

TRAITORS FROM INSIDE OUT

Written by

Julie Tosh

Based on the novel by

M.M. Justine

IN BLACK:

An owl HOOTS.

FADE IN:

EXT. WOODLAND CEMETERY - ENSKEDEDALEN, SWEDEN - DAY

Mid-March snow blankets the landscape except where-

Twelve MOURNERS shiver in a circle around two dark holes in the ground above which rest two coffins, each embossed with a deep golden cross.

Among the mourners, two blonde heads lean toward one another. One belongs to SEBASTIAN STRÖMSTEDT (36), a sombre gentleman and son of the deceased. The other is his sister MARTINA STRÖMSTEDT EDGREN (33), her beauty and professional bearing only enhanced by the sorrow etching her features as she watches her parents laid to rest.

PRIEST (O.S.)

Let us pray.

As the PRIEST drones on, Martina lowers her head and pushes back tears, thinking of MAMMA and PAPPA, as she squeezes her eyes shut.

Her mind FLASHES to their car, SCREECHING as it slides off the icy highway and tumbles end over end.

Martina flinches and blinks her eyes open.

MOURNERS

Amen.

MARTINA

(a whisper)

Amen.

The FLAPPING of Martina's dark coat drowns out the SINGING that follows.

PAPPA (V.O.)

Remember, Martina, to find the other half of the formula. If anything happens to me... find the missing half.

MARTINA

Oh, Pappa.

A movement in the distance catches Martina's eye, and she spots a GREY FIGURE lurking behind the trees.

She tugs on Sebastian's dark coat sleeve.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
Sebastian, who is there?

SEBASTIAN
Where, Martina?

Martina turns to her brother, noticing the other mourners are moving away, then she points.

MARTINA
In the trees.

Sebastian gives her a puzzled look, but Martina can already see the grey figure is gone.

The pair turns and follows the other mourners who head into a-

EXT. CHAPEL - SAME

It's a simple dome, a pale grey under the hovering clouds.

INT. CHAPEL - SAME

Lamps on the walls and domed ceiling illuminate four rows of fine wooden benches.

Brass candlesticks glow on the altar table, and the raised pulpit is adorned with thousands of colourful flowers.

The mourners now mingle in the reception area, holding coffee cups or small sandwiches as they murmur in small groups.

Martina nibbles at a sandwich as she observes the assembly.

Her eyes widen when she sees the grey figure again, this time clearly a man in a grey designer suit who holds his hat in his hands as he works his way through the small crowd, his expression of disinterest suggesting he is not here to mourn.

He stops at Martina's UNCLE STELLAN STRÖMSTEDT, her father's brother. Uncle Stellan barely nods before stalking away.

One of Martina's eyebrows goes up as the man now approaches her. He's good-looking, with his sleek dark hair and chiselled jaw. Martina doesn't recognize him, but he is DR. STEVEN RANGOR (50), an American known to her father.

Martina remains cool as he joins her.

RANGOR
Dr. Martina Strömstedt?

MARTINA
Strömstedt Edgren.

RANGOR
I'm sorry for your loss.

MARTINA
Are we acquainted?

RANGOR
I'm Dr. Steven Rangor.

Martina stiffens as Rangor continues.

RANGOR (CONT'D)
The death of Dr. Peter Strömstedt
has robbed the international
community of a brilliant scientist.
Sad his company is without a
natural successor. It's bound to
fade into obscurity.

MARTINA
That's enough. You should leave.

Martina's firm tone cuts through the room like a knife,
silencing the other mourners.

Rangor's grey eyes bore into Martina's.

SEBASTIAN (O.S.)
Martina?

Martina turns just as Sebastian leans forward to whisper in
her ear.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
It's the hospital.

MARTINA
Joachim? Is he alright?

He grabs her hand.

SEBASTIAN
Another cardiac arrest.

Martina gasps.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

You weren't answering your phone so
they called me. We must leave.

Nodding, Martina hustles out of the room with Sebastian giving no backward glance toward Dr. Steven Rangor.

INT. ICU - STOCKHOLM SOUTH GENERAL HOSPITAL - NIGHT

The ward is still, sterile, and functional, with BEEPING machinery everywhere.

Martina and Sebastian stand outside the glass and observe JOACHIM STRÖMSTEDT EDGREN (5), usually blonde and bright-eyed but now overshadowed by the many needles, tubes, and monitors that surround him. A ventilator covers a good part of his face.

THOMAS (O.S.)

Martina.

Martina turns and envelopes THOMAS EDGREN (40), her tall and slender ex-husband, in an embrace. He closes his eyes, soaking in the contact.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

I thought he was improving.

MARTINA

He was.

She releases him and stares into Thomas' eyes, the anguish on her face evident.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

They managed to revive his heart.
There's no internal bleeding. He's
in an induced coma while they watch
for brain swelling.

Choking up, she turns to stare at Joachim while she pulls herself together.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

Our baby boy.

THOMAS

You're shivering.

Thomas pulls off his black leather jacket and places it around her shoulders.

His eyes go to Sebastian's, and the pair nods a civil hello.

SEBASTIAN

I'm glad you came.

THOMAS

I took the next flight out after you called. How long will he be in the coma?

SEBASTIAN

That depends.

MARTINA

It could be three or four days.

Both men return their attention to Martina.

THOMAS

You've come from the funeral?

Martina nods and returns her attention to her sick little boy.

MARTINA

We're so lucky the accident didn't take him, too.

THOMAS

I thought he was dead when Sebastian called.

MARTINA

Not Joachim. He's a fighter.

THOMAS

How long can you be here?

MARTINA

For a few days. I need to show up at Althonat Tower eventually, reassure everyone that we will move forward.

THOMAS

I'll keep watch over Joachim.

For a moment Martina looks like she might argue, or cry. Then she nods her thanks.

EXT. ALTHONAT TOWER - DAY

It's a huge, 20-storied office building in curved steel, concrete, and glass, which dominates the skyline in central Stockholm. The words "ALTHONAT TOWER" gleam discretely in steel over the glass front doors.

INT. FRONT ENTRY - ALTHONAT TOWER - SAME

Martina's heels CLICK on the sparkling floor as she heads for the elevators in the white stone lobby.

Behind a white stone desk, two FRONT DESK SUPERVISORS in immaculate black suit jackets and white shirts smile pleasantly at her as she passes.

INT. ATRIUM - ALTHONAT TOWER - LATER

Martina stands at the podium, headed bowed, as are the thousands of heads of the gathered EMPLOYEES and BOARD MEMBERS of Althonat.

MARTINA (V.O.)

Let's take a minute's silence.

Taking a steadying breath, Martina raises her head.

MARTINA

Thank you. As your new CEO, I plan to continue the fine work of my father, including his initiative to have Rensblad ready for the marketplace before the end of the fiscal year. I look forward to working with all of you to see that happen.

Given the circumstances, the APPLAUSE is restrained but hearty.

A FEW MOMENTS LATER

As the assembly disperses, Martina shakes hands with Chairman of the Board, OLOF OLAUSSON.

OLOF

Nice to have you back, Martina.

MARTINA

Thank you, Olof.

OLOF

The board meeting is still set for tomorrow.

MARTINA

I'll be ready.

OLOF

Glad to hear it.

He moves off but Martina is stopped by Senior Researcher LEILA EKLUND, dressed today in a tight shirt, short skirt, and skyscraper heels.

LEILA

I'm so sorry for your loss.

Martina is caught off-guard by Leila's outfit.

MARTINA

Thank you, Leila.

LEILA

If you need anything... anything at all, please don't hesitate to ask.

MARTINA

I'll remember that.

Martina quickly moves on.

INT. OFFICE OF THE CEO - ALTHONAT TOWER - DAY

It's a large room, decorated in warm colours. A maroon leather sofa set frames one half while books in red leather bindings fill bookcases on one wall. Works of art fill the other walls, all done by the same Swedish artist.

Martina sits at the impressive desk and fingers a black Omas Marte fountain pen.

She looks over at a photo on the wall of her and Sebastian at ten and thirteen each holding an array of medicinal plants at the family farm, which we will learn later is Hässelved farm. Pappa kneels before them and holds up another plant specimen.

PAPPA (V.O.)

Our medicine cabinet is in our backyard.

At first Martina smiles at the memory, but then despair fills her, and her eyes flood with tears.

A KNOCK at the door pulls her attention back to business.

Martina's personal assistant PIA PALM, a sharp dresser like her boss, enters briskly and pulls the door closed behind her.

PIA

I'm sorry for intruding but a Dr. Steven Rangor is here to see you.

Martina frowns.

MARTINA

I can't see him today. I'm going to the hospital.

PIA

He's been coming every day. He says it's important.

MARTINA

Okay. Show him in.

Pia turns back for the door but Martina's words stop her.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

And please see that the research department is updated on the dress code.

PIA

You ran into Leila.

MARTINA

I did. She needs to keep the focus on her job, not her attire.

PIA

I'll take care of it.

MARTINA

Thank you, Pia. Please show Dr. Rangor in.

Pia nods and opens the door. Rangor walks right in and stops, arms akimbo.

Martina moves to meet him and shakes his hand.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

Good afternoon, Mr.-

RANGOR

Dr. Steven Rangor.

MARTINA

Please sit down.

She waves to the chairs by her desk and not the sofa. Rangor smiles smugly and remains standing as he studies the artworks around him.

RANGOR

Exquisite pieces. The artist captured the essence of each subject.

Martina sits down and crosses her legs before leaning back in her chair.

MARTINA

He's a local artist from southern Sweden. What can I do for you, Mr.-

RANGOR

It's doctor. I worked for your father in New York. Before he passed on, he appointed me to assist with engineering the new natural booster, Bontanik herbier.

Martina's eyes gleam as she studies Rangor. She knows this is a lie.

He approaches her desk.

RANGOR (CONT'D)

Did I offend you in some way?

MARTINA

Why did you attend the funeral?

RANGOR

(surprised)

To pay my last respects to a friend, a man of vision. Was that wrong?

Martina senses this is a lie as well.

MARTINA

Are you saying you seek employment at Althonat?

RANGOR

No. I work on a consultant basis.

His eyes go to a photo of Joachim on Martina's desk. She turns it in her direction.

MARTINA

Dr. Rangor, I don't know who you are, but I doubt my father made such an offer to you.

She lets this settle in, then-

MARTINA (CONT'D)

If he did, I'm not obliged to honour it.

Martina stands, eyes blazing.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

Get out.

RANGOR

But-

Martina raises a hand.

MARTINA

I've nothing to discuss with you. Not now, or in the future. Good day.

Martina maintains her ramrod straight posture as Rangor stares at her in disbelief. Then he bows his head and strides out of the door.

Martina waits a beat and then picks up her phone.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

(into phone)

Pia, please get me a background check on Dr. Steven Rangor. And have Torsten check that he exits the building.

INT. FRONT ENTRY - ALTHONAT TOWER - LATER

Martina heels CLICK as she exits.

TORSTEN (O.S.)

Hold up, Martina.

Martina turns and smiles at her Security Director TORSTEN WIDSTAM.

TORSTEN (CONT'D)

You're headed back to the hospital.

MARTINA
Yes, Joachim's still in a coma.

TORSTEN
He's young and strong. He'll beat this.

Martina's face almost crumbles at the kind words.

TORSTEN (CONT'D)
I got your order for the background check. Rangor tried to take the stairs but my men helped him find the elevator, and the way out.

Martina's not surprised.

MARTINA
Turn him away if he tries to come back.

TORSTEN
Will do.

MARTINA
Check our resources in the States. He's American.

TORSTEN
I'll see what I can do.

INT. ICU - STOCKHOLM SOUTH GENERAL HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Martina sits at Joachim's side, watching him breathe. His ventilator has been removed, and his colour is better.

She returns her attention to the book in her hands, *Otto and hideous fly*, and opens to a marked page.

MARTINA
(reading)
"Otto saw a big fly on Joppa's head. Now everything is spoiled. It's rubbing its back tentacles against each other. It's about to attack."

JOACHIM (O.S.)
(raspy)
No, Mamma, it was a big black van that attacked.

Joachim opens his eyes and trains them on Martina who watches him in wonder. She kisses him on the cheek.

MARTINA

Oh, Joachim, you're back!

Tears spill down her cheeks. She squeezes his hand.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

I must ring the nurse.

She presses a button.

JOACHIM

Where are we?

MARTINA

You're in hospital. There was an accident.

JOACHIM

The big black van.

MARTINA

What big black van?

The NURSE bustles into the room.

NURSE

Why, he's awake.

Martina beams at the nurse while Joachim blinks at her shyly.

NURSE (CONT'D)

It looks like somebody is pulling through.

She smiles at Joachim, reassuring him.

INT. OFFICE OF THE CEO - ALTHONAT TOWER - DAY

Martina sifts through the background check as Torsten sits across from her.

MARTINA

(reading)

Owns Medical Solutions Consultancy,
New York.

TORSTEN

Your father hired him to assist with analysis of the first natural boosters before they hit the market.

Martina doesn't look impressed.

MARTINA

But he hasn't used him since.
(reading)
Two divorces, though information on the second is scanty.

TORSTEN

His ex-wife died under mysterious circumstances a few years after the divorce.

Martina nods, not surprised. She flips through the pages.

MARTINA

Where was he before he turned up here?

TORSTEN

I couldn't find anything on the previous three years.

MARTINA

Keep digging. I have a feeling he's not done hanging around.

I/E. SLOTTSVILLE HOUSE - LIDINGÖ, SWEDEN - DAY

This is Martina's home north of Stockholm and currently is surrounded by a blanket of snow, which is a soft white since the sun is already below the line of the trees.

In the driveway Thomas and Martina help Joachim from her red Mercedes coupe as the front door opens.

The housekeeper ASTRID holds her arms open as Joachim rushes towards her.

ASTRID

Welcome home, Joachim.

She grabs him in a hug then nods to Thomas.

ASTRID (CONT'D)

Good afternoon, Mr. Edgren.

MARTINA

Astrid, take Joachim inside out of this cold.

ASTRID

Of course, Martina.

As the pair disappears inside, Martina turns to Thomas.

MARTINA

Will you stay for tea? Or rather coffee?

Thomas holds out his arm so Martina can take it.

THOMAS

Come, the steps look icy.

INT. GREAT ROOM - SLOTTSVILLE HOUSE - LATER

Chesterfield armchairs encircle a contemporary stone mantel fireplace. Martina and Thomas are already there with the tea tray before them.

Martina sips herbal tea while Thomas has coffee.

THOMAS

I want Joachim to come stay with me in London.

MARTINA

(shocked)

Is this about custody?

THOMAS

He will be safer with me.

Martina takes a breath.

MARTINA

Joachim stays here with me.

THOMAS

Martina, we almost lost him.

MARTINA

And it's my fault?

THOMAS

I didn't say that.

He studies her, bathed in the glow of the late afternoon sun.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
 Move Althonat Headquarters to
 London. Come live there with
 Joachim.

Martina arches a brow.

MARTINA
 Trying to run my life again? That's
 why I divorced you.

THOMAS
 Martina, re-marry me.

Martina almost laughs until she sees the serious look of
 longing on Thomas' face.

Then his face falls at her expression.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
 Sorry. Bad timing.

MARTINA
 Joachim can visit you whenever you
 like. That's what we agreed on. Are
 you hungry?

THOMAS
 No, I think I'll pass on dinner.

He places his cup down on the tray.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
 I'd better get going.

Seeing his hurt expression, Martina softens.

MARTINA
 Astrid is taking Joachim to
 Landegrind House tomorrow. He'll be
 safe there.

THOMAS
 Good. I'll just find him to say
 goodbye.

Thomas kisses Martina on the cheek then strides away.
 Martina's shoulders relax as he goes.

EXT. RED MERCEDES / EXT. LANDEGRIND HOUSE - VÄDDÖ - DAY

Martina's car navigates the gravel driveway leading up to a
 red storied mansion which appears between the trees.

She pulls into the drive next to Sebastian's Lexus LS.

INT. LIVING AREA - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - LATER

Martina sits in one of a three off-white shell armchairs and contemplates the blazing fire before her.

SEBASTIAN (O.S.)

There you are. Did you see Joachim?

MARTINA

He's in the kitchen with Astrid.

SEBASTIAN

I didn't expect you so soon.

He joins her in one of the chairs.

MARTINA

I finished the thank you notes I was writing.

SEBASTIAN

A small gesture but very important. What about the flowers?

MARTINA

I sent them to patients at Althonat Hospital.

SEBASTIAN

That was a lovely gesture.

Martina frowns.

MARTINA

Are you familiar with the name Steven Rangor?

Sebastian's face clouds.

SEBASTIAN

Dr. Steven Rangor?

MARTINA

You saw him at the funeral when you came to collect me.

SEBASTIAN

I was distracted. What did he want?

MARTINA

He said Pappa assigned him to work
on Botanik herbier.

Sebastian pales but his eyes are angry.

SEBASTIAN

You didn't believe him.

MARTINA

Of course not.

SEBASTIAN

He's an imposter. Don't go near
him.

MARTINA

He came near me.

SEBASTIAN

You're CEO. You need to be
vigilant.

MARTINA

Why are you so angry?

SEBASTIAN

You don't know what he did to
Pappa?

MARTINA

Pappa never talked much about it.
Besides, I just wanted to be sure
he was the man in question.

SEBASTIAN

Now you know, so be careful.

Astrid enters.

ASTRID

Dinner is ready.

Her eyes steady on Sebastian's glare, Martina nods.

MARTINA

Thank you, Astrid.

INT. MARTINA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Martina sits on the side of her bed in the dark, the phone
held to her ear.

MARTINA

(into phone)

Please, Ebba. I can't do anything now. Bring him to Althonat Hospital on Monday.

EBBA (V.O.)

(on phone)

It's been two weeks now. It seems something flares up in him, triggering a chain reaction of bizarre behaviour.

MARTINA

(into phone)

We'll do an evaluation.

EBBA (V.O.)

(on phone)

Patrick won't allow-

Martina hears a slam then a different voice comes on the line.

PATRICK (V.O.)

(on phone)

My son is no guinea pig; to hell with unscientific medicine.

He slams the phone down.

Martina sighs and lies back until she hears a-

TORMENTED WAIL!

Martina bolts upright.

MARTINA

I'm coming, Joachim!

INT. JOACHIM'S ROOM - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - SAME

Martina cuddles Joachim in her lap as he clings to her, his eyes squeezed shut.

MARTINA

I'm here. Mamma's here.

JOACHIM

The big black van.

He turns round frightened eyes on her.

MARTINA

What van?

JOACHIM

Like the one in the accident. I see
it in my sleep.

Martina looks surprised.

MARTINA

The police didn't mention a van.

JOACHIM

It was big and black.

Joachim yawns and rests his head against Martina's chest.

JOACHIM (CONT'D)

Will you stay with me?

MARTINA

Of course.

Joachim closes his eyes again, but Martina's thoughts are going a mile a minute as she lies back against the pillows to let Joachim sleep.

INT. STERILE OPERATING ROOM - DEVILUND CLINIC - NIGHT

A MOTHER has just given birth.

NURSE BIRGIT HALONEN pricks the finger of the EMACIATED NEWBORN to get a drop of blood which she places into a vial.

She places the baby on a metal table before DR. FRITZ GRENZKEN (64), who glares at it with cold eyes as he pokes its ribs and stomach, tests its joints.

The baby SHRIEKS all the while.

BIRGIT

Careful.

Grenzken ignores her.

RICHARD (O.S.)

I think she's dead.

Grenzken's assistant RICHARD leans over the lifeless body of the mother.

GRENZKEN
(eyes on the baby)
Prepare her for post mortem.

BIRGIT
The baby?

GRENZKEN
No, the woman.

Richard throws a sheet over the body.

BIRGIT
This baby isn't long for it either.

GRENZKEN
That's fine. We'll take a look at
them both in a few weeks.

He pulls off his gloves as he leaves the room.

BIRGIT (V.O.)
It's molting like a snake.

INT. STERILE OPERATING ROOM - THREE WEEKS LATER

Birgit holds the sheet she's just pulled from the body of the
now dead infant, repulsed at the sight of it.

Grenzken and Richard both mirror her distaste. Richard is
prepared to take notes while Grenzken handles the body
gingerly.

GRENZKEN
Transparent skin. Webbed feet.
Early aging on the face.

He turns to Birgit.

GRENZKEN (CONT'D)
How many injections did the mother
receive?

BIRGIT
Daily from conception.

Grenzken nods.

GRENZKEN (V.O.)
It's a ground breaking new vaccine,
targeting the DNA in a baby's
somatic cells.

INT. BOARD ROOM - VITTABY VILLA - DAY

GRENZKEN

A change in DNA sequence within the baby's genes resulted in a new character, a trait unlike the parental type.

Grenzken nervously sips from a water glass as he observes the reactions of the Group from a company called Citaraph. They include Rangor, Stellan, and four individuals we will come to know as CEO of Citaraph JACOB MATTSSON, government official FABIAN FRANZEN, Chief Inspector of Police TORD WIDSTAM, and a WOMAN.

MATTSSON

We know this is a controversial illicit vaccine trial in mother and child. Highly sensitive too, since the mother was a minor, but how come she got pregnant?

FABIAN

That's the big question. Offspring, normal or abnormal, were never the desired result.

GRENZKEN

We're still in the development stages of life-vaccine. Our ultimate goal is to crimp the uterus to the size of a pea.

TORD

May I ask the contents of the life-vaccine?

Grenzken hesitates.

TORD (CONT'D)

(barking)

Fritz, answer the question.

GRENZKEN

Well, it contains a portion of Rensblad, the wonder drug.

He nods to Stellan.

STELLAN

Wait a minute--Rensblad? I only had half the formula. It was never meant to be mixed with other substances.

GRENZKEN

Hold it and calm down. This is just in the development stages. In the end we might not use the Rensblad portion.

WOMAN

Once life-vaccine is perfected our target is to inoculate all females above age nine.

Silence falls around the table as the Group looks to each other for agreement.

Encouraged, Grenzken raises his water glass as if to make a toast.

MATTSSON

That won't be necessary, doctor. Let us know when life-vaccine is perfected.

With that, Mattsson sweeps from the room, quickly followed by the others.

INT. OFFICE OF THE CEO - ALTHONAT TOWER - DAY

The happy look on Martina's face sours as she reads an encrypted e-mail.

ON E-MAIL:

"To: CEO, Althonat
From: Scorpio

Life-vaccine is ready. It contains portion of Rensblad. Highly controversial but patented, and ready to roll on market. See effects in attachment."

MARTINA

(murmuring to herself)
They're using Rensblad component?
That's insane!

She clicks on the attachment.

ON IMAGE:

It's the crinkly, skinny newborn from Devilund Clinic, but the skin has turned reptilian and the dead eyes are dark green with minute pupils like pinholes.

Martina sucks in her breath at the sight.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

What the hell is wrong with these lunatics?

She picks up her phone but a KNOCK at the door has her replacing the receiver.

Chief of Research STEN LINDBLOM enters and approaches Martina's desk.

She quickly minimizes the image as he studies her ashen face.

STEN

Are you alright?

Martina disregards his concern.

MARTINA

You have the test results of the cell antidote?

STEN

We are in final stages of testing.

MARTINA

When is production due?

STEN

I'd say six months.

MARTINA

Make it three.

STEN

With the paperwork involved, licenses and all-

MARTINA

You have ample resources, Sten. Use them.

STEN

I'll see what I can do.

Martina comes around her desk and sits on the edge.

MARTINA

How is the analyses of life-vaccine coming?

STEN

The preliminary work is done.

MARTINA

Sit down. What did you find?

As Sten sits, Martina joins him in the adjoining chair.

STEN

It's odd they call it life-vaccine.
The ingredients include DNA of
cancer virus, even ground human
tissue.

Martina is shocked but she persists.

MARTINA

And Rensblad?

STEN

Yes, it contains traces of our
Rensblad formula.

MARTINA

This is Nazi science, condemning
people to death. How can they
license it?

STEN

It's already on the market, in
schools and hospitals, even on
foreign seas going global.

MARTINA

Speed up the work on the cell
antidote. Make the three months
one.

STEN

Impossible.

MARTINA

Put in overtime, night shifts, hire
extra personnel. This is the most
obnoxious, evil thing I have ever
seen.

STEN

It's a devil's brew under the guise
of a vaccine. It alters the DNA,
which could cause genetic changes
in humanity.

Martina grits her teeth in frustration.

MARTINA

We need to take this to the Board.

INT. BOARD ROOM - ALTHONAT TOWER - LATER

A pear-shaped glass table dominates the table with the BOARD already in place, including Olof, Torsten, and JONAS ENEROTH (38), the imposing and attractive Chief Medical Officer.

Martina and Sten enter as Olof stands to address the others. Martina makes brief eye contact with Jonas, and her lips turn up in a smile.

OLOF

Life-vaccine. It has been confirmed that a controversial life-vaccine is on the market. Tests trials were conducted on live, unknowing humans. Martina, please update us on the status of events.

Martina stands.

MARTINA

A clandestine group of people working under a firm called Citaraph is responsible for making the life-vaccine. They simply call themselves The Group.

OLOF

The question is, are we prepared to fight them?

TORSTEN

The government takes marginal interest, with no controls or safeguards in place.

Olof turns to Jonas.

OLOF

How are facilities at the hospital?

JONAS

We're prepared for an epidemic of life-vaccine-induced illnesses, especially in the children's ward.

MARTINA

All departments need to pool resources to combat this evil.

She glances once at Sten.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

We will have the antidote ready in a month.

Sten pales but doesn't refute this.

EXT. ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - JARNA, SWEDEN - DAY

A grey Saab pulls into the parking lot of the complex set of buildings, which include the hospital, a research center, laboratories, offices, and a manufacturing plant.

Martina gets out of the car.

A KNOCK.

INT. JONAS' OFFICE - ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - SAME

Martina, a bright smile on her face, strides into the room toward Jonas who works at his desk. He stands immediately.

JONAS

You look radiant.

He clasps her to him and they kiss. Then Jonas leads Martina to a white sofa set.

He caresses her knuckles as he studies her.

JONAS (CONT'D)

How are you?

MARTINA

Some good days, some bad.

JONAS

It's good you have some good days.

MARTINA

I keep thinking of the strangest things: Father's books, Joachim's socks Mother knitted for him, and Hässelved farm.

JONAS

What about Hässelved farm?

Martina shrugs.

MARTINA

The wrangle between Pappa and Carlsson in particular.

(MORE)

MARTINA (CONT'D)

I was young and don't remember many details, but Pappa sold the farm after that.

JONAS

Who was Carlsson?

MARTINA

He was our neighbour, a small farmer. He and Pappa had a common interest in natural alternative medicine.

JONAS

But why should you be thinking of all that?

MARTINA

Pappa was headed to Hässelved farm after he arrived from the States.

JONAS

To see Carlsson?

MARTINA

He's dead. He died shortly after my parents moved to the States.

JONAS

Could it be connected to your parents' accident?

MARTINA

Father told Sebastian that he was coming to Stockholm to take care of something that happened a long time ago in Hässelved.

She thinks a moment.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

He engineered Rensblad there.

This surprises Jonas.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

Father was driven out of Sweden for his published studies on alternative medicine. Pappa and Carlsson fell into an argument over this.

JONAS

So maybe he was more than a small farmer.

MARTINA

Yes, maybe.

Martina shakes off her grim mood.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

What are the results of Nicholas's evaluation?

JONAS

Shall we go see?

INT. PATIENT ROOM - ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - LATER

Their business demeanors back in place, Martina and Jonas watch NICHOLAS STRAND as he sleeps curled up in the fetal position.

JONAS

He's been sedated. He hadn't slept for days.

MARTINA

Have you reviewed his history of toxin exposure?

JONAS

Yes, your neighbour Ebba got him here just in time.

Jonas hesitates.

JONAS (CONT'D)

His father threatened to prosecute us if we continue treating him.

MARTINA

We can't treat him against his father's will. Patrick Strand is a difficult man. I've tried to bring him around.

JONAS

I'm expecting Ebba any time now.

MARTINA

She needs to stand up to her husband. Nicholas's life depends on it.

A HOWLING in the hallway grabs their attention.

INT. HALLWAY - ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - SAME

EBBA STRAND waves her hands as she runs toward Martina and Jonas, who have stepped into the hall.

EBBA
He's coming to take Nicholas away!
Please, stop him!

She comes to a halt before them, panting.

Then PATRICK STRAND appears in the hall, drunk and red-faced.

MARTINA
(to Jonas)
Call security.

Jonas steps to the phone as Patrick comes to a halt before Martina.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
Patrick, it's good of you to let us
treat Nicholas. He's a very sick
little boy.

PATRICK
Get out of my way. I'm taking him
home.

He rushes into Nicholas's room, followed by a crying Ebba, as two SECURITY GUARDS race toward Martina.

MARTINA
(to the guards)
He's drunk. If he's taking the boy,
just make sure he doesn't drive.

GUARD
Yes, ma'am.

Then the guards head into the room to handle Patrick.

I/E. GREY SAAB / EXT. ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - DAY

Martina puts on her seatbelt then notices the Strand family exiting the hospital with the security guards, one of whom pushes a slumped Nicholas in a wheelchair.

As she watches, the Strands get into a large black van, helped by a large man (this is HELMUT), who lifts Nicholas in his arms and places him inside before getting in the driver's seat.

Curious, Martina fires up her engine and follows the van out of the parking lot.

I/E. GREY SAAB / EXT. RIBBYBURG CLINIC - NIGHT

Martina has parked behind a thicket of bushes. She watches the large man unload Nicholas from the van and take him into the building, aided by a white-dressed NURSE who has come outside to help. Martina looks confused.

MARTINA

What are they doing at Uncle
Stellan's house?

She gets out of her car to walk around the outside of the building, staying under cover by the hedges.

EXT. RIBBYBURG CLINIC - SAME

Martina rounds the front corner of the house and her mouth falls open. Her uncle Stellan and Rangor are deep in conversation, which Martina can just make out.

STELLAN

What are you going to do with the
boy?

RANGOR

Treat him, of course.

STELLAN

Like a guinea pig?

RANGOR

You worry too much. We'll prepare
him for rigorous testing at
Devilund Clinic. Dr. Grenzken knows
how to further our cause.

He pauses to study the trees as he gathers his thoughts.

Concerned, Martina backs up then heads back for her car.

I/E. GREY SAAB - LATER

Martina is deep in thought as she drive away from the clinic.

A loud ENGINE ROAR grabs her attention.

She turns as the black van looms up beside her, then the Saab rocks as a BRICK SMASHES THROUGH THE WINDSCREEN!

Martina SCREAMS!

She slams on the brakes but nothing happens.

The Saab jerks to one side then pole-axes into a tree.

Inside the car, Martina's white knuckles grip the steering wheel as blood runs down both sides of her face, the agony of pain from her leg evident there.

INT. STERILE OPERATING ROOM - DEVILUND CLINIC - DAY

A prostitute ANNA lies inert on the table while Grenzken places an embryo inside her, which he collects from a Petri dish that Richard holds.

GRENZKEN

Now, hopefully, a successful pregnancy will come to be.

RICHARD

After all that life-vaccine? The embryo will never survive.

GRENZKEN

Life-vaccine is already incorporated in Anna's DNA. It will protect her against disease.

RICHARD

Her last Pap smear showed precancerous lesions. She didn't have those before she arrived.

GRENZKEN

She was a whore. They could have showed up anytime.

He pulls off his gloves.

GRENZKEN (CONT'D)

Keep an eye on her, will you?

Richard looks down at the already stick-thin patient as Grenzken heads out of the room.

Anna opens her eyes and blinks, then trains them on Richard.

ANNA
Please, let me go.

She sees from the look on Richard's face that he can't do that. Then she starts to sob.

INT. BECKOMBURG MENTAL HOSPITAL - DAY

It's several weeks later.

Martina, now on crutches, hobbles behind her cousin LISA until they come to a door and observe an old woman, Martina's AUNT INGRID, who is Lisa's mother and Stellan's ex-wife.

LISA
(a whisper)
Why is it so urgent that you must see Mamma today?

Martina gives her a grim smile and hobbles into the room.

INT. AUNT INGRID'S ROOM - BECKOMBURG MENTAL HOSPITAL - SAME

Martina holds Aunt Ingrid's hand as she leans forward.

MARTINA
I was in Ribbyburg the other day.

A flicker of joy lights Aunt Ingrid's eyes.

AUNT INGRID
Ribbyburg! Are we going there?

MARTINA
Not today. Can you tell me who bought the place after you and Stellan divorced?

AUNT INGRID
It was never sold.

She watches Martina warily, then bites her lip like she's trying to remember something.

AUNT INGRID (CONT'D)
We lost so much when Stellan's biochemical company went bankrupt. That was when Stellan went to see your father Peter in the States. They had a big falling out.

But then Aunt Ingrid brightens.

AUNT INGRID (CONT'D)

I remember. To save Ribbyburg we transferred the title deed to Lisa, though she was still a minor.

Lisa knows this but Martina can tell neither mother or daughter know what's happened to the place now.

AUNT INGRID (CONT'D)

Your father had a dossier on Stellan and his friends. Stellan says he threatened to hand it over tot he police should anything happen to him.

MARTINA

Should anything happen to him? What was in it?

Aunt Ingrid shrugs.

AUNT INGRID

Stellan met an American in the States who offered to help him.

MARTINA

Rangor.

AUNT INGRID

That sounds right.

LISA

Father had me sign papers he said were insurance documents, but later I found out I had signed a title deed transferring Ribbyburg back to him.

Martina nods, this makes sense.

MARTINA

Ingrid, do you remember a man called Carlsson, in Hässelved?

AUNT INGRID

The farmer?

MARTINA

Yes. He had a row with Father and Stellan.

A NURSE comes in with Aunt Ingrid's dinner and her eyes glaze over.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

What was it about?

Aunt Ingrid purses her lips together, ignoring her.

Lisa's touches Martina's arm.

LISA

She's tired. Leave her alone.

Lisa nudged Martina's arm with her elbow..

AUNT INGRID

Carlsson was the best local
herbalist in southern Sweden.

MARTINA

Herbalist?

AUNT INGRID

He died of alcoholism shortly after
your parents moved.

She picks up her fork.

MARTINA

And the row... what was it about?

AUNT INGRID

Such tasty food they have here.

Aunt Ingrid turns her attention to her dinner. The interview
is over.

INT. DINING ROOM - SLOTTSVILLE HOUSE - NIGHT

Martina finds Thomas and Joachim having pancakes for dinner.
She kisses Joachim on the head as she studies Thomas.

Joachim holds up his mostly empty plate.

JOACHIM

I'm going to get more.

Martina laughs.

MARTINA

Good idea. Ask Astrid to bring me
some, too, please.

After Joachim is gone, she turns to Thomas.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
I told you I was fine.

THOMAS
I wanted to be here for you and
Joachim.

MARTINA
You're a good father.

THOMAS
I've asked for a transfer back to
Stockholm. I miss my son.

The look in his eyes says he misses more than that.

MARTINA
Thomas, are you doing this because
you hope...

THOMAS
I can't hide the fact that I'm
still in love with you.

MARTINA
It would be wrong of me to raise
your hopes, but for Joachim's sake,
I am glad you are returning.

Thomas's heart aches a little at this, but he decides to let
the matter go for now.

THOMAS
Chief Inspector Tord Stenbeck
called. They want to hypnotize
Joachim to ask him questions about
the accident.

MARTINA
No.

THOMAS
I already told him that.

MARTINA
That detective. He's already closed
the investigation into my accident.

THOMAS
What? A brick came through your
window.

MARTINA

Yes, and I had the car checked.
Someone cut the brake lines.

EXT. VERANDA - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - NIGHT

Although it's night, the gardens are in full bloom and send a heavenly scent into the air. MUSIC plays softly, adding to the ambience.

Martina, now without the cast, entertains GUESTS. These include Jonas, Torsten, Olof, and other members of the board at a large rectangular table that's been set with white dinner plates and several candelabra.

They laugh and murmur amongst themselves in the warm July night.

The music changes to the Salsa.

Jonas and Martina look at one another, a flash of heat between them.

JONAS

Do we dare?

He stands and takes Martina's hand.

JONAS (CONT'D)

What of your leg?

MARTINA

It's been weeks.

Smiling, Jonas pulls Martina to her feet then over to the side.

He places his hand on her back. She places her hand on his shoulder, then they start moving, gazing into one another's eyes as the syncopation of the Salsa takes them.

As they dip and sway, the rest of the party stops talking to observe the dance until it throbs to a climax.

Jonas whispers in Martina's ear.

JONAS

You're sensational.

Then Martina and Jonas turn to their admirers and bow as the others APPLAUD.

GUESTS

More, more!

Jonas eyes Martina, then they both laugh.

MARTINA

I'm going to make coffee.

Jonas watches Martina's natural sway as she heads off into the kitchen.

The music changes to an African beat and others get up to dance.

I/E. KITCHEN - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - SAME

While the coffee brews, Martina watches the dancing outside, but her attention is taken by a frail figure who passes by the dancers and heads into the house. It's Ebba.

INT. KITCHEN - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - SAME

EBBA

I need you to keep these.

She shoves a brown envelope at Martina.

EBBA (CONT'D)

(choking on the words)

Patrick sold Nicholas to Ribbyburg Clinic. It's all there. Names, phone numbers, addresses.

MARTINA

What? This is preposterous!

EBBA

Please, Martina. Patrick is hounding me. Keep these papers for a few days.

MARTINA

This is a matter for the police.

EBBA

Just for a few days until I get myself settled. I'm divorcing Patrick, and we're selling the house.

MARTINA

You'll need a good lawyer.

Ebba nods.

EBBA
Thank you, Martina.

Then she disappears out the door.

Martina thinks a moment then heads further into the house.

INT. PARENTS' ROOM - LINDEGRIND HOUSE - SAME

Martina stands at the open safe and pulls out a white folder she finds there. She glances through it and sees the name "Stellan Strömstedt" several times and a picture of Hasselved Farm.

Curious, Martina puts the papers in the bedside table and then locks up Ebba's brown envelope.

INT. EXAMINATION ROOM - ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - DAY

While Martina watches, Jonas finishes his examination of EMILIA (17). Emilia's mother VENDELA stands by her side.

Jonas glances at Martina before speaking.

JONAS
Tests confirmed Emilia's ovaries have shut down, and she's totally and irrevocably infertile.

VENDELA
What are you saying?

MARTINA
We call it premature ovarian failure.

VENDELA
You mean she will never have children?

MARTINA
No, I am so sorry.

Emilia and Vendela begin to cry.

VENDELA
I encouraged her to take that life-vaccine. I pushed her into this misery. They said it would protect her from disease.

MARTINA

It's heartbreaking news, but Emilia is still young and medical science is advancing.

VENDELA

Are you sure life-vaccine did this.

JONAS

We've ruled out all other possible causes. The circumstantial evidence implicating life-vaccine is strong.

MARTINA

The therapist will be in to reestablish Emilia's energy flow.

The pairs nod, but Martina and Jonas can see it's time to leave them alone.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - SAME

As they walk away from the sad scene, Martina checks her watch.

MARTINA

I have to go.

JONAS

I thought we were on tonight for dinner, dancing,...

He leans forward, his eyes now dancing.

JONAS (CONT'D)

Maybe a little love.

MARTINA

I can't I've got to take Joachim to a football match.

JONAS

Well then, can I entice you into a secret getaway over the weekend?

MARTINA

Not possible. Thomas is coming to get Joachim then I have a backlog of work.

JONAS

Really. Work. Oh yes, and Thomas.
What does that mean for our
relationship?

MARTINA

(suddenly irritated)
It means nothing. Get it? Nothing.

She slings her coat over her shoulder and walks away, leaving him open-mouthed.

IN A SERIES OF HEADLINES IN THE ALTHONAT NEWSPAPER:

--"Life-vaccine a killer!"

--"Cases of sterility on the rise since introduction of life-vaccine"

--"Those inoculated with life-vaccine should visit Althonat Hospital for immediate evaluation"

--"Antidote holds promise for those inoculated with life-vaccine"

INT. OFFICE OF THE CEO - ALTHONAT TOWER - DAY

Martina looks through the white envelope she found in her parents' bedroom.

She finds a bill of sale indicating that Stellan sold the Rensblad half-formula to Rangor. Then another bill of sale shows that Rangor sold it to Citagraph.

The phone RINGS.

EBBA'S MOTHER (V.O.)

(on phone)

Martina? Thank god. This is Greta Larsson, Ebba Strand's mother.

MARTINA

(into phone)

Yes, Mrs. Larsson, how are you?

EBBA'S MOTHER (V.O.)

(on phone)

I'm sorry to inform you that Ebba died in a car accident. A hit and run. By a van.

MARTINA

Oh Lord...

Martina's mouth goes dry as she listens to Ebba's mother share the details.

EXT. LANDEGRIND HOUSE - COUNTRY HOME - DAY

Martina steps out of her red Mercedes, eying the crowd of NEIGHBOURS that has gathered outside the front of the house.

Then she sees the broken glass that is all that is left of the main plate glass doors.

An ELDERLY NEIGHBOUR walks over.

ELDERLY NEIGHBOUR

I heard the security alarm around dawn. I hurried over and saw two masked men fleeing the scene. They were in their car before I could stop them.

MARTINA

Did you see the car?

ELDERLY NEIGHBOUR

Not well. They hid it beyond the trees.

MARTINA

Thanks, William.

As Martina nods, Lisa speeds up in her car and gets out.

LISA

I got your call.

Then the police pull in.

MARTINA

I guess we better take a look inside.

INT. ENTRY - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - SAME

It looks like a hurricane swept through the place.

Two POLICE OFFICERS lead Martina and Lisa inside.

LISA

My, who would do this?

Tears come to her eyes.

POLICE OFFICER
Ladies, let us first check what's
missing, then you can start
cleaning.

Martina and Lisa are too taken with the damage to do more
than nod.

As soon as the officers are gone, Martina turns to Lisa.

MARTINA
Wait here. I need to check
something.

And she heads for the stairs.

INT. PARENTS' ROOM - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - SAME

The room is also in shambles.

Martina stands before the safe as she pulls the door open.
Ebba's brown envelope is still there.

She checks the contents and finds a photo.

ON PHOTO:

It's Nicholas at Ribbyburg Clinic, flanked by Rangor and
Stellan. Beside them is Chief Inspector Tord Stenbeck.

Martina grimaces in disgust.

LISA (O.S.)
Oh God, what happened here?

Martina jumps at the intrusion then looks almost guilty that
Lisa caught her.

LISA (CONT'D)
What're you doing?

She walks over and looks at the photo.

LISA (CONT'D)
Ugh, Tord Stenbeck. I'm so glad
mother didn't marry him.

MARTINA
Your mother dated the Chief of
Police?

LISA

After the divorce. He makes my skin
crawl.

Martina thinks over this new wrinkle as she puts the picture
back in the envelope before locking it back inside the safe.

INT. BEDROOM - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - DAY

Morning sunshine leaks in the windows as Martina works to put
the trashed room to rights.

A DOG BARK takes her attention to the window. She gasps.

MARTINA

What the heck is he doing here?

In seconds, Martina bolts out of the room.

EXT. LANDEGRIND HOUSE - SAME

Martina strides across the drive toward the hedge between her
house and the Strands'. A large dog rummages near it.

RANGOR (O.S.)

Back here, Pagan.

Rangor meets Martina at the hedge, though he stays on the
Strand side of it.

RANGOR (CONT'D)

Dr. Edgren, what a pleasure.

MARTINA

What do you want?

RANGOR

Wow, you roar like a lioness! I was
considering inviting you to my
house-warming party, but with that
attitude.

Martina grits her teeth as she looks from Rangor to the house
behind him.

MARTINA

A house-warming party.

RANGOR

You don't do justice to your
beauty. You should smile more
often.

MARTINA
Don't patronize me.

RANGOR
Lucky you recovered from the
accident. It could have been fatal.
Though it made me wonder what
you're doing in Ribbyburg?

MARTINA
That's none of your business.

RANGOR
I make it my business when I hear
my neighbour's house was broken
into.

MARTINA
Was it you who broke into it?

RANGOR
Dr. Edgren, I'm no small-time
thief.

MARTINA
More like a big-time criminal. Is
that how you got Patrick Strand to
sell you his house.

RANGOR
He moved abroad. He wanted to
liquidate his assets.

MARTINA
Did you kill his wife?

RANGOR
What kind of question is that?

A bitter silence grows between them.

MARTINA
In the future, keep to your side of
the hedge. That includes the dog.
If you stray onto my compound,
you'll regret it.

RANGOR
That's if you live long enough.

Martina's eyes flare.

LISA (O.S.)
Martina!

Lisa stands on the porch, waving at Martina.

MARTINA

I'm glad we understand one another.

Martina turns smartly and runs back towards the house.

EXT. RIBBYBURG CLINIC - NIGHT

Martina steps out of a dark Volvo. She's wearing a dark jogging suit, with her hair tied back in a pony tail and partly hidden under a baseball cap. She carries her cell and some tools.

Seconds later, she ducks behind hedges close to the stables, her heart throbbing, until she hears-

GALLOPING PAWS and BARKING!

Martina steps into viewing, holding her stance.

MARTINA

Stay!

The dogs stall, confused, giving Martina the needed seconds to pull out pepper spray and douse them.

As the dogs whine and blink, Martina heads for the stable.

MAN'S VOICE (V.O.)

(calling out)

Who's there?

EXT. STABLE - RIBBYBURG CLINIC - SAME

Martina kills the light she shines on the lock the moment she realizes the door is open. She slips inside as she hears-

FOOTSTEPS CRUNCHING in the yard.

INT. STABLE - RIBBYBURG CLINIC - SAME

Flashing the light around, Martina locates a door. She opens it and peers down at the tunnel hidden behind.

INT. TUNNEL - RIBBYBURG CLINIC - SAME

Martina inches along in the pitch black, alerted to the scurry of bats above her.

She breathes a sigh of relief when she reaches the broken stairs at the end. She climbs them gingerly and shifts the door open.

INT. HALLWAY/ROOMS - RIBBYBURG CLINIC - SAME

Martina tiptoes along, opening doors and peering into rooms that contain CHILDREN or various ages. Most are sleeping, many are chained to their beds.

Finally, she peeks behind a door to an office beyond. She heads for the computer.

INT. OFFICE - RIBBYBURG CLINIC - SAME

Martina's jaw drops as she reads the computer screen. It's a report on Nicholas Strand that lists his diagnosis as schizophrenia and his doctor as Steven Rangor.

She pulls out her cell and takes a picture of the monitor.

MAN'S VOICE (V.O.)

Have you seen an intruder in the building?

Startled by how close he is, Martina clears the computer screen and hides under the desk as someone opens the door, turns on the light, then turns it off and moves on.

GUARD

Hey, you!

INT. HALLWAY - RIBBYBURG CLINIC - SAME

Just as Martina gets to the door of the passageway, two GUARDS spot her and run in her direction. She slips inside as a bullet WHIZZES past her ear.

INT. TUNNEL - RIBBYBURG CLINIC - SAME

Martina races toward the tunnel but passes the door into the stable she used before and keeps running.

She can hear the guards stumbling along after her.

EXT. SECRET DOOR IN THE WOODS - SAME

Martina stumbles out of the door and into the woods, banging her shoulder painfully on the jam. Then she crouches in a hiding place while she tries to slow her breath.

Then she hears DIGGING.

EXT. WOODS - SAME

Martina moves toward the sound and spots the van first. Then she sees two MEN burying a body.

She pulls out her cell and snaps more pictures, using the sound of the digging to cover the noise.

TEN MINUTES LATER

The van pulls away and Martina rushes to the burial site.

Using her hands she digs away at the dirt until she uncovers the body of a young dead female. Martina snaps more pictures of the girl, though she doesn't know her.

INT. MARTINA'S BEDROOM - SLOTTSVILLE HOUSE - DAY

It is past noon when Jonas lets himself into Martina's room and finds her still in bed.

JONAS

Darling, what's wrong? Are you sick?

When Martina doesn't move he sits at her side and gently touches her forehead.

MARTINA

Stop!

Martina startles up, her nightgown falling away from her bruised shoulder.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

(much quieter)

What are you doing here?

JONAS

You scared the hell out of me. I've been calling since yesterday.

He reaches toward her shoulder.

JONAS (CONT'D)
What happened?

Martina flinches and pulls away.

MARTINA
We were just cleaning the house
after the robbery.

Then Jonas sees bruises on Martina's hands.

JONAS
What's going on, Martina?

MARTINA
Nothing. Leave me.

Worry and anger flash across Jonas' face.

JONAS
This is ridiculous.

MARTINA
I told you, go away.

Jonas glares at her before he leaves.

Once he is gone, Martina quickly rises and grabs clothes.

EXT. PAY PHONE - DAY

Martina holds the phone to her ear.

MARTINA
(into phone)
In the woods outside Ribbyburg
Clinic. They were just burying her
in a shallow grave.

POLICE OFFICER (V.O.)
Okay, ma'am, can we have your name?

Martina hangs up and rushes back to the black Volvo before driving off.

INT. DILAPIDATED BUILDING - NIGHT - DREAM

By a flickering of green light Martina races through the tunnel, hunted and afraid.

Then the green light EXPLODES and MEN IN WHITE COATS rush at her, jabbing with needles.

Martina backs away, so stiff and sore but determined to get away.

JOACHIM (V.O.)
Mamma, Mamma, stop screaming!

INT. MARTINA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Martina wakes to find Joachim hovering over her.

JOACHIM
Your phone is ringing.

RING!

Martina pulls Joachim close as she grabs her cell.

TORSTEN (V.O.)
(on phone)
It's Torsten. There's an urgent
distress signal from Scorpio.

MARTINA
(into phone)
Follow procedure. Go in with
reinforcements. Do what you have to
do, but no violence.

TORSTEN (V.O.)
(on phone)
Will do.

The line clicks dead.

Martina cuddles Joachim close as a frown furrows her brow.

INT. KITCHEN - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - DAY

Martina, Thomas, and Joachim enjoy lunch. They have been doing repair work on the house, so all are in casual clothes.

MARTINA
You remember Dr. Rangor?

THOMAS
The one who did consultant work for
your father in the States?

MARTINA
He's my new neighbour here.

THOMAS
Is he still working for Althonat?

MARTINA
Not a chance. He and my father
parted on unfriendly terms.

Thomas gazes at Martina with concern.

THOMAS
You have to be careful. It's
possible he's after something.
Until this break-in issue is
resolved you can't be too careful.

Thomas reaches for the salt and brushes Martina's hand
accidentally. She recoils as if burned but their eyes meet
until Martina blushes and looks away.

INT. LIVING AREA - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - NIGHT

Martina reads while Joachim plays a game on the floor.

Jonas appears in the doorway.

JONAS
I need to speak to you. It's
important.

Martina glances down at Joachim.

MARTINA
Joachim, it's almost bedtime. Why
don't you go wash up.

Joachim sighs.

JOACHIM
Okay, Mamma, but do I get a story?

MARTINA
Of course.

Joachim gets up, one hand on a side table.

JOACHIM
Oh, Mamma, Pappa left his glasses.

Jonas turns to see Thomas' glasses on the side table then he
turns and sees Martina's guilty look. A dark cloud passes
over his eyes.

MARTINA

He can get them another time.

Joachim trots out of the room, and Martina returns her attention to Jonas.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

You look rattled.

Jonas joins her on the sofa.

JONAS

I'm sorry, Martina. I'm so sorry,
but Torsten is dead.

MARTINA

Oh my... my Lord!

Martina doubles over, and Jonas falls to his knees to cradle her.

JONAS

The rescue mission went as planned.
The place was deserted just as
Scorpio said it would be. But as
they got into the jeep to leave,
they were surprised by gunfire.

MARTINA

Gunfire?

JONAS

It was from the enemy camp. Torsten
was last to reach the jeep. He was
hit in the chest. He collapsed, but
they quickly got him into the jeep
and sped away. The bullet had
nicked his lung. He lost a lot of
blood and died on the operating
table.

MARTINA

Was anyone else hurt?

JONAS

No. And they accomplished the
mission.

INT. PATIENT ROOM - ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - DAY

Martina and Jonas stand side by side as they watch Nicholas sleep. Martina smiles softly.

MARTINA

How long has he been sleeping?

JONAS

About an hour. He was in bad shape when he came in--elevated hyperactivity and panic attacks. I wonder what they were giving him. He had bruises on his wrists and ankles. They must have restrained him.

MARTINA

I know what they were giving him. Use deep detoxification to rid his system of harmful substances. He has blocked energy that needs to be stimulated to bring about self-healing. The therapist should be able to resolve that.

They step out of the room and into-

INT. HALLWAY - ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

MARTINA

Torsten did a marvelous job saving his life. Still, I should have been cautious sending him in.

JONAS

You couldn't have known-

MARTINA

That they had guns? It's no excuse.

Before Jonas can say anything further, Martina holds up a hand.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

Tomorrow night is the Nobel ceremony and dance.

Jonas picks up on her tone.

JONAS

The banquet of banquets.

MARTINA

Three thousand guests is a bit daunting.

EXT. STOCKHOLM CONCERT HALL - NIGHT

Limousines glide in and out before the grand entrance as MEN IN TUXEDOS and WOMAN IN GOWNS pass SECURITY before entering the hall.

INT. STOCKHOLM CONCERT HALL - LATER

The dancing has already begun. Jonas holds Martina in his arms for the waltz, her strapless silver and turquoise satin gown swirling around them as they move.

Jonas smiles into Martina's eyes.

JONAS

Do you ever want to have more children?

MARTINA

You mean you and me?

JONAS

We need to cement our relationship. Give it a definite direction.

MARTINA

Are you proposing to me?

JONAS

When I propose, I'll do it properly. I'm just trying to get my bearings.

MARTINA

You know you mean the world to me.

Martina hesitates.

JONAS

I can wait for you but not too long. I want us to get married.

Martina's eyes go to his.

MARTINA

I would be honoured to have your children, if that's what you wanted to know.

Jonas face lights up as he swings her around once more.

FABIAN (O.S.)

May I cut in?

Jonas stops the pair and they turn to Fabian Franzen, the government official.

Jonas grudgingly lets Martina go, until she sends a reassuring smile in his direction.

FABIAN (CONT'D)

You remember me?

MARTINA

How could I forget a man in government such as yourself?

He pulls her into the dance.

FABIAN

Enjoy the limelight while you can.

MARTINA

If you have something to say, then just say it.

FABIAN

It has come to my knowledge that Althonat Global is engaging in subversive activities: kidnapping children and treating them against parents' consent.

MARTINA

The laws are clear and we follow them.

FABIAN

(hissing)

I can whip up a storm and shut you down. After all, the man who founded Althonat Global, your father, was a disgraced medical professional.

MARTINA

Althonat Global is an international company. No one shuts us down. You may try, but you'll never succeed.

With that, Martina jerks out of his arms and walks away.

LATER

Jonas and Martina flirt over drinks until Martina eyes get steely.

JONAS
What is it, darling?

MARTINA
Over there.

Martina nods toward a couple laughing and flirting together a short distance away.

It's Martina's researcher Leila Eklund and Fabian Franzen.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
I wonder how they know each other.

As Leila throws back her head to laugh at something Fabian said, he turns and glares towards Martina.

She raises her chin a notch in challenge.

She and Jonas turn away and run into Dr. Grenzken and his date, the nurse Birgit. His eyes light up at the sight of Martina.

GRENZKEN
I'm Dr. Grenzken, and this is my friend, Birgit.

Martina recognizes them from Scorpio's photos but she hides this but sends Jonas a signal to get them out of there.

BIRGIT
You look even more beautiful in reality than in newspapers. I read the *Frangipani* every day.

MARTINA
The Althonat newspaper. Well done. Keep it up.

GRENZKEN
I disagree with whatever you publish in the *Frangipani*.

MARTINA
I understand your standpoint, doctor, but then again, the likes of you feed on the system the way a parasite feeds on its host.

JONAS
Come along, darling. Another dance.

She smiles apologetically at the pair as Jonas pulls her along.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DEVILUND CLINIC - DAY

Grenzken meets with Tord, Rangor, Fabian, Mattsson and Stellan.

Tord opens his briefcase and places several papers upon it.

TORD

Invoice for delivered merchandise.

Grenzken takes it.

GRENZKEN

You've doubled the price.

TORD

They're young and strong. I've tasted them. Besides, it's very risky dealing in minors.

GRENZKEN

I'll ask the accountant to transfer payment.

TORD

Good.

He turns to the second set of papers.

TORD (CONT'D)

There was a shooting outside Devilund Clinic.

Grenzken's eyes widen.

GRENZKEN

What is that?

TORD

The police report.

The rest of the group stares unblinking at Grenzken.

GRENZKEN

I can only tell you what Helmut told me. He saw men in a car. He shot my hunting rifle in the air.

TORD

He murdered the security director of Althonat Global.

FABIAN
If Helmut did it, let's hand him
over to the police.

RANGOR
We can get him a good lawyer.

GRENZKEN
It... it wasn't Helmut.

RANGOR
Cut the crap. You messed him up!

GRENZKEN
No one touches Helmut.

In a flash Fabian is up, fist raised. He slams his fist into Grenzken's jaw before any of the others can react.

GRENZKEN (CONT'D)
Stop it. You need me!

RANGOR
What we need is for you to finish
your job.

GRENZKEN
I need the other half of the
formula. Stellan promised.

Stellan goes white as all the faces turn towards him.

INT. STERILE OPERATING ROOM - DEVILUND CLINIC - LATER

Richard tries to ignore the dark bruise on Grenzken's jaw as they work over another TEENAGE GIRL.

RICHARD
Who did that?

GRENZKEN
I had to defend Helmut. They say he
killed a man.

RICHARD
Did he?

GRENZKEN
Of course not. But who else could
have shot him?

Richard shakes his head.

GRENZKEN (CONT'D)
You were here?

RICHARD
Yes, but only Helmut went outside.

INT. JONAS' OFFICE - ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - DAY

Martina pushes the door open and steps inside.

MARTINA
You wanted to see me?

JONAS
Patrick Strand is suing the hospital for kidnapping his son and treating him without parental consent. His lawyer sent the letter.

MARTINA
Fabian Franzen is behind this.

Martina shrugs.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
Strand will get nowhere. He sold his son, and I have the evidence to support this.

JONAS
You have evidence?

MARTINA
Ebba Strand gave it to me before she died.

JONAS
Good, our lawyers will resolve that then. I have a new patient I'd like you to meet.

INT. PATIENT ROOM - ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - LATER

Martina and Jonas stand before a young woman. Her face is turned toward the window as she sleeps.

JONAS

She just came out of a coma. Her system was full of toxins, and most likely Life-vaccine made her infertile. Her immune system was failing. She barely made it here.

MARTINA

She was an unwilling, unknowing test subject in the engineering of Life-vaccine.

JONAS

You know who she is?

MARTINA

Not exactly, but sort of.

JONAS

A man dropped her off in emergency. Said she came from Devilund Clinic.

MARTINA

We've had our eyes on Devilund Clinic for some time.

The patient, apparently awake, turns her head toward Martina.

ANNA

(a croak)

Anna. My name is Anna.

MARTINA

I'm Martina.

She reaches out to shake Anna's hand.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

I know you're tired, Anna, but we'd like to know about Devilund Clinic.

A fire lights in Anna's eyes.

ANNA

I will tell you anything you want to know.

INT. LIVING AREA - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - DAY

The room is festooned for Christmas. Martina and Joachim have been joined by Lisa, Sebastian, his wife HENRIETTA, and their two CHILDREN.

The doorbell RINGS.

SEBASTIAN
Expecting company?

MARTINA
Not on these icy roads.

Seconds later, Astrid leads Stellan into the room. A chill goes through the others.

STELLAN
I brought gifts for the children.

MARTINA
Thank you.

The children rush forward.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
Take your parcels upstairs, will you?

Laughing, the children all grab a box and leave.

She rises to greet her uncle. Before she goes to him she leans over to Sebastian.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
What does he want?

SEBASTIAN
I don't know.

LISA
Watch it. He's after something.

Sebastian moves over to Stellan.

SEBASTIAN
It's been a long time, Uncle Stellan.

STELLAN
I knew you'd be here this time of year. I wanted see the children and wish you all a merry Christmas.

SEBASTIAN
What's new in Stockholm?

STELLAN
Nothing really.

SEBASTIAN

I understand Ribbyburg is a clinic
for disabled children.

STELLAN

Yes, I leased it out so as to... to
help pay my debts.

He turns to see Martina and Lisa listening closely.

STELLAN (CONT'D)

Actually, I wanted to access the
attic to look for documents. I
suspect there was a mix up of
Peter's things and mine during the
move from Hässelved farm.

MARTINA

What documents?

STELLAN

I'm selling my share of the antique
furniture.

MARTINA

I was up there recently. There's
nothing of yours up there.

Stellan turns to Sebastian.

STELLAN

Please get me the key.

SEBASTIAN

That's Martina's territory.

STELLAN

Then I'll break down the door.

Sebastian quickly moves to stop him from leaving the room.

Martina steps in between them, her eyes flaring at Stellan.

MARTINA

How dare you come here after what
you did to Pappa, you house thief!

STELLAN

What are you taking about?

MARTINA

I'm talking about Rensblad. The
half formula you sold to Citaraph.

STELLAN
That half belonged to me.

MARTINA
Yet you knew it would turn lethal
if mixed with other ingredients.
How many lives have you destroyed?
Get out.

Stellan stumbles for the door.

STELLAN
It was joint ownership. I owned
half.

Martina opens the door for him.

MARTINA
Get out of my house!

She SLAPS Stellan across the face, stunning everyone.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
Take your filthy lies and feed them
to your traitor friends.

Without another word, Stellan heads out into the cold.

INT. DR. STEVEN RANGOR'S HOUSE - VÄDDÖ - DAY

The living room has minimal furniture: two ordinary sofas, a brown wood coffee table and simple cotton curtains hang in the windows. Rangor sits beside Leila on one of the sofas.

RANGOR
Botanik Herbarium project... what
engineering process are you using
at Athlonat Global?

LEILA
I can't reveal corporate secrets.
I'll lose my job.

RANGOR
Leila, let me put it this way. How
much is enough?

LEILA
I love my job.

RANGOR
How much does Martina pay you?

LEILA

That's none of your business.

INT. LANDEGRIND HOUSE - VÄDDÖ - SEVERAL DAYS LATER

Sebastian greets a new visitor as Martina comes down the stairs. The visitor stands at attention when he sees her.

RICHARD

Professional name Richard, code name Scorpio. Here to report, Dr. Edgren.

Martina grasps his hand.

MARTINA

Glad you could make it.

INT. LIVING AREA - LANDEGRIND HOUSE - LATER

The trio sits with tea before them.

RICHARD

It's the one thing to my advantage. Grenzken is consumed by his research and ignorant about security and technology. He uses an inexpensive security company for his surveillance solutions. It's an aging system and easy to manipulate.

MARTINA

You did a brilliant job getting Anna out.

RICHARD

She had suffered too long.

MARTINA

And Nicholas.

RICHARD

I am sorry about Torsten. Helmut is unpredictable. I have video of all the meetings, including Tord and Fabian having sex with underage Russian sex workers. And I have this.

He pulls a piece of paper from his jacket.

MARTINA

What is it?

RICHARD

The other half of the Rensblad formula.

Martina gasps as her eyes go to Sebastian's.

RICHARD (CONT'D)

Citaraph wants to take Althonat Global down for interfering with their plan to see vast numbers of the population inoculated with Life-vaccine. With the two halves of Rensblad formula in our hands, we can save humanity.

RICHARD (CONT'D)

Grenzken will flip out when he finds out half the formula is gone.

SEBASTIAN

Rensblad, the miracle drug! Martina, when do we go into production?

MARTINA

Wonderful! Now we can manufacture Rensblad! We go into production as soon as possible.

RICHARD

One more thing. I think Anna might have been fitted with a tracking microchip device. Check her hands and arms. Get it removed.

Martina sees his concern.

MARTINA

I'll call Jonas.

Then she holds the formula up.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

What a miracle! Pappa would have been ecstatic!

Sebastian goes to the phone.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

SEBASTIAN

Ordering extra security around you.
Either here or at Slottsville
House, you need to be protected.

MARTINA

I'll make sure we put that in place
for all Althonat Global facilities.

INT. SLOTTSVILLE HOUSE - LIDINGÖ, SWEDEN - NIGHT

Thomas thunders into the house.

THOMAS

(calling)
Martina!

She comes in from the kitchen.

MARTINA

What's wrong?

THOMAS

What is it with security? They
accosted me before I could come in.

MARTINA

We've had to tighten up.

THOMAS

Why?

MARTINA

It's complicated. I can't talk
about it. Company policy.

THOMAS

Who cares about company policy, I
only care about my son's safety. Do
I need to file for full custody to
keep him safe?

MARTINA

I told you it was a company issue.
Joachim is safe with me. I promise.
If his life was in any danger, I
would freely give him to you.

They stare, eye to eye, until Thomas takes her hand. She
gasps at the contact, and he pulls her into his arms. But
Martina steps away.

THOMAS

You feel it--the electric charge.

He pulls her chin up.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Why do you deny it? I asked you to remarry me. I'm asking you again.

Martina backs up.

MARTINA

Stop it, Thomas. You're just worried about our safety, but we're fine. Just protecting ourselves while Rensblad goes into production.

THOMAS

You have the whole formula?

MARTINA

We do.

THOMAS

Let me take Joachim away until everything settles down.

Anger flares in Martina's eyes.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

If I can't have you, let me protect my son.

MARTINA

I'm already doing that. I think you should leave.

THOMAS

I will, but I'm taking Joachim for the night as planned. Is that allowed?

Martina glares then nods her consent.

INT. OFFICE OF THE CEO - ALTHONAT TOWER - DAY

Martina is working at her desk when Leila marches in. She's again dressed suggestively, from crimson lipstick to skyscraper heels.

MARTINA

You wished to see me. Take a seat.

LEILA

It's regarding, the position of Deputy CEO at Althonat Global. I applied, but I hear rumours you're considering Diana for the position. I would like to get your feedback.

MARTINA

You believe in rumours, Leila?

Leila falters, unsure how to answer this.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

It's partly true. I've already given the position to Diana.

LEILA

I'm more qualified than she is.

MARTINA

I understand your disappointment, but we need you in research. Tell me -- your performance on Botanik herbier is falling behind schedule. Why?

LEILA

Sten keeps asking me to work on other projects.

MARTINA

He's hired two assistants to help you.

LEILA

No one appreciates what I do. I might as well quit.

She storms out of the room.

Martina nods and picks up her phone.

MARTINA

(into phone)

Hello, Sten. I'm moving Leila to administration. She's a security risk. Make sure she has no further access to sensitive information.

EXT. SISTERS' HELIN VOLTAIRE CAFÉ - NIGHT

Followed by two SECURITY GUARDS, Martina and Jonas exit the restaurant.

MARTINA
Thank you for dessert.

JONAS
Thanks for agreeing to go skiing
with me this weekend.

MARTINA
My pleasure.

Jonas takes her hand.

JONAS
I thought we'd finish the evening
at my place.

MARTINA
No, Jonas, I'm tired.

Jonas sighs.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
What?

He doesn't respond.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
Please, Jonas, talk to me.

JONAS
You want to talk, then let's talk.
What was Thomas doing in
Landegrind. The day he left his
eyeglasses there?

MARTINA
That's unfair.

JONAS
No... you tell me. The man is your
ex-husband. Why are you socializing
with him?

He glowers at her.

The RUMBLE of a van approaches then GUNFIRE rains on the
trees above their heads.

Jonas pulls Martina onto the snowy pavement.

JONAS (CONT'D)
Down! Take cover!

The guards return fire and the van races away.

JONAS (CONT'D)
Are you alright?

Martina says nothing but faints in Jonas' arms.

INT. BEDROOM - JONAS' PENTHOUSE - LATER

Naked and eye to eye Martina and Jonas caress each other, familiar yet in awe after their near death experience.

Her eyes are wide open as he slides inside.

INT. PATIENT ROOM - ALTHONAT HOSPITAL - NIGHT

It's just before dawn as Anna sleeps quietly, serenaded by the beeping of machines.

The door opens silently, and a WHITE-ROBED figure slips into the room, syringe in hand.

Suddenly, Anna leaps out of bed and SCREAMS!

Though weak, she struggles with the attacker, knocking off the robe.

A GUARD races in and turns on the light.

Leila holds the syringe high above Anna.

She SCREAMS in rage when the guard tackles her to the ground and easily takes away her weapon.

INT. OFFICE - DEVILUND CLINIC - DAY

Grenzken rages as he digs through cabinets and drawers.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - DEVILUND CLINIC - CONTINUOUS

Richard watches Grenzken's antics on several security monitors. When Grenzken stalks out into the hall, Richard goes out to meet him.

INT. HALLWAY/ROOMS - DEVILUND CLINIC - SAME

GRENZKEN
Did you take it?

RICHARD
Take what?

GRENZKEN

The formula. The only copy was in the safe.

RICHARD

You take it out all the time.

GRENZKEN

Did you take it?

RICHARD

No.

Grenzken pauses then leaps on Richard.

GRENZKEN

Lies! You lied about Anna! You lie about this.

Flipping him around, Richard sinks a needle into Grenzken's shoulder. He flounders as he falls asleep.

Richard drops his sleeping form onto one of the cots and then locks Grenzken in.

INT. ELEVATOR / INT. JONAS' PENTHOUSE - DAY

Martina, bags in hand, waits for the door to open, a smile on her face.

The elevator doors open.

Martina registers surprise at the array of feminine luggage on the floor before her. VIVIANE sits on a bag and observes Martina.

VIVIANE

Who are you?

MARTINA

Who are you?

VIVIANE

Jonas' fiance.

Martina drops her bags, one of which tumbles out of the elevator and into Jonas' place.

JONAS

Martina, I didn't invite her in. She still had the key. Look, I didn't cheat on you. I never would.

(MORE)

JONAS (CONT'D)
I love you, Martina. It's not what
you think.

The doors close.

INT. POLICE INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Martina sits on the other side of the table from Leila, who
is restrained by handcuffs.

MARTINA
Who put you up to it?

Leila's lips tremble but she doesn't answer.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
Tell me.

LEILA
I'm sick and tired of people using
me.

MARTINA
Like who?

LEILA
You... you used me then passed me
over for promotion.

MARTINA
Is that why you tried to murder
Anna? Who told you to do it?

Leila looks obstinate.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
What about Fabian Franzen?

Leila's eyes widen in shock.

MARTINA (CONT'D)
You'll rot in jail. Fabian will
never help you get out of here.

LEILA
Well, let me tell you, Doctor
Herbal Weed, my life is none of
your business.

INT. ATRIUM - ALTHONAT TOWER - DAY

Martina stands before her employees again. This time the PRESS is there to record the event. Off to one side, the Board members listen with pride as Martina addresses them all.

MARTINA

It is a great pleasure to be here today with my Board, staff, colleagues, and friends to launch the wonder drug, Rensblad. I would like to thank those involved in this exciting challenge of supplying the first holistic wonder drug to the world. The way people work, play, and live has been transformed. Globalization and advancement in knowledge have impacted patterns of health and ways of thinking. We're now facing a different kind of marketplace, and we need to adapt treatments and cures of illnesses to natural therapies that are well tailored to the body, nature, and patients' needs. Ladies and gentlemen of the press, I believe Rensblad will be a more effective way to promote wellness and health among populations. I'm delighted for the opportunity I've been given to collaborate on this ground-breaking project. Thank you, and I wish you all a lovely evening.

She smiles blindingly as cameras flash.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DEVILUND CLINIC

Grenzken, Stellan, Fabian, Tord, Mattsson and Rangor watch the announcement on TV.

MATTSSON

Citaraph shares are dropping as she speaks.

RANGOR

The vaccinations will continue.
It's the law.

Richard steps into the room, giving no sign he has overheard. He leans over to Grenzken.

RICHARD
Helmut is asking for you.

INT. GRAND ROOM - SLOTTSVILLE HOUSE - NIGHT

Martina moves among all who have come to celebrate the launch of Rensblad, from family and board members to a few of the neighbours.

Martina and a neighbour BARBARA grab and seat to dig into some of the elaborate catered food.

Champagne glass in hand, Thomas joins them.

Barbara glances between them, her eyes twinkling.

THOMAS
Hi, Barbara. How're you doing?

BARBARA
Fine. How is the move to Stockholm treating you?

THOMAS
Better than expected.

His eyes alight on Martina.

A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY

Jonas enters the party, looking for Martina. He frowns when he finds her seated so close to Thomas.

BACK ON THE TABLE

BARBARA
It's challenging juggling work and child.

MARTINA
With planning, it's manageable.

BARBARA
You two should get married again.
You are such a perfect couple.

Martina looks up to see Jonas staring down at her. He turns his eyes to Thomas, and the men glare.

BARBARA (CONT'D)
Oh, Dr. Eneroth, good evening.

JONAS

I thought I heard some matchmaking
going on.

Barbara has the grace to flush.

MARTINA

Jonas, just drop it.

Barbara leans in, excited to hear more.

THOMAS

What are you doing here anyway?

JONAS

I work for Althonat Global. I might
ask you the same question.

Thomas shoots to his feet, followed by Martina

MARTINA

Stop it, both of you.

A police detective, PHILLIP, appears at Martina's side.

PHILLIP

Do we have a problem here?

MARTINA

No.

Martina glares at the two men, and Jonas stalks off.

PHILLIP

Well then, Dr. Edgren, could I have
a word with you in private?

INT. STUDY - SLOTTSVILLE HOUSE - SAME

Martina and Phillip sit in chairs before a coffee table.

PHILLIP

Forensic results from the scene of
the accident revealed another car
was involved. Your parents' Volvo
was white in colour. We found
traces of black paint in the dent
of the wreckage. And in the snow,
we got tire impressions consistent
with a big car, possibly a van.

MARTINA

Murdered.

PHILLIP
Yes, I'm afraid so.

MARTINA
Do you know who did it?

PHILLIP
We're still investigating.

Martina nods.

MARTINA
Joachim's had nightmares about a van. This doesn't come as a big surprise.

INT. KITCHEN - SLOTTSVILLE HOUSE - LATER

Martina sits alone at the kitchen table. Catering is gone and the room is spotless once again. She places her head in her folded arms, her shoulders shaking as she cries.

JONAS (O.S.)
Martina?

She stills.

JONAS (CONT'D)
Can I get you some tea.

Martina raises her head and wipes the tears from her eyes. She nods.

MARTINA
I thought you'd left.

JONAS
Not without kissing you good night.

Martina cocks her head as she studies him. He almost smiles but notices her moist eyes.

JONAS (CONT'D)
Darling, why are you crying?

MARTINA
They murdered... my parents. They were run off the road by a black van. Phillip just told me.

JONAS
I am so sorry, darling. It breaks my heart to see you cry.

The compassion in his voice does it. Her barriers are breached, and she disintegrated into an avalanche of inconsolable sobs.

Jonas lifts her in his arms and carries her out of the room.

INT. MARTINA'S BEDROOM - SLOTTSVILLE HOUSE - SAME

Jonas lays Martina on the bed before locking the door.

MARTINA

I want you with me always. I want
to live with you.

Jonas sits on the bed and brushes Martina's hair from her cheek.

JONAS

That's not enough, Martina. I want
to marry you. I won't be satisfied
until you are my wife.

Tears swim in Martina's eyes once more and she presses her lips against his, suddenly passionate, suddenly tearing at his clothes.

Moved, Jonas helps her undress them both before they sink into one another once more.

INT. UNIVERSITY HALL - DAY

Martina stands before MEDICAL STUDENTS, UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL, and BUSINESS PEOPLE, who are all seated in the hall and taking notes.

MARTINA

Malaria is becoming resistant to
chloroquine, and Althonat Global is
on the brink of formulating a new
natural antimalarial therapy,
Botanik herbier. With that remark
we come to the end of this seminar.
Thank you all for attending. And
for those interested in our medical
exchange programs in Africa and
Asia, check out our website. You
may make out applications online.

The audience APPLAUDS then moves in to congratulate her.

INT. ELEVATOR - SAME

Martina slips into the elevator now that most of the stragglers are gone.

A man joins her. She's not happy to see Rangor. She grabs her cell to call her security detail but Rangor takes it out of her hand.

RANGOR
Splendid gadget.

He turns it off and hands it back.

RANGOR (CONT'D)
You should be more careful with it.

MARTINA
Are you stalking me, Dr. Rangor?

RANGOR
I happened to be in the vicinity,
and I heard about your seminar. I
came to attend. Brilliant
performance, Doctor.

He smiles but it doesn't reach his eyes.

RANGOR (CONT'D)
So you're ready to stun the world
again with another wonder drug,
Botanik herbier.

To Martina's relief, the elevator doors open onto the cafeteria.

INT. CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

Martina hurries forward but Rangor follows.

PEOPLE mill about but no one pays them any mind.

MARTINA
Skip the crap and quit following
me.

Rangor moves up to her side.

RANGOR
You made a fatal mistake launching
Rensblad.

(MORE)

RANGOR (CONT'D)

You've angered the medical establishment and even the government. And you've started a pharmaceutical war.

Martina stops in her tracks.

MARTINA

I do what I do for the wellness of my patients. The medical establishment and government have duped the people of this country. Instead of protecting them, they've collaborated with Citaraph to destroy lives.

RANGOR

You've got in over your head now. You're breaking the law when you criticize medical authorities and government.

MARTINA

And what is the law? That the privileged should band together to exploit and dominate the underprivileged for the sake of profits?

RANGOR

Your father was a friend of mine.

MARTINA

Excuse me? You were never father's friend. You and Stellan conspired against him. You stole the Rensblad formula and sold it to Citaraph.

RANGOR

You have no proof of that.

MARTINA

Get out of my sight, you conniving parasite.

In a rage, Rangor grabs Martina's arm. She pulls away.

MARTINA (CONT'D)

Don't you dare touch me.

Martina strides off, leaving Rangor fuming behind her.

EXT. PARKING LOT - UNIVERSITY HALL - DAY

Martina hurries to her Volvo as she fires up her cell phone.

MARTINA

(into phone)

Christer, my security detail is missing. Can you have another meet me at Althonat Global offices in Gothenburg?

CHRISTER (V.O.)

(on phone)

Wait there.

MARTINA

(into phone)

I can't. Rangor is here somewhere.

CHRISTER (V.O.)

(on phone)

What? How?

MARTINA

(into phone)

He's angry we launched Rensblad.

CHRISTER (V.O.)

(on phone)

Martina, get out of there, fast. It might be a trap.

She turns off the cell and gets into the car.

I/E. VOLVO - SAME

The moment Martina leaves the parking lot, she sees the van behind her.

She digs her phone back out.

MARTINA

(into phone)

I'm being tailed by a black van.

CHRISTER (V.O.)

(on phone)

Don't stop. Keep driving. I'll deploy the chopper. Keep the phone on so I can hear you.

Martina throws the cell on the passenger seat and hits the gas.

The van behind her speeds up, too.

I/E. HELICOPTER - SAME

The PILOT looks down to see the Volvo careening along a cliff's edge, the van in hot pursuit.

He watches, helpless, as the van SLAMS into Martina's car and sends her over the edge.

A SCREAM sounds over the phone line.

A SERIES OF NEWSPAPER HEADLINES:

--"CEO of ALTHONAT GLOBAL heads over cliff"

--"Who can take the reins of today's top pharmaceutical company?"

FADE OUT.