WIDOWVILLE                  c. 2015
SCREENPLAY
BY
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EXT. THE CARIBBEAN SEA       NOON

It's a balmy day. An elegant sailing yacht is cruising along. On deck a beautiful woman is catching a tan in the nude. She sips a tall cool cocktail. She seems like the essence of contentment.

The CAMERA pans the ship. At the helm Captain FRANK is in charge. He's 65 years old. His jaunty hat, jutting pipe and nautical clothes project the image of his former self. He used to be a man's man. Virile, vibrant, vigorous. He hasn't felt that way for years. He's not his own hero any more.

CARLOS the deckhand comes up quietly behind him. His silent approach gives him a chance to get an eyefull of the the naked blond. He waits a moment as he scopes the babe.

CARLOS
Pardon me sir, lunch is ready.
Shall I serve it now.

FRANK is no fool. He knows the kid was checking out his naked wife. He is pissed off.

FRANK
Damn you boy. Don't you go sneaking up on me. When I want you I'll call you. Get back below.

CARLOS obeys the order. As soon as he's gone FRANK puts on the auto-pilot and goes forward.

FRANK
Damn it GINGER. I told you I don't want you prancing around naked in front of the crew.

GINGER
Oh FRANK, don't be such a prude. I'm having a good time for a change. Don't spoil it. Let's have another drink. You're no fun when you're sober.
FRANK lumbers back to the helm. He fixes two strong drinks. He downs one in seconds, fixes another and drinks half. Then he dutifully serves his wife.

Down in the galley CARLOS and JUAN are joking about their boss's. CARLOS mimics her breasts with his hands and licks his lips. JUAN motions a fat belly over a limp dick. They laugh a bit and then hush up before they can be heard.

EXT. PUERTO BLANCO HARBOR        AFTERNOON

PUERTO BLANCO is flanked by a pair of castles. On one side is an antique Spanish fortress. On the other is a modern Hotel-Condo-Complex in Spanish colonial style. It looms like a white castle protecting the tourists.

It's a busy day with lots of marine traffic. Fisherman and divers are heading in while the Booze Cruise is heading out. Our yacht reaches the docks. As the men secure the boat GINGER leaps off at the first possible moment.

GINGER doesn't know it but she is being watched. From the tower of the White Castle an older woman is spying on her with a high-tech telescope. It's LADY EVE, also known as the BLACK WIDOW.

LADY EVE doesn't know that she is under surveillance. From a small hotel a man hiding in his room has a camera focused on her. It's a professional job with a tripod and telephoto lens. He snaps pictures of LADY EVE then grabs his binoculars and tries to locate her quarry.

GINGER is on a mission. She weaves her way thru the town and finds a beauty parlor named DEVINE.

INT. DEVINE   BACK ROOM -- LUCRETIA'S LOUNGE   MINUTES LATER

GINGER does some blow. LUCRETIA offers special services to her special customers. As they get high GINGER pours her heart out. Whenever GINGER pauses LUCRETIA responds in softly spoken Spanish. It's like a visit to the shrink.

GINGER
I can't stand it anymore LUCRETIA.
FRANK was the man of my dreams. Now he's old, fat, and cheap........
Ever since the trial he's been in a foul mood. It's as if he blames me for his problems.....No, it's not like that. We don't even fight anymore. Nobody cares.....Loving him used to be a pleasure. Now it's a dreaded chore. When he touches me I feel repelled.....

LUCRETIA murmurs comforting words as she sets up another set of lines. Few doctors have her natural talents.
GINGER
I've got to do something...... I'm not willing to suffer a miserable life paying for my past...... You're damn right I've got a plan. I'm going to get myself a lover. ......Mas cocaína por favor.

INT. FAIRWAYS GOLF CLUB THE GREEN BAR SAME TIME

FRANK is talking to his close friend, ED WEAVER.

FRANK
I'm telling you ED, I feel old and spent. I used to enjoy playing racketball. I loved that game. Ever since I got injured my game ankle restricts me to playing golf and poker.

ED
FRANK, stop whining. You've still got a lot going for you. You're a yachtsman. You've won regattas and have a title. You've got a beautiful wife. And we both know you've got a business that brings in good money.

FRANK
You don't know the half of it. I owe money to the Mob. My boat is virtually owned by them. I borrowed against it to pay off my legal debts. I run their dope and make no profit. It's all their's before I ever see a dime.

ED
So what can you do?

FRANK MILLER
I haven't got a clue. All I know is that I need to find an answer before my life unravels. And GINGER is more trouble than she's worth. I often feel that she wants me to fail. As if she gets pleasure from my misery.

INT. YACHT CLUB BAR LATE AFTERNOON

Overlooking the harbor is the SAILORS LOFT. Here is where the boating crowd gathers. FRANK is at the bar. Another man stands nearby. He's very tall. When the barkeep is away he speaks to FRANK surreptitiously.
MIKE MASON
Are we set for tonight?

FRANK MILLER
Not tonight. Tomorrow at dawn.
Loading a boat at night looks suspicious.

INT. PIRATES COVE BAR-N-GRILL AN HOUR LATER

At the height of three feet tall the camera walks down the aisle from the front door. Tables that are half full and barseats with butts on them line the corridor. Eventually we reach the back booth. Two men are having a discussion.

Our camera is the eyes of a little girl.

LITTLE GIRL
Mommy says the party is starting. Are you going to come now?

The camera reverses and we see a child. She has an earnest face that needs to know the answer to her question.

BIG AL
Tell Mommy that I'll be there in a few minutes. O.k. Sweetheart?

Happily satisfied the kid runs off.

In the back booth FRANK MILLER is meeting with AL ROSETTI. He's big, beefy and bald. He's a gangster from Chicago.

BIG AL
FRANK, it's a damn shame what's happened to you. You used to be the man I wanted to be. An athlete, a lady's man, a guy who had the world by the balls. Ever since your trial your life has turned to shit.

FRANK MILLER
Take it easy AL. I'm still valuable to the organization and I ain't dead yet.

BIG AL
FRANK, you are in debt to me way over your head. I don't see how you are ever going to pay me off. I hope you're insured. Maybe your widow can meet the bill.

FRANK MILLER
Hold on AL. Let's keep this discussion civilized. I'm not just a mule. I've done more for the gang than transport. I've recruited (MORE)
FRANK MILLER (cont'd)
dozens of members of the yacht club
as couriers to carry our goods. I
bought trucks, boats and properties
to move the product. Ask MIKE
MASON. I'm his top man.

BIG AL
All that's old news. What you owe
me is beyond your means. We need a
new understanding. I have a plan.
Work with me. I'll forgive your
debt. You can keep your yacht and
sail away.

EXT. PIRATES COVE BAR   SUNSET
As BIG AL ROSETTI and FRANK MILLER exit the bar a series of
snapshots catch them together. It's our photo-journalist.
He's using his night-vision lens to get clear photos.

INT. NEAL JORDAN'S HOTEL ROOM      NIGHT
NEAL is on the phone with his boss, MAX KRUGER.

NEAL JORDAN
MAX, this story is solid gold. I'm
sending you photos of AL ROSETTI
with everyone he meets. See if you
can identify the criminals from mug
shots. I'm sure most of them have
records....Yes MAX, it's like a
rogues gallery here. And the most
prominent person in town is LADY
EVE LOGAN, the BLACK WIDOW. Her
husband founded this resort forty
years ago. Then he disappeared
without a trace....
She holds court in her penthouse
with the mayor, the police chief
and her executives. They run this
town.... No, I haven't been able to
link them to the COCAINE TRAIN.....

EXT. DOCKS       MIDNIGHT
INT.  FRANK´S YACHT

GINGER and CARLOS are engaged in OLYMPIC FUCKING. Finally
they are exhausted. GINGER warns CARLOS that FRANK is a
dangerous man. She stresses that point until CARLOS swears
to keep their affair a secret. This intimacy leads to more
words of love. Another Fucking Festival results.

INT. LUCRETIA'S LOUNGE           AFTERNOON

GINGER is having her daily 'therapy session'. After a few
minutes and a few lines she blurts out her HOT SEX NEWS.
LUCRETIA loves to hear gossip and encourages GINGER to give
her all the facts. GINGER does, explicitly describing her sexual activities. The women revel in the details.

GINGER
LUCRETIA, I haven't felt this good in years. I realize now how miserable I've been with FRANK. I'll never let him dominate me again.....I don't know if I can afford to leave him. I'll worry about that when it becomes an issue. Right now I'm just so happy I can barely sit still.....I am concerned he'll find out. But I won't quit with CARLOS as long as I can continue glowing like a girl in love.

INT. DEVINE BEAUTY PARLOR  5 P.M.

GINGER is having a pedicure. Her eyes are closed as she dreams on about her marvelous romantic adventure. As she hums to herself two older women enter quinitely. They hear GINGER and wonder what makes this beautiful woman so happy. She is an object of gossip in this small town.

MRS. BARNES
Oh GINGER, what's got you singing with joy?

MRS. THORNDIKE
Yes dear. Whatever it is we could use a bit of that.

GINGER
It's just clean living girls. I've been spending my days on the high seas. Now I'm back in town and I'm eager for gossip. Tell me something juicy.

MRS. THORNDIKE
Well, my Harold says that the Blue Moon Hotel is bankrupt again.....

EXT. DOCKS  MIDNIGHT

INT. YACHT 'BELINDA'  CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS

GINGER and CARLOS are enjoying another pornographic session. They pause for breath.
GINGER
CARLOS I've never been happier.
Promise me you'll stay with me.

CARLOS
Anything for you my love.

EXT. DOCKS     YACHT 'BELINDA'     DAWN

MIKE MASON and his men load cargo aboard the yacht. It's four duffel bags about fifty pounds each. They are gone in minutes. After they leave FRANK goes to work. He transfers the cargo to a nearby boat.

FRANK returns to his yacht. He checks the ship stem to stern to prepare it for sailing. When he reaches the captains quarters he sees that something is wrong. The bed doesn't have that crisp look that maids pride themselves on. He tears off the covers and finds soiled sheets. Someone has been fucking in his bed.

INT.   LADY EVE´S PENTHOUSE     MORNING

The private elevator delivers COLONEL RUIZ to the suite. He is tall, handsome, sporting a magnificent mustach and a perfectly pressed uniform. He is the top cop in town.

LADY EVE and her cabal are waiting for him. Mr. BIDDLE, the chief of staff. Jeff Collins, attorney. Claire Trebor, press secretary. Brian Gilliams, business agent. And the Mayor, Senor Gomez. Tess Gordon, LADY EVE´S personal assistant, is in attendance.

After introductions we get to business.

COLONEL RUIZ
There was a robbery at the hotel last night. A gang of bandits held up a card game. They made off with cash and jewelry. At least nobody was hurt. However, it's a crime on our time and territory. We bear the blame for allowing it to happen. We are responsible for this town.

MAYOR GOMEZ
Didn't this happen last year at this time? And wasn't there a cruise ship in port then?

COLONEL RUIZ
You are correct sir. We have good descriptions from the victims. If these bandits came by ship I'll have them in jail by nightfall.
LADY EVE
It's important that we have a speedy arrest. Bad publicity weakens our position and strengthens the Cartel. They claim that they will enforce law and order when they get their casino. Once that happens we are finished. They'll take our town away from us.

MR. BIDDLE
The expansion of the golf club was the plum we needed to attract a major golf tournament. I've secured sponsors and T.V. coverage...... The Sport of Kings begins a new season in December. Horse racing is a world class act and is sanctioned by the state. Generally speaking the government is against gambling but it seems wholesome when it's done outdoors. And the state has no problem in getting their share of the profits......The regatta is scheduled for January. I've contacted every major yacht club within 1000 miles to get them involved. We are getting positive responses.

JEFF COLLINS - ATTORNEY
I've petitioned the state to recognize Paradise Security as a legal form of law enforcement in our territory. That should ease some problems. Ever since the Governor was arrested nobody knows who's in charge or who to bribe.

CLAIRE TREBOR - PRESS AGENT
On that score I've launched a national campaign to denounce the Cartel as an enemy of the people. Every time the Casino issue comes up I link it to organized crime.

BRIAN GILLIAMS - BUSINESS MAN
Our program to squeeze out the marginal businesses is working. Cheap hotels and flop-houses are being closed. We are vigorously enforcing health and safety laws so shacks and carts cannot serve food. We are upgrading the town to be the stylish resort we desire. I suggest that we buy every piece of property as it becomes available. That way there will be no place to build Casinos.
INT. FRANK'S HOUSE     AFTERNOON

GINGER enters. FRANK is listening to opera, smoking a cigar and having a brandy. They don't greet each other. Once GINGER gets settled the tranquility is broken.

FRANK MILLER
Where the hell have you been?

GINGER
Oh FRANK. Don't badger me. There's a festival in town. I've been drinking and dancing with friends and strangers. You remember dancing, don't you? That's what people do when they're happy.

FRANK MILLER
I was worried, that's all.

GINGER
Worry on your time. We've been invited to a party. Halloween at the golf club. We're supposed to come in costume. Sounds like fun, doesn't it?

FRANK MILLER
Whatever.

INT. YACHT 'BELINDA'   MIDNIGHT

GINGER and CARLOS are fucking up a storm. FRANK bursts in with a hard-on. CARLOS has GINGER in the classic V and is plowing her for all he's worth. FRANK grabs him from his helpless position by the neck. He throttles him and starts beating him to a pulp.

GINGER is shocked. She reaches into her nightstand and grabs her gun. It's a .25 automatic. Before FRANK does any more damage she shoots him in the back.

FRANK turns towards her, more shocked than wounded.

FRANK MILLER
Why? For this punk?

GINGER
No. Because I'm sick of you!

GINGER shoots FRANK twice more in the chest. FRANK drops dead at her feet.

GINGER tosses the gun on the bed, then checks that FRANK is dead. He is. Then she checks on CARLOS. He is in bad shape.

After a few minutes GINGER nurses CARLOS back to life. Once he's coherent he takes charge.
CARLOS
Mi amor. You've got to go to town. You must establish your alibi. You must be seen with people.

GINGER
What about you?

CARLOS
Don't worry about me. You're the wife. You will be the prime suspect. I'll be O.K.

GINGER
What will you do?

CARLOS
Don't ask. You don't want to know. Just go. Go now. Go! Now!

GINGER heads out. As soon as she's gone CARLOS calls JUAN.

JUAN is drunk. He's at a party. He doesn't want to go anywhere, he just wants to PARTY. CARLOS yammers at him until he agrees to come by with his boat.

GINGER'S ladies gun made for a neat killing. It didn't perforate the body, there is very little blood. CARLOS wraps the corpse in the rug. He says a few words.

CARLOS
I never meant to hurt you. But you don't deserve that woman. You bought a child bride that has outgrown you..... You shouldn't have gotten fat.

EXT. HARBOR    DEAD OF NIGHT

JUAN arrives puttering about in his small boat. He pulls up to the yacht. CARLOS greets him then tells him the news.

JUAN goes ballistic. After a heated debate he agrees to help CARLOS dispose of FRANK'S corpse. With great effort they manage to load the stiff onto the skiff and away they go.

EXT. DOCKS    MORNING    YACHT 'BELINDA'

MIKE MASON comes by to check on FRANK'S progress. There's nobody there. FRANK was supposed to meet him. MIKE is concerned. He goes to FRANK'S house.

EXT. FRANK'S HOUSE    MORNING

MIKE bangs on the door and rings the bell. GINGER answers. She doesn't know MASON. He seems menacing. She instantly dislikes him.
MIKE MASON
Excuse me ma'am. Forgive the early hour. I'm looking for your husband. We had an appointment. Is he home?

GINGER
No he isn't. Can I take a message?

MIKE MASON
Tell him that MIKE MASON was here. It's most important that we speak.

GINGER
I'll be sure to tell him.

GINGER sighs with relief when MASON leaves.

GINGER -- MURMERS TO HERSELF
I'll be answering more questions about FRANK from here on. I'll keep it simple. FRANK went out and didn't come back. End of story.

INT. DEA OFFICE IN MIAMI             AFTERNOON

AGENT KELLY -- SHOUTING ON THE PHONE
What do you mean you lost him? That town isn't big enough to lose a dog. FRANK MILLER is the key to our case. Without him we can't prove the Miami connection. Redouble your efforts. I'm coming down there.

INT. PIRATE'S COVE  BAR-N-GRILL  AFTERNOON

BIG AL ROSETTI and MIKE MASON are in the back booth.

BIG AL
What do you mean he disappeared?

MIKE MASON
I can't find him. I checked his boat, his house, all the usual places. He hasn't been seen since yesterday. FRANK MILLER is gone. Do you think he skipped out on us?

BIG AL
Can't be. His boat is here. He loves that boat more than his wife. Maybe we've been double-crossed by the Cartel. They knew FRANK had the cargo. I'll make some calls. In the meantime you keep looking. And check on Perez. He might know something. If he doesn't he's of no use to us. Get rid of him.

NEAL JORDAN takes MIKE MASON's picture as he leaves the bar.
INT. POLICE STATION  OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ  DAY

DEA AGENTS KELLY, GROGAN AND WHITE present papers and photos concerning FRANK MILLER to bolster their case that PUERTO BLANCO is the hub of the COCAINE TRAIN. COLONEL RUIZ is not impressed.

COLONEL RUIZ
I'm sorry gentlemen but this evidence is weak. I will not allow you to upset my town so you can shine for your superiors. You may look but not touch. No interviews, no interrogations, no interference. The tourist season is upon us. Bad publicity can ruin this town.

AGENT KELLY
All we ask for is cooperation. We're all on the same side.

COLONEL RUIZ
I don't think that's true. This town thrives on tourism. We can't afford to have crime stories chase away our customers.

AGENT KELLY
We need full access to this town.

COLONEL RUIZ
You have my answer. Dismissed.

AGENT KELLY -- MOCKINGLY
Si mi Capitan.

LADY EVE'S PENTHOUSE BALCONY            SUNSET

COLONEL RUIZ
We have a new problem. DEA agents are investigating PUERTO BLANCO. They blame us for their drug problem. The last time they were here they botched their assignment. That resulted in a gunbattle in the harbor. The press played the story up in a big way. Those news stories devastated tourism for years.

LADY EVE
What can we do about them.

COLONEL RUIZ
I've restricted their activities as much as the law allows. When they cross the lines I've dictated I'll (MORE)
COLONEL RUIZ (cont'd)
contact their superiors and demand that they be recalled. We'll just have to hope for the best.

LADY EVE
Do what you can.

COLONEL RUIZ -- AS HE SALUTES HER
Si mi Capitan.

INT. NEAL JORDAN'S HOTEL ROOM
Snap snap snap goes the camera. NEAL JORDAN has his focus on LADY EVE. He catches the Colonel saluting her.

NEAL JORDAN
Gotcha. Now we see who's in charge.

AGENT GROGAN works a camera as good as anyone. He catches the same action.

AGENT GROGAN     ON THE PHONE
We got him chief. COLONEL RUIZ gets his orders from the BLACK WIDOW.

AGENT KELLY
That's great GROGAN. The next time that smug bastard gives us shit we'll shove it down his throat.

EXT. DOCKS    MORNING      YACHT 'BELINDA'
NEAL JORDAN I.D.'d FRANK MILLER as BIG AL'S cohort. He pokes around and finds out that FRANK has a fancy boat. He goes to inspect yacht 'BELINDA'. He is quite impressed. The COCAINE TRAIN must be paying well to support such a fine vessel. He's about to make an illegal search when he sees CARLOS is already on board. NEAL takes his photo and continues walking.

INT. DEVINE BEAUTY PARLOR  LUCRETIA'S LOUNGE  AFTERNOON
GINGER is having a 'therapy session'. LUCRETIA is fascinated by the details of GINGER'S life. She sees GINGER as the movie star that she almost was. GINGER'S been hiding in her house and is going stir crazy. She also wants to try out her alibi on a sympathetic ear. As always whenever she pauses LUCRETIA responds in Spanish.

GINGER
LUCRETIA, I think FRANK ran off. I know he's got money problems..... There's some tough looking men asking about him.......I don't know (MORE)
GINGER (cont'd)
what it's about but I haven't seen him for three days.....Yes he has done this before. But this time men have come to the house asking for him. One guy is particularly scary. I can see that he is a gangster.
.....What can I do? I can't go to the police. I'm sure that FRANK is involved in some sort of crime.
.....Mas cocaine por favor.

INT. FAIRWAYS GOLF CLUB   FRIDAY NIGHT   HALLOWEEN

GINGER has positioned herself where she can see the guests as they arrive and don their masks.

During this scene subtitles name suspects and crimes as GINGER identifies them. There's Conrad Trobish, who recently beat the rap for killing his wife. Ex-Senator Wilson who was forced out of office for corruption. BIG AL ROSETTI who's avoiding charges in Chicago. Dr. Barnes who lost a malpractice suit where a young girl died. GINGER realizes that many of her fellow ex-patriots are criminals. Now she's one of them.

CARLOS and JUAN are working the party. CARLOS is a bartender, JUAN is a waiter. GINGER'S mask can't hide her luscious body. JUAN recognizes her for who she is.

JUAN
Lady, your drink is at the bar.

GINGER heads that way but doesn't get five feet before BIG AL blocks her path.

BIG AL
GINGER TART. I've always wanted to meet you. Your film 'Saturns Child' is a classic.

GINGER
Well thank you sir. It's great to be remembered. I know you're a man of substance in this town but I don't know your name.

BIG AL
Just call me AL. I'm a friend of FRANK. Have you seen him lately?

GINGER
No. Not for a few days.
BIG AL
Do you know where he is?

GINGER
No. FRANK never tells me anything. He treats me like I'm a child.

BIG AL
Well, if you do see him I'd like to talk to him. We have business to discuss.

GINGER continues making her way to the bar when MIKE MASON stops her. He gently holds her hand and dances a few steps along with her.

MIKE MASON
Mrs. Miller. So good to see you again. FRANK always talks about your beauty. I thought he was bragging. You do look like a movie star.

GINGER
What do you want?

MIKE MASON
I'm still looking for FRANK. We need to talk.

GINGER
Get in line with the rest of the sharks. I don't where FRANK is or what he's doing. Now, excuse me.

GINGER is having a hard time crossing the room. FRANK'S friends are gathered around a table. They stop her and badger her with questions.

DR. BARNES
GINGER, where the hell is FRANK? We were supposed to play golf yesterday.

GINGER
I have no idea. He didn't say a word to me. This isn't the first time he's pulled this stunt.

MRS. ZELNIK
They're called husbands because it's like animal husbandry. You're supposed to keep track of your flock.

GINGER
FRANK doesn't work that way. When I press him for details he takes (MORE)
GINGER (cont'd)
offense. All I know is that I haven't seen him since Tuesday.

After two minutes she rudely cuts them off and walks away.

Finally she reaches the bar. CARLOS has many customers. He can't talk. GINGER starts to speak and CARLOS cuts her short. He hands her a drink.

CARLOS
Here's your blue martini miss. --
Then whispers. 'Later at the boat.'

The torture continues. COLONEL RUIZ stops GINGER.

COLONEL RUIZ
Mrs. MILLER. I understand your husband has gone missing. Is there some way I can help you?

GINGER
I don't think so. FRANK'S a big boy. This isn't the first time that he's left town unexpectedly.

COLONEL RUIZ
Well, if you do see him have him call on me. It seems that many people are anxious to talk to him.

GINGER escapes the party. All along NEAL JORDAN has been spying on her. He wears his SPYGLASSES, bulky hornrim spectacles that have a tiny hidden camera. He also secretly recorded several conversations. This party has been a gold mine of information.

INT. NEAL JORDAN'S ROOM     MIDNIGHT

Neal is on the phone.

NEAL JORDAN
MAX, it's all coming together. This story is growing by the day. One of the key men for the COCAINE TRAIN, FRANK MILLER, went missing. The whole town is looking for him. Cops, BIG AL, some other thug, FRANK'S friends, everybody but his wife, who doesn't seem to give a damn. I think a ton of product went missing too. ......What's that? The executives from the OUTFIT flew here. That proves it MAX. This is the hottest crime story today. ......Oh, you've I.D.d MIKE MASON. .....He's got a record a mile long. I'll call you tomorrow.
EXT. DOCKS 2 A.M.

CARLOS flits between shadows as he makes his way to the boat. A dim light at the helm lets him know GINGER is waiting for him. He slips aboard the yacht.

GINGER is in tears. Her ordeal at the party was more than she could stand. CARLOS comforts her.

GINGER
CARLOS, I'm afraid I won't hold up under pressure. At the party I was panic stricken. I don't know what I'll do if I am actually questioned by the police.

CARLOS
You will be fine my love. Remember, you are an actress. Act dumb. And FRANK was, is, a mysterious man. He was secretive. He never told you his business. You simply don't know what he's been doing or what's going on.

GINGER
I guess I can do that. We'll stick to our story. I know nothing. You know nothing. Only FRANK can speak for himself. If the cops seem to be getting too close I'll make up stories that involve criminals. That ought to keep them busy for a while.

CARLOS
Whatever you say my love.

GINGER
CARLOS, I'm concerned that people will see us in a compromising situation. If our affair is exposed our guilt will be obvious. I want you to come to work daily. We'll go sailing as often as possible. That way we can be alone together without questions. I want you to stay on the yacht. Ship's maintenance is a constant chore. Nobody will question us if you live here. Let's make plans to go on a fishing trip tomorrow. The more often we use the boat the more natural it will seem.
EXT. DOCKS     NOON

When GINGER arrives CARLOS and JUAN are loading gear on the boat. MIKE MASON makes an appearance.

MIKE MASON
Say folks, where you all going.

GINGER
Buzz off stranger. I've had enough of you.

MIKE MASON
Now that's just not nice. I'd like to come aboard and talk a bit. I brought a friend. I hope you don't mind.

MASON displays his gun.

GINGER
Fine, welcome aboard.

MIKE MASON
You see, I've just got to find FRANK. Mind if I look around?

GINGER
Knock yourself out.

MASON searches the boat. He gives special attention to every place that might hide a hidden panel. He taps on all the bulkheads and checks below deck. He does a thorough job. By the pantry in the galley he raps on the side wall and hears a hollow sound.

MIKE MASON
What have we here?

He whips out his switchblade and loosens a panel. He reaches inside and pulls out FRANK'S big guns. A hunters rifle and a pump-action shotgun.

MIKE MASON
Nice artillery.

GINGER
FRANK doesn't let anyone play with his guns. You better put them back.

MIKE MASON
So, where you all going?

GINGER
That's none of your business.
MIKE MASON
Now you're not being friendly.

GINGER
Fine. We're going fishing. See the rods and tackle.

MIKE MASON
O.k. Lady, we're done here. When you see FRANK let him know that we're not finished yet. I want what he owes me. Understand.

This incident is witnessed from several angles. LADY EVE keeps watch from her perch at the penthouse.

Agents Grogan and White are taking photos from their room. They call for the backup squad with a boat.

NEAL JORDAN has them under surveillance. He grabs a camera and a taxi and follows them to the last point of land.

Agent KELLY uses binoculars from his balcony. As the ship makes it's way thru the harbor all these spies take in the view.

MIKE MASON has a better idea. He gets into his speedboat and gives chase. LADY EVE has her eye on him.

EXT. CARIBBEAN SEA     AFTERNOON

As a gesture to modesty GINGER wears bikini panties. CARLOS brings her a drink.

CARLOS
We're being followed. By two boats.

GINGER
Screw 'em. We've got nothing to hide. Help JUAN with the rods. Today I want to catch more than a tan.

GINGER gets up and prances around, tits a-flying.

GINGER
Take a good look all you bastards!

EXT. PUERTO BLANCO HARBOR        LATE AFTERNOON

When fisherman return with a fine catch they proudly display their goods. Nobody is prouder than GINGER and her men. There's a six foot sailfish and a four foot grouper hanging from the bridge. They are the talk of the town.

As they dock people gather including the fishing officials. PUERTO BLANCO boasts to have the finest fishing around. The fish are weighed and measured, pictures are taken, trophies are awarded and it's all featured on the local news. Our
gang of spies are amazed. It's quite a commotion.

NEAL JORDAN is in the crowd. He takes this opportunity to get clear close up shots of GINGER, CARLOS and JUAN. He calls them her gang.

NEAL JORDAN
That is without doubt the best catch I've seen. How did you do it?

GINGER
You're praising the wrong person. My crew does the fishing. All I caught was a tan.

NEAL JORDAN
Well, it's still great. Can I buy you a drink to celebrate?

GINGER
I'll raise you. The boss of The Grotto said he'd throw me a party if I gave him the fish. You are invited.

INT. THE GROTTO RESTAURANT SUNSET

It's one of the fanciest places in town. They have interior gardens featuring exotic plants and tropical fish. GINGER and NEAL go to the buffet table full of friends, well wishers and freeloaders. They are joined by our gang of spies.

LADY EVE is accompanied by Mr. Biddle. They cruise the table. Everybody loves a party. Especially when the food is free. PUERTO BLANCO has a reputation as a fun town. It's important to throw a festival now and then. That's what keeps the tourists coming. Drinks of course are extra.

LADY EVE
Mrs. Miller, I must say that I am impressed. Not only by your catch but by your generosity to the town. This party is a grand idea.

GINGER
Why be stingy? Do I know you?

LADY EVE
No, but I know you. Or at least I know your boat. I've admired it many times. My name is EVE. I see that we're all having grouper tonight. Tell me, is the sailfish available? I'd like to have it mounted.
GINGER
You'll have to see the boss. It's his now.

LADY EVE
Well, congratulations. I hope we meet again.

As soon as she leaves GINGER grabs NEAL'S arm.

GINGER
Do you know who that is? That's LADY EVE, known as the BLACK WIDOW. Her husband founded the resort of PUERTO BLANCO forty years ago. Then he disappeared. She owns the Grand Hotel. She's the richest woman in town.

NEAL JORDAN
She seems like a classy lady.

CARLOS and JUAN stop by to say goodbye. They are looking for a more lively crowd. They want to dance. As they leave AGENT KELLY makes an appearance.

AGENT KELLY
I just want to say that I envy the man who hooked and landed those fish. Was that you husband?

GINGER
No, it was my crew. They know these waters. They caught both those fish in two hours.

AGENT KELLY
Well those fish are whoppers. Do you sail often? I'm just asking because I admire your sailship. I thought I might make an offer.

GINGER
The ship is not for sale.

AGENT KELLY
You haven't heard my offer.

GINGER
You're starting to annoy me. This is my party. Go away.

AGENT KELLY
There's no reason to be rude.

NEAL JORDAN
Look Jack, you asked your questions and got an answer. Now hit the road.
AGENT KELLY
Who the hell are you?

NEAL JORDAN
Who the hell are you?

AGENT KELLY
I'm Agent Kelly of the DEA. I want to question FRANK MILLER.

NEAL JORDAN
You're way out of your jurisdiction.

AGENT KELLY
Everybody thinks they're a lawyer.

Just then COLONEL RUIZ steps up.

COLONEL RUIZ
Let us not spoil this party with harsh talk. There's nothing here that can't wait until tomorrow. Shall we say at 10 A.M. At my office. Please be prompt.

AGENT KELLY
I still want to know who you are.

NEAL JORDAN
Don't worry chief. I'll be at that meeting.

AGENT KELLY turns in a huff and leaves. He passes his men GROGAN and WHITE who are taking photos from the entrance. Nobody notices MIKE MASON at the bar.

GINGER
Neal, you don't have to escort me to the cops.

NEAL JORDAN
Nonsense. I'm not going to let that FED bully you. You get a lawyer or I'm coming along.

INT. OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ 11 A.M.

COLONEL RUIZ
Alright, we have your statement. We'll be in touch. Mr. JORDAN, a moment please.

GINGER steps out.

NEAL shows the cops a photo.
NEAL JORDAN
I want you both to know that this thug is part of the plot. He's Al Rosetti's main man here. His name's MIKE MASON. You should put him under surveillance.

AGENT KELLY
We'll take that under advisement.

NEAL JORDAN
O.K. So we have a deal. I'll stick close to the lady. But you KELLY, you keep your distance. You make her nervous.

AGENT KELLY
I want her nervous. Nervous people talk. I don't buy this dumb blond routine. She knows more than she's telling.

NEAL JORDAN
And what will you do? Beat it out of her. To crack this case will take subtlety.

COLONEL RUIZ
Gentlemen, we have an agreement. We'll walk lightly until we pounce.

NEAL meets GINGER at her car.

GINGER
What did that cop want?

NEAL JORDAN
He asked me to look after you. I told him I would.

INT. DEVINE BEAUTY PARLOR  LUCRETIA'S LOUNGE  AFTERNOON

GINGER tells LUCRETIA about her police interview.

GINGER
That damn DEA agent practically accused me of being a criminal. It's a good thing NEAL was there. He knows how to handle cops. .....Now I'm concerned about CARLOS. I'm afraid to be seen with him. You know how people talk. And I'm sure the cops are watching me......How can you help?......We can use your apartment as our love nest? But how can we explain CARLOS coming to a beauty parlor?......Oh, there's a separate entrance off the (MORE)
GINGER (cont'd)
alley.....LUCRETIA, you're the best friend I've ever had.

INT. SWANK HOTEL SUITE     NIGHT

BIG AL is on the phone with Chicago.

BIG AL
That's great SID. So the witness is dead and the indictment has been quashed. To who do I owe this favor?.....No, I've still got work to do here. Until we install a new friendly Governor I want to keep close to the action.....I've got the Cartel eating out of my hand. They want their casino so badly they're practically jumping thru hoops......Why would I want to help them? We don't want them to compete with our casinos on the islands. Besides, we want them focused on delivering the product...... We're still looking for FRANK MILLER and the missing cargo...... I want answers too. I'll get back to you.

EXT. THE BEACH     NIGHT

CARLOS and JUAN are sitting by a small campfire passing a bottle of rum. All is well until JUAN says something about 'gringa' and 'dinero'. Immediately CARLOS gets mad. JUAN's words and gestures say CARLOS got the woman but he got nothing. CARLOS attacks JUAN.

It's quite a fight. Hits, holds, they wrestle thru the fire. They end up in knee deep water. CARLOS half drowns JUAN into submission and drags his friend ashore.

CARLOS   -- SPANISH
What will you do? Go to the police? FRANK was trying to kill me. GINGER saved my life. I love that woman.

JUAN nods assent. They are friends and conspirators. There's nothing else to do but go on.

INT. GRAND HOTEL     AFTERNOON

Several OUTFIT executives from Chicago have gathered to discuss the missing cargo. They are being shadowed by NEAL JORDAN. He photos everyone. The DEA agents are also on the job. They've got cameras and have bugged the conference room.
BEN
The questions are where is FRANK MILLER, where's the cargo, and who is our enemy. BIG AL claims the Cartel betrayed us. We'll need proof before we start a gang war.

JOE
I don't trust AL. He went to Miami to plug a leak that cost us the previous shipment. Tommy Drago and his crew took the rap and were whacked. I've known Drago for years. He was always a stand up guy.

TONY
I agree with Joe. If I had to choose between Big Al and Drago as to who would betray us it would be Al. I never did trust him.

BILL
If the Cartel has turned on us we've got big troubles. They own this territory.

DON
But why would they? We've been partners for years. Everybody has been making money. It doesn't make sense.

TONY
We're in the dark because we're from Chicago. We need a local whose in the know.

JOE
We've got a few local cops on the payroll. But can we trust them? For all we know they're the problem.

BEN
This is getting us nowhere. Set up a meeting with the Cartel. Maybe they know the score. We are in their backyard.

EXT. GINGER'S HOUSE   NIGHT
GINGER is about to enter when she is startled. CARLOS is hiding in the bushes.
CARLOS
Mi amor. I've got to see you.

GINGER
Don't sneak up on me like that. You scared the daylights out of me.

CARLOS
Let me in. Have you got beer?

INT. GINGER'S HOUSE    AN HOUR LATER

GINGER and CARLOS are relaxing with drinks.

GINGER
CARLOS, you can't be seen here. If people know we're lovers they'll figure it out about FRANK. Meet me on the boat or at DEVINE. There's no other way.

CARLOS
I know you're right my love. But I'm concerned about you. You need to be safe from the gangsters. They are all around us.

GINGER
I'll be O.K. Go back to the boat. I'll see you tomorrow.

As she opens the door to let him out MIKE MASON forces his way in. He's got his knife in his hand.

MIKE MASON
Hey! What's with Pancho here?

CARLOS
I came to protect her from you!

MIKE MASON
And you're doing a fine job. Let's all go down to the boat. I want another look.

EXT. GINGER'S HOUSE

As they step out the door they get a surprise. DEA agents KELLY, GROGAN and WHITE are waiting for them. A spotlight floods them as the agents point their pistols.

AGENT KELLY
You are all under arrest!

INT. POLICE STATION    AN HOUR LATER
COLONEL RUIZ arrives. The first thing he does is to motion the DEA agents into his office. As he closes the door everyone hears him yell--

COLONEL RUIZ
Damn it! You can't arrest people in Mexico!!!

INT. LADY EVE'S PENTHOUSE MORNING
The COLONEL and LADY EVE are having coffee as he reports.

COLONEL RUIZ
We had some excitement last night. Those DEA agents made an arrest. They know they have no jurisdiction here. They claim they were stopping a felony.

LADY EVE
Tell me everything.

COLONEL RUIZ
They were watching GINGER MILLER'S house. They are convinced she is part of FRANK MILLER'S drug trade. When a known felon arrived they thought they'd caught MILLER'S gang. Then when GINGER MILLER and her deckhand were led by the felon at knife point they felt compelled to intervene. He's that tall man you noticed whose been all around this case. His name is MIKE MASON.

LADY EVE
I've seen him. He looks nasty.

COLONEL RUIZ
He is. He has a record of assaults that would put most men in jail for life. Apparently he also has fine legal protection. However, he claims his knife was in his pocket. The victims confirmed it.

LADY EVE
Why would they protect him?

COLONEL RUIZ
Good question. When AGENT KELLY pressed GINGER MILLER to prefer charges she refused. I'm wondering if these DEA agents actually have a case.
LADY EVE
What did GINGER MILLER say?

COLONEL RUIZ
She just wanted to go home.

EXT. DOCKS  AFTERNOON

Yacht 'BELINDA' returns to base. There's no fanfare today. Just AGENT KELLY. As the crew docks AGENT KELLY speaks to GINGER.

AGENT KELLY
I feel I should warn you that we had to release MIKE MASON. If you had pressed charges he would be in jail. He has a long criminal record. I wouldn't want him coming after me. He's a bad dude.

GINGER
I thank you for your rescue, or whatever that was. I'm sorry if I let you down. He did scare me but no harm was done. All I want is to be left alone.

AGENT KELLY
O.K. You've got my card. Use it.

INT. LUCRETIA'S LOUNGE           SUNSET

A therapy session is in full swing. While GINGER tells LUCRETIA about the incident with the cops when a knock is at the door. It's CARLOS, with beer and rum. It's a party!

EXT. DOCKS  NIGHT

JUAN is drunk. He makes his way to the boat. He stumbles aboard. As he goes below he sees a flashlight shining. He flicks on a light switch.

MIKE MASON is searching the boat. As JUAN starts to yell at him MASON whips out his switchblade and slashes his throat. JUAN screams and stands in shock for a moment watching his blood spurt across the room. Then he crumbles. MASON kills the light and makes his escape.

EXT. DOCKS  MORNING      YACHT 'BELINDA'

The police and the DEA agents are working.

AGENT KELLY
I want this boat stripped to the hull. There's dope aboard.
COLONEL RUIZ
I cannot allow that. We do have
laws in this country. We will wait
for the owner. Ah, here she is.

GINGER arrives. She's met at the pier by NEAL.

GINGER
I hope you don't mind that I called
you. Cops make me nervous. The
officer that fetched me didn't
speak English. He said something
about a death.

NEAL JORDAN
Don't worry about it. I'm here for
you.

NEAL supports GINGER as he walks her down the dock.

COLONEL RUIZ
We need your help Miss GINGER. A
dead man was found on your boat.
Can you identify him?

There's a body under a tarp on the deck. Cops are all
around. One of them whips back the tarp.

It's JUAN with his throat slashed lying grotesquely on the
deck. GINGER makes a muffled scream and faints. NEAL catches
her before she falls.

NEAL JORDAN
You guys have no class. If I wasn't
here she'd have hit the deck.

INT. POLICE STATION  OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ    DAY

CARLOS is led into the office. GINGER and CARLOS assure each
other that they are alright. NEAL is still there.

GINGER
COLONEL, can we go now?

COLONEL RUIZ
Yes Miss GINGER. However, I warn
you. It seems to me that you are in
extreme danger. I'm not quite sure
how to protect you.

NEAL JORDAN
I'll stick close to her. Let's go.
I'm buying us lunch.
INT. RESTAURANT     NOON

NEAL JORDAN
CARLOS, I understand the police gave you a hard time.

CARLOS
The police are idiots senor. They know I am friends with JUAN. When I came to work they arrested me.

GINGER
The COLONEL was right about one thing. We are in danger. That killer is on the loose. I'm sure it's that damn MIKE MASON. He's a gangster.

NEAL JORDAN
GINGER I'm going to guard you day and night until this thing is over. I checked on MASON. He's a well known criminal. They say he's a suspect in several murders.

GINGER
CARLOS, I hesitate to ask you. I'm concerned that MASON will come back here. His target seems to be the boat. Would you consider to continue to live on the boat? I know it's dangerous. I'd hate it if something happened to you, but I'm worried that if the boat isn't protected that he'll steal our ship and take it away.

CARLOS
Anything for you Miss GINGER. I hope MASON does come back. I owe it to JUAN to avenge his death. We were friends since we were kids. If MASON comes here I will kill him.

INT. GRAND HOTEL GARAGE    NIGHT

BIG AL gets into his big car. As he goes to turn on the ignition a hand and arm snake forward from the back seat. There's a knife at his throat. It's MIKE MASON.

MIKE MASON
Don't move AL. We're going to play 20 questions. If you give the right answers you win............... Why did you set me up?
BIG AL
MIKE, you've got it all wrong. I AAAAhhhhhh!

MIKE nicks AL'S neck.

MIKE MASON
Don't screw with me AL. I strip searched FRANK'S boat. There's no dope there. What I found was $100,000 and a fake passport. We both know FRANK was broke. You got him to steal the cargo. He'd get a new life, you'd take over the COCAINE TRAIN, and I'd get whacked for losing the goods.

BIG AL
You got it wrong amigo. It's not me, it's the guys from Chicago. They decided to eliminate this station and deal directly with Colombia.

MIKE MASON
Bullshit! They know how valuable I've been. It's you AL. You're making a play to take over the COCAINE TRAIN. Last month you were in Miami. Tommy Drago and his crew got hit. Wherever you go people die. You're like Death on Wheels.

BIG AL
Look MIKE, we can make a deal. You're right, I want to take the TRAIN. The TRAIN needs a conductor. It needs to be done. Our operation is dependent on the Cartel. They are our enemy. If not today, tomorrow. We've got to guard ourselves against them.

MIKE MASON
No AL, you're the enemy. All was well until you made your play.

BIG AL
Believe me MIKE I -- AAAhhhh!!!

Arterial spray splashes the interior of the windshield.

MIKE MASON
You Fucked with the wrong dude.
INT. POLICE STATION   OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ   DAY

AGENTS KELLY, GROGAN and WHITE were called before the COLONEL. They stand before his desk like schoolboys before the principal. Colonel Ruiz can barely contain his rage.

COLONEL RUIZ
Are you aware of the destruction you have brought to my town? Let us count the bodies. First of all there's FRANK MILLER. Of course, we actually can't count him because we have no body. Yet he lived here for many years until you came......Then there's Hector Perez. I see that you're surprised. You wouldn't know him. He was just a Mexican. He was tortured and murdered a week ago. We were watching him for months. We know he was part of the connection between your Mafia and the Cartel. We thought we'd watch him for another few weeks, gaining information, finding bigger fish to fry. Now that is no longer possible.

AGENT KELLY
Now wait a minute --

COLONEL RUIZ
Please don't interrupt me. Then there's the matter of the boy on the boat. He had no criminal record because he was innocent. Yet he is a victim of your ruthless search.

AGENT KELLY
You can't blame us for that.

COLONEL RUIZ
I can and I do. I see that you are not impressed. There's always some collateral damage. People don't count, the job must be done. But now the price has gone too high.

COLONEL RUIZ rose from behind his desk. He slams down some photos in front of the DEA agents.

COLONEL RUIZ
You have brought a gang war to my town!!!!

Pictures of BIG AL with his throat cut are graphic and gruesome. The agents are shocked and surprised. They look at each other. It's almost comical.
COLONEL RUIZ
You act as if this is the wild west. I will return the favor. Get out of my town! I've called your superiors. You've been recalled.

AGENT KELLY
We've got a mandate.

COLONEL RUIZ
You can read it from jail. Get out of town by sundown or all of you will be arrested. Dismissed!

INT. HOTEL SUITE NOON
A gang of nervous gangsters are holed up in the suite. BEN hangs up the phone.

BEN
MURPHY and his crew will be here by sundown. Let's get organized. Don, why did BIG AL personally make this trip? He could have made phone calls or sent someone else.

DON
AL said that we were betrayed by somebody in Miami. He thought he could ferret out the guilty party. After two weeks of investigation he decided that Tommy Drago was the culprit. He called for a hit and we delivered. Drago took the rap.

JOE
I don't believe that for a minute. It looks to me that BIG AL was making a play for the COCAINE TRAIN. He went to Columbia last year for a vacation. I think he made arrangements. If he got direct connections from them to him he won't need us or the Cartel.

BEN
JOE, did you set a meet with the Cartel?

JOE
We'll see them tomorrow night. When we talked they assured me they have nothing to do with our recent troubles.
Agents of the RICO SQUAD have bugged the room upstairs. They hear every word.

MIKE MASON goes for beer. His one true friend, PEDRO, is the owner here.

PEDRO
MIKE. Good to see you. I hear you're in big trouble.

MIKE MASON
Amigo I need your help. Let's have some beers and talk about it.

An hour later a dozen beer bottles litter the store.

PEDRO
MIKE, I don't understand. The COCAINE TRAIN runs thousands of miles. There must be stations along the way. Why would they eliminate them?

MIKE MASON
I'm not sure they are. Most of my information is from BIG AL. He set me up. But the bosses from Chicago are in town. They sent BIG AL. I don't know what they believe. I don't know what I should believe. I've run this station for years. I'm not giving it away to anyone.

PEDRO
What are you going to do?

MIKE MASON
I'm going to send them a message. I need an arsenal. What have you got?

It's the site of BIG AL's murder. The elevator doors open. Six gangsters emerge. They're on their way to meet the Cartel. As soon as the doors close all hell breaks loose.

MIKE MASON is a killing machine. He opens fire with a shotgun blasting the gang to pieces. The remaining thugs return fire. MASON escapes.

MIKE MASON is a killing machine. He opens fire with a shotgun blasting the gang to pieces. The remaining thugs return fire. MASON escapes.
The toll is two dead and two wounded. BEN is now clearly the ranking Boss as TONY is dead and JOE is wounded.

BEN
This is war! Call out the troops!

A collage of violence parades across the screen. Shootings, bombs, drug high-jackings, cops and soldiers in various uniforms shooting at gangsters both Mexican and Yankee, cop stops on the highway, helicopters, ships at sea being boarded, cars exploding. It's a bloody disaster.

EXT. CARIBBEAN SEA    AFTERNOON

A patrol boat pulls alongside yacht 'Belinda'and demands to make a search. GINGER is inflamed. She tries to stop them. She makes a scene, tits-a-flying. The marines find this amusing. The captain is an officer on a mission. Nobody is going to stop him.

After the incident is over CARLOS delivers GINGER another drink.

CARLOS
You are quite formidable my love. You defended our ship with your tits.

GINGER -- WITH A DEEP VOICE
I am in command. My tits rule the sea. Sail on.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM   NIGHT

JOE has been in a coma since the shooting. When he awakes and gets filled in on recent events he goes ballistic.

JOE
You idiots! The Cartel didn't ambush us. It was MIKE MASON!

INT. POLICE STATION   OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ   DAY

GINGER meets NEAL in the lobby.

GINGER
Thanks for coming. I hope there's no dead body this time.

NEAL JORDAN
Don't jinx us.

COLONEL RUIZ
Ah, here you are. Mrs. GINGER MILLER, meet Mrs. RHONDA MILLER. You both have much in common, namely a husband named FRANK MILLER.
RHONDA
So, you're the bimbo FRANK left me for. I suppose you're pretty enough in a cheap sort of way.

GINGER
What do you want?

RHONDA
Why FRANK of course. I heard of the trouble down here and I want to make sure that he's alright. If he's fine I'll be on my way. If not I've got insurance to collect. Where is he?

GINGER
I don't know. He left without a word.

RHONDA
I'm not leaving this town without an answer. I'll be seeing you. Oh, one other thing. FRANK never bothered to divorce me. So legally you are not his wife and everything in his name will go to me.

COLONEL RUIZ
Ladies, let's keep this discussion civilized. I'm still investigating FRANK MILLER's disappearance. We have found a false passport with his picture and a different name. We have reason to believe that he ran away from his debts.

RHONDA
Either way, I own whatever assets FRANK still has. I'll see you both again.

INT. HOTEL SUITE AFTERNOON
The Chicago mob is having a meeting.

BILL
This whole expedition has been a disaster. FRANK MILLER and the cargo are our only interests.

ZAC
It's funny how his name keeps coming up. Today one of our cops told me that another Mrs. Miller came to the police. How many wives has this guy got?
BILL
Ah, the former Mrs. Miller. She might know something. ZAC I want you to follow her. Find out what she's doing.

EXT. PUERTO BLANCO    DAY

ZAC is tailing RHONDA MILLER. She takes a tour of the town. She goes to see the harbor master, finds a lawyer, checks in at city hall, and then retrieves a suitcase from the freight office. Now he's interested.

RHONDA MILLER takes her stash and goes to her hotel. She meets with her ally, a man named ART GREEN. Short, skinney and bald, he looks like the accountant that he is.

RHONDA
ART, doesn't this look like a typical ploy from FRANK. Twenty years ago he robbed us blind and took off to parts unknown. This seems the same. The COLONEL told me that gangsters have been searching the entire coast for him.

ART GREEN
You're right RHONDA. This looks like FRANK's method. He disappears in the middle of the night. He takes something of value. We both know FRANK. I'll bet he was running drugs.

RHONDA
I've got these papers from when we were married. There may be some valuable information here. FRANK started his Mexican adventure while we were still connected.

ART GREEN
I'll check them out.

An hour later the old couple is off on a mission. Zac is right behind.

INT. RHONDA'S CAR    AFTERNOON

RHONDA is driving.
RHONDA
I know that FRANK was involved with the Mafia. He always used cocaine. I know that he often smuggled it into the country on his sailing trips. That's why we split up.

ART GREEN
If that's the case we better step lightly. People are getting killed around here.

RHONDA
Don't be such a pussy. Gangsters kill other gangsters.

ART GREEN
Gangsters kill whoever gets in their way. We are not immune.

EXT. GINGER'S HOUSE     SAME TIME

NEAL pulls up and sees a man with a van making a delivery. He drops off FRANK's golf clubs, a suitcase and a large box. GINGER signs for them and the man goes away.

GINGER
FRANK's stuff from the golf club. He hasn't paid his dues for months.

NEAL JORDAN
Let's take a look. There could be clues here about his activities.

An hour later they've gone thru the evidence.

NEAL JORDAN
It all looks ordinary except for these three keys. The big brass one should be for a door or padlock. The little one could fit a cash box or drawer. But the steel one is stamped Chrysler, so it's for a car, or a motorboat.

GINGER
FRANK doesn't have a motorboat.

NEAL JORDAN
Are you sure? If I were him I'd have a motorboat. Face the facts GINGER, FRANK is a smuggler. Your sailboat is too obvious. FRANK needs a lesser boat to get around in. Something that doesn't attract attention.
GINGER
If there's a boat I want it. That old wife will claim everything FRANK owns. She's a greedy bitch.

NEAL JORDAN
Then I guess we'll go boat hunting.

INT. OBSCURE SHACK BY AN UNPAVED ROAD       LATE AFTERNOON

RHONDA and ART GREEN follow a paper trail that leads them to a small shack by a cove. They have a key that fits the door so they know they're in the right place. There they find a cache of documents detailing FRANK's activities.

ART GREEN reads thru the stack of documents while RHONDA ransacks the place. After an hour they've done all they can do there.

RHONDA
This trip is a total waste.

ART GREEN
Maybe not. These papers cover all sorts of sales and transfers of property, cars and boats. The information here is valuable.

Then ZAC kicks in the door. He's holding his gun.

ZAC
Don't nobody move. I want to see those papers.

RHONDA
Don't let him ART.

ZAC
Lady, this is a gun. Don't be stupid.

RHONDA
You get out of here. Get out or I'll call the police.

ZAC isn't much for talking. He shoots RHONDA twice and does the same for ART. He takes the papers and goes.

INT. LADY EVE'S PENTHOUSE          SUNSET

The entire cabal is present. COLONEL RUIZ is in charge.

COLONEL RUIZ
This gang war is the worst ever. We have to find a way to end it. The cruise ships have canceled all (MORE)
COLONEL RUIZ (cont'd)
stops to our coast. Tourists have
canceled their vacations. Flights
have been canceled. Fighting
continues daily. Both sides claim
they were attacked first and were
forced to retaliate. I've contacted
the Cartel and asked them to sue
for peace. I've also spoken to the
Mafia Dons who are here. We're
trying to negotiate a settlement.

LADY EVE
What are the odds of that?

COLONEL RUIZ
This attempt may succeed. The cost
of this war is too high for both
sides. I offered my services to
assist them to come to an
agreement. They seemed to like that
idea.

INT. NEAL JORDAN'S ROOM   MIDNIGHT

NEAL IS ON THE PHONE.

NEAL JORDAN
That's great MAX. The most sales
ever. I like the sound of that.
Everybody loves to read about mob
wars.....They're still at it. One
of the Cartels nightclubs was
bombed last night. What's strange
is that nobody knows why they're at
war......I'm on it MAX.

INT. PEDRO'S STORE -- MIKE MASON'S HIDEOUT    MORNING

PEDRO
MIKE, great news! The war is over!
Now we can get back to business.

MIKE MASON
Well, nothing good lasts forever.

INT. HOTEL SUITE                  NOON

It's a party. The Chicago gang is celebrating the truce.
BEN
Bill, I don't know how you pulled it off. You managed to get them to agree to terms. How did you do it?

BILL
We were partners for years. They didn't want this war. I agreed to make reparations for the damage.

BEN
Well done. When we get back to Chicago you'll have a seat at the table.

BILL
Thanks Chief. Let's go downstairs. There's something I want to show you.

INT. PARKING GARAGE
MINUTES LATER

Several of their men are waiting for them. After greetings BILL takes charge.

BILL
This is the price of peace.

With that said BILL whips out a pistol and blows BEN's brains out. The men quickly put BEN's body in a van.

BILL
BIG AL and BEN started this war. Now it's over. Dump the body. We're going back to Chicago. Except for you ZAC. I want you to find that cargo. And one more thing. MIKE MASON thinks he owns this station. He tried to hit us. Take him out.

INT. LUCRETIA'S LOUNGE
LATE AFTERNOON

Gossip is an essential aspect of life for a hairdresser. LUCRETIA fills GINGER in on all the dirty details. Doctor Barnes and his wife sleep in separate bedrooms. Mrs. Whitfield has filed for divorce. COLONEL RUIZ is rumored to the secret lover of LADY EVE. And NEAL JORDAN isn't who he claims to be.

GINGER
What do you mean by that?

LUCRETIA explains that NEAL spends far too much time at the police station to be a fashion photographer. He works for the cops in some manner. GINGER is shocked. She's come to depend on NEAL especially when she faces the police. Now she knows why he's so effective when she needs him. He's allied with them.
GINGER, what am I to do? I've let NEAL get close to me. Now I know he's an enemy. If I just kick him out it'll raise his suspicions. I can't afford that. He could ruin my life with rumors fueled by a trashy article.

LUcretia murmurs comforting words as she dances a tango around GINGER. Her message is that GINGER can use her seductive powers to control NEAL and he won't even know he's being manipulated. Then she takes GINGER into the beauty parlor to spruce her up head to toe. LUcretia is a wizard at her craft. She makes old bags look good. With a natural beauty like GINGER the results are spectacular.

GINGER calls NEAL and makes a date to meet him at the SAILOR'S LOFT. She's begun her campaign to crack NEAL'S mind. This is psychological warfare.

EXT. TERRACE OF SAILORS LOFT BAR SUNSET

GINGER keeps NEAL waiting for her as she is deliberately late. When she sweeps into the place she is a vision of loveliness. She flirts with a dozen men as she makes her way thru the place to meet NEAL.

NEAL JORDAN
Here you are. I was beginning to feel like you stood me up.

GINGER
I wanted to look special for you. Did I succeed? LUcretia worked on me all day.

NEAL JORDAN
Honey, you are the most beautiful woman I have ever seen.

EXT.-- INT. ALL AROUND PUERTO BLANCO DAY AND NIGHT

A collage of romantic and sexual scenes parade across the screen. They are together constantly. Dining, dancing, and loving, they live a dream existence in paradise. As we follow them we see NEAL falling madly in love with GINGER. As the collage finishes we see them in a nightclub. The music is a romantic ballad that touches the heart. The lovers melt into each others eyes.

EXT. BEACH PLAYA VERDE AFTERNOON
MIKE MASON is having a beer at a cantina on the beach when he sees a Yankee inspecting his boat. ZAC is looking for cars and boats listed on the papers he got by killing the old couple. MIKE's boat and truck are listed. MIKE pulls his hat down as a quick disguise and ducks ZAC's eyes. Then he follows him as ZAC searches the town. ZAC finds MIKE's truck. As he checks the numbers against his paperwork MIKE slips up behind him and knocks him out. MIKE tosses ZAC into the truckbed and takes off.

EXT. A CLEARING IN THE JUNGLE      15 MINUTES LATER

As ZAC comes to MIKE is reading those papers. ZAC tries to get up and MIKE knocks him down.

MIKE MASON
Seems like you've been looking for me. Who are you?

ZAC says nothing.

MIKE MASON -- IN A SOUTHERN ACCENT
What we have here is a failure to communicate.

MIKE whips out his switchblade and slashes ZAC across his face. Now MIKE has his complete attention and ZAC has incentive to talk.

ZAC
I work for the same people you do.
I'm looking for the missing cargo.

MIKE MASON
Is that a fact. Well, I've got news for you. I don't work for them anymore. I don't need Chicago. My business is from here to Miami. And I don't need you.

Without another word MIKE kicks ZAC twice and slashes his throat. He leaves the body as it is and goes.

INT. POLICE STATION  OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ  DAY

COLONEL RUIZ
I asked you here to help with an investigation. We found the bodies of RHONDA MILLER and ART GREEN in a shack by a cove twenty klm. from here. Can you eliminate GINGER MILLER as a suspect?

NEAL JORDAN
Yes I can. I've been with her day and night.
COLONEL RUIZ
Day and night you say. What are you doing with her?

NEAL JORDAN
We're looking for FRANK MILLER's assets. RHONDA threatened to take everything FRANK owns and leave GINGER with nothing.

COLONEL RUIZ
That sounds like a good motive for murder.

NEAL JORDAN
She's had no opportunity. Tell me about the crime.

COLONEL RUIZ
Both victims were shot twice with 9 mm. bullets. If I were to guess I'd call it professional work.

NEAL JORDAN
Maybe our gang war isn't over. I checked with my people in Chicago. Several notable gangsters didn't return to the city. They could be dead and buried or alive and working. Remember, there's still millions in cocaine not accounted for.

COLONEL RUIZ
Can you give me a list of names?

NEAL JORDAN
I'll send it to your office. One name we both know is MIKE MASON. Until he's caught or killed I expect more trouble.

EXT. GINGER'S HOUSE      EVENING
GINGER and NEAL pull up in GINGER's car.

GINGER
I don't know NEAL. We've been searching the coast for days. I don't see how we ever are going to find that boat.

NEAL JORDAN
I'm willing to keep looking as long as you are. Maybe we just need to take a day off.
They exit the car and enter the house. CARLOS is hiding in the bushes. When he sees them together he realizes that GINGER is not his alone. He is anguish. He watches for hours to be sure that his suspicions are correct. With tears in his eyes he sadly walks away.

INT. LUCRETIA'S LOUNGE LATE AFTERNOON

The therapy session is in full swing when there's a loud banging at the back door. It's CARLOS. He's drunk.

CARLOS
You have broken my heart! I put my life on the line for you. I saw you with NEAL last night.

GINGER
Nobody owns me CARLOS. NEAL has helped me many times with the police. If not for him I might have been put in jail.

CARLOS
If not for me you would be in jail. If I didn't help you with FRANK you would go to prison.

GINGER realizes that CARLOS is about to reveal the secret of FRANK's death in front of LUCRETIA. She slaps him hard.

GINGER
Don't you dare talk to me like that. We are bonded and that will not change. Stop your whining. Get out of here and don't come back until you act like a man. I can't stand a crying child. Now go!

LUCRETIA gets the picture. FRANK is no more.

INT. MORGUE NIGHT

NEAL has been called by COLONEL RUIZ to identify a corpse.

NEAL JORDAN
That's ZAC GANSKY. He's part of the Chicago gang. He's known as a good soldier. And quite a shooter. He usually uses a 9 mm. automatic.

COLONEL RUIZ
Could he be the one who murdered RHONDA MILLER and ART GREEN?
Definitely. It seems that we always come back to FRANK MILLER and the missing cargo. I see his throat is slashed. I'll bet it was MIKE MASON.

INT. BLUE MOON HOTEL      NOON

GINGER decides to investigate NEAL. She goes to the BLUE MOON HOTEL and bribes the clerk to let her into NEAL's room. The first thing she sees is NEAL's crime wall. It's like a prop for a cop show. NEAL has dozens of photos spread across a pin board. Lucky for her NEAL is very organized. Pictures are named on most shots. There's BIG AL grouped with the Chicago OUTFIT. FRANK'S photo and MIKE MASON are there labeled as locals. Her picture is there with CARLOS and JUAN too. Another group is labeled Miami. Top center is LADY EVE and her cabal including MAYOR GOMEZ and COLONEL RUIZ. There's a shot showing COLONEL RUIZ saluting LADY EVE on her tower. GINGER sees the camera with the telephoto lens mounted on a tripod. She looks thru it. It's focused on EVE'S penthouse. She also finds papers for CRIME INC MAGAZINE. NEAL works for a scandal sheet. He's been lying to her since day one.

There's a stack of headlines, news clippings and notes on NEAL'S desk. GINGER goes thru them. Excerpts include...

CHICAGO -- Sept. 9. Over a ton of cocaine was seized today as it arrived by train from Miami. Police sources say that an informant revealed the shipments arrival.

MIAMI -- Sept. 30. The head of the COCAINE TRAIN in Miami was assassinated along with two of his top men. TOMMY DRAGO, PHIL TOMASSI and NAT MULHART were killed when their car exploded. Associates say that this was retaliation for the loss of millions of dollars in cocaine.

PUERTO BLANCO, MEXICO -- Oct. 1. BIG AL ROSETTI left Miami the day after TOMMY DRAGO and company were killed. It's common knowledge that DRAGO was considered ROSETTI's rival for control of the COCAINE TRAIN. Puerto Blanco is the prime transfer point for Columbian cocaine.

GINGER reads on and on. NEAL has mapped out the trail of crime from Chicago thru Miami to Puerto Blanco. He makes compelling arguements.

PUERTO BLANCO, MEXICO -- Nov. 7. BIG AL ROSETTI is murdered in his car by an unknown assassin. His throat was cleanly cut with professional precision.

PUERTO BLANCO, MEXICO -- Nov. 9. Chicago OUTFIT executives are ambushed in the same garage where BIG AL ROSETTI was murdered. This sparks off a gang war between the Cartel and their former Mafia partners.
EXT. TERRACE OF SAILORS LOFT BAR  NOON

GINGER is checking out her new toy. It's a hi-tech telescope like the one LADY EVE uses. It adds a whole new dimension to casual observation. As she scopes the docks she sees someone on her boat. It's CARLOS. She goes to meet him.

GINGER
CARLOS, I'm so glad you came back. Help me aboard. And mix a pitcher of your wonderful blue martinis.

INT. SHIP'S GALLEY  MINUTES LATER

GINGER
CARLOS, don't you ever mention FRANK again.

CARLOS
Yes my love. Anything for you.

GINGER
I've got to find a way to handle NEAL. Now I know I've been sleeping with the enemy. But I can't just drop him. I've got to be sure that he doesn't put us under suspicion.

An hour later they're both smashed. Then there's a visitor. It's NEAL.

NEAL JORDAN
Hello! Anybody home?

GINGER and CARLOS exchange winks. They act very drunk.

GINGER    WITH A HARSH VOICE
We're down here NEAL. Join the party. CARLOS came back to work. Try his famous blue martinis.

NEAL JORDAN
I spoke with the COLONEL. It looks like MIKE MASON killed another gangster. The COLONEL put out a state wide alert for him. Every cop within 100 miles has his picture. COLONEL RUIZ expects an arrest soon.

GINGER
That reminds me, I think I saw MASON today. I was looking for the missing boat way south of town in a little fishing village. I can't remember the name.
NEAL JORDAN
Was it Las Palmas?

GINGER
No, it was south of there. I saw a tall man on a speedboat going the other way. You've got to help the police catch him. I'm scared that he'll come back after me again.

NEAL JORDAN
I'll go check it out. See you tonight.

NEAL leaves.

GINGER
That'll keep him busy for awhile.

EXT. BEACH AT PLAYA VERDE        AFTERNOON

GINGER sent NEAL on a fools errand. However NEAL got lucky. MASON is hiding out there. NEAL spots him drinking beer in the shade of a palm tree. NEAL plays tourist and takes photos all around, including one of MASON. That's when NEAL's luck ran out. MASON isn't fooled at all. NEAL walks away casually. MASON's right behind him. When NEAL pauses to photo MASON's boat MASON conks him. NEAL wakes up well out to sea. He talks fast.

NEAL JORDAN
MIKE, what's the play. Killing me won't help you. I can help you.

MIKE MASON
Shut up punk. You'd better say your prayers.

NEAL JORDAN
No. Look man. I see the way to solve your problems.

MIKE MASON
How can you help me?

NEAL JORDAN
Your only mistake was killing the kid on the boat. I can confuse that with all the other killings in this gang war. Nobody witnessed you kill (MORE)
NEAL JORDAN (cont'd)
the kid and there is no evidence.
So what can they prove? You could
beat the rap and be the King of
Cocaine.

MIKE MASON
And just how are you gonna do that?

NEAL JORDAN
Let me ask you this. Did you kill
FRANK MILLER?

MIKE MASON
I wouldn't be searching the coast
for him if I did, would I?

NEAL JORDAN
I don't think FRANK ran off. I
think he's dead. BIG AL didn't do
it, he made a deal with FRANK. You
didn't do it, and everybody else is
still looking for the coke. FRANK
wasn't killed for business, it was
personal.

MIKE MASON
So who did the deed wise guy?

NEAL JORDAN
It's the bitch, GINGER, the wife.
Her and that Mexican kid bumped
FRANK off and deep-sixed the body.
That's the only thing that makes
sense. You've seen them together.
They are more than boss and worker.
If I can make a case against them
there would be reasonable doubt
about your guilt. You'd be in the
clear.

MIKE MASON
I did notice they seemed cozy. You
got any evidence to back that up?

NEAL JORDAN
The evidence is the lack of
evidence. We know that the cargo
hasn't surfaced. That's the goods
that people have been killing for.
If FRANK wasn't killed for money
then it was for love.

MIKE MASON
Alright counselor. Just know this.
When you make a deal with me it's a
deal for life. Your life.
NEAL JORDAN
I wouldn't have any other way.

EXT. TERRACE OF SAILORS LOFT BAR      NOON

GINGER has lunch. She enjoys the view, especially now that she uses her telescope. She sees CARLOS on the boat. She gives him a wave which he returns with wild exaggeration. She looks all about and then looks at LADY EVE's perch. LADY EVE is looking straight at her with her telescope. EVE lowers her spyglass so GINGER can see her plainly. A moment later the waiter steps up.

WAITER
Phone call miss. May I plug this in?

LADY EVE
Hello Miss GINGER. I've been thinking of you. Would you care to join me at my penthouse? I feel we have matters to discuss.

GINGER
I'd be delighted. I'll see you soon.

EXT. LADY EVE'S PENTHOUSE TERRACE       MINUTES LATER

LADY EVE
I was upset when I heard that they cancelled your golf club membership. You've had enough trouble without adding insult to injury. Besides, you're the most vivacious woman in town. Our social affairs are dull without you. I'd like to interest you in a position at the club as social director. We need a lively lady to make things happen.

GINGER
Well, thank you very much EVE. I do feel that I've been cast out. What does this job entail?

LADY EVE
Please dear, don't think of it as a job. This will be an adventure. I think we'll kick it off with a THANKSGIVING feast. Every year our clients ask us to honor the holiday. What do you think?
GINGER
I could do that. When I was in
Hollywood I always worked the party
circuit. I could make turkey with
all the trimmings. I'd like to do
that.

LADY EVE
Then it's settled. Let's toast our
new adventure.

Minutes later they're both on the terrace using their
telemoscopes.

GINGER
I see why you spend so much time
out here. The view is magnificent.

LADY EVE
I prefer it to T.V. Those are real
people with real lives going about
their business. I particularly like
the ships and boats. From here I
can see 100 miles with my spyglass.

EXT. DOCKS    AFTERNOON

CARLOS is swabbing the deck when MIKE MASON steps aboard.
CARLOS goes ballistic.

CARLOS
Get out of here! Get off the boat!

MIKE MASON
Take it easy Pancho. You just tell
Missy that I want my goods.

CARLOS
I'll kill you!

CARLOS grabs the machete he's kept handy for this occasion.
He attacks MASON ferociously. MASON whips out his
switchblade, which is pathetic in comparison. CARLOS hacks
away, shouting and cursing. He cuts off MASON's right thumb.
MASON screams and drops his knife. CARLOS continues slashing
away, yelling curses as he tries to kill MASON. MASON gets
wounded a dozen times, his face, hands and arms cut to
ribbons. A lucky long legged kick sends CARLOS back six feet
and onto his ass. MASON makes his escape. CARLOS shouts
after him. It's all very loud and exciting. It draws the
attention of the harbor guard. He hits the police siren. Now
everybody is aware of trouble. A crowd gathers.

GINGER and LADY EVE see this action from her perch. LADY EVE
gets on her phone and calls COLONEL RUIZ.

From the SAILORS LOFT two thugs who've come to replace ZAC
see MIKE MASON running away.
AXEL
ROSSO, it's MASON. Let's get him.

MASON makes good his escape. The harbor guard arrives and gives orders to his minions. CARLOS is lifted onto men's shoulders. He's declared a hero and is paraded before the gathering crowd. In minutes the police arrive followed by COLONEL RUIZ. He begins to round up all persons of interest when he gets a phone call.

COLONEL RUIZ
Yes..... Yes, the young man is a hero. He defended his ship and his lady from a killer......That is an excellent idea. I'll see you soon......That was LADY EVE. She witnessed this event from her penthouse. She has invited all of us to her home. That would be much nicer than the police station. This young man deserves a hero's welcome.

The COLONEL makes a circular hand motion above his head. Instantly police sirens blare and the candy lights go on.

INT. LADY EVE'S PENTHOUSE    LATE AFTERNOON

About 100 people crowd LADY EVE'S penthouse. COLONEL RUIZ takes CARLOS statement as well as LADY EVE'S and GINGER'S. He also interviews the harbor guard. It's a festive occasion and drinks abound.

NEAL is the last to the party. When he gets there GINGER is less than friendly.

GINGER     A BIT DRUNK
Where were you when I needed you.
It's a good thing CARLOS was there.
MIKE MASON won't be bothering me anymore. Mi CARLITOS!!!

GINGER does the kissy face routine and smears CARLOS with her kisses. Everybody applaudes.

EXT. DOCKS    YACHT 'BELINDA'    SUNSET

CARLOS returns to the boat. He finds his machete next to MASON's knife and his chopped off thumb. He tosses the thumb overboard and pockets the knife.

INT. HOTEL ROOM    NIGHT

AXEL -- ON PHONE
I'm telling you Bill it was like on T.V. Mighty MIKE MASON getting his ass kicked by a kid half his size
(MORE)
AXEL -- ON PHONE (cont'd)  
with a much bigger knife. It was  
very, Freudian..... No he got away.  
But he can't go far. Every cop in  
100 miles is looking for him.....Oh  
I see. Well, we'll keep that in  
mind.

ROSCO  
What's the score?

AXEL  
If the cops get him it'll cost us  
$50,000. That's the bounty on  
MASON'S head. Otherwise we're  
working for wages.

ROSCO  
Then let's get him. There's only  
three roads to town. He couldn't  
have gotten far.

INT. NEAL'S ROOM    MIDNIGHT  

NEAL JORDAN gets back to his room, drunk and miserable. The  
whole town is celebrating CARLOS the HERO, he who defeated  
the dragon. The same dragon that NEAL just got into bed  
with. He hates himself. He enters his room and turns on a  
light.

MIKE MASON  
Turn that light off.

NEAL JORDAN  
Christ MIKE, you scared the crap  
out of me.

MIKE MASON  
Turn off the light. Do it, now.

As NEAL turns off the light he gets a good look at MASON. He  
looks terrible. Wounds on his face, hands and arms are  
oozing blood. His right hand is wrapped in a bloody towel.

NEAL JORDAN  
You need a doctor.

MIKE MASON  
No doctors. I've been hurt worse  
than this. The cops have this town  
locked up tight. Tonight you'll be  
my host. Tomorrow you'll be my  
ticket out of town.

NEAL JORDAN  
MIKE, I can't get involved with  
your troubles. Every cop within 100  
miles is looking for you.
MIKE MASON
I don't care what you want. We made a deal. You remember the terms, don't you?

NEAL JORDAN
Yes, I do..... Anything else?

MIKE MASON
I want you to check these papers. There's information about FRANK hidden here. Maybe you can see something I'm missing. I'm going to take a rest.

MIKE lies down in NEAL'S bed. NEAL turns on his desk lamp and studies the papers that ZAC killed the old couple for. While MIKE sleeps NEAL notices an important fact. FRANK bought and sold dozens of properties, vehicles and boats over the years. But there's one boat that he's held for twenty years. There must be meaning to this exception to his method.

EXT. THE DOCKS     DEAD OF NIGHT

Meanwhile AXEL and ROSCO are searching the docks.

AXEL
MASON risked his life to come back here. He's convinced that the missing cargo is here. So am I. If you wanted to hide a hot car where would you stash it?

ROSCO
In the parking lot at the airport.

AXEL
Exactly. I think FRANK hid the cargo on a boat in the harbor. That way it's near at hand and still not plainly in his possession. Let's check boats that don't get any action. We'll start with FRANK'S ship and spread out from there.

ROSCO
O.k. AXEL, but let's be careful. I don't want to tangle with that kid. We'll probably have to shoot him.

EXT. DOCKS     3 A.M.

NEAL is on the same mission. As he goes out he sees the pair of gangsters poking around. His experienced eye tells him that these are thugs. He avoids them while keeping them in sight. He uses his camera with a night vision lens to track them.
NEAL knows that CARLOS is living on the yacht. When he sees the thugs head that way he gets concerned. Like GINGER he feels that somehow he is responsible for the death of JUAN. When it's clear that the gangsters have targeted the yacht NEAL decides to call the police. In two minutes sirens can be heard. A minute later it's clear that they're coming to the harbor. The thugs are yards away from the yacht when they realize that tonight isn't a good time to raid the sailboat. They turn around before the first cop car comes into view.

INT. NEAL'S ROOM     DEAD OF NIGHT

MIKE MASON is awakened by the police sirens. As he pulls himself together he sees NEAL's note. 'Stay put. I'm checking the docks for FRANK's hidden boat.' He gets mad.

MIKE MASON
Son of a bitch. You ratted me out.

There's a half bottle of vodka on the table. MIKE takes a swig then pours the rest on a pile of dirty clothes stashed in the corner. He lights a smoke and drops the lit match on the laundry. The fire ignites and climbs the curtains as he leaves. In seconds the room is in flames.

The harbor guard sees that the hotel is on fire. He hits the fire alarm. The loud clanging echoes throughout the harbor. This sound fuels AXEL'S and ROSCO'S escape. They quicken their pace. ROSCO looks back and sees a tall man fleeing the scene of the crime.

ROSCO
AXEL, it's MIKE MASON. Let's get him.

AXEL
The cops will be here in a minute.

ROSCO
And he'll be gone in a minute.
That's our 50 grand. If you don't want it I'll kill him myself. Let's get him now while we can.

They chase MASON and find him as he reaches his truck. Before MASON can get in ROSCO starts blasting away at him from 50 yards. MASON returns fire. Gunshots, police sirens and the fire alarm wake the entire town.

The police arrive. They burst out of their cars guns a-blazing. They see AXEL and ROSCO, MASON is at a distance in the dark. He makes his escape while the cops and the thugs shoot it out. ROSCO is shot a dozen times and goes down. AXEL surrenders.
INT. NEAL'S ROOM    DAWN

COLONEL RUIZ and the FIRE MARSHALL inspect the damage. The fire swept straight up the hotel's walls fueled by the window curtains. Smoke damage is the prime result and little more. It's obvious that the fire started in NEAL's room. It was arson.

COLONEL RUIZ sees NEAL'S crime wall. Top center are pictures of him and LADY EVE. He pockets them. He instructs his men to confiscate everything in the room.

EXT. DOCKS    MORNING

GINGER goes to the yacht. CARLOS is on the boat. She questions him about yesterday's actions.

GINGER
So MIKE MASON specifically asked for me and demanded that I return his goods. I don't understand. He knows there's no dope onboard. The cops have been all over this boat.

CARLOS
You said FRANK had another boat. Did you look around here? Why not one of these other boats? There are hundreds of them.

GINGER
CARLOS, you're a genius. I've been up and down the coast but the answer has got to be right here. FRANK hid the dope in plain sight where nobody would question him. How can we find it?

CARLOS
I am now friends with the harbor guard. Tonight I will bribe him with a gift of rum. We'll check all the records. I will find that boat. And look. I've got a new toy and a souvenir.

CARLOS shows GINGER MASON'S knife.

EXT. BLUE MOON HOTEL    MORNING

A crowd of people gathers at the entrance. In Spanish and English COLONEL RUIZ says that when the FIRE MARSHALL declares it safe they can enter the hotel. NEAL JORDAN stops
the COLONEL.

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, I must get to my room.

COLONEL RUIZ -- BRUSQUELY
You'll wait like everyone else. I want you in my office at 5 o'clock.

INT. POLICE STATION  ISOLATION CELLS  8 A.M.

COLONEL RUIZ and OFFICER JUAREZ are interrogating AXEL.

COLONEL RUIZ
I want to know who you are and what you're doing here.

AXEL
I want to see a lawyer.

COLONEL RUIZ makes a gesture. OFFICER JUAREZ smacks AXEL.

COLONEL RUIZ
You will answer my questions. I know you're a Yankee gangster. I want to know why you're here. You will tell me sooner or later.

INT. POLICE STATION  OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ   NOON

COLONEL RUIZ receives the report of the fire from DETECTIVE MONTOYA. The fire was arson started in NEAL JORDAN'S room. It swept straight up to other rooms via the window curtains. Most of the rooms merely suffered smoke damage. Other than JORDAN'S equipment and photos the most notable find at his place was bloody towels.

COLONEL RUIZ
NEAL JORDAN wasn't injured. Who else was in the room?

INT. POLICE STATION  OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ   5 P.M.

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, I want to know why I can't enter my room.

COLONEL RUIZ
Your room is a crime scene. Until our investigation is completed it is restricted.

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, I have a job to do.

COLONEL RUIZ
And what exactly is that job?
NEAL JORDAN
I told you, I'm investigating the COCAINE TRAIN.

COLONEL RUIZ
You told me many things. Recent events bring your words into question. The fire at the hotel was arson. It started in your room. How do you explain that?

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, I cannot.

COLONEL RUIZ
We also found bloody towels in your room. How do you explain that?

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, I cannot.

COLONEL RUIZ
Then you called the police about the gangsters prowling the docks. How do you explain that?

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, I've been a crime reporter for many years. I recognize thugs when I see them.

COLONEL RUIZ
And I've been a policeman for many years and I recognize a liar when I hear him. You'll give me better answers before you leave this station.

NEAL JORDAN and COLONEL RUIZ exchange hard looks for a minute. It's one of those moments when he who speaks first loses.

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, what about my equipment?

COLONEL RUIZ
Your possessions are evidence. Which reminds me, I must ask you for that camera you're wearing around your neck.

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, I....

COLONEL RUIZ
This is not a debate. Give me that camera. Now.
NEAL reluctantly complies. He tries a different tactic.

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, can I question the prisoner? I know who most of the gangsters are. Perhaps I can get him to talk.

COLONEL RUIZ
That's the first thing you've said worth hearing. Let's go downstairs to the isolation cells.

INT. POLICE STATION  ISOLATION CELLS

They go downstairs with Officer Juarez, who opens the door to AXEL'S cell. AXEL is a sorry sight. He has been well beaten. Bloody bruises and torn clothes show that police brutality has been employed. One eye is swollen shut.

COLONEL RUIZ
He has not been cooperative.

NEAL takes a moment to regain his composure.

NEAL JORDAN
Hey, you there. Who are you and what are you doing here? I'm NEAL JORDAN from CRIME INC. Magazine. Talk to me. Maybe I can help you.

AXEL
I've got nothing to say.

NEAL JORDAN
If you don't talk to me, you don't have a chance. You shot at the police. They can put you away for life.

AXEL
Make me a deal.

NEAL JORDAN
I can't do that. With luck I might be able to lighten your sentence.

AXEL
Will you at least make a phone call for me? I've got a wife in Chicago.

NEAL JORDAN
That I can do. Tell me your story.

AXEL
I'm John Axelrod. I came here looking for a friend and some missing cargo.
NEAL JORDAN
Would that cargo be the cocaine that FRANK MILLER skipped off with?

AXEL
You really are a crime reporter. Yes, that's right. FRANK MILLER stole $5,000,000 of coke. Our people want it back.

NEAL JORDAN
And would that friend be ZAC GANSKY?

AXEL
Right again. Whatever happened to him?

NEAL JORDAN
He's cooling off in the morgue.

COLONEL RUIZ
That's enough for now. We'll speak again later.

Officer Juarez slams the cell door shut. Then he opens the other cell door.

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, what is the meaning of this?

COLONEL RUIZ
I asked you questions that you refused to answer. Sometimes a night in jail loosens the tongue. We'll give you a night to think about it. It's much easier than a harsh interrogation. We'll talk tomorrow. Good night.

INT. PENTHOUSE OF LADY EVE    SUNSET

COLONEL RUIZ
We have a new problem.

COLONEL RUIZ places a soot covered picture before EVE. When she sees that it's the COLONEL saluting her she gets upset.

LADY EVE
What is the meaning of this?

COLONEL RUIZ
We have a spy in our midst. You've seen him, the gringo that's been escorting GINGER MILLER these last few weeks. I knew that he's a crime reporter, but he's more than that.

(MORE)
COLONEL RUIZ (cont'd)
He works for a scandal magazine.
He's writing an expose' on our
town. His intent is to trash our
town and our reputations.

LADY EVE
COLONEL, I've suffered enough from
bad press for a lifetime. I don't
want to go thru that again. What
can we do to stop him?

COLONEL RUIZ
As of now I've got him in jail. He
is involved with the fire at the
hotel. I can hold him for two days
on suspicion. Then I'll have to
charge him formally. At that point
he'll call a lawyer. Then matters
will get out of hand.

LADY EVE
Is there anything else we can do?

COLONEL RUIZ
There is one thing. We are not the
only ones under his scrutiny. He is
trying to expose GINGER MILLER as a
criminal in the cocaine trade. I
know they have been intimate.
Perhaps she can exert pressure on
him and dissuade him from ruining
all our reputations.

LADY EVE
That's a good idea. GINGER and I
are friends. I'll call her.

INT. OFFICE OF THE HARBOR MASTER    NIGHT

CARLOS and the guard are checking the harbor records. They
identify a dozen boats that might be FRANK'S hidden boat.
CARLOS takes that information and searches the docks. One
suspect boat is right across the dock from the yacht. CARLOS
gets the keys GINGER found in FRANK'S golf equipment. He
tries that boat first. The keys work. He goes below and
finds the cargo. He takes a sample of the goods. It is
cocaine. He bits his knuckle to stifle his shout of triumph.
He scoops a bit of the goods onto a sheet of paper and folds
it into a package. Then he brings it to GINGER. She's at
LUCRETIA's place.

INT. DEVINE BEAUTY PARLOR  LUCRETIA'S LOUNGE   10 P.M.

CARLOS arrives. He has beer, rum, and more.
CARLOS
Ladies, let's party. I brought something special.

CARLOS gives LUCRETIA the package of cocaine. While LUCRETIA prepares lines for all he winks to GINGER. Now she knows.

INT. POLICE STATION ISOLATION CELLS MIDNIGHT

Someone slips downstairs quietly. The door to AXEL'S cell is opened. There's a struggle. AXEL is killed. Someone leaves.

INT. POLICE STATION ISOLATION CELLS MORNING

COLONEL RUIZ and a squad of cops crowd AXEL'S cell. NEAL can hear them but his solid iron door denies him a view. He knows something is wrong.

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, what's going on out there? Let me out of here.

INT. POLICE STATION OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ NOON

COLONEL RUIZ
I hope you can reason with NEAL JORDAN. He seems intent on ruining our town.

GINGER
Leave it up to me. I know him like a book.

INT. POLICE STATION ISOLATION CELLS NOON

NEAL JORDAN is held in an empty cell that’s only feature is a filthy toilet. The guard opens the door. GINGER walks in.

GINGER
NEAL, what are you doing in jail?

NEAL JORDAN
That's what I want to know. The COLONEL is determined to railroad me for crimes I didn't commit.

GINGER
He says you set fire to your room.

NEAL JORDAN
You know I didn't do that.

GINGER
He also says that your room has evidence of other crimes. Bloody towels indicate that something (MORE)
GINGER (cont'd)  
else happened. Why won't you tell  
him the truth?

NEAL JORDAN  
GINGER I got caught up in the crime  
story I'm writing. I am not a  
criminal.

GINGER  
You are to me. You've lied to me  
from the first day. I trusted you.  
You're no fashion photographer or  
promoter of tourism. You work for a  
tabloid. You ruin people's lives  
for a living. I thought I could  
depend on you. I thought we were in  
love.

NEAL JORDAN  
When this is over I'll explain  
everything. Right now I'm keeping  
my mouth shut. It's safer that way.

GINGER  
Safer for who? Dozens of people  
have died all around you while  
you've been spying on them. Tell  
the cops what you know.

NEAL JORDAN  
I can't do that. When I get out of  
here I'll put it all in print and  
vindicate myself. Until then I've  
got nothing to say.

GINGER  
Have it your way. I brought you  
lunch. I've heard that they don't  
feed or water the prisoners here.

NEAL JORDAN  
Thanks. This prison diet is no fun.

GINGER  
Is there anything else I can get  
for you? Maybe something to read,  
or to write with. I've always heard  
that great authors do their best  
work while they're in prison.

NEAL JORDAN  
No GINGER. This is fine. Just come  
back when you can.

The guard unlocks the door.

GUARD  
Times up. Go now.
GINGER has some parting words.

GINGER
You better think about making a deal with the COLONEL. He's the only one who can help you.

INT. OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ   MINUTES LATER

GINGER
COLONEL, I did my best. I gave him a dose of doubt and fear. I don't think he understands just how bad his situation is.

COLONEL RUIZ
It's going to get worse before it gets better. If we can't get him to agree to terms I'll throw charges at him that will guarantee a long prison sentence.

GINGER
Tell me COLONEL, who do you think the mystery man is who bled all over his room?

COLONEL RUIZ
My only suspect is MIKE MASON. We know he was in town and was severely injured. Conspiring with a known murderer is a serious crime. If I'm right NEAL JORDAN is facing many years in prison.

GINGER
If you're right I hope he does go to prison. JUAN was a good kid. We both know MASON killed him. He died because he worked for me. I feel responsible for his death.

COLONEL RUIZ
Don't blame yourself Miss GINGER. It's unfortunate but often the innocent suffer due to no fault of their own.

EXT. DOCKS   YACHT 'BELINDA' MORNING

CARLOS is on deck sharpening his machete. GINGER comes by.

GINGER
I see that you're ready for trouble.
CARLOS
Trouble is no stranger to me Miss GINGER. Nor to you. If MASON or anyone else comes here they'll have to get past me.

GINGER
CARLOS, at this point I'm more worried about the the police and the press. If NEAL thinks that we killed FRANK he'll smear us and hang us out to dry.

CARLOS
I thought you had him handled.

GINGER
I thought I did too. But now that he's in jail it's a different situation. When your ass is on the line you think and act differently. I think he'd sell his soul to regain his dreams of glory.

INT. POLICE STATION  ISOLATION CELLS  AFTERNOON
GINGER returns to work on NEAL. She expects that another night in jail would soften his attitude. She is wrong.

GINGER
How are you today NEAL?

NEAL JORDAN
I'm feeling good. Did you bring me lunch?

GINGER
No NEAL. It's my intent to get you out of here today and buy you the best meal in town. Did you consider making a deal with the COLONEL?

NEAL JORDAN
Damn. I could use a meal. I'm about to do battle with the COLONEL.

GINGER
What do you mean?

NEAL JORDAN
You know they arrested a gangster before they jailed me. The cops beat the hell out of him. I just found out that guy died here in this jail. Let's see how the (MORE)
NEAL JORDAN (cont'd)
COLONEL likes it when I turn the spotlight on him.

GINGER
I don't think that's a good idea. He's due to release you today.

NEAL JORDAN
I don't care. He held me without cause and I'm pissed off. I've got the power of the press. Let's see how he feels when the shit hits the fan.

GINGER
Well, I'm out of here.

NEAL JORDAN
No babe, don't go.

GINGER
If you're determined to pursue this foolish plan then you are on your own. I'll have nothing to do with it.

INT. POLICE STATION  OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ   2 P.M.

GINGER
I'm sorry COLONEL. I thought we had him where we want him. Now he knows that a suspect died in jail he thinks he's in charge. He's threatening to smear you and the whole town.

COLONEL RUIZ
Well, it's a good thing that it's Friday. No judges are available until Monday. I can keep NEAL in jail til then.

Just then the phone rings. The COLONEL gets excited.

COLONEL RUIZ
Now we have a new card to play. MIKE MASON has been arrested. We'll hear his side of the story.

GINGER
COLONEL, we're back in business.

INT. POLICE STATION  OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ   3 P.M.

MIKE MASON proudly wears his arrogance like a shield. He faces the COLONEL without a shred of fear.
MIKE MASON
Colonel, you've got nothing on me.
I'll be out of here in two days
with or without your blessing.
However, if you'd like to make a
deal, I've got goods to trade.

COLONEL RUIZ
What have you got that I want?

MIKE MASON
I know the answers to questions
that you need to know.

COLONEL RUIZ
Like what?

MIKE MASON
Like what happened to FRANK MILLER.
And who killed that old couple who
were poking their noses into other
people's business. And why the gang
war exploded and fizzled out.
Things like that. All I want is to
walk out of here a free man. Today.

COLONEL RUIZ
Request denied.

Minutes later MIKE MASON is lead downstairs to the isolation
cells. COLONEL RUIZ made sure NEAL JORDAN'S cell door was
open as his chief suspect in a series of murders went by. He
expects a conflict. He is right. Four cops are the guards.

When MIKE MASON sees NEAL JORDAN he goes into a rage.

MIKE MASON
You bastard! You're a dead man!

NEAL shrinks back to the far corner of his cell. As MASON is
secured across from NEAL he begs the COLONEL for help.

NEAL JORDAN
COLONEL, you've got to protect me
from that maniac. He is a certified
killer.

COLONEL RUIZ
Do yourself a favor. Don't tell me
my business. Answer my questions or
don't say another word.

Shortly thereafter NEAL tries to reason with MIKE.
NEAL JORDAN
MIKE, I didn't rat you out. I called the cops because they were going to kill CARLOS on the boat.

MIKE MASON
So you saved the kid who cut off my thumb. Fuck you.

NEAL JORDAN
MIKE, those guys were after you. We know they had a contract on you. I did you a favor.

MIKE MASON
Favors like that I don't need. Those guys weren't in my class.

NEAL JORDAN
Why the hell did you put my room on fire? You got both of us in jail.

MIKE MASON
Shut up. I'm tired of your talk.

INT. POLICE STATION   ISOLATION CELLS   MIDNIGHT

Quietly a lone cop sneaks downstairs. He pulls a dagger from his boot as he opens the door to MASON'S cell. His intent is obvious. Unfortunatly for him MIKE MASON is deadly. He overpowers the cop, beats him up and slits his throat. NEAL hears the sounds of the struggle.

Moments later MIKE MASON opens the door to NEAL'S cell. NEAL shrinks back into the corner.

MIKE MASON
O.k. Counselor. I'll give you a break. Maybe you didn't rat me out. I'm out of here.

With that said MASON sneaks upstairs and exits via the service door. NEAL has a choice, stay or go. He knows that MASON would like him to run so the cops would have another fugitive to chase. He can't live life on the run. After a few minutes he heads upstairs and makes himself known.

Instantly the entire police station is galvinized. In a moment of clarity NEAL realizes MASON'S goal.

NEAL JORDAN
He's going to the docks to kill CARLOS!
EXT. DOCKS   NIGHT

We see the harbor guard thru the picture window to his office. He gets a phone call. Then he hits the harbor police alarm. Flood lights blaze as the siren wails. MIKE MASON is 20 yards from the yacht at that moment. He changes direction and runs to his speedboat. He makes a quick exit.

EXT. GINGER'S HOUSE      1 A.M.

A police car arrives. The officer tells GINGER that she must come to the police station at once.

INT. POLICE STATION   OFFICE OF COLONEL RUIZ   MINUTES LATER

COLONEL RUIZ
MIKE MASON escaped. I'd like to put you in protective custody.

GINGER
You're not putting me in jail. I'll go to my boat. CARLOS is there. He'll protect me.

INT. GALLEY OF YACHT 'BELINDA'              SOON AFTER

GINGER and CARLOS are drinking shots of rum.

GINGER
CARLOS, I threw my gun into the sea so it wouldn't be evidence. Give me MASON'S knife and keep your machete handy. That way if MASON does come here we'll have a fighting chance.

EXT. DOCKS    YACHT 'BELINDA'    MORNING

CARLOS is serving GINGER a bloody mary when NEAL arrives at the boat. NEAL hasn't changed clothes, bathed or shaved for three days. He looks like a bum.

NEAL JORDAN
GINGER, can I come aboard? I'd like to talk to you. I'm leaving town today. There are things we should discuss.

GINGER
I don't know stranger. CARLOS, what do you think?

CARLOS
I don't know ma'am. I can smell him from here. Maybe if he took a bath it wouldn't be so bad.
GINGER
You're right CARLOS. What will people say if we let bums onboard. Go get cleaned up and we'll see.

An hour later NEAL returns. Hostility still taints the air. NEAL has been exposed as a rat who betrayed the woman he loved. He desperately wants to fix that before he leaves for good.

GINGER
How did you get out of jail?

NEAL JORDAN
I took your advice. I made a deal with COLONEL RUIZ. I promised him that I'd keep my story strictly centered on the COCAINE TRAIN. And that the names would be changed to protect the innocent.

GINGER
So what can we expect from your story. We don't want to be in it.

NEAL JORDAN
Try this on for size. A gangster from Chicago made a play to take over the COCAINE TRAIN. He exposed inside information to cause a major bust and the loss of millions of dollars of dope. He blamed that on people in Miami, which lead to the deaths of the bosses there. The object was to eliminate everyone who had an established stake in the pipeline. He wanted to hook up directly with the Columbians and cut out the Mexican Cartel.

CARLOS
That was the fat man, yes?

NEAL JORDAN
Exactly. Everything went smoothly until the main man in Mexico, who we know is MIKE MASON, caught wind of the plan. He went on a rampage. First he killed BIG AL, who he knew was behind the plot. Then he hit the other bosses from Chicago so they couldn't take his position away. That sparked off the gang war, as the mobsters wrongly thought that the Cartel was at war with them.
GINGER
Is that what happened?

NEAL JORDAN
More or less. So now that the war is over the big questions are where is MASON and what will he do next? That's my salesmanship. My readers will have to wait for next month's issue to find out.

GINGER
Well, that's alright with me.

MIKE MASON
Well it's not alright with me. Don't move.

MIKE MASON and his ally PEDRO are at the doorway. They both are brandishing guns.

NEAL JORDAN
How did you get passed the police? They're all around here.

MIKE MASON
Easy. They're looking for a tall man. PEDRO's been pushing me around in a wheelchair. We went right past them.

GINGER
What do you want?

MIKE MASON
You know what I want. Where's my coke?

NEAL JORDAN
We don't know.

MIKE MASON
Maybe you don't but they do. When you told me that they killed FRANK I knew that they had to have the cargo. There's nowhere else for it to be.

GINGER
You told him that! You bastard! Why?
NEAL JORDAN
Because it's true. He knows what we all know. FRANK didn't leave town. The boat is here. MIKE got FRANK'S cash and the cops have his new passport. You and the kid killed FRANK and deep sixed the body.

MIKE MASON
Let's cut the bullshit. Where's my cargo?

GINGER
Suppose it is true. What's to stop you from killing us? That's what you do, isn't it?

MIKE MASON
I've got a well known reputation. When I make a deal I always hold up my end. Ask NEAL. He's an expert on crime. He knows who I am.

NEAL JORDAN
That's right GINGER. MIKE MASON got his position to control the flow of cocaine because he's known as an honest criminal.

GINGER
You've lied to me from the start. I don't trust you.

MIKE MASON
Enough talk. Where's my goods?

Nobody speaks.

MIKE MASON
Alright. Let's try it this way.

With that MASON pistol whips NEAL back and forth. NEAL is badly hurt and barely conscious.

MIKE MASON
O.K. The kid is next. Where's my dope?

GINGER
Alright. The dope is on the boat named 'Seahawk' across the dock. CARLOS, where are the keys?

CARLOS
In the silverware drawer.
MIKE MASON
PEDRO, check it out.

PEDRO gets the keys and goes. MASON grabs CARLOS by the hair.

MIKE MASON
You know kid, if I were someone else I'd kill you for cutting me.
The fact is we had a fair fight. I want you to know I never lost a fight in my life until the other day. You are muy macho. Don't ever take any bullshit from anyone. You don't have to.

CARLOS is seated. MASON towers above him. While his attention is diverted GINGER motions with her eyes towards the door. Then she suddenly grabs her blue martini and throws it in MASON'S face. He's blinded for a moment. She leaps to her feet and smashes her glass at MASON'S eyes as she shouts to CARLOS.

GINGER
Get the police!!!

CARLOS jumps up and runs out the door. GINGER assaults MASON with all she's got. Hits, kicks and claws rake MASON's face as she fights for her life. MASON hits her with his thumbless right hand and recoils with pain as it hurts him more than it does her. GINGER is relentless. She sinks her teeth into his injured left hand which is holding the gun. His torn flesh tears away making MASON scream as CARLOS dives over the rail of the boat. They struggle for a minute until MASON manages to knock GINGER down and points the gun straight at her face.

GINGER
Go ahead Fucker. Fire that gun and you're a dead man. CARLOS will have the cops here in two minutes. That gunshot will bring them in seconds. They'll shoot you down like a rabid dog.

PEDRO appears at the doorway.

PEDRO
MIKE, let's get out of here. We've got the coke and a boat to escape. We've got to go now!!
MIKE MASON
You're pretty smart bitch. But a
deal is a deal. I don't want to
call you. Adios'.

They leave in seconds. Suddenly GINGER is alone with NEAL,
who is still barely conscious. She wipes blood from her
mouth, her's and MASON'S. She is aroused from the fight.

GINGER
Sorry lover. I know you'll declare
me a killer when you get back to
the States. It's my life or your
career. You lose.

Without another word she whips out MASON's knife from her
pocket. She flicks out the blade and stabs NEAL straight
through the heart. He dies with a look of shock and surprise
on his face.

INT. GINGER'S CAR     NIGHT
GINGER and CARLOS are driving to her house.

GINGER
Man, am I glad that's over.

CARLOS
Just one thing my love. We both
know MASON didn't have his knife. I
gave it to you.

GINGER
And I gave it to NEAL. He was going
to expose us for killing FRANK. I
had to make a decision, us or him.
I chose us. Did I do the wrong
thing?

CARLOS
No my love. You saved both of us.

THE END