

Cool Gray Dawn

Season Two, Episode #3: "Home"

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Cool Gray Dawn

"Home"

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INSERT ON BLACK SCREEN: "Children have never been good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them." - James Arthur Baldwin

EXT. MOSCOW, RUSSIA - NIGHT

INSERT: "Moscow, Russia"

It's winter. Stock footage of Red Square, Saint Basil's Cathedral and the...

TCHAIKOVSKY CONCERT HALL

Stock footage of the promenade outside the entrance.

INT. CONCERT HALL

Magnificent. A packed audience is enrapt as a Black American Man sings "Ol' Man River." Several dozen Black American-Muscovites watch from orchestra seats.

A number of White journalists sit nearby. They wear name tags in English and Cyrillic: "David Bream/Reuters," "Erwin Heller/New York Times," "James Frost/Washington Post," "Reid Gant/Times of London," "Silvio Rossi/Il Globo," "Roger Gates/United Press," "Arthur Stevens/United Press" and others. They jot notes under the watchful eyes of SOVIET MINDERS.

LOBBY

The concert is over; people are exiting. American ARTHUR STEVENS, 30, watched by SOVIET MINDER #1, stops BOB WEYLAND, a Black Man. A YOUNG RUSSIAN WOMAN accompanying Weyland looks on, as do ROGER GATES and VLAD YURGIN, who has no name tag.

STEVENS

Hi, I'm Arthur Stevens, United Press. May I ask - are you, um, from the Caribbean or Africa?

WEYLAND

No, I'm from New York.

STEVENS

Oh, really... I didn't think there were any American Negroes here.

WEYLAND

See how wrong you can be?

Yurgin takes notes.

STEVENS

Perhaps. May I have your name?

WEYLAND

Bob Weyland.

STEVENS

And you're visiting someone here?

WEYLAND

No, I live here - with my wife.

He puts his arm around the Young Russian Woman who shows off her wedding ring. Stevens is caught off guard.

STEVENS

Oh, um... How did that come about?

WEYLAND

I came here with my parents in '36 when I was eight. They're both actors. But the only jobs for them in the States - when there were any - were these awful caricatures or bit parts as servants. Here, my Dad's played 'Othello,' 'Richard III' and 'Macbeth.' My mom's played Juliet in 'Romeo and Juliet' and Calphurnia in 'Julius Caesar.'

STEVENS

Oh, so you're an actor as well.

WEYLAND

No, an engineer. That's the third time you're assumption's been wrong. Three strikes means you're out.

Gates and Yurgin smirk. Stevens fumbles to explain himself.

STEVENS

I just thought, you know, since both your parents are actors...

WEYLAND

Okay, then let me ask you: Were both your parents journalists?

Stevens hesitates. Gates, Yurgin and Soviet Minder #1 all stare at Stevens who is chagrined.

STEVENS

Okay, okay... No, my dad's a teacher and my mom's a housewife.

Weyland shakes his head in disgust.

WEYLAND

That's why I live here. Excuse me.

He and his wife leave. Gates walks up to Stevens.

GATES

I know you're not gonna print most of that. But I bet Pravda does.

Gates points toward Yurgin who nods and leaves. Stevens sighs, defeated.

EXT. KITAY-GOROD (MOSCOW NEIGHBORHOOD) - NIGHT

Enormous, stately apartment buildings fill each city block. Huge snow mounds line the curb.

I/E. STARAYA SQUARE

Stevens putters along the boulevard in a clunky TRABANT sedan. Across the roadway are government buildings, including the huge Central Committee of the Communist Party (CCCP) building.

INT. TRABANT SEDAN

Weyland sees the CCCP building through the trees on the boulevard's island. Almost every light in the building is on. Weyland is curious and checks his watch: 01:10. He checks his rearview mirror - a Volga Gaz follows him.

EXT. HOTEL UKRAINA

Stevens pulls into the driveway and parks around back.

INT. LOBBY

Gates and other drunk Western journalists STAGGER in, their Soviet Minders in tow. Stevens enters. Gates sees him.

GATES

Stevens! You missed the after-party!

Stevens nods dismissively. Gates puts his arm around Stevens.

GATES (CONT'D)

When did you say you're going on vacation?

STEVENS

Monday.

GATES

Right. I'll be back by then.

STEVENS

Back from where?

GATES

Berlin, man, I told you. 200,000 people have fled to the West just this year. The GDR's considering closing the borders. I got an interview with Ulbricht, the Party leader. Remember?

STEVENS

Yeah. Just be back by Monday.

GATES

I'll be here filing my story while you're snoozing on the plane.

Gates TRIPS on the stairs, falling face-first. His friends move to help. Stevens steps over him and goes up the stairs.

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - DAY (MORNING)

Stock footage of the Washington Monument and the White House.

EXT. 2430 E STREET, NW - COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY (MORNING)

CIA PERSONNEL walk through Gate #1 onto the compound.

INT. BERARD'S OFFICE

The 24-hour wall clock reads 08:25. WILSON BERARD and BILL NEALY are there. WARREN LATHAM enters, nods at Nealy and sits.

NEALY

(an aside to Latham)

Moscow's Central Committee is complaining we're in violation of U.N. Resolution 110, War Propaganda. They claim we're responsible for the brain drain from East Germany.

LATHAM

Hm, saves them from having to look in the mirror.

BERARD

Now, if we can just turn our attention to a domestic matter - Arthur Stevens. He's a journalist for United Press, stationed in Moscow. He's returning to New York today for a two-week vacation.

LATHAM

Is Domestic Contact meeting him?

BERARD

Normally, they would. But I'd like a mandarin to meet him. Bill...

NEALY

As you know, The Worker is the mouthpiece of the Communist Party in the U.S. and often reprints articles from Pravda. Friday's edition ran a piece about a Black American named Bob Weyland. He'd been brought to Moscow as a child by his parents. He still lives there today with his Russian wife.

LATHAM

First time I've heard of a Black American-Muscovite.

NEALY

You're not alone. What's of interest to us are Weyland's reasons for wanting to live there. Now, according to the article, he was being interviewed by Stevens. They'd attended a concert by Paul Robeson. I believe you were at Columbia Law around the same time as him, Wilson.

BERARD

I was. The Soviets love him, and I can see why. He's easily one of the brightest people I ever knew. Unfortunately, that and his civil rights activism have put him in HUAC's crosshairs - and Hoover's.

NEALY

Stevens' interview with Weyland was overheard by a reporter from Pravda named Vlad Yurgin. According to his article, Weyland exposed Stevens as a muddle-headed bigot.

LATHAM

A lot of White folks are in that club.

BERARD

Well, given Stevens' comeuppance, he may be able to shed some light into what makes communism attractive to Blacks.

NEALY

Something we may be missing.

LATHAM

New York Central can handle this.

NEALY

Stevens' embarrassment is a weakness the KGB can exploit. New York Central isn't as adept as your mandarins at spotting swallows.

BERARD

Plus, I want someone who can see beyond Stevens' biases, as well as glean whatever he's seen there.

LATHAM

Where's he live?

NEALY

New York City.

LATHAM

Alright, I'll send mandarin Two. When's he due back?

NEALY

According to his managing editor, Stevens is on an Aeroflot flight arriving this morning at Idlewild.

OPERATIONS ROOM

The usual PURL of teletype machines, chatter and ringing phones. DUTY OFFICERS JARED STOKES and TOM PERCY man the Duty Desk. REID NICHOLS from Mission Planning looks on. A clip from a Douglas Fir sits in a flower pot on the desk. It's been decorated with tinsel and a star. PAUL "BAZZO" BARRY and CARLA DILAURIA confer with Stokes who reads from a folder.

STOKES

Arthur Stevens... Lives in a third-floor walk-up at #2 Great Jones Alley in Greenwich Village.

DILAURIA

Geezus, that area's a dump.

BAZZO

You used to live there, didn't you?

DILAURIA

You wanna wake up in your jammies Christmas morning, or under a bridge somewhere?

REID

If it's under a bridge, at least
he'll be used to it.

Bazzo gives him a mock sneer. There are chuckles all around.

STOKES

Stevens' managing editor paged him
at the airport and told him to
expect someone from Domestic Contact
Division at 20:30. You'll use your
working name, Ellen Winters.

DILAURIA

So, essentially I want to learn why
he thinks communism is so appealing
to Black people - assuming that's
what he thinks.

BAZZO

D-Int believes Stevens could have
had an epiphany when he was dressed
down by this Bob Weyland.

PERCY

And obviously, we also want to know
what he's seen over there.

REID

You'll be staying at the Washington
Square Hotel. It's in Greenwich
Village on Waverly Place.

DILAURIA

Why not the West Tenth safehouse?

BAZZO

The KGB may have eyes on Stevens,
which will mean eyes on you. We
don't want to inadvertently lead
them to one of our safehouses.

DiLauria nods. Stokes hands her a manila envelope.

REID

Airline tickets, map, pocket litter
and \$200, Miss Winters.

BAZZO

Whatever time you finish, the boss
wants you to call him at home with
your SITREP.

DILAURIA

Right.

EXT. SAMUEL GOMPERS PARK - DAY

FIONA JEFFRIES meets Latham by the statue of Samuel Gompers. Latham has a broad grin. She hooks his arm and they stroll.

LATHAM

I'm glad you could make it.

FIONA

Mr. Jones said you canceled on him.

LATHAM

He'll get over it. Let's hope he doesn't take walks by himself.

FIONA

Why? Afraid to be seen with me?

LATHAM

No, I'm afraid he'll be jealous. How hungry are you?

MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE - "JOE AND NEMO'S HAMBURGER STAND"

They get their order at the take-out window and walk, munching on hot dogs. They pass by shops and a bookstore.

LATHAM

We could've eaten inside.

FIONA

That's okay, I feel like walking. Are we still on for dinner?

LATHAM

Yeah, but it might have to be an early one.

FIONA

If you have to be on watch or-

LATHAM

No, Carla's in New York. She's going to phone me at home with her SITREP. It'll probably be late.

FIONA

Then why not have dinner at your place? It'll certainly be cheaper, and you won't have to rush back.

LATHAM

You don't mind? I mean, I don't want to push things.

FIONA

I made the suggestion, remember?

LATHAM

(smiles, embarrassed)

Can I ask your opinion on something?

FIONA

Sure.

LATHAM

D-Int told me about a Black family that had moved to Moscow years ago.

FIONA

Really... Not many of those around.

LATHAM

I was wondering, you think prejudice alone is enough to make them say, Enough, and move to Moscow?

FIONA

How do you judge someone's level of frustration? For them the grass was clearly greener behind The Curtain.

LATHAM

Hmm.... You mind if I ask about your family?

FIONA

No, go ahead.

INSERT FILM EXCERPTS:

From Pathe News's 1958 "Notting Hill: Shameful Episode" and 1959's "Notting Hill Gate Tension"; Roughler TV's "Notting Hill Riots" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1PsNmTB4LEA>); and the 2003 BBC Four program, "Time Shift: Notting Hill '58."

- Blacks arriving in England;
- The extreme poverty of West London;
- Signs in rooming house windows read "No blacks, no children"; "No coloureds, no Irish, no dogs";
- A White man hands out a racist newspaper to Whites;
- A Black man and a White Woman together;
- Crowds of Whites gather in the streets;
- Bobbies patrol past broken windows in West London;

- Black and White primary school children sit together on a curb, and play in the street.

SUIT WORDS TO FILM EXCERPTS

LATHAM

Have they always lived in England?

FIONA

No. Ten years ago there was a labor shortage in England. So Her Majesty sent invitations to the colonies to move to the 'mother country.' And, Grenada being one, my parents decided to accept. Are you familiar with Notting Hill?

LATHAM

No, not really.

FIONA

It was terrible. Dirt poor. Blacks on one side, Whites on the other... And good luck finding a decent place to live.

LATHAM

I was gonna say it sounds like the Deep South, but that's pretty much the way it is up here, too.

FIONA

Have you had any riots here?

LATHAM

Not here, no.

FIONA

Two years ago, a gang of White boys went through our neighborhood on a 'nigger hunting expedition.'

LATHAM

I don't use that language, Fiona.

FIONA

They did. They had tire irons, bricks, knives... Five Black men were sent to hospital. That Saturday a man and a woman were having an argument, like married couples everywhere - except he was Black and she was White. A crowd of Whites gathered. She asked them to leave, saying it was private. Didn't matter.

(MORE)

FIONA (CONT'D)

A huge fight broke out. That night all hell broke loose. A couple of hundred Whites went through, smashing everything in sight; shouting, 'Down with the niggers,' and 'Go home, you black bastards.'

LATHAM

Geezus...

FIONA

Not all Whites were like that. The constables were White and they tried to protect us. You could hear the mob shouting at them, 'Why are you helping those black bastards, you nigger lovers?!' It finally ended when some Jamaicans fought back. I can't believe no one was killed... The next day I saw Black and White kids playing together in the street like nothing happened.

BACK TO SCENE

As they stroll, Latham is clearly distressed.

LATHAM

I guess it's just a matter of time before it happens here.

Fiona checks her watch.

FIONA

We'd better head back.

They turn around, picking up their pace as they head back.

EXT. EAST BERLIN - SCHÖNEFELD AIRPORT - DAY

INSERT: "Schönefeld Airport, East Berlin"

Stock footage of the main terminal building and the sign above it: "FLUGHAFEN BERLIN - SCHÖNEFELD."

INT. TERMINAL - "DEUTSCHE LUFTHANSA FLUGGESELLSCHAFT"

(Translation: "German Lufthansa Airlines")

Passengers mill about the terminal. Gates enters.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Herr Roger Gates, melden Sie sich bitte am Informationsschalter für eine Nachricht...

(MORE)

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Herr Roger Gates, melden Sie sich
bitte am Informationsschalter für
eine Nachricht... Mr. Roger Gates,
please report to the Information
Desk for a message.

Gates walks to a counter staffed by a female CLERK. Overhead,
a sign reads "Auskunft."

GATES
Du hast eine Nachricht für mich?

CLERK
Ja, bitte rufen Sie sofort Ihr
Moskauer Büro an.

GATES
Danke, Fräulein.

GATES

Walks to a bank of telephone booths in a corner of the
terminal. Four MEN, STASI AGENTS, quickly surround him.

STASI AGENT #1
Herr Gates, please come with us.

GATES
Why?

STASI AGENT #1
We will explain outside. Come.

TERMINAL

The Stasi Agents escort Gates out a service door.

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - DAY

Stock footage of the Lincoln Memorial.

TUNLAW ROAD, NW - RUSSIAN EMBASSY

Stock footage of the Russian compound. The sign on the gate
reads "Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics."

INT. ANTEROOM

A SECRETARY carrying a folder KNOCKS on the door to an office.
YURI GVOZDEV opens it. She hands him the folder and leaves.

GVOZDEV'S OFFICE

Gvozdev shuts the door. He opens the folder and sees a cable.
He goes to a safe and takes out a one-time pad. He then goes
to his desk and decrypts the cable.

Gvozdev turns pale; he can't believe what he's read. He gets up and walks to the window.

EXT. CORNER OF E STREET AND 18TH STREET, NW - DAY

Gvozdev walks to a mailbox and drops in a postcard. He bends over to tie his shoes and casually makes three CHALK MARKS on the side of the mailbox. He stands and walks away.

EXT. E STREET AND 7TH STREET, NW - DAY

Latham waits. A city bus arrives; Latham boards it.

I/E. CITY BUS

Latham sits in an aisle seat as the bus travels on D Street.

EXT. CORNER OF D STREET AND 17TH STREET, NW

Latham alights. He walks up 17th Street, turns onto E street, then walks to the corner of...

18TH STREET

A Mailbox is there. Latham bends to tie his shoe and spots the Three Chalk Marks. He stands and hails a taxi.

EXT. MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT - DAY

A typical multi-level facility.

INT. PARKING LOT - LOWER LEVEL

Dank and filled with cars.

LATHAM

Walks to a pay phone in a stairwell. He feels underneath it and peels off a slip of paper taped there. He unfolds it and reads: "1739 N NW." He pockets the paper and leaves.

I STREET AND 17TH STREET, NW - FARRAGUT SQUARE PARK

Latham alights from a taxi. He hurries through the park to K Street and hails another taxi.

1739 N STREET, NW - "HOTEL TABARD INN"

A townhome converted to an Inn and restaurant. The taxi pulls up. Latham alights and enters the Inn.

INT. LOUNGE

Richly appointed in wood, with an odd mismatch of sofas, love seats and chairs. Gvozdev sits at a table, sipping cognac. Latham sees Gvozdev and joins him. A WAITER approaches.

LATHAM
Diet-Rite Cola, please.

The Waiter nods, rolling his eyes as he leaves.

LATHAM (CONT'D)
Haven't seen you in a while.

GVOZDEV
I've been busy learning about your
Mr. Kennedy. You haven't dropped by
for coffee either, Warren.

The haughty Waiter returns with a glass of cola and a flexible straw. As he leaves, Latham gives him a sidelong glance.

GVOZDEV (CONT'D)
In Russian, we call him 'kozel.' It
means-

LATHAM
I know that word already. So,
what's going on?

He pulls a note from his pocket and hands it to Latham.

GVOZDEV
I translated it for you.

LATHAM
(reads it, shocked)
A reorganization?

Gvozdev nods. Latham reads further...

LATHAM (CONT'D)
They want you back by the 30th.
(hands back the note)
I thought Khrushchev ended all the
purges.

GVOZDEV
This is not a purge, Warren. I'm
being demoted - a loss of my
nomenklatura privileges.

Latham shrugs; he's at sea.

GVOZDEV (CONT'D)
I wait in line like everybody else.

LATHAM
I don't understand. Why you?

GVOZDEV
To be honest, I don't know either.

LATHAM

You could decide to stay.

GVOZDEV

Traitors are sent home in a trunk.
You're a nonperson, sent away to a
labor camp or mental institution.

LATHAM

Or missing indefinitely.

This strikes a nerve in Gvozdev.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

So, what are you going to do?

GVOZDEV

Accept my demotion. Inform my staff
of the change, and say goodbye to
my good friends here, like you.

He finishes his glass and signals for more.

LATHAM

Why this reorganization? Why now?

GVOZDEV

Perhaps the new head of the
Collegium wants new blood in
America. In any event, I wanted to
say goodbye while I had the chance.

The Waiter returns with another glass of cognac for Gvozdev
and a glass of Diet-Rite Cola and a straw for Latham. He
leaves. Gvozdev raises his glass.

GVOZDEV (CONT'D)

Za ná-shoo dróo-zhboo: To our
friendship.

Latham raises his glass. They salute each other and drink.

ACT TWO

INT. LATHAM'S OUTER OFFICE - DAY

COLLETTE DOWD transcribes from the Dictabelt machine. Latham
enters, clearly upset. Collette nods perfunctorily, but pays
attention when Latham ignores her and goes into...

LATHAM'S OFFICE

Latham hangs up his coat and sits, staring off into space.
Collette enters.

COLLETTE
Everything alright?

LATHAM
Moscow has recalled Yuri Gvozdev.

COLLETTE
Oh, no. Is it another purge?

LATHAM
He says it's a re-org.

COLLETTE
Is that true?

LATHAM
Who knows. He has until the 30th,
else they'll come and get him.

COLLETTE
Can you get him to switch sides?

LATHAM
He wasn't interested. He just
wanted to say goodbye to me.

COLLETTE
Isn't there anything you can do?

LATHAM
His wife and kid are in Leningrad.
If he defected they'd be ostracized.
Hell, they won't be any better off
when he does go back. Their
privileged life is over. And once
he's back among the proletariat...

Collette is near tears. Latham sees this, gets up and leaves.

KENSINGTON'S OFFICE

STEWART KENSINGTON is flustered. He sorts through a mound of papers on his desk. His AIDE-DE-CAMP brings in a stack of more papers, puts them on the desk and leaves. Latham enters.

KENSINGTON
Is this urgent, Warren?
(doesn't wait for Latham
to answer)
Since Truman Davis resigned I've
been up to my neck sifting through
all his paperwork.

LATHAM
It'd be a lot worse if he hadn't.

KENSINGTON

Alright, so you found out he was the leak. You needn't gloat about it.

LATHAM

That's not why I'm here. I came to see if you knew whether there was a purge going on at the Central Committee in Moscow.

KENSINGTON

You forget - I haven't headed the Soviet Desk in almost four years.

LATHAM

Yes, but word still crosses your desk from your friends there.

Kensington's Aide-de-camp brings in more papers and leaves.

KENSINGTON

I haven't heard anything. Why?

LATHAM

Yuri Gvozdev's been recalled.

KENSINGTON

Hm, good. Leaves the KGB in chaos until their new man settles in.

Kensington is smugly satisfied. Latham finds this curious.

LATHAM

Well, I'm sorry to see him go. We've managed to have a good relationship.

KENSINGTON

Since when are you so sentimental about a communist?

LATHAM

Since he saved Bazzo's life.

Kensington SLAMS down the papers he's holding.

KENSINGTON

Gvozdev traded the names of that Guatemalan hit team for a defector.

LATHAM

Whom he hated.

KENSINGTON

And who would have cost Gvozdev five years in a labor camp if he hadn't been returned to Moscow!

LATHAM

Gvozdev could just as easily have waited until they'd killed Bazzo before handing us their names.

KENSINGTON

And he didn't - so what? He's still a communist! He'd just as soon have you shot if it meant furthering The Cause. Now, if you don't mind...

Latham leaves, more angry now than frustrated.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - NIGHT

Stock footage of Lower Manhattan and the row house at...

#2 GREAT JONES ALLEY

A drug addicts' purlieus. Toting a handbag, DiLauria presses a buzzer labeled 3F. After a moment, Stevens opens the door.

STEVENS

Ellen Winters?

INT. STEVENS' STUDIO APARTMENT

Secondhand furnishings abound. DiLauria/Winters and Stevens enter. He hangs up her coat. She sits in a chair and takes a notepad from her handbag.

STEVENS

Want a beer?

DILAURIA/WINTERS

Sure.

Stevens gets two cans of beer from the refrigerator, opens them and looks around for a glass.

DILAURIA/WINTERS (CONT'D)

That's okay, I don't need a glass.

He hands her a can and sits on the sofa bed. She takes a sip; he takes a long swig.

STEVENS

I never heard of the Domestic Contact Division. What do you do?

DILAURIA/WINTERS

We get the impressions of Americans who've gone to Eastern Europe. I understand you work for United Press in their Moscow Bureau.

STEVENS

Bureau... I'm the Bureau - two, if you include Gates. He's a stringer.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

What was it like there for you, as a journalist?

STEVENS

Well, for starters they assign all Western journalists a Minder. It could be a guy or a woman. They decide what stories you get and make sure you stay clear of restricted areas. And when they're not around you got Security following you everywhere.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

That has to be a little scary.

STEVENS

(takes a long swig)
No shit, Sherlock. Oh, sorry.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

It's alright. I imagine they're worried you'll talk to the locals.

STEVENS

Yeah, but it's a waste. No one says what they really think. Well, except for this one guy.
(finishes his beer)
Want another one?

DILAURIA/WINTERS

No, I'm good. Who was he?

Stevens gets up, grabs himself another beer and returns.

STEVENS

Bob Weyland. He's an American. And get this - he's a Negro.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

Really, in Moscow.

STEVENS

I know, who'd a-thunk it, right?
His family moved there in the '30s.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

Wow, he must've had a lot to say.

Stevens takes a long swig. He has an embarrassed smile.

DILAURIA/WINTERS (CONT'D)

What?

STEVENS

You shoulda been there. His parents are actors. He told me how they couldn't get work here, except the stuff you see on The Three Stooges.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

You mean, playing the buffoon?

STEVENS

Uh huh. I thought: Yeah, so? What's the big deal? Then he tells me the parts they were offered over there - lead roles in plays by Shakespeare.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

Wow. Considering Moe's the smart one, I guess it was a no-brainer.

Stevens nods and finishes his beer. He gets up, grabs another beer from the refrigerator and sits back down.

DILAURIA/WINTERS (CONT'D)

Where'd you meet this Bob Weyland?

STEVENS

Tchaikovsky Hall, after this concert by Paul Robeson. Come to think of it, there were a lot of Negroes there. I was so shocked I had to interview one of 'em. Truth is, the guy learned more about me.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

How'd that happen?

STEVENS

I don't know. I acted like such an asshole. No matter what he said, I assumed something else. Finally, he's so fed up he says, 'That's why I live in Moscow.' Yeah, no shit.

(takes a long swig)

You know, all you see in the movies and TV is Negroes shufflin' around and acting stupid. Yeah, well, this time it was the dumb-ass White guy.

INT. LATHAM'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

"Amor Sincopado" plays on the stereo reel tape recorder. Fiona looks at Baden Powell's album cover (he's a Black Brazilian).

FIONA
This is Baden Powell?

LATHAM (O.S.)
Uh huh.

FIONA
He's fantastic.

Latham enters from the Kitchenette with two plates of food. He sets them on the coffee table beside a bottle of wine and two glasses, moving aside a framed snapshot and a newspaper. Fiona joins him. Latham fills the glasses with wine. They touch glasses and take a sip. Fiona takes a bite of dinner.

FIONA (CONT'D)
Mmm, that's really good. Put most men in the kitchen and they come back with pretzels and a pint. Where'd you learn to cook?

LATHAM
I didn't have much choice but to learn. Been on my own for so long.

As they eat Fiona glances at the framed snapshot of Anne De and Minh. Latham sees this and grows rueful.

LATHAM (CONT'D)
That's my son, Minh, and his mother.

FIONA
Where are they now?

LATHAM
Anne's dead. Minh lives with his grandfather in Paris... My own son and I've never even seen him... I tried to see him in Paris a little while ago, but it didn't work out.

Fiona caresses his hand then raises her glass.

FIONA
To a better future.

Latham meets her glass with his, then they take a sip.

INT. STEVENS' STUDIO APARTMENT - NIGHT

Stevens finishes his beer, gets up and takes another one from the refrigerator. He opens it and sits back down.

DILAURIA/WINTERS
I take it your Minder was around when you talked to Weyland.

STEVENS

Along with that clown from Pravda,
Yurgin. He got himself a scoop -
'The Ugly American,' in person.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

You're being too hard on yourself.

STEVENS

I wish...

DILAURIA/WINTERS

So, what happened afterwards?

STEVENS

I filed my story and drove back to
The Ukraina - that's where they put
all the Western journalists.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

Your Minder was there?

STEVENS

No, he'd split - Friday night.
Didn't matter, Security followed me
all the way past Staraya Square.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

Staraya Square?

STEVENS

Where all the government buildings
are.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

Oh. Maybe they thought you might
sneak into a meeting or something.

STEVENS

That woulda been the night to do it.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

Really? Why do you say that?

STEVENS

It's 1:30 in the morning, yet all
the lights in the Central Committee
building were on.

DILAURIA/WINTERS

Could've been the cleaning staff.

STEVENS

Yeah, right... There was definitely
something foul going on there.

INT. LATHAM'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

"Chega de Saudade" plays on the tape recorder. Latham and Fiona dance a samba; he's an excellent dancer. The phone RINGS; its Red light does not blink. Latham and Fiona head to the couch. He answers it.

LATHAM

Hello?

INT. WASHINGTON SQUARE HOTEL - ROOM - NIGHT

A typical two-star room. DiLauria sits at the table, a legal notepad before her.

DILAURIA

It's Ellen. I'm in my room.

CROSSCUT LATHAM WITH DILAURIA

Latham nods to Fiona.

LATHAM

Keep it light.

DILAURIA

Our boy definitely had an epiphany.
He was embarrassed by his actions.

"Desafinado" by João Gilberto and Stan Getz now plays on the tape recorder.

LATHAM

You think attitude alone accounts
for the attraction?

DILAURIA

In part, but I think we're missing
the point here. We can discuss that
later. One more thing... There was
a party at the big house Friday
that went on well past curfew.

LATHAM

It's a wonder he got any sleep.
Okay, see you when you get home.

DILAURIA (O.S.)

Bye, dad.

BACK TO SCENE

Latham rolls his eyes and hangs up. He looks at Fiona.

LATHAM

Stevens, the Moscow reporter for United Press, said the Communist Party Central Committee were in a meeting well after one A.M. Friday.

FIONA

Must have been something serious for them to meet at that late hour.

Latham nods absently; something is on his mind as he settles back on the couch.

LATHAM

Yuri Gvozdev was recalled today.

FIONA

The KGB rezident?

LATHAM

Yes. He says it's a reorganization. I asked Kensington about it; he could care less. He's just happy there'll be a new rezident chasing his tail for weeks trying to come up to speed.

FIONA

You want me to ask on my end?

LATHAM

Would you?

FIONA

We do have a Special Relationship.

They look at each other and smile, then lean forward for an impassioned kiss.

MID-SHOW BREAK

EXT. SCULPTURE GARDEN - DAY (MORNING)

Latham and LAWRENCE JONES (SMOTH) stroll by the objets d'art.

JONES

Our senior man on the Russian Desk confirms there have been no purges since Khrushchev denounced Stalin.

LATHAM

But why start with the rezidentura? The KGB's full of lifers. If they really want to reorganize, retire some of those goddamn generals.

JONES

Why are you so upset over this?

LATHAM

I don't know... I guess I actually trust Gvozdev.

EXT. COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY (MORNING)

CIA PERSONNEL enter through Gate #1 onto the compound.

INT. LATHAM'S OUTER OFFICE

Collette is at her desk. Latham enters.

COLLETTE

They need you in the Ops Room.

OPERATIONS ROOM

Stokes, Percy and Reid have been joined by Bazzo and Nealy. There's a sense of worry about them. Latham enters, his overcoat still on. The questions and comments come quickly.

LATHAM

What's going on?

STOKES

Reuters is reporting that the East Germans have arrested a reporter for United Press, Roger Gates. He was taken into custody at Schönefeld Airport in East Berlin where he was about to board a plane for Moscow.

BAZZO

He works with Arthur Stevens, the reporter mandarin Two interviewed.

NEALY

Their managing editor's furious. He called the DDP, wanting to know if Gates was working for us.

LATHAM

Is he?

STOKES

I checked with the Russian Desk and the Soviet Bloc Divisions. They all say they don't know him.

NEALY

You're not running him, are you Warren?

LATHAM
I'm restricted to this continent.

NEALY
Since when?

Latham has a fleeting look of guilt.

LATHAM
Have you checked with SMOTH?

PERCY
No.

LATHAM
Get him on the line.

Percy picks up the Gray phone and dials.

STOKES
According to Reuters, the East
Germans say his codename's 'Alek.'

NEALY
When you first said that, Jared, it
rang a bell. I just can't remember
now where from.

PERCY (O.S.)
This is the KUBARK Duty Desk.
Lawrence Jones, M.O.D., please.

LATHAM
You know, it's possible the KGB
think Stevens is an agent as well.

BAZZO
I thought about that. So I told
Carla to stay put, and have New
York Central put eyes on him - and
they're armed.

PERCY
Mr. Latham, Miss Jeffries is on the
line.

He hands the phone to Latham.

LATHAM
Fiona, it's Warren Latham.

INT. MI6 OFFICE

Fiona is on the phone.

FIONA

Hi, Warren. Mr. Jones is meeting with the ambassador. Can I help you with anything?

CROSSCUT LATHAM WITH FIONA

LATHAM

Roger Gates, a reporter with United Press, was arrested at Schönefeld Airport in Berlin.

FIONA

We know; that's why Mr. Jones is in the meeting.

LATHAM

Foreign Office up in arms, wanting to know if he's your man?

FIONA

Yes. Is he yours?

LATHAM

No. Gates works in Moscow with a reporter we debriefed for Domestic Contact Service.

FIONA

Oh, you mean Stevens.

LATHAM

Uh huh.

FIONA

You worried the unwashed will assume he's one of yours?

LATHAM

(smiles slightly)

Exactly. By any chance does the codename Alek mean anything to you?

FIONA

No, sorry.

BACK TO SCENE

LATHAM

Okay. Tell Larry I'll be in touch.

FIONA (O.S.)

Right. Bye-bye, Warren.

Latham hangs up the phone.

NEALY

Warren, United Press said they're without coverage in Moscow. They want Stevens to return there ASAP.

LATHAM

I think there's a risk in that.

NEALY

I agree. That's why I asked them to hold off until we could get a better read on what's going on.

LATHAM

Can you get a hold of SDECE, BND and the Mossad - see if Gates is one of theirs? You have a better rapport with them.

NEALY

Sure. I'll get back to you.

He leaves.

REID

Sir, putting eyes on Stevens... You really think the KGB would break protocol and snatch people here?

LATHAM

No, but their satellites would.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - CORRIDOR - DAY

Empty. A sign on the wall beside a glass door reads "CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE USSR IN SEATTLE" in Cyrillic and English. TWO BURLY MEN in suits drag the semi-conscious CONSUL GENERAL out the door and down the back stairs. Meanwhile, in the office a THIRD MAN holds a gun on a FRIGHTENED WOMAN. He flips around a "CLOSED" sign on the door and shuts its blinds.

AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS

A FOURTH MAN waits with a large Wardrobe Trunk. He opens it, revealing a seat; leather straps for the head, torso and extremities; a skull cap; oxygen tank and mask.

EXT. SEATTLE-TACOMA AIRPORT TERMINAL - DAY

Stock footage of the building sporting the titular facade.

TARMAC

Cargo Transport tows full baggage trailers from the terminal, then loads luggage and a large Wardrobe Trunk onto a propjet.

LATHAM'S OFFICE

Latham meanders about, puzzled, while Bazzo sits.

LATHAM

Gates works alongside Stevens. So why didn't the KGB arrest him when he was in Moscow?

BAZZO

I imagine it's because they didn't have enough evidence.

LATHAM

Then why not tell the Stasi to hold off until they got more?

BAZZO

Maybe it was a case of them one-upping the KGB.

LATHAM

That's a dangerous game to play.

BAZZO

Just 'cause the unwashed get their marching orders from the KGB doesn't mean they aren't rivals.

LATHAM

Hmm... If they are, then most likely the Stasi don't share all their sources with the KGB.

BAZZO

That would explain the urgency to arrest Gates, wouldn't it? Act before any information reaches Dzerzhinsky Square?

Latham is still troubled by something.

BAZZO (CONT'D)

What, you don't agree?

LATHAM

It just seems like there's more to it. The late-night meeting of the CCCP, Gvozdev's recall, Gates's arrest...

BAZZO

Don't you think maybe you're reading more into this than what's there?

Latham is frustrated and sighs.

BAZZO (CONT'D)

Whether there's something going on here or not, Gates is caught up in the machinery. And God help him.

INT. STASI INTERROGATION ROOM

Windowless. The smooth walls are antiseptic white. Two harsh lights shine on Gates, seated on a wooden chair in the back of the room. He's nude; his hands are bound behind his back. He gasps for breath. An INTERROGATOR stands before him.

INTERROGATOR

Ich werde dich wieder fragen. Wie lautet der Name Ihres Aufseher?

INSERT TRANSLATION: "I'll ask you again. What is the name of your Controller?"

GATES

I don't know any Controller!

The Interrogator hits Gates across the face so hard it knocks him off the stool. A DOCTOR enters with TWO STASI OFFICERS. They hold Gates down while the Doctor gives him an injection.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DAY

Stock footage of lower Manhattan and the crowds in Greenwich Village.

CORNER OF GREAT JONES ALLEY AND GREAT JONES STREET

Among the usual gang of addicts there, one MAN wears SINGLE STRAP, WINGTIP BROGUES along with his penny ante wardrobe.

Stevens leaves his building. On Macdougall Street, he walks south to Minetta Lane and THE FOLKLORE CENTER.

INT. THE FOLKLORE CENTER - FRONT ROOM

Ground Zero for the West Village folk scene. It's jam-packed, mostly with Beatniks, gabby Whites and a few Blacks.

FRONT ROOM

Records and books abound. Stevens enters. A BOB DYLAN LOOK-ALIKE furiously one-finger types. He gets up and enters the...

BACK ROOM

Where acoustic guitars hang from the walls. The Dylan Look-alike takes down a guitar, straps on a harmonica and starts playing and singing "Talkin' New York."

Stevens joins the audience; some sit but most stand shoulder-to-shoulder. More people edge inside, including the Wingtip Addict who moves behind Stevens.

The Wingtip Addict slides the sleeve on his right arm up an inch, revealing the end of a metal tube strapped to his forearm. He suddenly FLINCHES and looks behind him - there stands DiLauria. She wears a Beatnik-bob wig (a la Barbra Streisand) and dark eye makeup.

DiLauria quickly pulls a small syringe out of the Wingtip Addict's back and drops it into her handbag. The Wingtip Addict's shock turns to loss of focus. He shakes his head.

DiLauria grabs his right hand and bends it back against his wrist. The Wingtip Addict winces and bends over. DiLauria leads him to the back of the room where he slumps to the floor against the wall, semi-conscious.

A BEATNIK worriedly eyes the Wingtip Addict. DiLauria smiles.

DILAURIA

Everything's cool. We're gonna let
him crash at my place.

The New York station #1, BRUCE WILSON, edges over. He and DiLauria slip an arm of the Wingtip Addict over their shoulders and get him to his feet.

EXT. MACDOUGAL STREET - DAY

DiLauria, Wilson and the Wingtip Addict are joined by the NEW YORK STATION'S #3 MAN, who carries a shopping bag. He takes DiLauria's place. She hails a taxi. The Men put the Wingtip Addict in the taxi and get in with him. DiLauria takes off her coat and leans in the taxi. She doffs her wig and tosses it and the coat to the station's #3 Man.

DILAURIA

Tell your wife I said thanks.

The Man takes a coat from the bag and hands it to DiLauria. He puts her old coat and wig into the bag. She backs away from the taxi, puts on the coat and shuts the door. The taxi pulls away, and DiLauria reenters The Folklore Center.

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - NIGHT (EVENING)

Stock footage of the Lincoln Memorial.

19TH STREET AND G STREET, NW - "REITER'S BOOKSTORE"

Through the window Latham can be seen paying for a paperback. He takes his purchase and leaves the store.

EXT. 704 3RD STREET, NW - APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Light flickers in several windows as people watch TV. In one third-floor window, the light is soft and steady.

INT. LATHAM'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Latham is alone, reading "Notes of a Native Son" by Black social critic James Baldwin. He sighs forlornly and sets the book on the coffee table. He gets up and absently turns on the TV as he heads into the...

KITCHENETTE

Latham flips on the light. He takes bacon and eggs out the refrigerator and puts them on the counter. From the TV come the unmistakable whine and adulterated English of Stepin' Fetchit. Latham stops preparing dinner. He reenters the...

LIVING ROOM

The 1935 Will Rogers movie "Judge Priest" is on TV. There is the hunched, wheedling Stepin' Fetchit - the caricature of a Black man as portrayed by Lincoln Perry. At first, Latham is sad, but that turns to disgust. He turns off the TV and returns to the Kitchenette.

ACT THREE

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - DAY (MORNING)

Stock footage of the Lincoln Memorial and its Reflecting Pool.

INT. LATHAM'S OFFICE

The 24-hour wall clock reads 08:30. Latham is there. Nealy enters; he's anxious.

NEALY

Sorry it took so long, but no one seems to be running Gates.

Latham sighs, disappointed.

NEALY (CONT'D)

But I do remember where I heard the name 'Alek.' Viktor Kozlov mentioned it in that debriefing session I attended with MOTHER.

LATHAM

It's not on any of the tapes
Collette transcribed.

NEALY

That's because he mentioned it in regards to the Berlin station.

LATHAM

So it went to the Berlin Desk.

NEALY

Uh huh. He also offered up the name Sasha, saying he was a double agent in Berlin who's running this Alek.

LATHAM

You believe him?

NEALY

I know MOTHER does.

LATHAM

(scoffs)

MOTHER also thinks I'm a KGB plant.

NEALY

I wouldn't go that far, but I know he wouldn't mind if you fell off the roof.

Latham rolls his eyes.

LATHAM

So why did Berlin claim Gates wasn't theirs when you asked them?

NEALY

Because it's true.

LATHAM

You just said Sasha's running him.

NEALY

Look, if Alek were ours, there'd be records of payments, SITREPS from his case officer...

LATHAM

So then Kozlov's lying again!

NEALY

Not necessarily. Even provocateurs package a truth inside their lies. If there weren't a Sasha, why would the Stasi arrest an Alek?

LATHAM

So who the hell's paying Alek?

Nealy shrugs and leaves. Bazzo enters, folder in hand.

BAZZO

The Ops Room got word from Seattle that there's no one in the Soviet Mission - just a 'Closed' sign on the door. Maybe the consul general's touring the Pacific northwest.

LATHAM

Or a cell in Lubyanka.

BAZZO

Still think there's something else going on...

LATHAM

I don't believe in coincidences.

BAZZO

Yeah, well then this is gonna feed your suspicions - Carla's SITREP. There was an attempt on Stevens.

He hands the SITREP to Latham who reads it.

LATHAM

Whenever the KGB have wetwork here, they task one of their orbit services. I wonder if it's the East Germans?

BAZZO

Boss, does it really matter? With Gvozdev being recalled, what can we do about it?

Latham mulls it over then presses the button on the intercom.

COLLETTE (O.S.)

Yes?

LATHAM

Is Berard still here?

COLLETTE (O.S.)

Yes, but he sent a memo around saying he's leaving early.

LATHAM

Ask if he'll see me right now.

COLLETTE (O.S.)

Right.

Latham hangs up.

BAZZO

Warren, it seems one civilian's been snared in this. Now a second one's been targeted. If all this is connected, it could be that it ends when Gvozdev's back in Moscow.

Latham despairs at hearing this. The intercom BUZZES.

COLLETTE (O.S.)

Berard will see you now.

BERARD'S OFFICE

Berard and Latham are there.

BERARD

And you think something that passed through Sasha, this double agent in Berlin, precipitated all this?

LATHAM

Yes. I think the East Germans sent a memo on to Moscow, but withheld anything pertaining to this Alek so that the Stasi could arrest him.

BERARD

Why would they do that?

LATHAM

Because the Stasi didn't want Gates to reach Moscow. His arrest in Berlin served as a warning signal.

BERARD

To whom?

LATHAM

A mole the Stasi had in the Kremlin.

BERARD

So Gates was a Discard?

LATHAM

I'll go you one better. I don't think Gates is Alek. In fact, I don't think there ever was an Alek or a mole.

BERARD

But you just said there were.

LATHAM

I'll explain.

BERARD

And go slowly, for my benefit.

He takes an aspirin with some water.

LATHAM

I believe the KGB planted the idea there was a mole in the Kremlin. To help sell this they invented Alek, a spy from the West.

BERARD

So it was a provocation.

LATHAM

Yes, run through Viktor Kozlov, MOTHER's defector. The KGB suspected there was a double in Berlin, this Sasha, and they used Kozlov to expose him.

BERARD

Hm, means the KGB wouldn't have told the Stasi about their operation.

LATHAM

Or Kozlov. Now, I believe the other side of this is that the Stasi never told the KGB that Sasha was passing along Moscow's Central Committee secrets to them.

BERARD

Secrets cooked by the KGB.

LATHAM

Yes. The Stasi only told the KGB Sasha was passing along CIA secrets. As far as Sasha and the Stasi knew, their Kremlin mole was motivated solely by ideology. Otherwise, they'd have had to meet.

BERARD

Hmm, money would have to had change hands, receipts signed...

LATHAM

My guess is CCCP minutes were left anonymously at Sasha's apartment, with the promise of more if they were passed to the East Germans.

BERARD

The idea being the mole was a disgruntled Party member?

LATHAM

Yes. From our cable traffic to Berlin, Sasha learned that Alek knew the identity of the mole, and that CIA were trying to track down Alek. So the Stasi withheld this from Moscow. They were afraid if the KGB arrested Alek, he'd give up the name of the mole who in turn would reveal he'd been passing Central Committee secrets that weren't intended to be shared.

BERARD

How did we learn Gates was Alek?

LATHAM

From the KGB. They knew Gates from his posting in Moscow. And the fact that he's a stringer running from one country to the next made him an obvious choice. So, they leaked a few details about him.

BERARD

Enough so that when MOTHER hunted this Alek, we unwittingly helped identify Sasha to the KGB.

LATHAM

Yes, sir.

Berard thinks about this.

BERARD

So the Stasi still don't know there never was a mole in the Kremlin, or that the KGB are on to them.

LATHAM

I suspect the next Communist Party house-cleaning will start in Berlin. Unfortunately, somehow the blowback implicated the KGB's rezidentura.

BERARD

That's always a problem with provocations; blowback can take on a life of its own. People get swept up in rumor and innuendo... What about Gates? Can you help him?

LATHAM

I have an idea I'd like to try. I'll need your help though.

BERARD

Alright. But as far as Yuri Gvozdev is concerned, he's on his own.

THE HOLE

Bazzo is there, reading a report. Latham enters.

LATHAM

You're on your bike.

BAZZO

Where to?

LATHAM

Berlin. There's a telegram I want sent from the U.S. Mission to the State Department. And I want to be sure it passes through the station.

OPERATIONS ROOM

Stokes, Percy, Reid and Bazzo sit at a table. Maps of Germany and Berlin are spread out. Reid hands Bazzo an envelope.

PERCY

Round-trip airline ticket, maps, 2000 Deutsche Marks, passport and pocket litter - all under your working name, Tom Sterling.

INSERT SCENES:

- A Lufthansa 707 jet takes off from Washington National.
- The Lufthansa plane is on the ground in Munich; Bazzo adjusts his watch to the time difference.
- Stock footage of a Lufthansa 707 jet landing at Flughafen Leipzig/Halle (Leipzig/Halle Airport).
- Stock footage of a blue and white Godfrey Davis sign above a car rental counter at Flughafen Leipzig/Halle.
- Bazzo walks through the unmonitored Main Terminal.
- Bazzo drives an Opel Olympia Rekord P1 on the Autobahn.
- Stock footage of Bahnhof Potsdamer Platz (railway station).
- Wearing a Stetson hat and leather gloves, and with briefcase in hand, Bazzo hails a taxi.
- The taxi arrives at the U.S. Mission.

SUIT WORDS TO SCENES

STOKES

You're on Lufthansa flight 84 to Leipzig out of Washington National at 16:40 with a one-hour stopover in Munich. You'll arrive in Leipzig at 07:35 local time.

PERCY

They're ahead six hours by the way.

STOKES

At the airport you'll rent a car from Godfrey Davis and drive to Berlin, about two and a half-hours.

BAZZO

Why the circuitous route, Reid?

REID

The Stasi pay less attention to Leipzig than any other airport.

STOKES

In Berlin you'll drive to Banhoff Potsdamer Platz, park the car there and take a taxi to Clayallee 170; that's the U.S. Mission.

BACK TO SCENE

Stokes hands Bazzo a briefcase.

STOKES (CONT'D)

Your return route is the reverse, with your flight leaving Leipzig at 18:10 local time, arriving at Washington National at 22:20. You pick up six hours coming back.

PERCY

The telegram copy is in a sealed envelope. Oh, and Moscow rules, so wear a hat and gloves.

INT. U.S. MISSION - GENERAL LEITER'S OFFICE - DAY

Bazzo enters. He opens the briefcase and hands GENERAL LEITER the wax-sealed envelope. Leiter opens it and reads the prepared copy. He's confused and HUFFS.

COMMUNICATIONS ROOM

A CLERK types the prepared copy as a formal telegraph while General Leiter and Bazzo look on. Bazzo's attention becomes more focused as he reads the telegram.

INSERT TELEGRAM:

Department of State

58 W

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

Control: 14599

Action

Rec'd: December 23, 1960

EUR

09:33 GMT

FROM: Berlin

Info

SS TO: Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

G

SP NO: 307 December 23, 20:37 GMT

C

H PRIORITY

INR

RMR SENT DEPARTMENT 207, REPEATED INFORMATION PRIORITY

BERLIN 204

FOR THE FONSEC FROM HERON.

CIA, MYTEL 190 FROM BERLIN.

I HOPE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO POSSIBILITY OF FOREIGN SECRETARY VISITING BERLIN TO RING FREEDOM BELL AT MIDNIGHT ON NEW YEAR'S EVE. I AM AWARE OF THE COMPLEXITIES INVOLVED, GIVEN THE EXTREMELY SHORT NOTICE, AND I CAN APPRECIATE THE ARGUMENTS AGAINST IT. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, I AM CONSCIOUS OF A NEED TO OFFSET PRESENT DANGER OF EROSION OF ALLIED POSITION IN BERLIN, AND I CAN THINK OF NOTHING BETTER WE IN THE WEST COULD DO TO DEMONSTRATE OUR DETERMINATION TO LIVE UP TO OUR COMMITMENTS HERE. ALSO, I FEEL IT WOULD DEMONSTRATE TO THE SOVIETS AND EAST GERMANS HOW DANGEROUS IT WOULD BE TO PURSUE THEIR CURRENT COURSE HERE.

IT SEEMS THAT EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE UNITED STATES REGARDING REPLACEMENT OF SOVIET EMBASSY KEY SENIOR PERSONNEL DEMONSTRATES A WEAKNESS WITHIN THE COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE. THIS CAN BE EXPLOITED BY SHOWING CONTINUITY OF SENIOR U.S. CONSULAR SERVICE. I ALSO THINK THAT VISIT WOULD BE ESPECIALLY EFFECTIVE IF INVITATION CAME FROM BERLIN SENAT, AS IT WOULD DEMONSTRATE TO THE PRESIDENT-ELECT AND OUR ALLIES THAT SOVIETS DO NOT BELIEVE OR ARE UNAWARE OF ANY SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS SOVIET EMBASSY STAFF HAVE MADE IN ACQUIRING ASSETS. FURTHER, BREAKING THESE LINKS CAN ONLY BENEFIT U.S. AND ITS ALLIES BY PERMANENTLY REMOVING THESE SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIALS, AS MORE RESTRICTIVE PROTOCOLS CAN NOW BE IMPOSED ON REPLACEMENT SOVIET EMBASSY STAFF, LIMITING OR ELIMINATING ANY PREVIOUS ACCESS GAINED BY FORMER STAFF.

I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS ON THESE GROUNDS THAT I URGE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION FOR WHAT IN ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES MIGHT APPEAR UNIMPORTANT AND PERHAPS AN EVEN IMPRACTICAL IDEA.

LEITER

MB/22

BACK TO SCENE

Leiter sighs but Bazzo barely betrays his concern.

EXT. BERLIN - LOCAL ROAD - DAY

Bazzo's Opel Olympia Rekord P1 pulls to the curb where there is a phone booth. He alights and enters the phone booth.

INT. LATHAM'S OFFICE - DAY

The Gray phone RINGS; Latham answers it.

LATHAM

Yes?... Go ahead, operator... Why are you calling from a payphone?

INT. PHONE BOOTH

Bazzo is on the phone; he's upset but restrained.

BAZZO

Because I didn't want the brass to record the call. I read the copy. What are you up to?

CROSSCUT LATHAM WITH BAZZO

LATHAM

You already know the answer.

BAZZO

No, I don't. Are you trying to bring home a puppy or keep one here?

LATHAM

There's room in the kennel for both.

BAZZO

That's not how I read it. Anyway, it's done. And you're the one who's gonna have to live with the consequences.

BACK TO SCENE

Bazzo hangs up, gets back in his car and drives away.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - NIGHT (EVENING)

Stock footage of the Christmas tree and ice-skating rink at Rockefeller Center.

LIQUOR STORE

Holiday decorations share store window space with the various liqueurs. Stevens leaves with his purchase.

GREAT JONES ALLEY

Stevens walks past the addicts and into his building.

CORNER OF GREAT JONES STREET AND LAFAYETTE STREET

DiLauria and Wilson are hunkered in a ratty FORD SEDAN.

INT. FORD SEDAN

Wilson is behind the wheel; he's shivering and he's peeved. He starts the engine. DiLauria is unhappily surprised.

DILAURIA

What are you doing?

WILSON

I'm freezing and he's in there
gettin' all nice and toasty.

He turns up the heat and puts the fan on 'High.'

DILAURIA

The engine's still cold, you know.
That makes it worse.

WILSON

Just give it a minute... Guy's in
there gettin' loaded. That's what
I'd be doing if I weren't here
babysitting.

DiLauria considers this. She reaches into her purse and pulls out a small bottle of peppermint Schnapps.

WILSON (CONT'D)

You're shittin' me.

DILAURIA

Every Christmas Eve...

She opens the bottle and takes a sip, then hands it to Wilson.

DILAURIA (CONT'D)

Happy holidays.

WILSON

Same to you.

DiLauria winces, unsure of his remark while Wilson sips.

DILAURIA

Somehow, that doesn't sound quite
as nice.

Wilson grins archly. DiLauria grins and they share the bottle.

INT. LATHAM'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Latham and Fiona cuddle on the couch, watching "MAN from INTERPOL" on NBC. But Latham is abstracted.

FIONA

You want to change the channel?

LATHAM

Huh? No, that's fine.

FIONA

What are you thinking about?

He shrugs off the question. Fiona looks at him entreatingly.

FIONA (CONT'D)

Tell me. What?

LATHAM

I'm supposed to tell D-Int Monday what it is about communism that makes Blacks want to live in Moscow.

FIONA

(warily)

You mentioned that before. Was that why you asked me about my family?

LATHAM

No... This is about Stevens and his damn epiphany. The whole idea now just seems so simple-minded.

FIONA

Is your - I don't know - crisis of conscience because of me?

LATHAM

Partly. But this has always bothered me, honestly.

FIONA

Hmm... Mr. Jones told me how you'd integrated Domestic Ops, despite opposition from your masters.

Latham shrugs off the compliment.

FIONA (CONT'D)

What, it's something to be proud of.

LATHAM

(dourly)

Makes me sound self-conceited.

FIONA

That's not the way I meant it, and you know it.

LATHAM

I'm sorry, hon. I don't wanna fight.

Fiona sits up and faces Latham.

FIONA

Then tell me - what is it?

LATHAM

(sighs, struggling)

It's just when I hear some of the cheap, moral rhetoric Whites use to defend the way they treat Blacks...

His frustration rising, Fiona presses her fingers to his lips.

FIONA

For what it's worth, I think Black people know more about Whites than Whites know about themselves... And I like what I know about you.

The harshness in Latham's face subsides. He kisses her hands.

LATHAM

You hungry?

FIONA

What, Joe and Nemo's? It's Christmas Eve.

LATHAM

No, this is special. Trust me.

He jumps up and goes into the Kitchenette. The refrigerator door opens and closes; the oven door SQUEAKS open and shut.

FIONA

What are you doing in there?

LATHAM (O.S.)

Heating it up.

Curious, Fiona gets up and goes into the...

KITCHENETTE

While Latham gets two plates, Fiona enters. She opens the oven door and peeks inside. She's thrilled.

FIONA

Fish and chips...

LATHAM

From this place on New York Ave.

Fiona wraps her arms around Latham. He hugs her warmly.

EXT. EAST BERLIN - NORMANNENSTRASSE - NIGHT

Stock footage of the 41 grim concrete buildings comprising the citadel that is the Ministry for State Security - the Stasi.

INT. STASI MEDICAL ROOM

Well-lit and windowless, with white walls and a sink in the corner. Gates lies motionless on an inclined hospital cot. The Doctor listens to Gates's heart through a stethoscope.

DOCTOR

Er ist tot.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "He's dead."

The Interrogator glares at the Doctor.

INTERROGATOR

Scheisse! Ich sagte dir vorsichtig sein, arschloch.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Shit! I told you to be careful, asshole."

DOCTOR

Es ist nicht meine schuld. Er hatte eine herzkrankeheit, die eine extreme reaktion auf die droge verursachte.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "It's not my fault. He had a heart condition that resulted in an extreme reaction to the drug."

INTERROGATOR

Idiot! Du solltest derjenige sein, der da daliegt.

INSERT TRANSLATION: "Idiot! You should be the one lying there."

The Doctor waves him off. Enraged, the Interrogator punches the Doctor in the face, knocking him to the floor.

EXT. 2430 E STREET, NW - COCKROACH ALLEY - DAY (MORNING)

CIA PERSONNEL flash their ID badges as they pass the Guard Shack and enter the compound through Gate #1.

INT. BERARD'S OFFICE

Berard, Kensington, Nealy and Latham are there.

LATHAM

Do we all think alike or love the same music or even the same women? So why do we look at Blacks as though they have this simplistic mind the communists can control?

NEALY

No one's saying that, Warren.

LATHAM

No? You asked me to find what we Whites were supposedly missing.

KENSINGTON

So? What's wrong with that? Gandhi's words led an entire nation.

LATHAM

They were all Indian and it was their country. They weren't brought there against their will in chains.

Kensington is embarrassed.

LATHAM (CONT'D)

We're being too easy on ourselves, forgiving our own trespasses.

KENSINGTON

Oh, for God sakes... What is it with you and all this sudden piety? We know our shortcomings! We don't-

BERARD

(interrupts)

Stewart... Listening to you now, Warren, I thought of my grandson; he's six. They really start to develop their own personality at that age. The other day he was telling me about his school, what he'd read and such. He told me how his teacher has them run around in the yard for recess, then call them back inside. Once they're at their desks, they have to fold their hands and act like good boys and girls, being very quiet until the teacher calls on them. That's how we treat 10% of the American people, gentlemen. We let them blow off some steam occasionally, then tell them to be good little children and stay quiet. That's my opinion, anyway.

This strikes a nerve in everyone.

NEALY

I think I've gotten my answer.

He stands, signaling an end to the meeting. Kensington and Latham follow, but Latham is anxious to speak.

LATHAM

I, um, read recently where the word 'Negro' was considered a polite way for liberals to say 'nigger.'

The others are loudly offended.

NEALY

I've never used that word.

KENSINGTON

Nor have I, Warren.

LATHAM

No, none of us would. But I think sometimes we hear the meaning we want to hear, and it's not always what Black people hear. So I'm not going to use that word again.

Latham leaves; the others are nonplussed.

EXT. WASHINGTON, D.C. - RENWICK GALLERY - DAY

Stock footage of this magnificent museum.

INT. GRAND SALON

Paintings, sculpture and decorative art overwhelm the eye. Latham and Gvozdev stroll. Gvozdev carries a bag tucked under one arm.

LATHAM

I thought you'd be busy with only three days before you have to leave.

GVOZDEV

That's why I asked to see you. I'm not going back.

LATHAM

I'm ready when you are.

GVOZDEV

No, Moscow has rescinded my recall.

LATHAM

Hm, how'd you manage that?

GVOZDEV

I didn't. The Central Committee felt a continuity of rezidentura would show resolve to your government.

LATHAM

I guess I underestimated Khrushchev.

GVOZDEV

Yes. Tell me, what do you know about Roger Gates, the United Press reporter?

LATHAM

Only that he'd been arrested. Why?

GVOZDEV

He's dead.

Latham is taken aback, then quickly hides his emotions.

GVOZDEV (CONT'D)

Apparently, he continued to deny he was a spy, right up to his death.

LATHAM

Maybe he wasn't one.

GVOZDEV

I know he wasn't; there never was an Alek. And if it were not for someone else who guessed this, and somehow grasped everything that was going on, I would not be here now. Though I wish it did not have to be at the expense of an innocent man. Here, this is for you, my friend.

He offers Latham the bag. Latham takes it and Gvozdev leaves. Latham opens the bag and pulls out a six-pack of Diet-Rite Cola. He smiles.

EXT. F STREET AND 11TH STREET, NW - COLUMBIA THEATER - NIGHT

Posters for the movie "Butterfield 8" are enclosed in glass frames near the box office. Patrons leave the theater, including Latham and Fiona. They pause once outside.

FIONA

Liz Taylor's really gorgeous.

LATHAM

Eh, not bad.

He arches an eyebrow and grins. At that moment A BLACK COUPLE among the exiting crowd walks past them.

The BLACK WOMAN glares at Fiona with contempt. Fiona is deeply hurt. Latham pulls her close to him.

LATHAM (CONT'D)
Come on, let's go home.

They walk away from the Black Couple, arms around each other.

END