

# COLONEL ROTHENBERG

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ALERT. ALERT. PLEASE PROCEED TO DESIGNATED LOCATIONS. ALERT.

The lights shut off about an hour ago, you think. Almost immediately, the klaxons started and the red emergency beacons came on. At 2201 C Street – headquarters of the US Department of State – they take situations like this very seriously.

Conference Room 025 is designated as one of the shelters, and the five of you managed to make your way in here before the automatic magnetic lock sealed the way in or out. Now, by the light of halogen emergency floods, you sit in wait for further instructions.

It's got to be here. You're sure of it.

You came to the State Department today to give a top-secret presentation on a new scientific project. This is a really important, possibly world-changing piece of research, and you're hoping to get the US government backing it.

Never mind the details - they're not important right now. What's important is that the flash drive walked off along with all the classified documents on it.

It was in your briefcase when you came into Conference Room 104. You know that because you plugged it into your laptop and pulled up the presentation. But the Secretary came in, and you got involved in a conversation, and when you turned around, *the drive was missing*.

You caught a brief glance of someone leaving the room, and you dashed after them. As you were heading for the stairwell, the emergency klaxons went off. You pursued the culprit down the back stairs and - you think - you saw them heading into Room 025. So you followed.

Now you're here, the door is locked, and there's four others in the room with you. Did the thief really go in here? If so, they almost certainly still have the drive on their person, but who is it? Can you really risk exposure by putting *vigilance* first and throwing around accusations? But what if you're too *cautious* and you fail to act?

**COLONEL ROTHENBERG**

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AFTER THE SCENE IS OVER:**

1. In this scene, your character had to make a choice between two attributes: **Cautious vs. Vigilant**. Please circle the one you chose.

# State Department Drill

## UNDERSECRETARY PERKINS

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Act 1 Scene 1

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"Here are your instructions. You will attend the presentation by Colonel Rothenberg scheduled for 1:15 in Conference Room 104. You will steal the USB flash drive attached to his laptop computer. You will place it in your pocket, turn around, and leave the room. You will drop the flash drive in the mail slot of Room 118. That is all. We will contact you after the job is complete."

Well, you did it. It didn't go off as smoothly as you planned. You were able to grab the drive, no problem. But Rothenberg noticed, and must have seen you leaving the room. You sprinted down the hall, fairly threw the drive through the slot, then hurled yourself down the fire stairs. You dove into the first room you saw, just as the emergency klaxons started going off.

You hadn't wanted to be a spy. But being in a trusted position in the State Department, one gets veiled offers. And you'd been turning them down for years. But lately, it's become apparent that unless you do something, this is it for you. A dead-end job in the State Department. Comfortable, but no hope of anything bigger.

China offered you a deal. This job was a test, you think. Surely the contents of the flash drive can't have been *that* secret - hell, Colonel Rothenberg was about to present them anyway.

Now here you are, in Conference Room 025, and the door is magnetically locked, and Colonel Rothenberg just stormed in here. Damn it all. You actually *like* Colonel Rothenberg - it's rare to find someone in the military with true vision beyond simply killing people. Rothenberg is one of the reasons you'll be sad to leave your country.

But the die is cast. You've betrayed the Colonel, and with the same stroke, your nation. You can possibly talk your way out of this one - after all, you haven't gotten to where you are today by being bad at politics. Plus, the people in the room may provide a distraction: you seem to have wandered in on some sort of police interrogation.

The other option is to give yourself up. Rothenberg probably already knows anyway, but likely can't prove it. It would probably mean an early retirement if not life behind bars, but there's a little voice in your head telling you that you would feel so much better about yourself if you would just confess. Can you really stick this out? Do you *ambitiously* work to preserve your career at all costs, or do you *impulsively* let everything spill just to clear your conscience?

## UNDERSECRETARY PERKINS

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AFTER THE SCENE IS OVER:

1. In this scene, your character had to make a choice between two attributes: **Ambitious vs. Impulsive**. Please circle the one you chose.

# AMBASSADOR ROSE

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You didn't sign up for this. Oh god, you didn't sign up for any of this.

It all started three nights ago. You and Pat had just returned to the States on the red-eye from the Bahamas, where you serve as US ambassador. You were both very tired, and were just about to put the key in the door to your apartment, when Pat whispered, "Stop!" From behind the door, you heard a shuffling noise.

You froze. Pat silently turned around, reached into the vase of tulips in the hallway, and pulled out a small handgun with a silencer. Before you could say anything, Pat had kicked down the doorway and dived behind the divan. "Shit!" a man's voice yelled. Two silenced shots rang out, then an eerie quiet.

Pat stepped out into the hallway wearing a grim expression. "I guess I'd better tell you what that was all about."

After the two of you carefully moved the body to the garbage chute, wrapped in two plastic bags, Pat told you a story that made your blood freeze. Apparently, the US embassy made a great cover for a drug-smuggling operation. That man had been a member of a rival cartel.

You were appalled, but, you have to admit, not shocked. You had suspected something was going on for awhile, and in a way, it was good to finally know that your suspicions about Pat having married you for the ambassadorship hadn't been wrong. You were going to have to figure out a way to deal with this, and you hated that Pat had not only abused your position for criminal activities, but had now made you an accomplice.

But despite all that, against all reason, you find you are still in love with Pat. Perhaps that is why you haven't told the cops what Pat did just a few minutes ago.

A local homicide detective named Obanhein and an FBI agent named Epping have been grilling you in Conference Room 025 at the State Department building. You know that at the same time, Pat has been the subject of a similar interrogation upstairs. You also know that Pat has smuggled in a small taser disguised as a cigarette lighter, and that the plan is to use it to disable one of the cops and disappear into the building infrastructure in the ensuing chaos.

Those klaxons mean Pat must have succeeded, at least in the first part. When you heard about the plan, you were skeptical, and now you are even more so. This building is crawling with cops, military, secret service. There is no way Pat is going to escape alive.

So rationally, the best thing you could do would be to turn witness and attempt to save your career as a diplomat. You truly didn't know about any of this until a few days ago. Pat could scarcely blame you - selfish ambition and Pat are hardly strangers, as this episode amply proves.

But yet, you are still married. Pat is the love of your life - and you aren't like Pat. Can you really do this? Do you *ambitiously* turn Pat in in order for the sake of protecting your position, or do you *compassionately* let the one you love escape in spite of it all?

**AMBASSADOR ROSE**

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AFTER THE SCENE IS OVER:**

1. In this scene, your character had to make a choice between two attributes: **Ambitious vs. Compassionate**. Please circle the one you chose.

# DETECTIVE OBANHEIN

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Emergency lockdown? Fine. You weren't planning on going anywhere soon anyhow.

When DC Metro Police assigned you to investigate the dead drug dealer, you knew this one was a rabbit hole. What was this guy doing in a swanky high-rise on Barracks Row? And how did he end up in the bottom of the garbage chute with two bullets in him?

Forensics told you he couldn't have fallen far based on the bruising. Had to be one of the first three floors. The ground floor is the lobby, so that left only ten apartments as possibilities. And your gut told you you had your man when you met the Roses in 204.

Rose is the US Ambassador to the Bahamas, and is married to Pat. Both of them are smooth talkers, but the Ambassador is clearly shaken up about something. And Pat is just too slick for comfort. Make no mistake, they're scum. And scum always gets its due.

Now you've got them, but the Ambassador just isn't talking. The higher-ups at State called them in for individual "briefings." Of course, everyone knew that was a polite term for interrogation. They're in separate conference rooms, and you're with the Ambassador down in the basement one.

With you is Special Agent Epping of the FBI. Agent Epping is a good sort, but lacks will. Agent Epping won't nail Rose's ass to the wall. No, Agent Epping is going to make you do the goddamn dirty work. How very like a Fed.

This fucker is holding out on you. You know it. And diplomatic immunity doesn't apply in your own goddamn country. You and Epping have guns, badges, and a mandate.

But still... you don't think the Ambassador is the ringleader here. You don't know why, exactly, but Pat seems like a better suspect to you. Ambassador Rose seems almost frightened. You want results, but you also want to protect the innocent. And you have to admit, you feel bad for the Ambassador. Something doesn't smell right here. Do you show your *compassion* for the poor ambassador, or do you follow your *impulse* to pump the poor sap for all the information you can get?

**DETECTIVE OBANHEIN**

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AFTER THE SCENE IS OVER:**

1. In this scene, your character had to make a choice between two attributes:  
**Compassionate vs. Impulsive.** Please circle the one you chose.



# SPECIAL AGENT EPPING

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Emergency lockdown? Great, just great. Now you're stuck in the basement of the State Department, babysitting not only a crazy local cop and a suspect, but also a military goon and a different suspect who just wandered into the room.

Detective Obanhein is from the homicide division at DC Metro, and this started out as their case before the FBI stepped in. You have intelligence - classified, of course - that the US Embassy in the Bahamas is smuggling drugs and state secrets, and were preparing a bust for sometime in the next month or so.

But fate intervened, and a thug from a drug cartel showed up dead in the garbage chute of Ambassador Rose's apartment building. Now you have no choice but to involve yourself. This isn't the way you like to do things: you prefer to stay in the shadows, work the targets, become one with the enemy. Being forced to put yourself in the position of "the cop" makes you uncomfortable.

To make matters worse, as soon as the emergency klaxons went off, who should waltz into the room but State Department Undersecretary Perkins? Perkins has been receiving suspicious phone calls from suspected operatives in China for the past several months. You can't prove anything yet, of course, and it's surprisingly difficult to get wiretap orders for executive branch phone lines, but Perkins is up to something.

Now the Undersecretary has rushed into the room, barely holding together, and an Army Colonel has followed immediately after in almost the same state. Could they be in on this together?

You should do something. But can you afford to blow your cover? Perkins almost certainly doesn't know that you know anything. As well, you're not sure you can overpower both Perkins and the Colonel. And that's not to say anything about Detective Obanhein, who shouldn't be told about any of this, and Ambassador Rose, who is a suspect in a murder investigation.

But this is obviously the moment to act, if ever. The only question is, how? Do you *cautiously* protect your cover at all costs, or do you put *vigilance* first and try to help them nail the murderer with what you know?

**SPECIAL AGENT EPPING**

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AFTER THE SCENE IS OVER:**

1. In this scene, your character had to make a choice between two attributes: **Cautious vs. Vigilant**. Please circle the one you chose.