop." Evelynn looked at Dylan, expectantly.

"What's Walter's greatest fear?" Dylan questioned.

"To be seen," Merritt answered.

"And what can the stick, do?"

"The stick can unencode anything. It can open up a back door into any computer on the planet," Lula answered.

"Including his," Jack said.

"Right. We not only make them think that they have it, but that we're going to use it to expose and destroy him," Daniel informed them.

"We need a plan," Dylan said. "Bu we don't have time."

"We have each other and there are six of us."

"We also need supplies, and resources, and probably more than six people," Lula told them.

Suddenly, a voice could be heard from the shadows. "Do you really think that you don't have help?" The old lady from the shop came into view, Bu Bu, was her name.

"Oh, she speaks English," Daniel muttered. "Of course, yes. Evelynn giggled at him.

Bu Bu showed them a tarot card that had a picture of the fool on it. "Do you know why the Fool is the most powerful card in the tarot? Not because the person who draws him is a fool. He's a fool because he's a clean slate and, therefore, can become anything. You were chosen, all of you."

"Not because of who you are," her grandson Li interrupted. "But because of who you might become."

"When, you say chosen. Are you the Eye?"

"Yes," she answered him. "We are a part of the Eye. You've each doubted our existence. Wondering if we indeed were watching you, we are. We always have been."

"This is the best magic shop in the world," Daniel told them, still soaking in all of the information. "You know what she's saying right?"

"Yes," Dylan answered. He went to shake her hand. "That no we have all the recourses and help. Thank you."

He took a breath and looked at everyone, picking up a cup of tea he asked, "So, who's in?"

"Hell yeah," Evelynn said picking up a cup. Soon a er everyone followed her example and picked it up, using two hands. The only difference was that they didn't shout out 'Hell yeah'.

They all raised their cups. "Ganbei," they all said cheers in Chinese and took a sip. A er that, they all headed to a private jet that Bu Bu had already set up. Evelynn thanked her for helping but Bu Bu merely waved her o, saying that it was no big deal.

When they got on the plane, they devised a plan. Then called Li so they can set it up for them. Soon, they were behind a black background and sending a message through social media. The message was a threat to Walter and an announcement to look for them when they appear in London.

"Okay, so we all now what we're doing right?" Daniel asked all of them to finalize everything. "Don't screw it up or this will fall apart."

Evelynn chuckled and patted Jack on the shoulder. "No pressure, this whole thing is just dependent on you is all."

He gave her a nervous look and nodded. Ah crapshe thought. "I was joking, we always have the backup plan."

He only nodded at her and turned away. She didn't know how to actually help him because she was never good with sympathizing. So, her solution to that was to smack him really hard on the head.

"Ow!" Jack exclaimed. "What was that for?"

Evelynn didn't give him a reply. She merely faced forward as if she never did that. He kept on complaining about what she just did to him. 'That really hurts' and 'I could've gotten brain damage!'. Even though she knew they weren't true she stayed quiet and let his anxiousness fade away. A er a while he stopped talking, she smiled when he turned the other way. Silly she thought to herself.

When they arrived, they all went separate ways. Since her act won't begin until a er Merritt's she had to stay hidden until it does. Evelynn was aimlessly walking around the streets of London, barely taking in where she was going. Suddenly someone grabbed her from behind.

She went in to punch them but they dodged. She ripped herself from their grip and created distance. It wasn't anyone she recognized but if she had to guess, it was one of Walter's lackeys. "Who are you?" she asked as they tried to grab her one more time but she dodged and began to run.

They blocked her entrance, with a truck. In her earpiece she contacted Dylan. "Walter has me. I won't be with you at the rendezvous point."

"Shit," Dylan responded, angrily. "Okay, Be careful."

She took o her earpiece and crushed it with the heel of her boot. They pointed their guns at her and she raised her hands reluctantly. "Okay, you have me." They grabbed her, cu ed her, and pushed her into the back of the truck where she saw Walter and Arthur.

"Hello!" Walter greeted joyfully. "Sorry, you don't have much company right now. You see, we're on our way to your rendezvous point. You won't be lonely for long."

Her eyes widen a fraction. "You work quickly."

"We have good, intel."

"So, Art, we haven't talked in a while."

"I'd suggest you keep your mouth shut unless you want a bullet to your head."

She raised her eyebrows in surprise. "I didn't take you for a person who wanted to stain his suit."

The car fell into silence and then it stopped. Chase came inside, "Why, hello there."

She didn't greet him back. "Oh, are you scared I'd get info from you? No, need my brother gave me all I need to know."

Her head whipped to him, but she quickly looked away. A while a er, the door opened once again and in came the rest of the Horsemen. Jack seemed to visibly relax when he saw her unharmed. She looked at them in shame but didn't say anything. They were all silent and looking around wondering where they would go.

"Ah, okay," Chase piped up. "Feeling, fear, fear, anger, anger. Oh! Full house."

"That's enough," Arthur told him.

"I was done."

"So nice, to see you all again," he addressed them. "But since we're such old friends let's skip the formalities. One of you has something we require. So hand it over."

The Horsemen all stared at him. None of them wants to give up their leverage on him. "Nothing? At all?" Walter asked them in disbelief. "Really?"

They finally arrived at their destination a er an agonizing fi een minutes. They were then pushed into a plane by their men. When they got into the plane they were pushed down into their seats. Evelynn sat in front of Dylan and behind Merritt.

"You know, you make it almost too easy," Walter told us. "Your hilarious attempt to make yourself unpredictable, just follow the same pattern each time. Set-up, set-up, set-up, big reveal. Which tonight was going to be, the stroke of midnight, middle of the Thames? Tell me if I'm warm... Well, it will be a big reveal and it will come now."

"The stick, dear boy," Arthur demanded.

"No," Dylan told them.

"Fine," Walter said. "Start with her." The guard grabbed Lula and took out a pocket knife. Jack and Evelynn yelled out at them to stop. Evelynn got up but was pushed down by one of the guards.

"Give it to him," Dylan told him.

"Danny, give him the card," Lula said to Daniel, worry in her eyes.

"Just give it to him."

"Danny, come on."

Daniel took out the card and showed it to Walter. Walter grabbed it and took the chip out, examining it. Walter put it inside a machine that identifies if it was real or not.

The Horsemen started arguing, Evelynn was never one for a fight so she was out of it. She didn't speak a word, only watched the machine as it showed a green light that confirmed that it was real. Her eyes widened in surprise. "Guys," Evelynn called out weakly.

"I'm sorry to interrupt," Walter butted in. "But I just have to say congratulations. Thank you. It's real. Bring them through."

The guards grabbed them, Evelynn was the closest to them so she was first in line. She looked confused as Arthur started talking about his champagne. "This champagne is the most expensive bottle on Earth. One point two million dollars and I saved it just for this occasion."

"France, same bottle, liquor shack, seventy k," Merritt informed them.

Evelynn laughed at them, "Idiot, rich people."

"You got what you wanted. So, does this mean you're letting us go?"

"No. So, Chase what should we do?"

"Toss 'em out," he said pressing the button to open up the plane.

"Start with the youngest one," Arthur shouted over the wind. "I've always hated her snarkiness."

"The guards grabbed her and pushed her. "No! NO! STOP!" She screamed as they neared the exit.

She can hear all the other Horsemen yelling for her. "NO! PLEASE!" She thrashed wildly against the guards. She was directly in the front of the exit and she glanced at Chase with pleading eyes and the last thing she saw before she fell was him waving his hand. She can hear their shouting as she was pushed out, but it was no use.



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