

ADMIT M/M

master

Collected

2

9/3/03 MM revs. (goldenrod) 71.

55

CONTINUED: (2)

55

FELIX (CONT'D)

Do you believe in Humpty Dumpty?

Felix makes eye contact to PACO. Paco nods. Rubio, next to him, has his hand on an SMG and moves right to get a better line of fire on Max.

MAX

No.

FELIX

Do you believe in Santa Claus?

MAX

No.

FELIX

Neither do I.

(beat)

But my children do. They are still small. But do you know who they like even better than Santa Claus? His helper, Pedro Negro. Black Peter. There's an old Mexican tale that tells of how Santa Claus got so very busy looking out for the good children that he had to hire some help to look out for the bad children. So he hired Pedro. And Santa Claus gave him a list with all the names of all the bad children, and Pedro would come every night to check them out. And the people, the little kids that were misbehaving, that were not saying their prayers, Pedro would leave a little wooden donkey on their windows. And he would come back and if the children were still misbehaving, he would take them away and nobody would ever see them again. Now, if I am Santa Claus and you are Pedro, how do you think jolly old Santa Claus would feel if one day Pedro came into his office and said, 'I lost the list.'? How FUCKING FURIOUS do you think Santa Claus would get?!

\*

Paco's gun is visible. Safety clicks off Rubio's SMG.

FELIX (CONT'D)

So tell me, Vincent. Tell me what you think.

MAX

I think...

(CONTINUED)

He can't finish.

FELIX

What?

MAX

I think...

(to security)

...I think you should tell the man behind me to put that gun away.

FELIX

What did you say?

MAX

(low, tight)

I said. Tell him to put the gun away. Before I take it and beat his bitch ass to death with it.

\*

Felix eases back, measuring Max.

MAX (CONT'D)

I picked up a tail.

FELIX

Federal?

MAX

You tell me. How do I know? So I tossed the list and work-ups to protect...in part...

(sees his clothes)

...your Hermes, Facconable sorry ass.

Felix considers "Max."

MAX (CONT'D)

You think I like comin' here? Like I got stupid all of an instant? Shit happens. You gotta roll with it. Darwin. I Ching...

FELIX

Has, uh...

MAX

The fat man. The penthouse guy. The jazz man. It leaves two.

FELIX

(checks his watch)

Can you finish?

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED: (4)

55

MAX

In six years, have I ever not?

Meanwhile...

56 INT. SURVEILLANCE LOCATION - NIGHT

56

...while the Feds go apeshit at what they've been told.  
Meanwhile, Weidner answers his cell...

\*

PEDROSA

...are you telling me Ramone Gallardo  
and Sylvester Clarke were murdered  
tonight? Both killed...?

FANNING

...Sylvester for sure, Ramone...

WEIDNER

(interrupts)

We got another D.O.A. One "Daniel  
Baker" in South Central...

FED #3

That's three? He killed three in one  
night?

WEIDNER

Three what?

Fed #3 looks at Pedrosa. Mute.

PEDROSA

Three witnesses.

(beat)

For a secret grand jury, secret my  
ass...

FANNING

So who's left? Before you lose them,  
too...

57 INT. EL RODEO - NIGHT

57

In a carrying case, a ruggedized PC is brought to the table.  
Felix turns it on. Enters a password. Downloads two "files"  
(Targets #4 and #5) into a flash drive in the USB port.

FELIX

The last two...

Felix unplugs the flash drive and pushes it across to Max. Max  
takes it. Their eyes meet.

(CONTINUED)

FELIX (CONT'D)

Do not fail.

MAX

I never do.

Felix releases the flash ram. Max rises...

(CONTINUED)

MAX (CONT'D)

And as a token of appreciation...I  
want to offer you a discount. Yeah.  
All my services, here, tonight...  
Twenty-five percent off.

FELIX

Twenty-five?

MAX

Hell, make it fifty.

FELIX

Very generous.

MAX

(beat)

By the way. Daniel said he was sorry.

Felix nods. Max turns and walks out.

The moment he's gone, Felix glances to Paco. They're giving him  
questioning looks.

FELIX

(in Spanish)

Go to Fever. He's met me. If it  
begins to go wrong, close his eyes.  
He cannot fall into their hands...

They rise.

58 EXT. EL RODEO - MAX

58

exits, taking in a deep breath of night air, stunned that he's  
still alive...

59 INT. SURVEILLANCE LOCATION - MONITORS

59

The Feds swarm, remotely ZOOMING and capturing images, everybody  
talks at once...

ALL THE FEDS

(chaotic, ad lib)

...his face, make sure you get his  
face...Vincent the ghost...too grainy,  
too much noise...plus twelve dB of  
gain, you get noise or you get no  
image...you getting this? ...yeah...

ANGLE SHIFTS to Fanning, cell phone to his ear, trying to block \*  
out the noise as:

(CONTINUED)