

## Script Synopsis

### *Boston Commons*

At twenty-five years old Brit Johnathan VanPelt witnessed and reported a murder. When authorities were unable to catch the killer, he fled to America and made a life for himself in the city of Boston as Johnathan Pierce. As years passed, he got married, had a daughter, and became the principal of the high school which his daughter attended. After living in Boston for fifteen years, a police officer from Scotland Yard, named Victor Whittle, is sent to tell him that they caught the killer who has been arrested for a series of murders in which one of them was Johnathan's case. He also tells Johnathan that he must participate in his trial as a witness. Seeing as he loves his life in Boston, he will have to make a choice, and whichever one he chooses will come with serious consequences. What will Johnathan do when he's confronted with his past? What will happen to his relationship with his daughter? His life will change forever.

[Excerpt]

Boston Commons

By

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4/10/18

ACT ONE

EXT. LOGAN AIRPORT - MID DAY - (PRESENT DAY)

It's a cold December day and snow his falling and hitting the ground hard. Amidst the snow, we see the skyline of the city of Boston, Massachusetts. A close-up shot of a sign for the Logan Airport. Cut to a close up shot of two glass double doors opening up.

A man wearing a long A suit covered by a long black trench coat and a short beanie exits the double doors and steps onto a sidewalk that leads out to the street. We see the snow fall in front of his face as if he's a spirit floating amongst the snow. He is Victor Whittle, a 42 year old man from London, England working on a case for Scotland Yard.

A black Mercedes pulls up in front of the airport. A man exits the driver's seat and comes around to greet Victor.

DRIVER

Hello Mr. Victor, my name is Sergei. I'll be your driver and head of security during your stay here in Boston. {He says in some sort of Eastern European Accent.}

VICTOR

Thank you Sergei. I appreciate your cooperation on this case.

SERGEI

Of course Mr. Victor. This is my job and I have a duty to obey by the law. May I take your luggage?

VICTOR

Yes, I'd appreciate that very much.

Sergei takes most of Victor's luggage except his brown, leather briefcase which he is clutching in his right fist. Sergei puts the luggage in the trunk as Victor steps into the Mercedes. He puts his briefcase on the floor and puts his seatbelt on. You can hear the trunk of the car shut. Sergei comes back to the driver's seat and turns on the engine. The car drives away from the airport.

EXT. SCHOOL - LONDON ENGLAND - MID DAY - (TWENTY SIX YEARS EARLIER)

There's a grey, painted brick wall on the side of the school. We see a hand with a spray can adding a last splash of paint. We zoom out to see a young boy around fifteen years old standing in front of the wall. He is Johnathan VanPelt, our main character, many years before our story really starts. Later in the story his last name will change. By the end, it will become clear why this change has occurred. He has written "FUCK THE SYSTEM. DISRESPECT AUTHORITY." in red paint along with using other colors to make some abstract designs in order to create a mural. He slowly backs away from the wall to admire his work. We see a hand placed on Johnathan's right shoulder.

HEADMASTER THORNE

Well, well, If it isn't the little anarchist Johnny VanPelt.

The camera pans up to see a older man in a grey, tweed suit with a red tie. He is Headmaster Thorne who is the principal of Johnathan's school.

## HEADMASTER THORNE

I have had it up to here with your shenanigans. You better come with me right now or the consequences will be even more severe.

Johnathan has a look of guilt on his face. He sighs. The two of them walk together back into the school.

INT. Boston Museum of Art - MID DAY - (PRESENT DAY)

A painting called "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" by Grant Wood is facing the camera. The camera flips around to see Johnathan looking into the camera as if he's looking at the painting. At this time he is forty years old. We see a group of teenagers behind him with a tour guide.

## TOUR GUIDE

In this room, all the paintings are by the artist Grant Wood who lived from 1891 till 1942. He is most known for his painting American Gothic which you can see we have over there in the right corner. However...

Her voice muffles to the background and the scene focuses back to Johnathan.

INT. BLACK MERCEDES - MID DAY - (PRESENT DAY)

Victor Whittle is sitting in the back passenger's side of the Mercedes, looking out the window, thinking. He turns his head to meet Sergei's gaze in the mirror.

## VICTOR

Where are you from Sergei?

SERGEI

I am from Europe Mr. Victor. Naturally.

VICTOR

Yes I know but what country specifically?

SERGEI

It is part of policy Mr. Victor that I do not divulge that sort of information to you unless part of the mission, where in this case it is not.

VICTOR

Otherwise what? You'd have to kill me?

SERGEI

That is protocol but I'm a lover not fighter.

VICTOR

Let me ask you this Sergei, do you have a family?

SERGEI

Yes I do.

VICTOR

Would you consider yourself a family man?

SERGEI

I would do anything for my family Mr. Victor. Even if it means risking my own life.

VICTOR

Good. It's an important quality to have. Especially on this mission.

Victor places his briefcase on his lap and pulls out a file. He opens it and the camera shows it's Johnathan VanPelt's file. Victor starts to read the file.

INT. HEADMASTER THORNE'S OFFICE - LONDON ENGLAND - MID DAY - (TWENTY SIX YEARS EARLIER)

Headmaster Thorne's office is a very clean and educational looking room given the fact that this is a prestigious prep school. It is a room at the end of the hall on the top floor of the building. It has two windows with red and green plaid curtains. He has a brown leather chair behind his dark mahogany desk. The office is covered with rich red carpeting. In the center of the room are four more brown leather chairs and a glass circle table. Thorne and Johnathan are sitting diagonal to each other in two of the leather chairs in the center of the room.

HEADMASTER THORNE

So just to recap, you've released the frogs in your biology class, you've skipped three classes within the past month, and now this? You use to smile when walking through the hallways. Now, it looks like school has sucked out your soul. What happened?

JOHNATHAN

Everything I thought I knew was a lie. When people grow older they think they can control those who are younger. Just because someone is an adult doesn't mean they know everything. It doesn't mean they always make the best decisions. So that's why I am against "The Man". Just because you tell us what do doesn't mean that you're right. It doesn't mean we'll listen.