A BROTHER'S DUTY
by
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INT. AN UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - NIGHT

The room is furnished with a couple of computer desks and stacks of files. A large card table sits in the middle of the room and at the far end up against the walls are two army cots.

CIA AGENT COLIN GALLAGHER sits in front of the computer screen. Next to him asleep in front of his own computer monitor is PETER LYONS another agent. The room itself is dark with the exception of a small desk lamp which is aimed at the computer. He clicks on an e-mail. Another click of the mouse opens up the attachment. On the screen is a video of a YOUNG WOMAN and a LITTLE GIRL of about three looking very frighten. Behind them are TWO MEN their faces concealed with a cloth. The man on the right starts to talk with thick Arabic accent.

HASSAD
Their blood is on your hands.

Colin reaches over to wake up Peter.

COLIN
Pete wake up.

PETER
Huh? What’s up?

COLIN
AMBASSADOR’S HINET’s daughter and granddaughter.

Peter focuses on Colin’s computer screen as Colin’s cell phone rings.

COLIN (cont’d)
Yeah.

Hassad proceeds with the executions. The little girl first as her mother screams and then the mother.

COLIN (cont’d)
We’re watching it now.

Peter leans back in his chair a look of disbelief on his face.

COLIN (cont’d)
But what about BIN LADEN?
(BEAT)
We’re just going to drop him?
(BEAT)
But I think we’re closing in on...
COLIN (cont'd)

(BEAT)
Yes, sir.

Colin grabs a pen and jots down a half a dozen names.

COLIN (cont'd)
Don’t worry, sir we’ll get him.

PETER
I... I can’t believe what I just saw. Over a decade in the Agency...I’ve never saw anything like that.

COLIN
They’ve switched priorities.
(Pointing to the screen)
We’re to go after Hassad.

PETER
But they had us on Bin Laden. We’re closing in on him.

COLIN
Not anymore. At least not now. They want us to get Hassad. He’s reportedly staying in a house about fifteen miles from here.

Colin hands Peter the pad with the names on it.

COLIN (cont’d)
We’re heading the unit.

Peter scans over the list.

PETER
They’re the best in the Agency. When are they due?

COLIN
They’re on their way now. They want this done by dawn tomorrow.

Peter takes out his gun and cocks it.

PETER
I’ll take care of him right now.

Colin takes the gun and puts it on the table.

COLIN
We’ll do this right, Pete.
Peter lets out a sigh and takes the gun off the table and puts it back in its holster.

    PETER
    You're right, Colin.

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - EARLY MORNING

Colin and Peter along with the SIX AGENTS are standing around the card table leaning over some blueprints. Colin straightens up.

    COLIN
    All right then. Anyone have any questions?
    (BEAT)
    Good. We go in we do what we have to do and then get out. So let's get this mission accomplished.

Colin takes a semi-automatic off the table and checks to see that it is loaded. The rest of the agents, including Peter do the same.

    AGENT #1
    Hold on. They're sure there aren't any women or children in this house?

    COLIN
    That's what they told me.

    AGENT #1
    All right.

Colin leads the unit out the room.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF HASSAD’S SAFE HOUSE- JUST BEFORE DAWN

Having let their vehicles a little ways back the unit approaches the house. The six leaned up against the side of the house. Colin peers into one of the windows. He turns to his comrades and flashes four fingers. They all nod and then scattered to different areas of the house to make their entrance.

INT. THE INSIDE OF HASSAD’S SAFE HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

From different areas of the house the six agents enter the room.
In the main room they find the four MEN Colin had spotted from outside of the house. The room is lit by a lone lamp, which doesn’t give off much light. The men are sitting around the table eating breakfast. As soon as the six agents enter they react, reaching for their own weapons.

Mass confusion ensues as the two groups fire at each other. A few moments later three more MEN and a BOY of about twelve come from the upstairs.

Three of the original men are shot and killed while two of Colin’s men are wounded.

AGENT #2
Four more at the stairs!

The agent fires hitting one of the men in the chest. Another one of the men takes aim as Peter turns to face him. Peter fires his weapon but misses his target. The man, smirks as he is about to fire his own gun.

COLIN
Peter shoot!

The man turns around at the sound of Colin’s voice and takes aim at Colin. But Colin is faster hitting the man once in the chest and abdomen.

The twelve year old pulls a hand gun from his waist, aiming it at Peter’s back.

BOY
You dirty American pig!

He cocks the gun as Peter turns around. As he is turning around Colin shoots the boy in the chest. The boy with a surprised look on his face falls to the ground.

A few more shots ring out and then it is eerily quiet.

Colin looks down at the dead boy, eyes still opened and the look of surprise still on his face.

A couple of the agents are wounded. One in the arm and the other in his side.

Colin looks around at the room.

COLIN
(Out of breath)
Okay. Good job men.

He rushes over to the agent who was wounded in the side. He puts his hand over the wound.
COLIN (cont’d)
PERKINS! Get over here, quick.

One of the agents runs over to assist Colin.

COLIN (cont’d)
He’ll be okay, right?

PERKINS
Yeah, he should be. Though we shouldn’t waste anytime getting him out of here.

COLIN
(To the rest of the agents)
You heard Perkins. Let’s get him out of here.

Another one of the agents walks up to Colin.

AGENT #1
Sir, I’m only counting seven bodies.

Gun drawn Colin rushes out of the house.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF HASSAD’S SAFEHOUSE- MOMENTS LATER

Colin looks around the outside of the house, searching for the eighth man.

INT. THE INSIDE OF HASSAD’S SAFE HOUSE- MOMENTS LATER

COLIN
He’s gone.
(BEAT)
Any of them Hassad?

PETER
No.

AGENT #3
Sir, could that have been Hassad who escaped?

COLIN
I don’t know. Possibly.
PETER
If not. Whoever that was, will tell him what happened.

Colin checks his weapon.

COLIN
Let him.

Colin turns to two of the agents.

COLIN (cont’d)
You’ll take it from here?

AGENT #2
We’ve got it handled, Sir.

COLIN
Good.

He exits the house and Peter follows behind.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF HASSAD’S SAFEHOUSE—MOMENTS LATER
Colin is walking away from the house when Peter catches up to him.

PETER
Hey, Colin.

Colin turns to face him.

COLIN
Yeah, Pete? What’s up?

PETER
I... I just wanted to thank you. You know for what you did in there for me.

COLIN
Just watching your back. Doing my job.

PETER
But Colin you saved my life...twice.

Colin slaps him on the shoulder.
COLIN
(Smiling)
You’d do the same for me, right?

He walks off again before Peter can respond.

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION—LATE NIGHT

The rest of the unit has dispersed and Colin and Peter are once again left alone in the bunker.

The two are asleep on their cots.

Colin is tossing and turning as Peter sleeps soundly. Suddenly Colin wakes up in a start. He is sweating and breathing heavily. Peter then wakes up.

PETER
Hey, Colin you okay?

Colin swings his legs to the side of the cot, trying to catch his breath.

COLIN
Yeah, I’m fine.

He gets up and starts to head for the door.

COLIN (cont’d)
I just need some air.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE BUILDING—A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Colin steps outside walks a few feet and then throws up. Peter in standing just inside the doorway.

PETER
Are you sure you all right?

Colin turns to face Peter.

COLIN
Yeah. I think I might be coming down with a bug.

PETER
(Disbelief in his voice)
Okay.

Colin slaps him on the back as he walks past him inside.
COLIN
I’m good.

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - MOMENTS LATER

Colin sits back down on his cot as Peter reenters the room.

PETER
You know Colin...

COLIN
Yeah?

PETER
You did an excellent job today. I don’t think anyone else could have done a better job. I mean only two wounded and no causalities on our part.

COLIN
Yeah, maybe.

Peter sits down on his own cot.

PETER
You did what had to be done.

Colin lays down on the cot.

COLIN
(Half hearted)
I know.

Peter then lays down.

PETER
Make sure you don’t give me that bug.

COLIN
Don’t worry I won’t.

PETER
Good night.

COLIN
G’night.

A MONTH LATER
INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - NIGHT

Colin is sitting down in front of his computer as Peter is busy typing away at his own. He clicks on an e-mail. In it is a photo of his younger brother AIDAN and the words: “It’s too late to save him.”

    COLIN
    Hassad!

Peter walks over to Colin.

    PETER
    What is it?

Colin points to the photo.

    COLIN
    He’s threatening Aidan.

    PETER
    You can’t be surprised Colin. Not after what happened last month in that safe house.

    COLIN
    You don’t have to remind me.

Colin turns to face Peter.

    COLIN (cont’d)
    But Aidan doesn’t have anything to do with this. He wasn’t in that safe house. He’s a professor.

    PETER
    You’re talking about someone who didn’t think twice about executing a three year old girl.

    COLIN
    Yeah, you’re right.

He turns back and looks over his work area.

    COLIN (cont’d)
    I can at least try to warn him.

He pushes papers to the side.

    COLIN (cont’d)
    Now where did I put my cell phone?
INT. AIDAN AND NORAH’S GALLAGHER’S BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING

In a darken bedroom Aidan and NORAH are still asleep. The alarm, sitting on Aidan’s night stand goes off. He shifts under the covers but does not get up to turn it off. After a few moments Norah leans over him and does so.

NORAH
(Shaking him)
Aidan. Time to get up.

He lets out a slight grunt. She shakes him a bit harder.

NORAH (cont’d)
Come on you’re going to be late.

He wakes up and looks at the clock letting out a groan as Norah rolls over and goes back to sleep. He gets up and sits on the edge of the bed, glancing over his shoulder to Norah. He leans over towards her.

AIDAN
You going to get up too?

NORAH
Nope. My class doesn’t start until nine-thirty.

AIDAN
So you’re going back to sleep?

NORAH
Yep.

He kisses her on the neck.

AIDAN
Are you sure?

She rolls back over.

NORAH
Colin... go to work.

AIDAN
I just thought we could get a head start on the upcoming weekend.

NORAH
You’re going to be late.
AIDAN
I’m the professor, they’re going to have to wait.

NORAH
One day that charm of yours is going to get you in trouble.

AIDAN
Maybe.

Norah sighs.

NORAH
All right. I’ll give you a sneak peak of the weekend.

She gives him a long passionate kiss.

NORAH (cont’d)
Now go to work.

She rolls back over.

AIDAN
You’re going to send me off to work after a kiss like that?

NORAH
Yeah.

AIDAN
That’s cruel Norah, just plain cruel.

NORAH
Yeah but you still love me.

AIDAN
Yeah, I do.

He kisses her on top of the head.

AIDAN (cont’d)
I’ll see you at Common Hour.

NORAH
(Drifting off to sleep)
Ah-huh.
INT. ADIAN’S CAR - MORNING

Adian is driving to work. The radio is on and his cell phone is lying on the passenger’s seat. He stops at a red light, tapping his fingers on the steering wheel to the beat of the music. The cell phone rings just as the light turns green. He glances at it but does not answer it as he steps on the gas.

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - NIGHT

COLIN
Come on Aidan. Pick up. Pick up.

He glances down at his watch.

COLIN (cont’d)
Come on I know class hasn’t started yet. Answer the phone!

Aidan’s voice mail kicks in. Colin lets out a frustrated sigh.

AIDAN
(Voice Over)
Hi, I’m unavailable now. Leave your name and number and I’ll get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks.

PETER
What is it?

COLIN
It’s his voice mail.
(Beat)
Aidan it’s Colin...It’s extremely important that you call me back as soon as possible.

Colin throws the cell phone back on the table.

PETER
Not much more you can do.

Colin stares at the computer screen.

COLIN
I hope I’m not too late.
INT. AIDAN’S CAR – A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Aidan turns in the university’s parking lot. He stops at one of the stop signs. As he is about to continue another car comes barreling into him.

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION – NIGHT

Colin starts to dial his cell phone again when he notices a new e-mail on the computer. He sits back down in front of the computer and clicks on the e-mail. A photo of Aidan’s car accident flashes on the screen with the message “I told you, you would be too late to save him.” Colin stares at the photo his breathing becoming more rapid.

    COLIN
    Hassad you’ll pay for this.

Peter sitting at his computer turns his attention to Colin’s monitor.

    PETER
    Don’t let him get you, Colin. That may not even be Aidan’s car.
    (BEAT)
    Try his cell again.

Colin finishes dialing the number. He glances up at Peter a look of despair in his eyes.

    COLIN
    It’s dead.

He tosses the phone on the table.

    PETER
    That doesn’t mean anything. Call his wife.

    COLIN
    I can’t do that.

    PETER
    Why not?

    COLIN
    As far as she knows Aidan hasn’t had contact with me in almost ten years.
PETER
She doesn’t know that you’ve kept in contact with him?

COLIN
No. As far as she knows I’ve been in Africa with Doctors Without Borders.

Peter clicks off Colin’s e mail.

PETER
You’ve got to keep your head about this. Don’t let him force you make a mistake.

Colin clicks the e mail back on. He stares intently at the screen.

COLIN
I won’t.

INT. AIDAN AND NORAH’S KITCHEN - MORNING

Norah is sitting at the table finishing up a cup of coffee when the phone rings.

NORAH
Hello?

OFFICER THOMSON
(Voice over)
Norah Gallagher?

NORAH
Yes.

OFFICER THOMSON
(Voice over)
This is Officer Thomson. (BEAT) Your husband is Aidan Gallagher?

NORAH
(Hesitantly) Yes.

OFFICER THOMSON
(Voice over)
I’m sorry to have to tell you this....
INT. AIDAN’S HOSPITAL ROOM - MORNING

Aidan who is alone in the room is hooked up to a breathing tube as well as other tubes. There is a bandage over his forehead, his face is covered with smaller cuts and scrapes and his left eye is swollen shut.

Norah very slowly opens the door and enters the room. She bites down on her lower lip when she sees Aidan. She sits down in the chair set up next to his bed, taking hold of his hand.

NORAH
(Softly)
Aidan? Aidan can you hear me?

Aidan slowly turns his head and attempts to smile. Norah brushes back his hair.

NORAH (cont’d)
I thought you were really looking forward to our weekend getaway. If you didn’t want to go you could have just told me. There wasn’t any need to got this extreme.

Aidan once again tries to smile. He then attempts to speak.

AIDAN
(Muffled)
I...

NORAH
Aidan don’t try to talk.
(BEAT)
They’re going to take you to surgery.

He looks at her with a look of worry in his eyes. Norah squeezes his hand.

NORAH (cont’d)
They’re going to take good care of you. Then when you’re feeling better, we’ll take that trip.

AIDAN
(Muffled)
Norah...
NORAH
Would you stop being so stubborn. Don’t talk.

A couple of ORDERLIES in their twenties come into the room.

ORDERLY #1
Ma’am. I’m sorry but we’re going to have to take him now.

NORAH
All right.

She stands up and leans over her husband’s bed. She gently kisses him on top of his head.

NORAH (cont’d)
(Softly)
I’ll see you soon. I love you.

AIDAN
(Muffled)
I...

NORAH
Aidan.

AIDAN
(Determined)
I...love...you... too.

She looks at Aidan trying hard not to cry.

ORDERLY #1
Ma’am.

Norah backs away from the bed.

NORAH
Yes. I’m sorry.

The two orderlies move him from the bed to the gurney as Aidan looks at Norah. As they start to take him out he weakly lifts his right hand to wave to her. She waves back.

NORAH (cont’d)
(Mouthing the words)
I love you.

They take him out of the room and she collapses in the chair, crying.
INT. THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT - NIGHT

Aidan is lying in bed with various tubes connected to him. An oxygen mask over his mouth. He is still unconscious when Norah enters the room. She walks over and sits beside him taking hold of his hand.

NORAH
Hey, Aidan. They tell me you’re going to be all right.
(BEAT)
You better not make a liar out of the doctor.

He begins to come out of the anesthesia.

NORAH (cont’d)
Hey, Sweetheart.
(She kisses him on the cheek)
Welcome back.

AIDAN
(Weakly)
Norah.

NORAH
Shh. I don’t know if you should be talking.

AIDAN
Wha... what happened?

NORAH
Aidan. I’m serious.

AIDAN
Please.

NORAH
You had a car accident.

AIDAN
Car accident?

She brushes back his hair.

NORAH
We’ll talk about it when you’re stronger.

Aidan glances over at the monitors and then back to Norah.
NORAH (cont’d)
(Smiling)
You’re going to be okay.

She takes hold of his hand and gives it a squeeze.

INT. THE HOSPITAL’S HALLWAY – THE NEXT DAY

Hassad, hair and beard cut, walks down the hallway. He is wearing a white doctor’s coat and sports a pair of horned rimmed glasses. He passes a couple of NURSES as he arrives at Aidan’s room.

INT. AIDAN’S HOSPITAL ROOM – A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Aidan sleeps comfortably, but is still attached to a respirator. A photo of him and Norah sits on the table to the left of Aidan’s bed.

Hassad enters the room and walks over to the chair next to the bed. He glances over at the photo, then leans back in the chair watching Aidan.

After awhile Aidan begins to wake up. He looks over at Hassad a look of unrecognition in his eyes.

Hassad leans in towards the bed.

HAJJASSAD
I’m glad you are awake. After all I want you to know who is responsible for all this.

There is a look of confusion in Aidan’s eyes.

HAJJASSAD (cont’d)
And for your death.

Aidan blindly searches for the call button, but Hassad reaches it first and takes it out of his reach.

HAJJASSAD (cont’d)
No, no. We wouldn’t want to be interrupted.

Aidan attempts to get up, but Hassad holds him down on the bed.

HAJJASSAD (cont’d)
You might as well relax, Gallagher, no one is going to help you.
Hassad turns the morphine drip up a couple of notches. Aidan tries to keep his eyes open.

HASSAD (cont’d)
Don’t drift off just yet, Gallagher.

Hassad sits back down on the chair.

HASSAD (cont’d)
You see a little while back your brother, Colin, invaded my home and killed my brother as well as my nephew. One week shy of his twelfth birthday. Now a price must be paid for those deaths.

He pulls a needle from the pocket of the white coat.

HASSAD (cont’d)
You were supposed to die in that car crash.

He picks up the photo.

HASSAD (cont’d)
I can see why you have such a strong will to live.

(BEAT)
I’ll let you go to your grave wondering what I may or may not do to her.

Aidan looks angrily at Hassad.

HASSAD (cont’d)
My only regret is that you don’t have a child of your own. A son, a daughter, it would not have mattered to me.

Hassad readies the needle.

HASSAD (cont’d)
Rest assured, Gallagher, if you did have a child they would be joining you.

He injects the needle into the IV drip. He then leans over the bed.
HASSAD (cont’d)
Remember... Colin set this all in motion.

Aidan is still struggling to keep his eyes open.

HASSAD (cont’d)
Think about that as you are about to enter Hell. But don’t worry your brother will soon be joining you there. Then you can, how is it that you say? Hash it all out with him.

He glances once more at the photo.

HASSAD (cont’d)
(Smirking)
She really is a beautiful woman.

Hassad heads for the door. He opens it and takes one last look at Aidan.

A look of fear comes across Aidan’s face and the heart monitor goes off. Hassad smiles, opens the door and exits.

INT. THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF AIDAN’S ROOM- A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Hassad is a couple of doors away from Aidan’s room when the hospital staff reacts to his heart monitor going off. A handful of the STAFF rush past Hassad in the hallway.

Norah steps off the elevator and passes Hassad, who upon recognizing her, smiles. As Hassad steps onto the elevator Norah realizes that something is going on in Aidan’s room.

As the elevator doors close Hassad smiles satisfactorily.

A NURSE is about to enter Aidan’s room.

NORAH
What’s going on? What’s wrong with Aidan?

NURSE
Cardiac arrest.

Norah begins to follow the nurse into the room.

NURSE (cont’d)
I’m sorry you’ll have to wait out here.
The nurse proceeds inside and Norah is left to stare at the door.

INT. THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF AIDAN’S ROOM- A FEW MINUTES LATER

Norah is still standing outside of the door, pacing when DOCTOR STEIN exits Aidan’s room.

DOCTOR STEIN
Mrs. Gallagher... I’m sorry.

NORAH
(In shock)
What?

DOCTOR STEIN
We did all we could.

NORAH
No. You said he was going to be okay.

She starts to cry. Doctor Stein places a hand on her shoulder.

DOCTOR STEIN
Considering his age and overall condition before the accident, yes we assumed he would make a full recovery. But sometimes... sometimes the heart just gives out. I’m sorry.

Norah tries to compose herself.

NORAH
Can... can I see him?

DOCTOR STEIN
Certainly.

He opens the door for her and she enters Aidan’s room.

INT. AIDAN’S HOSPITAL ROOM- A FEW MOMENTS LATER

The last of the staff leaves the room as Norah enters. She walks over to Aidan’s bed and sits down next to him. She takes hold of his hand and kisses it as she starts to cry again. She leans over his bed and places her head on his chest and continues to cry.
INT. - UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - MORNING

Peter is sitting in front of his computer, the screen loaded with Arabic text. Colin sits at his computer, a cup of coffee sitting at the side of the monitor, when there is an indication of incoming e-mail. With a click of the mouse he accesses the new mail. There is a photo of Aidan and underneath the photo the letters RIP. He clicks on the attachment which a story from the local paper about Aidan’s death. He quickly scans the article then accidentally knocks over the coffee. Peter ducks out of the way of the spilling coffee.

PETER
Hey, careful.

COLIN
He’s done it.

PETER
What? Who’s done what?

COLIN
Hassad he killed Aidan.

He points to the computer screen. Peter scans the article.

PETER
It says he died of a coronary as the result of the accident.

COLIN
You don’t really believe that do you, Pete?

Peter sits back down in his own chair.

PETER
No, I suppose not.

COLIN
He got to him somehow. That means he’s in New York.

Colin reaches for his cell phone.

PETER
Who are you calling?

COLIN
Headquarters.
Peter takes the phone from Colin.

**PETER**

Hold on there. Do you really think he’s going to still be there? You know how he works. Do what you have to do and get out of there.

**(BEAT)**

Whatever he did to Aidan, he did it, and was probably out of the country within hours.

Colin tosses the empty coffee cup across the room.

**COLIN**

Yeah, well the question is how did he get into the country in the first place?

**PETER**

I know, Colin. There’s a long way to go before they really start to plug up all the holes.

**COLIN**

It should have been done by now.

**PETER**

Yeah, but we’re not the politicians. We can only do our job and hope it makes a difference.

Colin stares at the article.

**COLIN**

He’ll pay for this. I’ll make him pay for this.

Peter clicks Colin’s computer off. He puts his hand on Colin’s shoulder.

**PETER**

I know you can get him. Just keep your head about yourself. He’s waiting for you to make a mistake. Make sure you don’t make any.

**COLIN**

I won’t.
INT. NORAH’S BEDROOM - EVENING

MARY, Norah’s older sister, is turning down the bed when Norah enters the bedroom.

MARY
Would you believe how many people showed up for Aidan’s funeral?

NORAH
(Sitting on the edge of the bed)
Yeah, well everybody loved him.

Mary sits down next to her.

MARY
He was a really good guy. All those people, showing up at the funeral, proves it.

NORAH
I know.

Norah grabs her stomach for a moment and then rushes to the master bathroom where she gets sick. Mary rushes over to the bathroom door.

MARY
Norah are you all right?

NORAH
(Voice Over)
Yeah, yeah. I’m fine.

MARY
Can I do anything?

NORAH
No nothing.

Norah exits the bathroom after a few moments. She climbs into bed pulling the covers over her head.

MARY
Do you want me to call a doctor?

NORAH
No.
MARY
But you just threw up.

NORAH
It’s just the stress. I’ll be okay.

MARY
Are you sure?

NORAH
Just go home.

Mary pulls the covers back and kisses Norah on the head.

MARY
All right. But if you need anything...

NORAH
Yeah, yeah I know... just call.

MARY
Yes. For anything... Any time.

Norah pulls the covers back over her head.

NORAH
Just go home.

MARY
Okay, okay. I’m going.

Mary exits the room. Norah turns over and picks up a photo of Aidan sitting on the end table. She stares at it a few moments and then drifts off to sleep the photo still in her hand.

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - DAY

Colin is sitting at the computer. A cup of coffee sitting on the side as well as a half eaten sandwich. The screen is full of text in Arabic. He looks over the information in front of him with intensity.

Peter enters the room with a folder.

PETER
I’ve got more pictures.

COLIN
I told you I don’t want to look at pictures unless they are of Hassad.
Peter flips through the sheets in the folder.

PETER
Sure looks like him from here.

Colin turns in his seat to face Peter.

COLIN
Come on hand them over.

Peter gives him the folder and picks up the coffee cup.

PETER
Is this leaded or unleaded?

Colin looks closely at the top photo.

COLIN
You’re right! This is him!

PETER
Told you so.

COLIN
Where were these taken?

PETER
The first three were taken on the border of Afghanistan. The last four were taken just outside of Baghdad.

Colin continues to study the photos as Peter moves on to inspect the sandwich.

COLIN
When were they taken?

PETER
The ones in Afghanistan were taken six weeks ago and the ones in Baghdad two weeks ago.

COLIN
You don’t have anything more recent?

PETER
Sorry.

Colin tosses the photos on the desk next to the computer.
COLIN
Then what good are they? He could be anywhere now.

Peter turns his attention to the computer.

PETER
Well have you come up with anything?

He starts to put the sandwich in his mouth and Colin grabs it from him.

COLIN
No!

Peter sits in front of his own computer.

PETER
Don’t worry we’ll get him.

COLIN
(Half hearted)
Yeah.

He clicks on another file.

PETER
Colin.

COLIN
What?

Colin scans over the computer screen.

PETER
Do you think it’s time you took a vacation?

Colin turns his attention to Peter.

COLIN
What?

PETER
Just for a bit. A week or so. Go to the Bahamas or something.

COLIN
Peter how long have you known me?

PETER
Six years.
COLIN
And have you ever known me to take a vacation?

PETER
Well, no. But...

COLIN
I’m not about to start now.

PETER
Maybe you should.

COLIN
Well maybe instead on swiping my sandwich you should be out there gathering information that we could actually use.

Peter picks up the folder and then heads for the door. He turns to face Colin.

PETER
I get you’re still upset about your brother. But I’d advise you use that energy to find Hassad.

Peter then exits the room. Colin stares at the door for a moment and then turns his attention back to the computer. He turns it on, accessing the file with the Arabic writing. He looks at it intently and starts to write down some translations.

SIX MONTHS LATER

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - NIGHT

Colin is sleeping with his head on the desk in front of this computer. Peter sitting next to him is dozing off in his own chair. Peter is jolted awake by the signal of incoming mail from Colin’s computer. He leans over poking Colin in the shoulder.

PETER
Colin, wake up.

COLIN
(Groggily)
Huh?
PETER
Check your mail.

Colin clicks on the e-mail. The word “congratulations” appears all in caps with an attachment which Colin clicks on. A photo of Norah and her sister leaving a doctor’s office appears on the screen. Colin rubs his eyes trying to focus on the screen as he moves in closer. Underneath the picture are the words: “Hear you’re going to be an uncle”.

COLIN
Norah.

PETER
What’s going on?

Colin leans back in his chair.

COLIN
Norah’s pregnant.

Peter slaps him on the back.

PETER
So you’re going to be an uncle. That’s great.

COLIN
No not really.

PETER
Why not?

COLIN
Don’t you see? The e-mail’s from Hassad. He’s setting her up as another target.

Peter scans the e-mail.

PETER
He doesn’t say it in the e-mail.

Colin clicks off the e-mail.

COLIN
He doesn’t have to.

Peter sits back in his chair thinking a moment.

PETER
Do you think whatever he’s going to do is going to be...soon?
Colin runs his hand through his hair.

COLIN
No, I don’t think so.

PETER
How do you know?

COLIN
He was right up and front about Aidan. No fooling around. He let me know it was coming right then and there. And he loved the fact I was helpless to prevent it. He’s move on. He’s going to stretch it out. If he was going to do something to Norah he would have said so.

PETER
So what.. He thinks you’re still powerless to prevent anything from happening to Norah?

COLIN
Probably.
(BEAT)
Wait. Maybe...

PETER
Maybe what?

Colin gets up and paces around the room.

COLIN
We agree he’s probably waiting for the baby to arrive.

PETER
Yeah.

COLIN
Then I’ve got time to get to New York. I can protect her and the baby.

PETER
What are you going to do? Tell Headquarters your reassigning yourself to New York to protect your sister-in-law?
COLIN
What are you saying she doesn’t warrant protection?

PETER
We’re not exactly talking a President or Ambassador here. We’re not even talking JENNIFER ANISTON.

Peter turns to his computer and starts typing.

COLIN
Then I’ll take a leave of absence.

Peter stops typing and turns to face Colin.

PETER
What?

COLIN
You said a while back I needed a vacation.

Peter studies his face for a few moments then turns back to his computer.

PETER
You won’t be on vacation though.

COLIN
Yeah, but I’ll end it with Hassad. You know he’s counting on me to go there and protect her. He wants to get me just as bad as I want to get him.

Peter is continuing to type.

PETER
No one gets into the mind of a terrorist like you my friend.

Colin sits down next to him.

COLIN
That’s my job, isn’t it?
(BEAT)
Who are you e-mailing?

PETER
ELIZABETH.
COLIN
You’re girlfriend?

PETER
Fiancee.

COLIN
When did this happen?

He finishes writing the e mail.

PETER
Remember about two months ago when
I took those few days off? It was
Elizabeth I went to see. That’s
when I asked her.

COLIN
You never told me that.

Peter straightens out a few of the files on his desk.

PETER
Oh, yeah I did.

He picks up a file and waves it in the air.

PETER (cont’d)
You were just too wrapped up in
this.

He places the file on the desk with the others and grabs for
his jacket.

PETER (cont’d)
I’m going out for a walk. Get some
air before I have to finish that
report we have to send to
Headquarters. Can I get you
anything? Coffee, a sandwich, a
woman?

Colin picks up the top file.

COLIN
I don’t need help meeting women.

Peter starts for the door.

PETER
Oh, I know that. You just don’t
hold on to them.
COLIN

What?

PETER
You aren’t with one woman more then five minutes... And it’s because of the job.

Colin just looks at Peter without answering.

PETER (cont’d)
I won’t be long.

Peter exits the room. Colin stretches over to Peter’s computer and picks up a photo of Peter and Elizabeth. He stares at it a moment before putting it back. He clicks on his own computer and accesses the e-mail from Hassad. He taps his fingers on the desk as stares at the computer screen.

INT. NORAH’S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Norah is sitting on her couch, with a cup of tea on the coffee table, looking at a photo album.

NORAH
This picture was taken of me when your Dad and I were at the Blarney Stone. Believe it or not he insisted on holding me while I leaned over upside down to kiss it. He told the guy who usually did it that he only trusted himself to protect me.  
(She laughs)
Your Dad argued with him for a good ten minutes before winning the argument.

She runs her over the picture of Aidan, smiling. She then puts her hands over her stomach.

NORAH (cont’d)
He isn’t here to protect us anymore Little One. There really isn’t anyone here to protect to protect us. I guess we’re on our own.  
(BEAT)
I promise though I’ll try my best to protect you.

Mary enters the room with a plate full of cookies.
MARY
And what would you need protection from?

NORAH
Oh, I don’t know. An overbearing sister.

Mary sits down and leans over Norah’s stomach.

MARY
Your Mommy doesn’t appreciate anything I do for her.

NORAH
That’s not true.

The door bell rings. She puts the album down on the coffee table and goes to answer the door. Standing in front of her is Colin.

NORAH (cont’d)
Yes, may I help you?

Colin stands in front of Norah a few moments before answering her.

COLIN
You should have asked who I was before opening the door.

NORAH
Excuse me.

Mary walks over to the door and shuts it.

NORAH (cont’d)
Mary.

MARY
Who is it?

COLIN
(VOICE OVER)
Colin Gallagher.

Norah opens the door and stares at her brother-in-law.

NORAH
Aidan’s brother?

COLIN
Yeah.
MARY
The doctor?

COLIN
(Still looking at Norah)
That’s me.

NORAH
I’m sorry, Colin. Please... come in. This is my sister Mary.

He smiles at Mary as he enters the and Mary gives him the once over.

MARY
(To Norah)
Now why couldn’t Aidan have introduced me to him?

NORAH
Mary I told you Aidan hadn’t seen him in over ten years.
(To Colin)
I’m sorry. Please sit down. Can I get you anything?

COLIN
No thank you.

He glances at the photo album still sitting open on the coffee table then sits on the couch.

MARY
So why weren’t you at the funeral?

NORAH
He was in Asia.

COLIN
Africa actually.

MARY
Africa?

NORAH
Colin works for Doctors Without Borders.

MARY
Isn’t that noble?
COLIN
Perhaps, but unfortunately the communications aren’t the best. I’ve just found out about Aidan.
(BEAT)
I’m sorry I couldn’t have been here sooner.

Mary looks at her watch.

MARY
Is it that time already?

She gets up from the couch and reaches for her purse on the coffee table.

MARY (cont’d)
I’m sorry. I’ve got a meeting to get to.

She shakes Colin’s hand.

MARY (cont’d)
It was really nice to meet you Colin. I hope you’re in town long enough so we can get together again.

COLIN
Nice meeting you too, Mary.

Mary leans over and gives her sister a hug.

MARY
You’ll call if you need anything.

NORAH
Of course.

She walks her sister to the front door. Norah opens the door and Mary turns around before exiting, leaning in towards her sister.

MARY
(Glancing over towards Colin)
Maybe you can put in a good word for me with Colin.

Norah shakes her head, laughing.

NORAH
You’re too much sometimes, Mary.
Mary gives her another hug.

MARY
I’m serious.

She then exits the house.

NORAH
I’ll see you.

Norah closes the door still shaking her head before heading back to Colin who is flipping through the photo album.

NORAH (cont’d)
It’s too bad your work didn’t allow you to come home more often.

He closes the album putting it back on the coffee table.

COLIN
Yeah. Norah I really wish I was here for the funeral.

NORAH
It’s all right. I understand. I really admire what you do. Aidan really admired what you do.

COLIN
Really?

NORAH
Oh, yeah. He was always bragging about the great work his big brother was doing. How you were making the world a better place.

(BEAT)
You know I think he was a bit jealous of you. You were off on these great adventures. And I think there were times he wanted to join you.

COLIN
Those feelings probably didn’t last all that long. Aidan was more of a homebody.

NORAH
Yeah, that’s true.

(BEAT)
Speaking of home. How long are you back in the States?
COLIN
I don’t know. Could be a week, a month. Things could change tomorrow.

NORAH
So where will you be staying?

COLIN
Oh, I’m going to head over to the Marriott on Hempstead Turnpike.

NORAH
Nonsense. You’ll stay here.

COLIN
What?

Norah gets up from the couch.

NORAH
You can stay here. There’s no need for you to spend money on a hotel.

Colin then gets up from the couch.

COLIN
Norah, I couldn’t...

She gives his arm a squeeze.

NORAH
Of course you can. If Aidan were here he would insist upon it.

COLIN
Norah...

NORAH
Besides...
(She leans in towards him)
And I know this doesn’t sound too liberated... But I would feel safer if there was a man in the house. Especially now, what with the baby on the way.

He glances down at her stomach.

COLIN
Did Aidan know... About the baby?

Norah looks pensive.
NORAH
No, unfortunately. I didn’t find out myself until the day after his funeral.

COLIN
I’m sorry. I’m sure he would have been thrilled.

Norah forces herself to smile.

NORAH
And he would have been thrilled if you were to stay here. Say you will.

He looks at Norah, who has a look of anticipation on her face, for a moment.

COLIN
(With a slight smile on his face)
Sure, why not?

NORAH
(Excited)
Great.

She grabs hold of his hand, leading him out of the living room.

NORAH(cont’d)
I’ll show you the guest room.

INT. THE GUEST ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

It is a fairly simple room of average size. A four drawer dresser sits just to the right of the door. A double sized bed is set up in the room with night stands on either side. Across from the bed is a closet of medium size. To the right of the closet is a TV set sitting on a wooden entertainment center with a stereo system on the bottom. To the right of the entertainment is the door leading to a bathroom.

Norah enters the room followed by Colin.

NORAH
I know it’s not much. But you’ll have your privacy and your own bathroom.

Colin glances over the room.
COLIN
It’s very nice.

NORAH
I would guess it’s a bit better then the accommodations you’re used to.

COLIN
Yeah.

Colin sits down on the bed.

NORAH
I know it’s not the Marriott.

COLIN
It’s not that. The room... It’s great.

Norah sits down next to Colin.

NORAH
Then what is it?

He looks at Norah a moment before answering.

COLIN
I can’t believe how nice you’re treating me.

NORAH
Well, you are my brother-in-law.

COLIN
But you hardly know me. We’ve only just met.

Norah smiles at him.

NORAH
I don’t know. I feel as if I know you pretty well.

COLIN
How can that be?

NORAH
Aidan. He used to talk about you all the time. He must have had a million stories about the two of you growing up.
COLIN
Must have bored you to tears.

NORAH
No, not really. There was always a spark in his eyes when he talked about you. Same with your Mom.

Colin stands up from the bed.

COLIN
I don’t know why.

NORAH
Because they loved you. It was obvious.

COLIN
I don’t think I deserved that love.

NORAH
Why would you say that?

COLIN
What kind of son or brother would miss both of their funerals?

NORAH
Colin that wasn’t your fault. I mean if you could have been there you would have, right?

COLIN
Yeah.

NORAH
So stop beating yourself up about it.

   (BEAT)
Wait. I have something I think you’d like to have in the room.

COLIN
What’s that?

She starts to head for the door.

NORAH
You’ll see.

She exits the room and Colin takes out his wallet. He sits back down on the bed. He opens it up and pulls out a small photo of him and Aidan taken when they were boys.
He looks at the photo and smiles. A few moments later Norah comes back in the room as Colin puts the photo back in the wallet.

NORAH (cont’d)

Here.

Norah hands him a photo taken of the family at Colin’s college graduation, as she sits down next to him.

COLIN

Gee I haven’t seen this picture in... I don’t know how long.

NORAH

You take it.

COLIN

Norah I couldn’t...

NORAH

No go on. (She hands him a set of keys)
And here you’ll need a set of house keys. Their Aidan’s set. They gave them back to me after... After his accident.

Colin examines the key chain which has five keys on it.

COLIN

Exactly how many locks do you have on your doors?

NORAH

I’m sorry.

She takes back the keys.

NORAH (cont’d)

You’ll only need these two. This key is for Aidan’s office at the University and these two are for his... car.

COLIN

You all right?

NORAH

Yeah. I still find it hard to believe they were able to retrieve these keys, considering the shape the car was in.
COLIN
You don’t have to give me a set of house keys. I mean I may be gone tomorrow.

Norah takes a deep breath.

NORAH
I certainly hope not. I mean I want a chance to get to know you. Get your side of what happened when you and Aidan were kids.

She hands him back the keys.

NORAH (cont’d)
Now go on and take them.

He takes back the keys.

NORAH (cont’d)
Oh.

COLIN
What’s wrong?

NORAH
Oh, nothing. The baby is just kicking. You know I think your niece or nephew must really like you. I can’t remember the last time the baby’s been this active.

COLIN
Really?

Colin stares at Norah’s stomach as she rubs it.

NORAH
Would you like to...

COLIN
I... I don’t know.

She takes hold of his hand and places it on her stomach.

NORAH
(Smiling)
Go on, it’s all right.

COLIN
Whoa. That’s incredible.
NORAH
Isn’t it though?
(BEAT)
I hope you’ll be around long enough
to welcome the latest addition to
the family.

COLIN
I’d like that.

Norah stands up from the bed.

NORAH
I don’t know about you. But we are
starving. So I’m going to start
dinner. I hope you don’t mind
spaghetti and meatballs.

COLIN
No that’s fine. Do you need any
help with that?

NORAH
No, I can handle it. You can go get
your stuff from the car and start
settling in. I’ll call you when
dinner’s ready.

COLIN
Okay.

Norah exits the room. Colin looks down at the photo again,
gets up from the bed and places it on the night stand. He
smiles at it wistfully.

INT. THE GUEST ROOM- LATE NIGHT

Colin turns restlessly in the bed a couple of times. He leans
over and strains to look, at the photo sitting on the night
stand, in the darkness. He turns on the light, picks up the
photo and stares at it a moment before sighing. He replaces
the photo and gets out of bed. He pulls a pair of jeans and a
shirt out of the dresser and puts them on. Grabs a jacket
from the closet, turns off the light and then exits the room.

INT. THE HALLWAY - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Colin glances at Norah’s closed bedroom door which is next
to his room, before heading in the opposite direction towards
the living room.
EXT. A CEMETERY - LATE NIGHT

There among the other markers sits Aidan’s tombstone which reads: AIDAN PATRICK GALLAGHER AUGUST 16, 1971 - SEPTEMBER 7, 2003 DEVOTED HUSBAND AND BELOVED BROTHER. A bouquet of flowers lay in front of the tombstone.

Colin approaches the tombstone. He blesses himself and then kneels down, staring at the marker. He then runs his hand over the name and dates. He sighs heavily.

    COLIN
    Aidan... I’m ... I’m so very sorry.

He bites down on his lower lip, turning away for a moment.

    COLIN (cont’d)
    This should have never have happened to you. And it did because of me. And as much as I want to I can’t change what happened. But I can promise you this... I will make sure that Norah and the baby stay safe. And I will get Hassad. He’s not going to get away with this.

He picks off a leaf from the top of the tombstone.

    COLIN (cont’d)
    I think I’m going to quit the Agency. I have to. I mean look at me. I can’t even visit my brother’s grave in broad daylight. I have to do it in the middle of the night.

He takes a quick look around the cemetery.

    COLIN (cont’d)
    And even now I’m not so sure it’s so safe.
    (BEAT)
    I missed your funeral and Mom’s. I almost missed Dad’s. Makes me wonder what else I’m missing.

He stares at the words Devoted Husband for a moment.

    COLIN (cont’d)
    You were the one who always said you were envious of me. I don’t see why. You’re the one who had the better life.
COLIN (cont'd)
A career you loved, colleagues who respected you and a wife who obviously adored you. And... And a baby on the way. You had stability and I have to tell you that’s a whole lot better then the life I’ve been leading the past fifteen years.

(BEAT)
You know it should have been you sitting with Norah tonight. Feeling the baby kick, having dinner with her. And I’m sorry I took that away from you.

Something rustles in the grass and Colin turns to see what it is.

COLIN (cont’d)
Yeah, it definitely would be nice to lead a normal life.

He stands up and wipes the dirt from his jeans.

COLIN (cont’d)
Hey, hopefully the next time I come to see you, it’ll be in the light of day.

He blesses himself again and leaves the grave site.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM - NIGHT

Colin is asleep. He then starts to toss and turn. He wakes up with a start, breathing heavily and with sweat covering his face. He looks around in a panic at the darken room, then gets up from the bed. He walks over to the dresser and takes from the top drawer a gun. He then proceeds to exit the room.

INT. THE HALLWAY- A FEW MOMENTS LATER

With the gun at his side Colin walks down the hallway towards Norah’s room. He walks slowly, deliberately constantly looking all around. He reaches Norah’s door and very slowly opens it. Peering in he sees Norah sleeping peacefully. He watches her a few moments before finally closing the door. He leans up against the wall, wiping away some of the sweat with the back of his hand. He inhales deeply before heading back to his own room.
INT. COLIN’S ROOM- A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Colin enters his room and places the gun back in the top drawer. He then heads to the bathroom.

INT. COLIN’S BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

He turns on the light and walks over to the sink. He stares a moment at his reflection before splashing cold water on his face. He looks again at his reflection and breaths in deeply as the water drips from his face. He grabs for a towel to dry his face. He looks at himself again in the mirror, but this time more intently.

    COLIN
    I won’t let you get to me Hassad.

He tosses the towel down on the sink before exiting the bathroom.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM- MOMENTS LATER

Colin sits down on the edge of the bed and is about to lie down when he hears something in the hallway. He gets up and opens the door, sticking his head into the hallway.

INT. THE HALLWAY- A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Norah is just passing his room.

    NORAH
    Colin. Did I wake you up? I’m sorry.

    COLIN
    No you didn’t. Is everything all right?

    NORAH
    Yeah, it’s fine. I’m just going to get some orange juice. Do you want some?

    COLIN
    No, thank you.

    NORAH
    Okay.
She walks closer to Colin.  

NORAH (cont’d)  
Are you all right?

COLIN  
Yeah, I’m fine.

NORAH  
It’s just you look a bit pale. And your hair’s wet. Do you have a fever?

She goes to feel his forehead and he pulls away.

COLIN  
No. I’m okay. It’s the jet lag... it does some pretty weird things to me. I’ll be all right once my body clock is reset.

NORAH  
I know what you mean about jet lag. It usually helps me to just stay up through the first night. If you like I could stay up with you.

COLIN  
You really should get your rest. You know with the baby and all.

NORAH  
Well I’m up now. And I really don’t mind.

She takes him by the hand and starts leading him down the hallway.

NORAH (cont’d)  
Maybe we can find a good movie to watch.

COLIN  
Norah, I don’t know.

NORAH  
Come on it’ll be fun.

INT. THE LIVING ROOM - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Norah leads Colin over to the couch. She sits down first, grabbing the TV GUIDE off of the coffee table.
NORAH
Should we look for something or just channel surf?

Colin continues to stand near the couch.

COLIN
Whatever you want.

NORAH
Aren’t you going to sit?

COLIN
Didn’t you want some orange juice? I could get it for you if you like.

NORAH
That would be great.

Colin walks off as Norah continues to flip through the TV GUIDE.

NORAH (cont’d)
Would you look at this.

COLIN
(Voice Over)
What?

NORAH
BRAVEHEART is starting in a couple of minutes.

Colin re-enters the room, placing the glass of orange juice on the coffee table.

COLIN
Is it a good movie?

NORAH
Are you kidding? Mel Gibson swinging a sword...in a kilt.

Colin sits down next to her on the couch.

COLIN
My mistake.

NORAH
You’ve never seen the movie?

COLIN
No.
Norah takes a mouthful of the orange juice.

NORAH
Sorry. I guess you didn’t get to see many movies over the last fifteen years. Did you miss them?

COLIN
My work keeps me pretty busy.

NORAH
Yeah.

She takes another mouthful of juice before placing it the glass back on the coffee table.

NORAH (cont’d)
Well, you’ll get a chance to see this one and so will I.

COLIN
You haven’t seen it?

NORAH
Most of it.

COLIN
Huh?

She finishes the last of the juice.

NORAH
I always end up falling asleep before it’s over.

Colin cracks a smile. Norah shifts defiantly on the couch.

NORAH (cont’d)
But I’m not going to do that tonight.

COLIN
Really?

NORAH
Really.

She reaches for the remote and turning on the TV switches it to the channel playing BRAVEHEART.
INT. NORAH’S LIVING ROOM - A COUPLE HOURS LATER

The credits to BRAVEHEART are rolling across the TV screen. Colin turns to Norah who is asleep.

    COLIN
    That was a pretty good movie.
    (BEAT)
    Norah?

She doesn’t respond and Colin smiles. He gets up off the couch and then leans over Norah. He shakes his head and picks her up off the couch.

    COLIN (cont’d)
    (Whispering)
    I guess you didn’t see the end again.

He carries her out of the living towards her bedroom.

INT. NORAH’S BEDROOM - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Colin enters the room still carrying Norah. He gently places her in the bed. He pulls the covers over her as she shifts to get comfortable. He watches for a few moments, smiles and then exits the room.

INT. NORAH’S LIVING ROOM - DAY

The doorbell rings and Colin, covered with paint spots, answers the door. On the other side is Mary.

    COLIN
    Mary, hi. Come on in.

    MARY
    Hi.

Mary enters the house and looks past him around the room.

    MARY (cont’d)
    Where’s Norah?

    COLIN
    Her bedroom.

He wipes his forehead with the back of his forearm.
COLIN (cont’d)
She’s trying to decide what picture of Aidan to put in the baby’s room.
You can go on back there.

MARY
Thanks.

Mary proceeds to head towards Mary’s bedroom as Colin trails behind her.

INT. HALLWAY- A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Mary heads into Mary’s bedroom while Colin enters into the nursery.

INT. MARY’S BEDROOM- A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Norah is sitting on the bed, several framed photos laid out in front of her.

MARY
Norah.

Norah looks up from the photos.

NORAH
Mary, hi.

MARY
Colin told me you were in here looking at pictures of Aidan for the baby’s room.

NORAH
Yeah, and you’re just in time.

MARY
In time? In time for what?

NORAH
You can help me pick one out. I can’t decide.

Mary sits on the edge of the bed and looks over the photos. She reaches for a photo separated from the rest. One which has both Aidan and Norah in it.

MARY
I think you should go with this one.
Norah takes the photo from Mary.

NORAH
This one? But I’m in it.

MARY
Exactly. Why shouldn’t there be a photo of the baby’s father and mother in its room?

NORAH
The baby will be seeing me all the time.

(BEAT)
Aidan on the other hand...

Mary pats Norah on the shoulder.

MARY
It’s okay, Norah. Aidan may not be here but the baby is going to know him. You’ll make sure of that.

Norah looks at the photo again.

NORAH
And you really think I should go with this one?

MARY
Definitely.

Norah puts the photo on her night stand and then starts to collect the other photos as Mary helps her.

MARY (cont’d)
I see that Colin is making himself at home.

NORAH
Huh? What do you mean?

MARY
Isn’t that Aidan’s sweatshirt he’s wearing?

NORAH
Yeah and the jeans too. So what?

MARY
They’re Aidan’s clothes.
NORAH
Which he can’t use anymore. It’s a ratty old sweatshirt and an old pair of jeans. He’s painting the nursery Mary. I couldn’t very well let him use his good clothes.

MARY
Norah...

NORAH
What?

MARY
You do realize he’s not Aidan.

NORAH
Where did that come from?

Norah gathers up all the photos in a pile and places them on top of her dresser.

MARY
I don’t know. It just seems all too comfortable.

NORAH
Comfortable?

MARY
Well, you’ve only know him a couple of weeks. But it’s like you’ve known him for years.

NORAH
He’s Aidan’s brother.

MARY
I know that. But come on, Norah. In the last fifteen years how many times did Aidan see him? Two maybe three times. One which was their father’s funeral. And now all of a sudden he’s got all this time to spend with you... A sister-in-law, whom he’s never met before. I don’t know I’ve got this feeling...

NORAH
Feeling?
MARY
Yeah, a feeling... that something’s not quite right.

NORAH
Like what?

MARY
I don’t know.

She places her hands on Norah’s shoulders.

MARY (cont’d)
Just promise me you’ll be careful, okay?

Norah lets a sigh, shaking her head.

NORAH
I think you’re being silly. Besides weren’t you the one who wanted me to put in a good word for you with Colin? Now you don’t trust him?

MARY
Good looking men always make a good first impression until they start moving in on my sister.

NORAH
Mary.

MARY
Humor me. Just promise me you’ll be careful.

Norah gives her sister a long studied look.

NORAH
All right, I’ll be careful.

MARY
Good.

Colin then enters the room.

COLIN
The nursery’s all painted. I’ve cracked a window but I’d stay clear of the room until the paint dries. You know fumes.
NORAH
That’s great.

COLIN
I’m going to clean up the room, then I’ll start moving the furniture in.

NORAH
All right.

COLIN
So, Mary will you be staying for dinner?

Mary glances over towards Norah.

MARY
Ah, no. Unfortunately I have a business dinner I can’t get out of tonight. I just stopped by to see how Norah was doing. You know see if she needed anything.

COLIN
Too bad.
(BEAT)
Well I’d better get back to work. I’ll see you around Mary.

MARY
You can count on it.

Colin gives her a puzzled look before exiting the room.

MARY (cont’d)
You know on second thought maybe I can get out of that dinner meeting.

She reaches into her pocketbook for her cell phone. Norah takes hold of her arm before she can retrieve it.

NORAH
There’s do need to be doing that, Mary.

Mary lets out a frustrated sigh.

MARY
Fine. I’ll go to my stupid meeting.

NORAH
Stop worrying.
MARY
I can’t help it I’m your big sister.

Norah gives her a hug.

NORAH
Don’t worry. Colin isn’t going to get up in the middle of the night and slash my throat or anything.

MARY
Thanks for putting that image in my head.

NORAH
I’m sorry. But really I don’t think there is anything about Colin that you should be concerned about.

MARY
Well I don’t know about that.

NORAH
Would you go you’re going to be late for that meeting and I don’t want you blaming me if you blow it.

Norah hugs her sister again.

MARY
All right. But if you ever need anything...

NORAH
Yeah, yeah I know. Call you.

Mary starts to exit the room.

MARY
I’ll talk to you later.

NORAH
Thanks again for your help with the photo.

MARY
What are big sisters for?
INT. THE NURSERY - A FEW MOMENTS LATER - DAY

The nursery is painted in a pastel green and Colin has just about rolled up the tarp. Norah glances around the nursery.

NORAH
Hey you did a really good job in here.

Colin drops the tarp and spins around to face Norah.

COLIN
I told you, you shouldn’t be in here.

He takes her by the arm and leads her out to the hallway.

INT. THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF THE NURSERY - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

NORAH
The fumes aren’t that bad.

COLIN
Still you wouldn’t want to be taking any chances.

Norah laughs.

COLIN (cont’d)
What’s so funny?

NORAH
Oh, nothing. It’s just...

COLIN
Just what?

NORAH
Mary seems to be under the impression that you may what to hurt me somehow.

COLIN
What?

NORAH
You know what? Just forget I said anything.
COLIN
Why would Mary think I would want
to hurt you?

NORAH
Colin, really it’s nothing. Mary’s
just being overprotective.

COLIN
Norah come on.

Norah pushes her hair back with her right hand and lets out a
sigh.

NORAH
She thinks you’ve made yourself a
little too...comfortable here.

COLIN
Comfortable?

NORAH
Yeah, you know helping around the
house, wearing Aidan’s clothes.

Colin looks at the sweatshirt he is wearing.

COLIN
Norah do you think...

NORAH
Me? No not at all. Remember I’m the
one who told you to use the
sweatshirt. I’m the one who asked
you to paint the nursery.

COLIN
Perhaps I have over stayed my
welcome.

NORAH
Don’t say that. I like having you
here. You’ve been an enormous help.
I told you before I feel a lot
safer since you’ve been here. No
matter what Mary says.

COLIN
Mary doesn’t think you are safe
around me?

NORAH
She didn’t say that exactly.
COLIN
What did she say?

NORAH
Colin it really doesn’t matter.

COLIN
Norah.

NORAH
She just said she had a feeling about you. She couldn’t even tell me what it was. Besides it doesn’t matter what Mary thinks or feels. Only what I do. I trust you as much as I trusted Aidan. And I want you to stay as long as you want.

She kisses him on the cheek and hugs him.

NORAH (cont’d)
Okay?

Colin pulls away from the hug.

COLIN
I’m glad you trust me Norah. And that I make you feel safe. I want you to know that I wouldn’t want to do anything that would hurt you.

NORAH
(Smiling)
I know that Colin.
(BEAT)
Now I’m starting to get really hungry. Are you ready for dinner?

COLIN
I just want to put the tarp away. And clean up a bit.

NORAH
All right. You don’t mind if we have Chinese food, do you? I’ve got a craving.

COLIN
Fine with me.

NORAH
Great. I’m going to track down that take out menu.
She turns to head towards the kitchen.

    COLIN
    Norah.

She stops and turns to face Colin.

    NORAH
    Yeah?

He looks at her a few moments before responding.

    COLIN
    Never mind.

She looks at him quizzically before heading back towards the kitchen.

INT. THE KITCHEN- EVENING

Norah and Colin sit at a round kitchen table, several Chinese take out boxes spread out on the table. Each has a plate of Chinese food sitting in front of them. Colin pokes at his as Norah takes a mouthful of hers, General Tso’s chicken. He looks intently at her.

    COLIN
    Is that really good for the baby? I mean isn’t it too spicy?

    NORAH
    (Food still in her mouth)
    It’s the baby who wants it.

    COLIN
    Sounds like Aidan.

    NORAH
    Must be, I’m not much into spicy food.

Norah wipes her mouth with a napkin.

    NORAH (cont’d)
    You know you really haven’t talked that much about Aidan since you’ve been here.

Colin takes a mouthful of soda.

    COLIN
    Yeah, I know.
Norah puts her hand over his.

NORAH
I know how you feel. Sometimes it’s difficult for me to talk about him.

COLIN
Yeah. Well I bet you haven’t had any regrets when it came to him.

NORAH
No, I suppose not. But you do?

COLIN
Yeah, like I should have been around more for him.

NORAH
Well, it’s not like he was a child. He was all grown up you know.

COLIN
I know.

He pushes his food around with his fork.

COLIN (cont’d)
Norah... I’ve been thinking...

NORAH
Yeah?

COLIN
I don’t know if I’ll be going back to... Doctors Without Borders.

NORAH
Really? Why not?

He takes some more of the soda.

COLIN
(Sighing)
It’s just not worth it anymore.

NORAH
I don’t know why you’re saying that. As a doctor I’m sure you’ve helped a lot of people over the last fifteen years.
COLIN
And look what I’ve had to
sacrifice. I wasn’t around for the
last fifteen years. I missed out on
a lot of what was going on with
Aidan. Now that I’m about to become
an uncle...

NORAH
You don’t want to miss out on
anything with the baby?

COLIN
Yeah. I mean especially since...
You know Aidan won’t be around.

Norah looks down at her food.

COLIN (cont’d)
I’m sorry.

NORAH
Don’t be. It’s the truth. It’s not
like you’re responsible for his
death.

Colin almost knocks over his soda.

NORAH (cont’d)
You okay?

COLIN
Yeah.

(BEAT)
Norah...

NORAH
Yes?

COLIN
I think I should...

Colin’s cell phone rings. He takes it out of his pocket and
looks at the caller i.d.

COLIN (cont’d)
I’m going to take this in the other
room.

NORAH
Is everything okay?
COLIN
Yeah, it’s fine.

NORAH
You going to eat your egg roll?

COLIN
(Smiling)
Knock yourself out.

She reaches for the egg roll as Colin exits the kitchen.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Colin enters the room and closes the door as he answers the cell phone.

COLIN
Peter, hi. What have you got for me?

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - DAY

Peter is sitting in front of a computer. On the screen is a picture of an Arab man about Colin’s age. He is standing in front of what appears to be a large building.

PETER
You close to your lap top?

INT. COLIN’S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

COLIN
Yeah, hold on a sec.

He places the phone on the bed and retrieves his laptop from the bottom drawer of the dresser. He lifts up the top, turning it on as he picks up the cell phone.

COLIN (cont’d)
All right, Peter.

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - MOMENTS LATER

PETER
Check your e-mail.
INT. COLIN’S ROOM- A FEW MOMENTS LATER

With a couple strokes of the keyboard Colin accesses his e-mail, clicking on the e-mail Peter just sent him. He stares at the photo a moment.

COLIN
Is that...

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - MOMENTS LATER

PETER
Yes it is.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM- MOMENTS LATER

COLIN
Are you sure it’s him?

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION- MOMENTS LATER

PETER
We’re fairly certain it’s Hassad.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM- MOMENTS LATER

COLIN
Fairly certain? What exactly does that mean?

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION- MOMENTS LATER

PETER
From earlier photos of him and the intelligence we’ve been collecting I’d put it at about ninety-eight percent sure.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM- MOMENTS LATER

COLIN
And where was this photo taken?
INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION- MOMENTS LATER

PETER
Magnify the right hand corner.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM- MOMENTS LATER

Colin hits a few key strokes and the right hand of the photo magnifies in size to reveal the words EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

COLIN
New York? He’s here in New York? When was the photo taken?

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION- MOMENTS LATER

PETER
Noon, your time. I’ve just received the info.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM- MOMENTS LATER

COLIN
What’s the official word on why he’s here?

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - MOMENTS LATER

PETER
They think he’s meeting up with a new cell. Possible a major target. They’re thinking the Empire State Building. Thus the photo.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM- MOMENTS LATER

COLIN
And they didn’t arrest him?

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - MOMENTS LATER

PETER
There was an attempt. But you know Colin. We’re talking New York lunch rush. There’s people everywhere.
INT. COLIN’S ROOM—A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Colin magnifies on Hassad’s face, staring at it.

COLIN
What do you think, Peter? Do you really believe he’s here to meet up with a new cell or...

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION—MOMENTS LATER

PETER
Listen Colin I’m with you on this. I think he’s here for Norah. And I think once he’s done with her he’s going to go after you. You’ve got to make sure you get to him first.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM—MOMENTS LATER

COLIN
I fully intend to. Do you have any other info I can use?

INT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION—MOMENTS LATER

PETER
I wish I did, but I don’t.
(BEAT)
I get anything else I’ll be sure to call your cell, all right?

INT. COLIN’S ROOM—MOMENTS LATER

COLIN
Yeah, thanks. I’ll talk to you soon.

He hangs up the cell phone, tossing it on the bed. He turns his attention back to the photo.

COLIN (cont’d)
I’ll end this before you do.

There is a knock on the door. Colin closes the lid to the lap top and slides the computer under the bed.
Norah opens the door and enters the room.

NORAH
Is everything all right?

COLIN
Ah, yeah.

NORAH
Mind if I ask you who was on the phone?

He glances over at the cell.

COLIN
Oh, that was my supervisor.

NORAH
Supervisor? You mean from Doctors Without Borders?

COLIN
Ah, yeah.

Norah sits down next to Colin on the bed.

NORAH
Have they got another assignment for you?

COLIN
Yeah, maybe.

NORAH
Maybe? What does that mean?

COLIN
They just have to do paperwork, get things going through the proper channels.

NORAH
Like the government.

COLIN
What?
NORAH
Don’t get me wrong they’re a great organization and they help a lot of people. It’s just that the bureaucracy gets in the way... Like it does with the government.

COLIN
(Under his breath)
You can say that again.

NORAH
What was that?

COLIN
Oh, nothing.

NORAH
So you don’t know when they’ll be calling you back?

COLIN
No.

Norah rests her head on his shoulder, letting out a sigh.

NORAH
I’m really going to miss you when you go. I was really hoping that you’d be here when the baby arrived.

COLIN
That would have been nice.

She lifts her head back up.

NORAH
But I guess I can’t be selfish. I mean there are other people who need you more then I do.
(Yawning)
I think I’m going to go off to bed.

She gets up from the bed and starts to head for the door.

COLIN
It’s not even eight.

NORAH
Yeah, I know. It’s just I’ve been so tired lately. Must be the baby.
COLIN
All right. I’ll see you in the morning.

NORAH
(Yawning again)
Yeah, good night.

She exits the room and Colin retrieves the computer from underneath the bed. Flipping the top up he then opens up the file he has on Hassad. He hears a branch snap just outside the bedroom window. He rushes over to investigate only to find a stray cat running off. He lets out a relieved sigh and heads back to the computer. He clicks back on the photo that Peter had just sent him, studying all the features.

COLIN
We’re closing in on you Hassad we’re closing in.

He puts the lid back down on the computer and puts it back in the dresser drawer.

INT. THE NURSERY – EVENING

A small dresser, with the picture of Aidan and Norah on it, and changing table down sit in the nursery as well as a rocking chair. The crib is mid-way put together and Colin sits in the middle of the room with a few of its pieces.

Norah enters the room.

NORAH
Wow, it’s starting to really look good.

Colin looks up smiling.

COLIN
Yeah, it’s getting there.

He looks perplexedly at a couple of pieces he has in his hand.

NORAH
I think you have to turn the piece you have in your right hand around.

He does as she says and the two pieces fit perfectly together.
COLIN
Yeah, thanks.

He gets up and places the bigger piece onto the rest of the crib.

NORAH
Thanks again for doing this for me.

COLIN
It’s nothing really. I wish... I wish I could do more for you.

He tightens the piece.

NORAH
You’re doing more than you have to.

COLIN
I guess I’m just trying to make up for not being there more for Aidan.

NORAH
I told you before that Aidan understood.

COLIN
You really think so?

NORAH
Absolutely.

He walks back over to the pile and picks up another piece examining it before walking back to the crib.

COLIN
I really have to get this crib finished.

NORAH
All right. I’ll leave you to it. Is there anything I can get for you?

COLIN
No, I’m fine.

NORAH
Okay. I’ve got a load in the dryer I have to fold.

Norah takes another look around the nursery.
NORAH (cont’d)
(Smiling)
The baby’s going to love it.

She then exits the room. Colin works the piece onto the crib. He gives the crib a firm shake to ensure that it is steady. He looks over to the photo on the dresser. He walks over and picks it up.

COLIN
I’ve got to give you credit, Aidan.
I don’t know if I would have been as understanding as you were.

He places the photo back down and then to precedes to go back to working on the crib.

INT. COLIN’S ROOM - EVENING

Norah has folded a pile of Colin’s clothes which are lying on the bed. She picks them up and walks them over to the dresser. She opens the top drawer and shifts some clothes to make more room. She uncovers a hand gun and a CIA ID badge with Colin’s photo and name on it. She places the clothes on top of the dresser and removes the gun and ID. She takes a closer look at the ID.

COLIN
(Voice Over)
Norah, I’m done with the crib. Come take a look.

He enters the room and Norah, the ID and gun still in hand, looks at him. He looks at Norah and then at the items in her hand.

COLIN (cont’d)
Norah...

NORAH
What is this? I thought you were a doctor.

Colin doesn’t respond and avoids looking at her.

NORAH (cont’d)
Colin.

He finally looks at her.
COLIN
I’m not a doctor. I’m with the C.I.A.

She waves the ID in front of him.

NORAH
I can see that. Why didn’t you tell me? Or Aidan?

He walks over to her and takes the gun and ID.

COLIN
Aidan knew.

He places the items back in the drawer.

NORAH
No, he didn’t. He told me you were a doctor.

COLIN
He was doing it to protect me.

He lets out a slight laugh as he sits down on the bed.

COLIN (cont’d)
(Shaking his head)
He was...doing it to...protect me.

NORAH
You already said that.

COLIN
I know. But don’t you see the irony in it?

NORAH
Irony? What are you talking about?
I just want to know why you were lying to me.

He runs his hands through his hair and lets out a sigh.

COLIN
I don’t know where I’d begin.

Norah sits down next to him.

NORAH
How about explaining why Aidan couldn’t tell me his wife that his brother was in the C.I.A.
COLIN
The less people who knew about what I did the less chance of my cover being blown.

NORAH
All right, I get that. But why did you say that it was ironic that Aidan was protecting you?

Colin gets up from the bed.

COLIN
Because even though I’m in the C.I.A. I couldn’t protect him.

NORAH
What do you mean?

Colin looks intently at Norah before responding.

COLIN
Never mind. Forget what I said. Wouldn’t you just rather look at the crib?

He turns to exit the room and Norah takes hold of his hand.

NORAH
What do you mean you couldn’t protect him?

COLIN
Norah, I just wish you would forget about it.

NORAH
Colin you can’t say something like that and expect me to forget about it. Now come on what did you mean?

COLIN
I don’t want to upset you.

NORAH
Well you are by not telling me.

He takes hold of her hand and leads her over to the bed.

COLIN
All right. But I think you should sit down.
She sits on the bed.

NORAH
Okay. Tell me.

COLIN
Aidan’s car accident...

NORAH
Yes?

COLIN
It wasn’t an accident.

NORAH
What do you mean? The police said...

COLIN
The police were wrong.

NORAH
Colin, this wasn’t like someone tampered with the brakes. There was another car involved. (BEAT) Besides he survived the accident. The cause of death of caradice arrest.

COLIN
I know that. I think they gave him something to cause the heart attack.

Norah gets up from the bed.

NORAH
But why? Why would anyone want to hurt, let alone kill Aidan? Everyone loved him. His friends, his students... everyone.

Colin stands up and takes Norah’s hands into his own.

COLIN
It was because of me.

NORAH
What? Why?

Colin walks over to the dresser and looks at the photo of him and Aidan.
COLIN
About a year ago we tracked down this terrorist... Hassad. I was in charge of a raid on the house he was supposed to be staying at.

He turns to face Norah.

COLIN (cont’d)
During the raid Hassad’s brother and nephew were killed. Hassad was no where near the house.

NORAH
Aidan had nothing to do with that raid.

COLIN
I know that. But that didn’t matter to Hassad. He wanted revenge. So...

NORAH
So he went after your brother.

COLIN
I’m afraid so.
(BEAT)
Norah. Norah are you all right?

She steadies herself on the dresser. Colin extends his hand to her but she pushes it away.

NORAH
Don’t.

COLIN
I’m afraid there’s more.

NORAH
More?

COLIN
He’s indicated that he’s after... the baby.

She pushes past Colin into the bathroom and throws up. Colin follows behind.

INT. COLIN’S BATHROOM– A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Colin takes a towel from the rack and hands it to Norah.
COLIN
I won’t let him get to the baby.

Norah wipes her mouth with towel then tosses it on the sink. She then slaps Colin hard across the face.

NORAH
I want you out of my house and out of my life!

COLIN
Norah...

NORAH
It’s your fault Aidan is dead!

COLIN
(Not looking at her)
Yeah, I know that.

NORAH
And now you’re telling me they want to kill my baby!

COLIN
I won’t let that happen.

She exits the bathroom and Colin looks in the mirror, and rubs the spot where Norah hit him.

INT. THE NURSERY - MOMENTS LATER

Norah sits, crying in the rocking chair that has been placed in the nursery. She rocks back and forth in it, clutching the photo which was on top of the baby’s dresser.

Colin enters the room.

NORAH
(Still crying)
I told you I wanted you out of this house.

Colin leans against the wall next to the dresser.

COLIN
No.

Norah stops rocking.

NORAH
I’ll call the police if I have to.
COLIN
I’ll tell them I’m C.I.A.

Norah gets up from the rocker.

NORAH
I thought we were in America? Don’t I have a say in who is allowed in my own house?

COLIN
Not in this instance.

NORAH
Right now Colin you’re the last person in the world I want to see, let alone have in my house.

COLIN
I have to stay. To protect you and the baby.

NORAH
You mean like you protected Aidan?

COLIN
I couldn’t protect Aidan. I was half a world away. But I can protect you.

NORAH
(In disbelief)
You really believe that?

COLIN
Yes, yes I do.

She places the photo back on the dresser.

NORAH
You’ll forgive me if I don’t have that much confidence in you.
(BEAT)
You have no idea what this Hassad person is going to do. You don’t know who he has hired this time.

COLIN
He hasn’t hired anyone. I think he’s going to do it himself.

NORAH
What...what makes you think that?
COLIN
Because he’s in New York. They’ve spotted him in Manhattan.

NORAH
(In shock)
He’s going to kill me and my baby.

Colin reaches out to Norah but she backs away.

NORAH (cont’d)
Don’t you touch me.

She walks past him out of the room. Colin looks around the nursery before following her into the hallway.

INT. THE HALLWAY- A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Norah enters her bedroom, slamming the door. Colin walks up to the door and knocks.

COLIN
Norah. Open the door and let me in.

NORAH
(VOICE OVER)
No.

He leans his head against the door.

COLIN
Please Norah, open the door.

NORAH
(VOICE OVER)
Just go away.

He stares at the door a few moments and then sits down next to it.

INT. NORAH’S BEDROOM- A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Norah is sitting on her bed, staring at the closed door. She strokes her belly.

NORAH
(Whispering)
It’s going to be all right, Little One. Mommy won’t let anything happen to you. I don’t know how, but I will protect you.
She glances over to the photo of Aidan sitting on her night stand. She bites down on her lower lip unsuccessfully trying to prevent herself from crying.

   NORAH (cont’d)
   (Still whispering)
   It’s not fair, Aidan. You had nothing to do with it.

She lies down on the bed facing in the direction of the door. Tears continue to come down her face as she looks back and forth at the door and the picture of her husband.

INT. NORAH’S BEDROOM – LATE NIGHT

Norah is tossing and turning in her sleep. She suddenly wakes up with a bolt.

   NORAH
   (Screaming)
   Aidan!

INT. THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF NORAH’S ROOM– A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Colin is awoken by Norah’s scream. He gets up and tries to open the door by the handle and when that fails he breaks the door down rushing into the bedroom.

INT. NORAH’S BEDROOM– A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Colin rushes over to the bed. She grabs onto him, holding him tightly.

   COLIN
   Norah. It’s okay.

   NORAH
   (Crying)
   Aidan.

Rocking her back and forth.

   COLIN
   It’s...not Aidan.

She pulls away from him and turns on the light.

   COLIN (cont’d)
   Are you all right?
NORAH
It was just a bad dream. I’m fine.

COLIN
You gave me quite a scare screaming that way.

Norah gets startled by a branch banging against the window.

COLIN (cont’d)
Are you sure you’re okay?

She glances over at the door.

NORAH
You broke down the door?

COLIN
Well, yeah. I had to. I didn’t know what was going on in here. I had to make sure you were all right.
(BEAT)
I’ll fix it.

Norah takes in a deep breath.

NORAH
Forget about the door.

She gets out of the bed putting on her robe.

NORAH (cont’d)
I think... I think I owe you an apology.

COLIN
An apology? What for?

NORAH
First off... for slapping you. I was out of line about that.

COLIN
You were upset. It’s understandable.

NORAH
I shouldn’t have gotten upset with you. You came here to help me. And the way I treated you was inexcusable.

She walks back over to the bed and sits down.
NORAH (cont’d)
The truth is... I’m scared.
Terrified.

COLIN
I know.

She leans over to Colin and hugs him.

NORAH
Please help me. Please help me
protect my baby...Aidan’s baby.

He strokes her hair.

COLIN
Don’t worry I will. Nothing is
going to happen to you or the baby.

Colin’s phone rings and he retrieves it from his pocket.

COLIN (cont’d)
Yeah?
(BEAT)
Have you got more news?
(BEAT)
Wait a minute. I thought they still
had you...

Colin glances over at Norah and then gets up from the bed
and heads towards the hallway.

INT. THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF NORAH’S ROOM—A FEW MOMENTS LATER

COLIN
(Lowering his voice)
I thought you were still in Iraq.

He looks up and Norah is standing in the doorway. She looks
away as if embarrassed.

COLIN (cont’d)
Are you sure you want to do this?
(BEAT)
I think I can handle it myself.
(BEAT)
All right. I take it you know where
I am.
(BEAT)
Okay, I’ll see you then.

Colin hangs up the phone and places it back in his pocket.
NORAH
Who was that?

COLIN
My partner, Peter.

NORAH
Was that call about Hassad?

COLIN
Sort of.

NORAH
Sort of?

COLIN
Peter’s in New York. He’ll be here in about hour.

NORAH
Why?

COLIN
He’s going to help me protect you. (BEAT)
If I can’t do, rest assured he’ll be able to. He’s the best in Agency.

Colin runs his hand down the broken frame of the door.

COLIN (cont’d)
I’ll fix this tomorrow. In meanwhile I’m going to wait for Peter. Why don’t you go back to bed?

He starts to head down the hallway.

NORAH
Could I wait with you?

He stops and turns to face her.

COLIN
There’s no need to.

NORAH
I’d like to. I don’t think I could sleep anyway.

COLIN
All right.
The two head for the living room.

INT. THE LIVING ROOM - ABOUT AN HOUR LATER

Norah has fallen asleep on the couch and Colin is watching TV when the doorbell rings. Norah awakes with a start as Colin gets up to answer the door, drawing his gun.

COLIN
Don’t worry. It’s probably just Peter.

He reaches the door and places his hand on the door knob.

COLIN (cont’d)
Peter?

PETER
(VOICE OVER)
Yeah, Colin, it’s me. Now open the door. I’m getting the dirtiest look from this cat.

Colin opens the door and Peter then enters the house. The gun still in his hand Colin embraces Peter

COLIN
Boy, am I glad to see you.

PETER
It’s good to see you too, Colin. Just remember I’m engaged.

Colin steps back, smiling at the comment.

PETER (cont’d)
And watch that thing will you? Elizabeth wouldn’t be too happy with you if you should accidently shoot me.

COLIN
We wouldn’t want that.

Peter looks over to Norah who has walked over to the two partners.

PETER
This must be Norah.
(Extending his hand)
Peter Lyons.
She shakes his hand.

NORAH
Nice to meet you.

PETER
Now I don’t want you to worry about anything. Colin here is going to make sure nothing happens to you.

NORAH
So you’re his partner from the C.I.A.?

PETER
That’s right.

COLIN
(Yawning)
So what other info have you got for me in regards to Hassad?

PETER
We can go over it tomorrow. You look like you could use a few hours of sleep.

COLIN
I’m fine.

PETER
(Towards Norah)
Stubborn as a mule this one.

COLIN
I have to have an update.

PETER
Listen the only thing you need to know right now, is that he’s still in Manhattan. The rest of the details can wait until the morning.

COLIN
But...

PETER
None of the details will sink in if your head’s not clear.

COLIN
Fine. But first thing in the morning...
PETER
Full disclosure.

COLIN
All right. You can take my bedroom.
I’ll sleep here on the couch.

PETER
Nah. I’m standing guard tonight.

Peter notices a look of concern on Norah’s face.

PETER (cont’d)
Just to be on the safe side.
(To Colin)
And I don’t want you arguing with me.

Colin starts to head off to his bedroom.

COLIN
I won’t. I’ll see you in the morning.

NORAH
Can I get you anything? Coffee perhaps?

Peter sits down on the couch.

PETER
No more coffee. I’ve lost count of the cups I’ve had tonight.

NORAH
Okay. Feel free to help yourself to anything in the frig.

PETER
Thanks.

NORAH
Good night.

PETER
Good night.

Norah heads off for her room. When she has left the living room Peter gets up from the couch and peeks out the window. He removes his gun, double checking its ammunition. He peeks out of the window again.
PETER (cont’d)
All right, Hassad. Ready when you are.

INT. THE LIVING ROOM – THE NEXT MORNING

Peter is sitting on the couch, still wide awake when Norah enters the room.

NORAH
Good morning.

PETER
Hi.

NORAH
Are you ready for some coffee now?

He gets up from the couch and follows Norah into the kitchen.

PETER
Yeah, that would be great.

INT. THE KITCHEN – A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Peter sits at the table as Norah puts coffee in the coffee maker. She then fills up the tea kettle for herself.

NORAH
I guess Colin is still asleep.

Peter glances at his watch as Norah places the coffee mugs on the table.

PETER
Yeah, well it’s still pretty early. I’m surprised you’re up already.

Norah strokes her stomach. She reaches into one of the cabinet for a tea bag which places in her mug.

NORAH
It’s getting more difficult to get a good night’s sleep lately. Not to mention what’s going on with this...

PETER
Hassad.
NORAH
Yeah, Hassad.
(BEAT)
Would you like something to eat?

PETER
No, the coffee will be fine.

Norah sits down at the table.

NORAH
So how long have you and Colin been partners?

PETER
Gee it must be going on seven years now.

Norah runs her fingers down the side of her mug.

NORAH
You must have wanted to change partners when you were assigned to protect me, huh?

PETER
I wasn’t assigned to you.

NORAH
But I thought...

PETER
Colin’s on his own with this one.
He took a leave of absence.

Norah gets up and heads for the refrigerator and takes out the milk.

PETER (cont’d)
The agency wasn’t going to put anyone on you so...

NORAH
He was going to do it himself.

She places the milk on the table and then gets the coffee and starts pouring it.

PETER
Yeah.
NORAH
Well, I guess I can see him doing that. But why are you here then?

After replacing the coffee carafe she picks up the tea kettle which has just started whistling.

PETER
Are you kidding? I owe Colin...big time.

NORAH
Really? Why?

She pours the water in to her mug and returns the kettle to the stove. Steve pours some milk into the coffee.

PETER
He saved my life. Twice in fact within a few minutes.

Sitting back down at the table Norah gives the tea bag a few dunks before taking it out of the mug.

NORAH
I didn’t know that. Colin... he never made mention of it.

Peter takes a sip of the coffee and then reaches for the sugar.

PETER
That’s not surprising. Colin isn’t one to go bragging about something like that.

NORAH
Mind if I asked you what happened?

She takes a sip from her tea.

PETER
It was during that raid on Hassad’s place. I was clipped by a bullet. I turn around and I’m practically staring down the barrel of this gun and.. bam! The guy drops in front of me. I turn back around and there’s Colin.

He fingers the coffee cup before continuing.
NORAH
Peter. What is it?

PETER
It was Hassad’s brother.

NORAH
Did he know that?

PETER
No. Not at the time. He was identified after the raid.
(BEAT)
Norah, he had no choice.

NORAH
Of course he didn’t.

She takes another sip of her tea and then sighs.

NORAH (cont’d)
You said he saved your life twice in a matter of minutes?

PETER
Yeah.

He leans back in his chair.

NORAH
Peter what happened next?

PETER
I’m looking at Colin in disbelief after he’s just dropped this guy. And then he raises his gun again and shoots just past my head.
(BEAT)
I turn around and there’s this kid... couldn’t have been more then eleven or twelve. Lying dead with a gun in his hand.

NORAH
It was Hassad’s nephew wasn’t it?

Peter adds more sugar to his coffee and starts stirring. He looks intently at the coffee mug.

NORAH (cont’d)
Peter.

He looks at Norah.
PETER
Yeah, it was.

NORAH
How does he live with that?

PETER
I don’t think he is... not really.

NORAH
What do you mean?

Peter leans in over the table.

PETER
The night after the raid I find him throwing up his guts.
(BEAT)
He tells me he’s coming down with something.

NORAH
You didn’t believe him.

He leans back in his chair.

PETER
No way. Colin hasn’t been a sick a day, at least not since I’ve known him.
(BEAT)
Then after that the restless nights and nightmares started. After Aidan... It just got worse.

Norah gets up and heads for the refrigerator taking out an orange.

NORAH
I think I know what you mean.

PETER
Really?

Norah sits back down and starts to peel the orange.

NORAH
Yeah. I’ve heard him in his room, late at night.

She offers Peter a slice of the orange and he shakes his head.
PETER
Colin a good man, a great agent.
But to tell you the truth, I think he should quit the Agency. For his own well being.

NORAH
I think you’re right.

Colin enters the kitchen and heads straight for the coffee machine and pours himself a mug.

COLIN
The house is still in one piece. So I guess you did a pretty good job there, Pete.

Peter gets up from the table taking his mug of coffee with him.

PETER
Like you weren’t up all night.

Colin tastes the coffee, his back still towards Peter and Norah.

COLIN
Did I say I was?

PETER
No. But I know you were.

He turns to face his partner.

COLIN
How do you know that?

PETER
Because I know you.

Peter starts to head out of the kitchen.

PETER (cont’d)
(Over his shoulder)
I’m going to check online...even though you probably just did so.

Peter exits the room and Colin takes his seat at the table.

COLIN
So are we all right now?
NORAH
Yeah, I guess so.

COLIN
Good.

He takes a mouthful of coffee as Norah gives him a slight smile.

INT. THE KITCHEN- EVENING
Norah, Colin and Peter are finishing up their dinner.

PETER
I can’t remember the last time I had a meal that good.

NORAH
I’m glad you enjoyed it.

He stands up from the table and picks up his plate.

PETER
Least I can do is the dishes.

Colin takes hold of the plate from Peter.

COLIN
That’s all right, I’ve got them.

PETER
All right. I guess I’ll just go out and check the perimeter.
(To Norah)
Great dinner.

NORAH
Thanks.

Colin gathers up the rest of the dishes as Peter exits the kitchen. He then walks them over to the sink. Norah finishes up her water and then collects the other two glasses. She then walks over to the sink.

COLIN
Thanks.

Colin squirts some soap into the sink and turns on the faucet.

NORAH
Colin...
COLIN
Yeah.

NORAH
About that day. The day of the raid on Hassad’s house.

Colin places the plate in the dish rack and turns off the water.

COLIN
There’s no sense in talking about that day. I can only try to prevent something bad happening now because of it.

He goes back to washing the dishes. Norah looks at him a few moments before responding.

NORAH
Peter told me.

Colin continues washing the dishes.

COLIN
Told you what?

NORAH
That you were the agent who killed Hassad’s brother and nephew.

He turns the water off again and grabs a dish towel to dry his hands.

COLIN
Yeah, I was.

NORAH
You didn’t have much of a choice.

COLIN
Yeah, well I still killed a kid.

Norah pats him on the arm.

NORAH
I know that rough. But Colin if you didn’t shoot that kid... he would have had no problem shooting Peter.
COLIN
(Shaking his head)
Yeah, I know. But he was still a just a boy...not even a teenager.

NORAH
I can’t even imagine what you’re going through.

Colin hesitantly puts his hand on Norah’s stomach.

COLIN
It’s not right that he’s put in the middle of this.

Norah puts her hand over his.

NORAH
I know you didn’t mean to put us in the middle of this.

He looks up at Norah.

COLIN
But I did.

She strokes his cheek with the back of her hand.

NORAH
(Smiling)
I know you'll do all you can to protect us.

He leans in and is about to kiss her when Peter runs into the kitchen.

PETER
They’ve lost track of him!

COLIN
What?!

PETER
I’ve just been online and they’ve lost track of Hassad.

Colin rushes past Peter out of the kitchen. Peter looks over at Norah still standing by the sink.

PETER (cont’d)
Don’t worry. Colin’s got this under control.
Norah turns and picks up the towel Colin tossed on the counter. Her hands start to shake. She takes a deep breath and hands still shaking picks up a dish to dry. She drops it and it crashes to the floor. She grabs hold of the edge of the sink and starts to cry.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Colin is sitting on the couch scanning the monitor to Peter’s laptop computer which sits on the coffee table. Peter has sat down next to him.

    COLIN
    How in the world could they have lost track of him?

    PETER
    Well...

    COLIN
    Where did they see him last?

    PETER
    A gun store in Queens.

    COLIN
    He’s getting closer!
    (BEAT)
    Why didn’t they arrest him?!

    PETER
    Colin, you know they can’t positively id him as Hassad.

    COLIN
    Peter you know it’s him!

He slams the computer shut. He looks up and notices Norah has entered the room.

    NORAH
    (Voice shaking)
    They can’t find him?

Colin gets up from the couch and walks over to Norah.

    COLIN
    They’ll locate him again.

    NORAH
    But before he gets here?
COLIN
Yeah, sure they will.

NORAH
You’re a lousy liar.

COLIN
Me and Pete we won’t let him near you okay?

Norah glances over at Peter who looks up from the couch and smiles.

PETER
The President couldn’t be safer.

COLIN
Why don’t you go in the kitchen and make yourself some tea. Try not to worry about it.

Norah lets out a sigh and starts to head for the kitchen.

NORAH
Easy for you guys to say.

Colin returns back to the couch and sits next to Peter. He makes sure Norah has left the room before talking to Peter.

COLIN
(In a whisper)
It’s going to happen tonight.

PETER
How can you be sure?

COLIN
My gut’s telling me so.

Peter leans back on the couch, letting out a sigh.

PETER
Far be it for me to argue with your gut. It’s never wrong. But why is your gut telling you it’s going to be tonight?

COLIN
Because we can’t find him.

PETER
What?
COLIN
This has been a game of cat and mouse for Hassad. He knew I knew he was in New York. He wanted me to know. He’s dropped off the radar because he’s about to pounce.

PETER
Why don’t we just move Norah then? Didn’t you mention something about a sister?

Colin gets up from the couch and checks to make sure Norah isn’t anywhere around.

COLIN
That’s not going to work.

PETER
Why not?

COLIN
You know better then anyone the type of networks Hassad and his like have set up. He’ll have her tracked down in no time.

Peter then gets up from the couch.

PETER
Well, then I’m ready for the son of...

Norah then reenters the room.

NORAH
Anyone want tea?

COLIN
No thanks.

PETER
No.

NORAH
Coffee then?

Both men shake their heads.

COLIN
We’re fine, thanks.
Norah looks the both men over, studying them a moment before exiting the room.

PETER
You don’t really think you’re fooling her do you? I mean you know she knows what’s going on.

COLIN
(Sighing)
Yeah, I know.

PETER
So you’re thinking it’ll all be over by tonight.

Colin looks towards the direction of the kitchen.

COLIN
One way or another.
(BEAT)
Meanwhile, one of us has to be in the room with Norah at all times.

PETER
All right.

He gives Colin a wink, a smile and a pat on the back.

PETER (cont’d)
Unless of course you want the full time job.

COLIN
What’s that supposed to mean?

PETER
Come on Colin I’ve known you too long...you can’t fool me.

COLIN
Fool you about what?

PETER
You’ve fallen in love with her.

COLIN
Pete, that’s obscene. She’s my brother’s wife.

PETER
Yeah. But Aidan’s dead.
COLIN
You don’t need to remind me.

PETER
Sorry.
(BEAT)
Listen I think it’s about time you found someone. Maybe quit the Company, start your own security firm. Maybe we could start one together.

COLIN
I couldn’t do that to Aidan.

Peter puts his hand on Colin’s shoulder.

PETER
You don’t have anything to feel guilty about when it comes to your brother. Not his death. Not your feelings for Norah. And if I were you I’d tell first chance I get.

COLIN
Just go and check the exterior.

PETER
Yeah, sure.

Peter heads for the front door leaving Colin alone in the living room.

INT. THE LIVING ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Norah sits on the couch watching TV as Peter intently looks at his computer monitor. Colin enters the room with a large dish of ice cream topped with caramel and whipped cream.

COLIN
(Handing Norah the ice cream)
I know you wanted more caramel but we’ve run out.

NORAH
So I guess you guys are going to have to get Hassad tonight. Either way someone’s going for more caramel tomorrow.
Colin smiles as Norah digs into the ice cream. He looks over towards Peter. He then walks over to his partner.

**COLIN**

Anything?

**PETER**

No.

Peter closes the computer and gets up.

**PETER (cont’d)**

I’m going to put some coffee up.

He exits the room and Colin opens the computer. His eyes scan over the screen a couple of times.

**NORAH**

He is coming tonight, isn’t he?

Colin continues to look at the computer screen.

**COLIN**

Why don’t you just worry about finishing that ice cream.

**NORAH**

Colin.

He finally looks up from the screen.

**COLIN**

Yeah, probably.

Norah inhales deeply and places the dish on the coffee table. She rubs her stomach.

**NORAH**

Just in case we don’t make it.

Colin walks over to the couch and sits down next to her.

**COLIN**

Don’t talk that way.

**NORAH**

But if we don’t. I just want you to know... I don’t think Aidan would have been upset with you. I mean... I don’t think he would have blamed you for what... for what happened to him.
COLIN
That doesn’t change the fact that I was to blame.

She puts her hand on his cheek.

NORAH
Aidan wouldn’t want you to feel guilty about it.

He smiles at her and takes hold of her hand.

COLIN
That’s not the only thing I feel guilty about.

NORAH
What? What else would you have to feel guilty about?

He pulls his hand out from hers.

COLIN
Forget I said anything.

NORAH
Come on Colin. You can tell me.

He takes a deep breath.

COLIN
Norah I think I’m...

Peter rushes into the room, his gun drawn.

PETER
There’s something out there and I don’t think it’s the neighbor’s cat.

Peter heads for the front door. Colin gets up from the couch and draws his own gun, following Peter.

COLIN
All right, let’s go.

Peter puts his hand on Colin’s chest.

PETER
No way. You have to stay here. Keep an eye on her. Take her to the basement. I’ll go check it out.
COLIN
Okay.

Peter opens the front door slowly, peering out of it before exiting the house. Colin rushes over to Norah who is now standing next to the couch, and takes her by the hand.

COLIN (cont’d)
This is it.

He leads her out of the living towards the basement door.

INT. THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE THE BASEMENT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER
The two reach the basement door.

COLIN
Wait here.

Colin slowly opens the door, turns on the light and with his gun still drawn, slowly makes his way down the steps. Norah looks around the hallway then down the stairs. A few moments later Colin comes back up.

COLIN (cont’d)
Okay, she’s all clear.

Norah follows Colin down the steps.

INT. THE BASEMENT- A FEW MOMENTS LATER
The two are descending the stairs when Norah stops suddenly.

COLIN
What’s wrong?

NORAH
I... I think I just went into labor.

COLIN
You can’t be going into labor, you’re not due for another six weeks.

NORAH
You want to tell your niece or nephew that?

COLIN
Well we’re just going to...
A couple of shots ring out in the front of the house. They both look in the direction the shots came from.

NORAH
Peter.

Colin takes her hand and leads her down the rest of the steps.

COLIN
Come on.

They finally make it to the bottom of the steps. The basement is full of a lot of boxes. A couple of small windows are opposite of the stairs to the right. A washer and dryer stand in the corner. To the left of them is a stainless steel sink. There is also a workbench across from where the washer and dryer stand. Next to the workbench sit about a dozen folding chairs. Colin takes hold of one of the chairs, opens it and places it across from the washer and dryer.

COLIN (cont’d)
Go on sit down.

Norah sits on the chair as Colin looks around the basement.

COLIN (cont’d)
Are there any other ways to get in here?

NORAH
Just the stairs and I guess those two windows.

Norah groans. Colin places his fingers on her lips.

COLIN
Shh. I know you’re in pain, but you’re going to have to try and stay quiet.

She bites down on her lip and nods.

COLIN (cont’d)
Any blankets or pillows in any of these boxes? Something to maybe make you more comfortable?

She points to a pile of boxes to her left.

NORAH
Maybe in there.
He opens the first box only to find a bunch of citations and awards with Aidan’s name on them. He looks at them a moment, then delicately puts them back and moves onto the next box. There he finds a comforter and a couple of pillows. He yanks them out of the box and returns to Norah. He places the pillows and comforter on the floor.

COLIN
You’re going to have to lie down.

He gives her a hand onto the floor. She lets out another loud groan.

COLIN (cont’d)
Norah.

She digs her nails into his arm and he clinches in pain but doesn’t make a sound.

NORAH
Colin I think this is it. The baby, I think it’s really coming.

COLIN
Okay.

He takes his shirt off and hands it over to Norah.

COLIN (cont’d)
Here, take this.

NORAH
What’s this for?

COLIN
For the baby. We’re going to need something to wrap the baby in.

She tightly grabs hold of his arm again, muffling a groan. Another couple of shots ring out, sounding closer this time.

NORAH
Colin.

COLIN
All right, I’m seeing the head.

Norah sits herself up and bears down.

COLIN (cont’d)
Okay, okay. You’re almost there. A bit longer.
Norah gives one more hard push. A few seconds later the BABY cries.

            COLIN (cont’d)
            (Laughing)
            He’s beautiful!

            NORAH
            (Weakly)
            He?

            COLIN
            Yeah.

He hands the baby to Norah. The door handle to the basement door starts to rattle. Colin helps Norah up and ushers her to a darken corner in the basement.

            COLIN (cont’d)
            Stay here.

            NORAH
            Where are you going? You can’t leave us.

            COLIN
            Stay quiet. And keep the baby quiet.

He takes an extra gun out from his belt and hands it to Norah.

            COLIN (cont’d)
            Don’t hesitate to use it.

            NORAH
            But Colin...

            COLIN
            Just be ready to use it... No matter what.

The door swings open and the light from the hallway streams down the staircase as Colin, gun drawn, makes his way to the side of the stairs. A figure of a man appears in the doorway. Colin strains to see who it is.

            COLIN (cont’d)
            Pete?

Peter falls down the steps, landing in a heap at the end of the stairs. Colin rushes over to him.
Peter’s chest is totally covered in blood. Colin rushes to his side dropping the gun near Peter’s body. Colin sits his partner up.

PETER  
(Weakly)  
Col...Colin.

Peter then dies.

COLIN  
Peter!

Hassad appears at the top of the stairs. His own gun drawn.

HASSAD  
Where is she?

Still holding onto Peter’s body, Colin attempts to retrieve his own gun.

HASSAD (cont’d)  
I wouldn’t.  
(BEAT)  
Now where is Norah?

Colin doesn’t respond. Hassad takes a couple steps down the stairs.

HASSAD (cont’d)  
I half expected you to send her off with your partner here. You can imagine my disappointment when I didn’t see her with him. And you wouldn’t be so stupid as to keep her with you, would you?

Colin looks down at his partner and then at Hassad defiantly, still not saying anything.

HASSAD (cont’d)  
Rest assured if she has been taken off somewhere else I will find her.

He takes another step closer to Colin.

HASSAD (cont’d)  
I would very much like it if you were there to see me end her and her child’s life. I would like to see your reaction.  
(He smirks)
HASSAD (cont’d)
Do you know your brother had the
look of fear in his eyes in his
last moments of life?

Colin continues to look at Hassad defiantly.

HASSAD (cont’d)
You should have seen him as I
administered that drug in his IV.
You know the one that caused the
massive heart attack?

Colin glares at Hassad.

COLIN
It’s me you want not them. So just
get it over Hassad. And leave them
alone.

HASSAD
I’m sure if your brother could have
spoke that is what he would have
said. Not that I would have
listened to him. So what makes you
think I would listen to you?

Hassad raises his gun and points it at Colin who stares
defiantly at him. As he is about to squeeze the trigger a
shot rings out from the darken corner of the basement. The
bullet just misses Hassad and as Hassad turns in the
direction the bullet came from two more bullets are fired.
One hitting him in the shoulder the other in the chest. A
shocked Hassad drops the gun and attempts to hold onto the
bannister but misses and stumbles down the steps, landing on
top Peter. Norah appears from the shadows, the gun still in
her shaking hand as the baby begins to cry. Colin looks down
Hassad whose lifeless eyes look up at him. He kicks Hassad
off of Peter, a look of contempt in his eyes. He turns his
attention to Norah. She stands a few feet away still shaking.
He rushes over to her side, gently taking the gun away from
her.

COLIN
It’s all right.

NORAH
Is he...is he dead?

COLIN
Yeah.

He puts his arm around her and she buries her head in his
chest and starts to cry. He tightens his grip on her.
COLIN (cont’d)
It’s okay.

INT. A HOSPITAL ROOM - AFTERNOON
Norah is sitting in bed signing some papers for a NURSE while Mary sits next to the bed holding the baby.

NURSE # 4
Okay then Mrs. Gallagher I’ll get this paper work filed.

MARY
Aren’t you just the cutest little thing?
(To the nurse)
Isn’t he?

NURSE # 4
He’s adorable.

The nurse exits and Mary hands the baby back to Norah.

MARY
I hate to leave, but I’ve got a meeting.
(BEAT)
Are you sure you’re both all right?

NORAH
We’re fine.

Colin enters the room. Mary lets out a sigh.

MARY
Norah told me what happened. With agents like you it’s no wonder we can’t find bin Laden.

NORAH
Mary.

COLIN
No, it’s okay.

NORAH
She doesn’t know what she’s talking about.
MARY
You mean like the fact that he almost got you and my nephew killed?

NORAH
Mary, please.

COLIN
She’s right.

MARY
He even agrees with me.

NORAH
Don’t you have a meeting to get to?

She looks over Colin.

MARY
Maybe I should cancel.

Norah points to the door.

NORAH
Go.

Mary looks at Norah confusingly.

MARY
Are you sure?

NORAH
Positive.

Norah lets out a frustrated sigh. Then leans over and gives Norah a kiss on the cheek, smiling at the baby.

MARY
Fine.

She glares at Colin as she exits the room.

NORAH
I’m sorry about that.

COLIN
Don’t be. She made a good point. I didn’t do a very good job of protecting you.

Norah looks down at the baby.
NORAH
I just want to forget about it, and put the whole thing behind me.

Colin sits down next to the bed.

COLIN
He really does look like Aidan.

NORAH
(Smiling)
Yeah.
(BEAT)
So you’ll be heading back to the Middle East?

COLIN
No.

NORAH
Why not?

Colin leans back in the chair.

COLIN
I’m stepping down.

NORAH
Because of what just happened?

Colin gets up from the chair and starts walking around.

COLIN
That was just the straw that broke the camel’s back.

NORAH
You’ve seen a lot.

COLIN
Too much. And up to about a year ago I was able to handle it. I guess it started with that video of the ambassador’s granddaughter being beheaded.

NORAH
I remember that. It was awful.

Colin sits back down on the bed.
COLIN
It was beyond awful, Norah. The American public knew what happened, but they never saw the whole tape.... I did.

NORAH
Is that when the nightmares started?

COLIN
(Confused)
What? I never mentioned...

NORAH
I guessed. Peter suspected too.

He runs his fingers passed the baby’s cheek.

COLIN
They started then but they got worse after the raid on Hassad’s safe house. And after Aidan...

Norah takes hold of his hand.

NORAH
It’s not your fault.

He slips his hand away from hers.

COLIN
I started it with that raid. It set everything in motion.

NORAH
When Hassad decided to use terrorism as a way to achieve his aims, that when everything was set in motion. You were just doing your job. And from what Peter told me, you were the best at it.

COLIN
Not yesterday.

NORAH
Forget about yesterday.

COLIN
I doubt I can. When I think of could have happened...
She puts her hand out and he takes it, sitting back down on the bed.

NORAH
But it didn’t. Look we’re fine. Perfectly healthy.

He looks down at his nephew and smiles.

NORAH (cont’d)
What will you do now?

COLIN
Peter and I were talking about starting our own security firm.

She puts her hand on his cheek.

NORAH
Then you should do it.

He smiles at her and brushes back her hair.

COLIN
There’s one more thing I should do.

NORAH
Yeah? And what’s that?

COLIN
I have to tell you something.

NORAH
What?

He leans in closer to her and whispers in her ear.

COLIN
I love you.

She looks into his eyes placing her hand on his cheek.

NORAH
I love you, too.

He looks down at his nephew and smiles and then kisses Norah.

FADE OUT

THE END