

The Man From
U.N.C.L.E.

THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN AFFAIR

Prod. #8430

Executive Producer:
Norman Felton

Supervising Producer:
David Victor

Producer:
Boris Ingster

Written by:

Krishna Shah

September 20, 1966

A
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER
TELEVISION
Presentation

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The Man From
U.N.C.L.E.

The Abominable Snowman

Prod. #8430

Script dated: September 20, 1966

Name changes:

FROM

BHUPAT

JUNE ROGERS

TO

GHUPAT

CALAMITY ROGERS

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The Man From
U.N.C.L.E.

The Abominable Snowman Affair

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TEASER

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FADE IN:
EXT. HIMALAYAN MOUNTAIN - DAY (STOCK)

1

This is a SHOT -- or a series of SHOTS -- showing
a couple of mountain climbers ascending.

CLOSER SHOT - ATOP PEAK

2

In which we see that one of the climbers is ILLYA.
He is accompanied by a SHERPA GUIDE. Now Illya
pauses to draw a long breath, looks out....

POV SHOT (STOCK)

3

of a lamasery, nestled in the towering mountains.
It is still some distance away from Illya. HOLD
on the lamasery for a moment, then

CUT TO:

4 OUT

INT. HIGH LAMA'S BEDROOM - DAY

5

The HIGH LAMA of GHUPAT is aged and saintly. He
is at work at his writing desk when a SERVANT
enters.

SERVANT
Your Serenity, they are here.

5
CONT'D
(2)

HIGH LAMA (a
fatalistic shrug)
...And the man from U.N.C.L.E. has
not yet arrived....
(a beat)
Very well Let them come.
(as the servant moves to
exit)
Wait....

The High Lama rises, reaches for a carrier pigeon,
caresses the bird fondly and tucks the sheet of
paper on which he has just been writing into the
pigeon's feathers. He moves to the open patio
windows, through them onto --

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ELEVATED PATIO

6

He releases the pigeon, watches it soar into the
sky. Below the Lama now is the elephant GANESH,
a huge beast as majestic in appearance as is the
Lama himself. Ganesh lifts his trunk -- to the
level of the Lama's arm -- and the Lama pats it
affectionately.

HIGH LAMA
Ganesh, the hour has come. We
must say goodbye.

He looks at the elephant with great tenderness
for a long moment, then turns to the Servant who
has followed him onto the patio.

HIGH LAMA (to Servant)
You will free Ganesh. Take him
outside the lamasery gates.

The Servant bows.

HIGH LAMA (gently,
sadly)
...And then you too may go, my
very dear friend. Go far ... and
go with God.

The Servant shakes his head.

SERVANT
No When Ganesh is free, I
shall come back to you.

HIGH LAMA
I do not wish that you share my
final ordeal.

6
CONT'D
(2)

SERVANT
It is my wish, Your Serenity.

HIGH LAMA (a futile
attempt to be stern)
You do not obey my order?

SERVANT
I have been your loyal servant all
my life. I shall not abandon you
now....

He bows and moves off, the High Lama watching him
go sadly, thoughtfully, as we --

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7 OUT

ON ILLYA AND THE SHERPA GUIDE

7X1

as they stop beside a sort of archway -- with GHUPAT
lettered across the top -- along the mountain path.

GUIDE
This is where I must leave you. Entry
to the state of Ghupat is forbidden to
all foreigners.

Illya offers his hand, and the two men shake warmly.

ILLYA
Thank you very much for taking me
this far.

GUIDE (concerned)
You -- will be careful?

ILLYA (nods)
I'll take every precaution.

The Guide turns and starts away after he and Illya
exchange a farewell wave. Then Illya goes to his
pack, opens it and a huge dummy just begins to
inflate as we --

CUT TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

8

It is very dark and eerie. Ornate furniture. Flowers. Small statuettes of gods and goddesses made of jade and gold. A large wheel of life hangs on the back wall. And the High Lama's throne is predominant. Next to it, on a huge stool, burns a butter lamp, which looks like the "eternal flame." At the end of the room, in an alcove, is a huge clay jar.

Also in the room is a table, at which now sit, waiting, the Prime Minister and the Chief of Warriors.

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Now the High Lama, alone, enters. The others rise as the Lama mounts the throne. All bow.

8
CONT'D
(2)

PRIME MINISTER

O Son of Heaven, Your Serenity,
the High Lama of Bhupat....My
humble obeisances to you.

HIGH LAMA (in the
gesture of blessing)
Tathatstu....

PRIME MINISTER

...Have you -- reached a decision?

HIGH LAMA

I have, my son. The answer is
still no.

PRIME MINISTER

You leave me no choice, then.

HIGH LAMA

Tashi, I remember you as a boy.
Your soul was seeking ... and you
worked hard. You earned the rank
of Prime Minister.

(pause)

What has come over you? Why do
you want to stain your soul with
such ugliness? Why?

PRIME MINISTER (firmly)

Your Serenity, it is I who ask the
questions. Once again, yes or no?

Over this, the Servant, having apparently finished
his assigned task, enters the room.

HIGH LAMA (with
resignation)

No.

The Prime Minister has finished knotting the rope
he has been playing with. He moves toward the High
Lama and is about to put the rope around his neck.
The Lama's servant moves to stop the Prime Minister.

SERVANT

No!

The Chief of Warriors seizes the Servant in a bear
hug, holds him firmly.

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8
CONT'D
(3)

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HIGH LAMA (to the
Prime Minister; quietly,
but with impatience)

Are you unaware of the retribution
for this cardinal sin?

(pause)

Still, your soul is very dear to me.
(wearily)

I, myself, shall discard this human
body.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

You mean you will die ... of your
own volition?

PRIME MINISTER

(scoffing)

It is the law of nature that man
can choose neither birth nor death
in this world.

HIGH LAMA

But the High Lama of Bhupat is no
ordinary man....

Suddenly the High Lama assumes the lotus position....
He stiffens his body, puts his thumb and forefinger
to his nostrils, and takes a deep breath. He chants:

HIGH LAMA (chanting)

"Om mani padam hum"

The huge butter lamp flickers and fades slowly into
nothingness. They are all spellbound with fear.
The State Oracle examines the High Lama's pulse....

STATE ORACLE

He is dead.

The Servant moves now to the body of his dead master,
regards it sorrowfully, tearfully for a moment, then
rises and regards the Prime Minister with a look of
fierce hatred.

SERVANT

Your soul is not dear to me! I
shall see to it that --

Over this, the Prime Minister has gestured to the
Chief of Warriors, who now runs the servant through
with his sword, cutting him off in mid-sentence, as
we

CUT TO:

ON ILLYA

9

He is now completely encased in a dummy -- a dummy of the abominable snowman -- which is clearly meant to ease his entry into Bhupat. Suddenly a SHOT rings out, a bullet strikes the dirt (or the snow) a foot away. Iillya darts for cover, reaches for his communicator.

ILLYA (into
communicator)
Give me Channel D, please.
Emergency situation.

WAVERLY (v.o.,
filter)
Yes, Mr. Kuryakin.

ILLYA
I'm inside the border now, not far from the lamasery. I'm wearing the abominable snowman costume, just as you suggested, but it appears that I'm being --

A portion of the snowman is protruding from behind the rock which Iillya sought for cover. Now another SHOT rings out, and:

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10

-- The dummy deflates, and Iillya tumbles down a slope with his belongings -- including the communicator -- scattered everywhere.

EXT. OTHER SIDE OF SLOPE - DAY

11-16

JUNE ROGERS, a woman of about forty, in Western garb -- Old West, that is -- cradles her smoking carbine, turns to one of her servants, raises the brim of her ten-gallon hat, and:

JUNE
I got the ornery sidewinder!

FADE OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. UNCLE CORRIDOR - DAY

17

as Solo walks briskly along it, moves through the sliding door into --

INT. WAVERLY'S OFFICE - DAY

18

Waverly, behind the desk, looks up as Solo enters.

SOLO

You sent for me, sir?

WAVERLY

Ah, yes, Mr. Solo. I'm a bit concerned. Tell me, have you heard from Mr. Kuryakin in the last hour or two?

SOLO

No, sir. Should I have?

WAVERLY (frowns)

I was talking to him this morning and for some unaccountable reason we were cut off. I haven't been able to reestablish contact.

SOLO

Perhaps I shouldn't ask, Mr. Waverly, but -- ah -- what's Illya doing in the Himalayas anyway?

WAVERLY

I had a message from the High Lama of Bhupat. He's a very old man, and he's worried about his succession....

SOLO

His -- succession?....

(a beat)

That's not U.N.C.L.E.'s department, is it?

WAVERLY

Not normally. But the Lama's a very dear personal friend of mine. Met him during my tiger-hunting days.

(as Solo blinks)

Oh, yes, I used to hunt the big cat. Remind me to tell you about that sometime, Mr. Solo.

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They are interrupted by SOUNDS emanating from the corridor.

18
CONT'D
(2)

SOLO

What's going on out there?

They move to the door, open it, see:

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

19

Chaos. Red lights, sirens, alarm bells. A carrier pigeon flutters about, moving closer to Waverly's office as a horde of agents, secretaries, etc., chase it.

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INT. WAVERLY'S OFFICE - DAY

20

The bird flies in, sits with familiarity on Waverly's desk. A Security Guard circles it warily, ready to pounce.

WAVERLY

Easy, there, young man. It's a pigeon, not THRUSH.

The Security Guard looks baffled. He and the others drift out of the office. Waverly extracts a note from the pigeon's feather.

WAVERLY

...Speaking of the High Lama....

SOLO

From him?

WAVERLY (nods, reads the note)

"Why haven't I heard from you? My time has come. The succession must be carried out as ordained..."
(looks up at Solo; crisply)
Mr. Solo, you'll leave for Bhupat immediately. To find Mr. Kuryakin and to oversee the succession.

SOLO (beat)

My memory's a little hazy, but as I understand it, the High Lama never really dies. He succeeds himself by reincarnation.

20
CONT'D
(2)

WAVERLY (nods)

Very good. According to the belief of his followers, the Lama's spirit passes from his body to that of a boy -- as ordained in the stars.

(beat)

You, Mr. Solo, will vouch for the boy's authenticity.

SOLO

Do you -- ah -- anticipate the possibility of fraud?

WAVERLY

It's something that can't be discounted. The High Lama of Bhupat is the spiritual leader of millions. And he wields great political power as well. It's understandable that certain -- unscrupulous persons -- might try to put in a -- ah -- (gropes, then) -- ringer.

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EXT. HIMALAYAN SCENES - DAY (STOCK)

21-21X:

A SERIES OF STOCK SHOTS convey a serenity, a la Shangri-La. Quiet ripples in the lake, eternal meadows, shrubs and groves, monks parading in the street, the turning of prayer wheels, etc.

EXT. LAMASERY COURTYARD - DAY

22

as a jeep, Solo at the wheel, drives through the open gate. Solo is promptly surrounded by several Palace Guards when he brings the vehicle to a stop. The Chief of Warriors approaches.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

Did you not read the signs? Do you not know that entry to Bhupat is forbidden to all Farangs? Only with special permission can a foreigner come here!

SOLO

Well, I -- do have special permission, in a manner of speaking. I have a letter of introduction to His Serenity the High Lama.

The Chief of Warriors and one of his men exchange glances, and we --

CUT TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY - CLOSE ON PRIME MINISTER

23

PRIME MINISTER

The High Lama is no longer with
us. He is dead.

CAMERA BACK to show Solo, flanked by the Chief of
Warriors and one of his men.

SOLO (a beat)

I'm -- sorry.

PRIME MINISTER

May I see the letter.

Solo gives it to him. The Prime Minister glances
at it.

PRIME MINISTER

Who is this -- Alexander Waverly
who signed this?

SOLO

He's my employer... On the magazine.

The Prime Minister looks Solo over very carefully.
Finally:

PRIME MINISTER

So you've come to do an article
on the Abominable Snowman....

SOLO

I've -- heard he's in the neighborhood.

PRIME MINISTER (a sigh)

Everyone wishes to do an article
on the Abominable Snowman. You
know, there are many other things
in Bhupat you might wish to write
about. Things that your readers
might find -- even more fascinating.

SOLO (casually)

Well, as a matter of fact, one thought
did cross my mind. You know, now that
the High Lama has -- has departed, I'd
rather like to do a piece on the choosing
of his successor.

PRIME MINISTER (smiles)

I'm afraid we do not permit --
outsiders to witness that sacred
ceremony.

(beat)

However, because you come with such --
excellent credentials, I shall take
the matter up with my advisers.

SOLO
I would be very grateful.

23
CONT'D
(2)

PRIME MINISTER
...As for now, you might like to
freshen up....
(to the Chief of
Warriors)
Will you kindly lead Mr. Solo to the
guest quarters?

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INT. JUNE ROGERS' LIVING ROOM - IN AN OLD CASTLE -
DAY

24

CLOSE SHOT of Illya, who is unconscious. He slowly
opens his eyes. He is still weak. He sits. As
we PULL BACK, we discover him in the living room of
June Rogers' castle. A GURKHA SERVANT guards him.
He rubs his face with his hands. His eyes settle
on a huge portrait of an Oriental soon to be
revealed as Chang Li. Chang Li wears cowboy clothes
and a ten-gallon hat, all of which looks quite
incongruous. Illya reacts with surprise.

ILLYA
Where am I?

The servant looks at him vindictively. He does not
reply. Suddenly June Rogers, still in her cowboy
outfit, enters the room bearing a tray containing
a bottle and a glass.

JUNE
Now don't you go strainin' yourself
...you've been unconscious for two
days...

(she pours some medicine
from the bottle into the
glass)
Close your eyes...hold your nose,
and just chug-a-lug!

ILLYA
Chug-a-lug?

After a pause, he drinks it. His face is contorted.

ILLYA
What was that?

JUNE
Yak liver oil....
(as Illya reacts)
Good for what ails you. Been
usin' it for years.
(a beat)
Who are you?

ILLYA
My name is Illya Kuryakin. Who
are you?

JUNE (disappointed)
You don't recognize me?

ILLYA
The face is somewhat familiar, but --

JUNE
June Rogers.
(helpfully, as Illya
regards her blankly)
The fastest gun in the West.

ILLYA (taking the
easy way out)
Oh, of course.

JUNE
You've probably seen a lot of my
movies.

ILLYA
I have?

JUNE
On the late, late show.
(sadly)
That's where all the good moves wind
up these days.
(a beat)
I guess you're not well enough to
move around yet.

ILLYA
I -- think I should be very soon.

JUNE
Then we'd better tie you up. So you
can't.

The Gurkha servant moves with a rope toward a very
puzzled Illya as we:

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INT. LOTUS ROOM IN LAMASERY - DAY

25

Over a pedestal, sitting on the golden lotus, is AMRA PALLI, a slender, dark-haired ethereal beauty. She is catatonic. She has a statue-like face, devoid of human emotion. She is surrounded by a ring of fire. A drummer sits nearby, and the area is filled with camphor, incense, flowers and other occult gadgets. The Prime Minister, flanked by the Chief of Warriors, places Solo's letter of introduction from Waverly in front of Amra Palli, and:

PRIME MINISTER

Amra Palli ... You will dive deep... dive deep... in the depths of mind. You will read this and tell me -- who is the man who has written this letter -- and who is the man to whom it was given.

With grave, appropriate ceremony, Amra Palli takes the letter, examines it. After a long moment:

AMRA PALLI (like a spiritual computer)

Alexander Waverly is the head of an organization called United Network Command for Law and Enforcement. U.N.C.L.E. At the request of the late High Lama, he sent Mr. Napoleon Solo to oversee the succession of the new Lama.

PRIME MINISTER

Well done!

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

(worried)

We must eliminate Mr. Solo.

PRIME MINISTER (after a moment's thought)

On the contrary ... Tell me, who can better attest to the authenticity of our new Lama than -- the man from U.N.C.L.E.?

(to Amra Palli)

Listen to me carefully, Amra Palli. You will be Mr. Solo's constant companion. You will feed him. You will watch him ... and learn his thoughts ... Day and night. And all you learn you shall report to me ... Do you understand?

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AMRA PALLI

Yes, master.

25
CONT'D
(2)CHIEF OF WARRIORS
(worriedly, to Prime
Minister)Do you think it is wise? I mean,
Mr. Solo -- he is a young man ...
And Amra Palli -- a woman who --PRIME MINISTER
(cutting in)
And you fear she might be --
susceptible to whatever charm
he might possess?CHIEF OF WARRIORS
(nods)
Those are my thoughts, your
Excellency.PRIME MINISTER (amused)
And you are wrong on both counts.
She will not be susceptible.
Because she is not a woman! Have
you ever seen a woman so completely
devoid of emotion?
(looks at Amra Palli,
smiles)
Poor Amra Palli ... She is a stone.

ZIP PAN TO:

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INT. LIVING ROOM - JUNE ROGERS' CASTLE - DAY

25X1

Illya's hands are tied with a rope. He is seated
on a chair. June Rogers looks at him accusingly.JUNE
I want a straight answer ...
(very firm)
Why did you kill my husband?ILLYA
Which one?JUNE (genuinely
emotional)
My fourth and last one, the only
man I truly loved ... Chang Li.She indicates the picture on the wall. Illya looks
again at it.

ILLYA

I didn't even know him.

25X1
CONT'D
(1)

JUNE (points to
the portrait)

He was the Minister of External
Affairs in Bhupat. And he was
murdered by an abominable snowman.

ILLYA

My -- ah -- abominable snowman
was bought at a Forty-Second Street
novelty shop. Three dollars and
ninety-five cents. Less twenty per-
cent off to U.N.C.L.E. employees.

JUNE

U.N.C.L.E.? Hey, I've heard of
them!

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JUNE (cutting in)
How do I know you're really from
U.N.C.L.E.?

ILLYA
If you'll hand me my communicator,
I'll prove it. I have to send a
rather important message anyway.

JUNE
What communicator?

ILLYA (realizing it)
Mmm, I must have dropped it when I
fell.... Let me go to the slope
and get it.

JUNE
Sure, and ride off into the sunset...
Sorry, pardner.

ILLYA
Now, look, Miss Rogers....

JUNE
I think you're tellin' a passel o'
lies.
(to a servant)
Take him to the cellar.

As the servant moves towards him, Illya gives him
a Karati chop. He's knocked to the ground... June
takes out her gun. Illya kicks it out of her hand.

JUNE
BAJO, RAGU, GIVAN!

Three more servants come. Illya takes them all on.
Lots of kicking and punching. He manages to break
loose, but he's too weak to run. He half passes
out. The servants pick him up and put him back on
the sofa.

JUNE
All right. If you promise to behave,
I'll send someone to look for that
there - communicator... Not that
there is one.
(to servant)
Get him more of that yak liver oil...

CUT TO:

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INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

The clay jar -- which; we shall discover, contains the secret of the new Lama's identity and whereabouts, stands decoratively in its place in the center. Surrounding the jar are several MONKS. There are flowers, incense and other ceremonial props. At the BEATING of the DRUM...two huge MUSCLE MEN with axes move toward the jar. The Prime Minister explains the ceremony to Solo, as they enter.

PRIME MINISTER (pointing to the shrine-stone)
It was the late High Lama's vision that this was the sacred vessel that carried the Obo...the prayer mound with the inscription pertaining to his reincarnation. So when we break the urn --

(he stops and looks at Solo)
I don't know how to describe this simply enough for your readers.

The jar is broken and the State Oracle removes the Obo, a six-inch prayer mound.

SOLO
Back home we call it a fortune cookie. You break the cookie and find your future.

PRIME MINISTER
Really! I saw the custom of the fortune cookie during my visit to China....
(shrugs)
.....it must be the influence of the West.

Four monks are sitting in a group with scrolls, ancient leaves and indices of nativity. Each one looks at the Obo - makes notes, and passes it on. It's like data-feeding to computers.

SOLO
I understand that the new High Lama is first to be seen astride the Royal Elephant....

PRIME MINISTER
Unfortunately, the Royal Elephant ran away into the jungle. I sent two of my best warriors in search of him, but the man-eating tiger...
(shrugs meaningfully)

SOLO

Oh, that's a shame.

26
CONT'D
(2)

Suddenly there is a GONG. The Prime Minister now collects the leaves from all the monks, is ready to make his proclamation.

PRIME MINISTER (reading)

The position of heavenly bodies: the sun is semi-sextile to Venus. Venus is semi-quantile to Mars. Mars is in bi-quantile to Saturn. The place is northeast Ghupat. Beside a waterfall known as Jaylaxmi, there are the ruins of an ancient temple. Within the shrine room, there presently sits a small orphan boy named Jami. He is guarded by a shepherd named Vithu, who is fated to breathe his last almost at this very moment. It is written in the stars that Jami is the new High Lama of Ghupat ... Tomorrow, when the moon is in bi-quantile to the sun, and the sun is in the radix of Saturn, we shall test Jami. Hail ... Hail the High Lama.

A few seconds after the Prime Minister's speech,

CUT TO:

STOCK SHOTS

27-27X4

A waterfall, temple ruins -- as described.

INT. TEMPLE - DAY - ON JAMI

27X5

He is a child of about four or five years old. Beside Jami, is the aged shepherd VITHU. The two are cooking over a fire.

Suddenly, out of nowhere, we see the Chief of Warriors and several of his men. They surround the shepherd Vithu ... No sound ... until we hear -- and see -- Vithu fall. Now the intruders approach to surround Jami. They encircle him, obscuring the frame ...

FADE OUT.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:
INT. DUNGEON "OFFICE" IN THE PALACE - LAMASERY - DAY 28

A small room in a sort of cell block. We see the Prime Minister with BAKU sitting across from him at a low table. Baku is a sensitive boy around seven or eight years old. On the table are objects like a ring, stick, bowl, crown, jewelry, etc.

PRIME MINISTER (very annoyed)
Your name is Jami!

BAKU (very sullen)
Honorable father, my name is Baku.

PRIME MINISTER
I am ordering you. Your name is Jami.

BAKU (emphatically)
My name is Baku.

PRIME MINISTER
All right, we will go to your mother.

They move to --

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INT. PRISON CELL - DAY

A guard opens the door, and we are in the cell of BAKU's MOTHER, an ordinary but proud woman in her early thirties. She looks weary and haggard.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Baku rushes into his mother's arms, and there is a fierce embrace. Each appears to be trying very hard to comfort the other. The Prime Minister observes it coldly and --

PRIME MINISTER (to Baku's mother)
You have borne me a very stubborn son!

MOTHER (scornful)
Do you think of yourself as an honorable father?

PRIME MINISTER

He does not have my name...still
my blood runs in his veins!

30
CONT'D
(2)

MOTHER

I pray that your evil spirit does
not also run in his veins!

PRIME MINISTER

Look, woman, instruct him to obey me.

MOTHER (defiantly)

Not while I am alive. I know you
do not care for the salvation of
your soul, but I care for Baku's...

PRIME MINISTER

Then care! Don't you realize, ignor-
ant woman, that he will be God-King
of Bhupat! Millions of followers
at his feet.

MOTHER

The High Lama is the choice of the
Heavenly Bodies. So far they had
wished my son to be an ordinary boy --
playing the flute and singing sacred
hymns...and when he grows, if they
so please, he will be a healer or a
judge...and an honest one!

The Prime Minister claps and a monk enters with burn-
ing incense, portable sacrificial pyre and other
objects.

PRIME MINISTER

All right, if you don't agree, we
will turn you into a creature like
Amra Palli. After that, even if
you do see your son, you will barely
recognize him, and if you touch him,
you will not feel anything.

MOTHER (terrified)

No! No!

The guard forcibly sits her down. the monk goes towards
her. Baku, who has been watching the drama, turns to
the Prime Minister.

BAKU (with determi-
nation)

Honorable Father, leave her alone.

(a pause)

My name is Jami.

ZIP PAN TO:

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INT. GUEST ROOM IN THE PALACE - DAY

Solo is asleep. Amra Palli sits like a stone beside his cot, waiting for him to awaken. There is a tray, which she has brought, on a low table. Now Solo opens one eye halfway -- and then both eyes open wide when he sees what he is gazing upon.

SOLO (quite
impressed)
Hel-lo!

He rises.

AMRA PALLI
I am Amra Palli. I am to be your
servant.

She begins taking the lids off the plates on the tray, revealing what is clearly a magnificent feast.

SOLO (looking at
her in enchantment)
You're -- ah -- somewhat more
attractive than most of the
servants I've seen around here.

Amra Palli exhibits no reaction whatsoever. Solo finds this disconcerting.

AMRA PALLI
If there is anything else you wish --

SOLO (eyes to food,
then back to Amra Palli)
Everything I could possibly wish
for appears to be right here in
this room.

(still no reaction; Solo
appears disconcerted)
Curious. I've used that line
before, and it's always evoked
some reaction.... Don't you even
blink?

AMRA PALLI
No.

SOLO
Would you laugh if I told you a
funny story?

AMRA PALLI
I do not laugh.

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SOLO
Do you cry?

AMRA PALLI
Never.

SOLO
Then you've never been in love.

AMRA PALLI (question-
ingly)
What is love?

Solo is further jarred by this.

SOLO
All right, let's skip it for the
moment... Is there anything that --
makes you happy?

AMRA PALLI
Happiness is a contrived and
temporary state of mortal mind.

SOLO (seriously)
Don't you feel anything?

AMRA PALLI
What is "feeling"?

SOLO
Well, feeling is...it's hard to
explain.
(trying again, gently)
I'll give you an example. I am
looking at you and you are look-
ing at me. Now, do you feel
anything? I mean - an attraction ---
a magnetism...some waves?

Amra Palli stares at Solo spellbound. She shakes her
head no.

SOLO (half to
himself)
I must be slipping.
(to Amra Palli)
Suppose I were to kiss you? Would
you feel anything?

AMRA PALLI
Kiss...what is it?

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31
CONT'D
(3)

SOLO
I'll show you. Close your eyes.

AMRA PALLI
I cannot.

SOLO
You ---
(a beat)
All right, just lean forward.

Solo plants a gentle kiss on her lips.

AMRA PALLI
So?

SOLO
That's it!

AMRA PALLI
Oh, the anatomical juxtaposition
of two oris muscles in the state
of contraction!

SOLO
Well, that's -- one way of
putting it.

AMRA PALLI
You had a dream last night.

SOLO
I did?

AMRA PALLI
You were worried about the abomi-
nable snowman. A man with the
golden hair. Illya Kur-ya-kin.

SOLO (taken aback)
How did you know?

AMRA PALLI
The thought of it is still in
your mind. It is within my
power to read your mind.

SOLO
Do you know where he is?

AMRA PALLI
I can find out.

SOLO
How?

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AMRA PALLI
Do you have a lock of his hair?

31
CONT'D
(4)

SOLO
No. I've never been a member
of Illya's fan club.

AMRA PALLI
Or a specimen of his handwriting...
a letter.

Solo shakes his head.

AMRA PALLI
Or his birthdate and the zodiac.

SOLO
I -- suppose I could find out.

Solo takes the communicator out of his pocket.
Amra Palli stares at it.

SOLO
It's a non-spiritual, non-
astrological, non-telepathic
communicator!

(a pause)
Channel D please. Original in

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INTERCUT WITH WAVERLY IN U.N.C.L.E. OFFICE - DAY

32-36

WAVERLY
Yes, Mr. Solo. Do you have any
further word about the succession?

SOLO
Not yet, sir. But about Illya...
(he stops)

WAVERLY
Have you found him?

SOLO
I -- think I could if I had his
birthdate and zodiacal sign.

WAVERLY (a beat)
Of course. I should have realized
that. Let me check his file further
and call you back.

SOLO
Thank you, sir.

32-36
CONT'D
(2)

He clicks off as the Prime Minister enters the room.

PRIME MINISTER
Mr. Solo, may I have the pleasure of your company, please...The testing time for the new Lama is now. We are leaving for the temple by the waterfall....

ZIP PAN TO:

STOCK SHOTS -

36X1-36X4

to establish the locale.

EXT. TEMPLE

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37

The Prime Minister, The Chief of Warriors, several monks and Solo enter.

INT. TEMPLE - DAY

37X1

From the light of the single candle, we see the body of the shepherd, Vithu, lying on the floor. The Prime Minister and Solo go to examine the body.

SOLO (after a moment)
Vithu?

PRIME MINISTER
Apparently so.

SOLO (beat)
I guess the prophecy was right.

The Chief of Warriors steps up.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS (to
musclemen)
Remove the body. Cremate it with
sacred sandalwood.

The body of Vithu is taken away. A few more torch-lights help us to discover the boy Baku. He wears a blank expression on his face. Suspenseful silence in the air. Now the Prime Minister and the Chief of Warriors approach Baku with a deep bow. They are carrying incense sticks in their hands.

PRIME MINISTER
The first stick of incense is lit
to guide us...who are you?

37X1
CONT'D
(2)

Baku is silent, closes his eyes.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS
What is your name?

BAKU
Jami.

The incense is lit.

PRIME MINISTER
Do you have a father?

Baku looks up at his father for a long moment, then
shakes his head no. Incense is lit.

PRIME MINISTER
Do you have a mother?

Baku, with a pained expression, again shakes his
head no. More incense is lit.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS
What is the name of your royal
elephant?

BAKU
Ganesh.

The incense again. Not to be reproduced or quoted without permission.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS
What is the name of your friend
across the ocean?

BAKU
Alexander Waverly.

Incense is lit. Solo, impressed, looks at the
Prime Minister.

PRIME MINISTER
Are you the son of heaven?

Baku nods his head yes. Incense is lit.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS
Are you the master of the universe?

Baku nods yes. Incense is lit. Everyone is dazzled. Monks are chanting Om Mani Padam Hum. In low voices.

37
CONT'D
(3)

Now a monk approaches with a tray full of real objects belonging to the late High Lama... his ring, bowl, stick, scarf. These objects are mingled with other fake ones on the tray. The monk hands the tray to the Prime Minister.

PRIME MINISTER

Hear the voice of our souls. Upon this tray are some of the treasured possessions of our late and beloved High Lama. Mingled among them are objects of no value, which were the possessions of mortal men. O you wanderer of three worlds. If you are indeed the true reincarnation of the son of heaven, master of the Universe, his Serenity, the High Lama, then guide us by picking out only those objects which belonged to you in your past life.

Baku mechanically picks up the right ring and puts it on...chooses the right bowl and the stick.... and picks up the right scarf. He places it around his shoulders. Jubilantly, the beating of drums, horns, chants, claps, smiles and cheers! "Long Live His Serenity!"

Solo manages to get near Baku. He self-consciously bows.

SOLO

My heartiest congratulations, Your Serenity. And warm regards from Mr. Waverly. He sends you this book.

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INSERT

38

The title of the book is "THE MEMOIRS OF THE WHITE ELEPHANT", by some French author.

BACK TO SCENE

39

BAKU

Thank you, Mr. Solo.

Solo respectfully turns. The Prime Minister joins him and they talk in whispers.

PRIME MINISTER
Are you satisfied, Mr. Solo?

39
CONT'D
(2)

SOLO (after a beat)
The proof appears to be overwhelming...

As the CAMERA PANS to Baku, we see the strain, the nervousness -- and the fear -- on the boy's face, and we

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ZIP PAN TO:

INT. JUNE ROGERS' CASTLE - DINING ROOM - DAY

40

June is dressed in a sari-a-la-Bhupatan. She and Illya have just finished dinner.

ILLYA
My compliments to the chef. I've never tasted a better yak steak.

JUNE (brightly)
Tomorrow we have chili.

Illya does a take.

ILLYA
I -- guess the twain shall meet after all.

A servant comes in, bows, gives June an envelope. The servant exits as she opens it. Suddenly her face grows dark.

ILLYA
What is it?

JUNE (expressionless)
I'm invited to the coronation of the new High Lama.

ILLYA (frowns)
Then it's done.

JUNE
What?

ILLYA
I'm afraid I've muffed my assignment. I was sent to Bhupat to observe the selection of the new Lama -- to make sure there wasn't any -- fraud.

JUNE (a beat)
There was fraud.

40
CONT'D
(2)

ILLYA
Oh?

She hands the invitation to him.

INSERT - INVITATION

41

It is inscribed in Bhupatan. On one side is a sketch of Baku.

SCENE

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42

JUNE (indicating
sketch)
That boy, he's not the real High Lama.

ILLYA
Are you sure?

JUNE (a beat; takes
card from Illya, looks
at sketch)
I don't know exactly why, but -- my
husband was killed because of --
(she taps the sketch)
because of him.

ILLYA
How do you know?

JUNE
I found a snapshot of this boy taken
with the Prime Minister. My husband
took it away -- said the less I know,
the better off I am.

ILLYA
The snapshot... Do you know where it
is?

JUNE
No.

ILLYA

Before he died, did your husband
say anything else? About any of
this?

42
CONT'D
(2)

JUNE (thinks)

He did mention something about -- the
saloon...

ILLYA

What saloon?

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ZIP PAN TO:

INT. A WESTERN SALOON IN THE CASTLE - DAY

43

It's straight out of the 1870's, Hollywood version
thereof. There are framed autographed pictures of
every Western star on the walls. A long bar,
antique bottles, and tables and chairs. An antique
gun collection. Winchesters, Derringers, Colt-45's.
June leads a pop-eyed Illya into the saloon.

JUNE

All this -- it was a birthday gift
to me from Chang Li -- my husband.

ILLYA (taking it

all in)

Very thoughtful. No girl should be
without one.

JUNE (showing her
picture on the wall)

This is from "The Cowboy And The
Single Girl." That's the picture
that made me a star.

ILLYA

I think that's the one I saw on the
late, late show.

(indicates guns)

These guns... are they real?

JUNE

Uh-huh. Chang Li had the best gun
collection in Bhupat.

Illya takes one of the weapons, idly breaks it open,
examines it with a practiced eye. He replaces the
gun. Picks up another one.

ILLYA

Very impressive.

JUNE (indicating)
His favorite was that Winchester
Seventy-three.
(as Illya steps to it)
Isn't it a beauty?

43
CONT'D
(2)

Illya examines the Winchester 73 -- and, in the barrel neatly tucked away, a sealed letter. Illya reacts, as does June.

ILLYA (looking at
envelope)
...From the High Land.

He opens the letter and finds --

INSERT

-- a snapshot of Baku and the Prime Minister.

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44

SCENE

June Rogers is shocked as Illya shows her the picture.

45

ILLYA
Something is very rotten in Bhupat.

ZIP PAN TO:

INT. SECRET ROOM - DAY

46

The CAMERA PICKS UP Jami -- the true reincarnation of the late Lama. As we pull back, we discover the Prime Minister with the Chief of Warriors.

PRIME MINISTER (bellowing as he indicates boy)
Why wasn't he killed immediately?

CHIEF OF WARRIORS
(sheepishly)
Well, we looked at him and I thought...
Suppose the boy really is the reincarnation, then I will be in hell for all eternity!... won't I?

The Prime Minister's reply is a derisive snort.

PRIME MINISTER

You disappoint me. I did not think you believed in that childish superstition?

46
CONT'D
(2)

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

Perhaps I do not. But I am growing older. I cannot afford to take chances anymore.

The Prime Minister looks revolted.

PRIME MINISTER

All right, I will do the job myself.

He takes out his gun... but one can see that he is shaky too.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

Wait... Why not ask Amra Palli. She has no emotions!

PRIME MINISTER (a beat,
then his face breaks into a
smile)

Of course!... Bring Amra Palli.

The Chief of Warriors exits. A moment later he returns with Amra Palli who bows.

PRIME MINISTER

Amra Palli, I have a small task for you. You will take this boy, and remove him to the northeast end of the jungle -- and leave him to be eaten alive by the man-eating tiger.

AMRA PALLI

I hear and obey.

She bows and looks at Jami who smiles. She walks towards him -- overshadowing the boy in the picture frame.

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FADE OUT:

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:
EXT. NORTH-EAST JUNGLE - DAY

47-47X4

A quick succession of STOCK SHOTS ESTABLISH the wild jungle with its roaming animals, thick woods and mysterious sounds.

We view Amra Palli, carrying Jami, walking through the wild bush. Jami stares at Amra Palli with an all-pervading gaze. Amra Palli looks at Jami as though to respond --- but she cannot. Jami starts to snatch at her earrings. She stops him. He nestles in her neck. She feels something. Unconsciously she draws him closer.

The SOUND of an elephant trumpeting is heard in the distance. Jami giggles. She takes the boy and puts him on the ground, turns and looks.....thirty feet away is the man-eating tiger...staring at the boy with luminous eyes. Chills run through her spine. Quickly, she stoops, grabs the boy and starts to run. The tiger leaps and darts after them.

The SOUND of the elephant trumpeting becomes louder and louder. With Jami cradled in her arms, she runs faster and faster. Her face is twisted and the plaster-like mask looks as though it's about to crack. The blood-thirsty tiger has almost caught up with them...Now, through the bushes she sees the elephant. Frightened, she loses her balance, trips and falls, lapses into unconsciousness.

IN A CLOSE SHOT

we see her facial muscles twitch -- a tear appears in her left eye -- she looks like a statue coming to life.

ZIP PAN TO:

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INTERCUT

49-52

between Waverly in the U.N.C.L.E. Communications room and Solo in the guest house. Waverly looks at a paper in front of him.

WAVERLY (into mike)

I have it right in front of me, Mr. Solo. Mr. Kuryakin is a Scorpio. He was born in the year six thousand five hundred thirty-two...the year of the water buffalo and in the month of the iron dog...at six-thirty p.m. Bhupat time.

SOLO

I -- didn't know that, sir.

SAVERLY

...So much for levity, Mr. Solo. Please let me know if this works.. we might decide to prepare zodiacal charts on all our agents.

SOLO

Yes, sir, I'll keep you informed.

WAVERLY

Incidentally, I looked in your file. I understand that you're Capricorn.

SOLO

That's right, sir.

WAVERLY

Your forecast for the day indicates possible danger in the early part of the afternoon..It also suggests the possibility of romantic involvement.

SOLO (reacts)

In Bhupat?

WAVERLY

Well, it doesn't specify any particular place but you appear to be in Bhupat.

SOLO

Thank you, sir. I'll be on the alert.

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INT. LOTUS ROOM IN THE MONASTERY - DAY

53

Tears roll out of Amra Palli's eyes. Solo enters. She runs towards him and throws herself into his arms. Solo is stunned with her behavior.

SOLO

Are those pearls or tears?

Amra Palli smiles with an effort.

SOLO

You can smile too! What's happened?

AMRA PALLI

I don't know. It's just happened. I feel "changed."

SOLO (thoughtfully)

Funny. I wonder if your -- change is related to my astrological forecast for today.

AMRA PALLI

What?

SOLO

Nothing. Just a random thought... Uh, before we explore it further, you and I have some unfinished business. I've received the necessary data on Illya.

He gently leads her near the pedestal and makes her sit on the lotus.

AMRA PALLI (lost in

her dreams)

Do you think I am pretty?

SOLO (throwing
camphor in the fire)

Later, my dear. Right now, I want you to concentrate on Illya's Scorpio. He was born in the year six thousand...

AMRA PALLI

(interrupting him)

I can't seem to concentrate.

SOLO

Why not?

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MARA PALLI (perplexed)
 Your magnetic waves are interfering
 with my...
 (suddenly)
 I think I have lost my power!

53
 CONT'D
 (2)

SOLO
 How did that happen?

AMRA PALLI (trying
 to recall)
 I don't know. Everything is so
 vague...I remember -- a little boy,
 and the jungle; the wild jungle....

Over this, the Prime Minister and Chief of Warriors
 enter the room -- unseen -- and listen from near
 the doorway.

AMRA PALLI
There were eyes, eyes that
 glowed like hot coals. Yes, the
 tiger! That was the tiger! So
 frightening!.....But the master
 asked me -- yes, the master.

SOLO
 Who is your master?

AMRA PALLI
 The Prime Minister. He asked me
 to take this boy into the jungle.
 An adorable boy, with a precious
 smile, A DIVINE boy.

SOLO (a long pause;
 he understands)
 I see.

AMRA PALLI (after
 a moment)
 I am sorry I cannot tell you any
 more about Mr. Kur-ya-kin.... Is
 he a friend?

SOLO
 Yes.... A very good friend.

AMRA PALLI
 He -- came to Bhupat as the
 Abominable Snowman. Why?

ANGLE ON PRIME MINISTER AND CHIEF OF WARRIORS

53X1

as, still unseen by Solo and Amra Palli, they
 react to this piece of information.

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SCENE

53X2

SOLO

To prevent the very thing that's
happened.

Amra Palli begins to sob. Solo puts his arm about her
comfortingly.

AMRA PALLI (weeping)

I have killed the new High Lama --
haven't I?... HAVEN'T I?

SOLO

You didn't know what you were doing.
You couldn't think, you couldn't feel....

AMRA PALLI (in anguish)

...But now I can....

SOLO

Listen....We can't bring the boy back,
but we can see to it that the imposter
never --

He is interrupted by the Prime Minister, who -- with
the Chief of Warriors at his heels -- steps into
the scene. Both have guns pointed at Solo.

PRIME MINISTER

Can you, Mr. Solo? Alas, I'm afraid
not.... If you will raise your hands,
please.

Solo does so. As the Prime Minister, with a gesture,
starts Solo and Amra Palli toward the door, the
Chief of Warriors tugs at the Prime Minister's
sleeve.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

Excellency....Mr. Solo's friend...
Mr. Kur-- Kur-ya-kin?

PRIME MINISTER

Yes?

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

I've heard -- through the villagers
-- that June Rogers has shot an
abominable snowman!

On the Prime Minister's reaction of surprise mingled
with burgeoning delight, on Solo's reaction of
surprise and despair --

ZIP PAN TO:

INT. SALOON IN JUNE ROGERS' CASTLE - DAY

Neatly placed on the Saloon window are six empty Yak oil bottles. Two bottles are blown apart -- good shots! As we PULL BACK we discover Illya wearing a ten-gallon hat, with brim covering his eyes -- (James Dean-GIANT-style). He cradles a Winchester in his arms!

JUNE

...He should be back most any time with your communicator. I'm sorry I didn't let you go to the snowslope...
(pause)
You've already busted nineteen of my best bottles.

ILLYA (as he blows
apart one more bottle)
Twenty.

Now June's servant enters, hands him the communicator, bows.

ILLYA
Thank you.

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JUNE

How's that for timing?
(looks at communicator)
Is that what you've been waiting for all this time? That teeny thing.

ILLYA (into communicator)
Channel D, Overseas Relay, Section One, Number One, please.

INTERCUT WITH WAVERLY IN COMM. ROOM

56-60

WAVERLY

Oh Mr. Kuryakin. We lost you.

ILLYA

I had a minor accident. Right now I'm in June Rogers' castle.

WAVERLY

June Rogers? The fastest -- ?

56-60
CONT'D
(2)

ILLYA

...Gun in the West. Yes, sir. We have uncovered evidence proving the new High Lama is a fake. I was thinking of how to approach the matter...

WAVERLY

Mmm. It makes for a rather ticklish situation. You'd better hold off for the time being. I'll take a chartered plane to Bhupat at once.

ILLYA

Are you bringing Napoleon?

WAVERLY

Mr. Solo is already there. The last time we spoke, he was at the palace, but I've since lost contact with him. I'm afraid his forecast for the day was not very encouraging.

(a pause)

When is the coronation ceremony?

JUNE (butting in)

Tomorrow afternoon, Mr. Waverly.

WAVERLY (a little pleased)

Thank you, Miss Rogers. Mr. Kuryakin, please meet me at the Palace monastery tomorrow morning, half past eleven. And Miss Rogers, I look forward to meeting you in person. Ever since I saw you in "The Cowboy and the Single Girl," I have been a loyal fan of yours....

JUNE (very pleased)

Why, thank you, Mr. Waverly. And I look forward to meeting you!

Illya clicks off, puts the communicator away.

JUNE (a bit dreamily)

He sounds very nice.

ILLYA

Mr. Waverly?
(the ultimate accolade)
He's all right.

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56-60
CONT'D
(3)

Illya picks up the gun again, blasts two more bottles off the window sill. Then the trigger clicks harmlessly; the gun is empty. As Illya moves to reload, four warriors burst into the saloon from behind the sill. Illya clubs one of them over the head with the butt of the Winchester. The other three warriors scramble for cover by overturning a large table. June starts shooting from the side of the bar.

Bottles break. Movie stars' pictures are reduced to smithereens. Part of the huge bar mirror smashes. One of the warriors manages to slip out from behind the table buffer. June finally connects and gets one in the arm and joyfully yells to Illya:

JUNE

Did you see that? I got him!

The warrior, who had been clubbed, reaches for his gun and is about to get June. Illya, having reloaded, gets him in the nick of time.

JUNE (excitedly)

Thanks, Illya!

She is looking at him, smiling broadly, as she feels a gun barrel in her back. She raises her arms... Illya, seeing what has happened, stops shooting, raises his own hands.

(NOTE: The exact details of this fight scene will depend on the nature of the set and the director's discretion.)

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ZIP PAN TO:

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61-62 OUT

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

63

Baku is seated on the throne of the High Lama. The room is as eerie as ever. The Prime Minister stands next to him with a scroll.

PRIME MINISTER

After the coronation, you will
proclaim that each and every member
of our faith is ordered to give one-
tent's of his yearly income as a
voluntary contribution to Your
Serenity. Now, you will remember
that, won't you?

(Baku is silent)

Because if you choose to forget --
(a beat)

-- you will never see your mother
again.

63
CONT'D
(2)

CUT TO:

INT. THE AURIC GONG ROOM - DAY

64

as constructed, with a huge pendulum capable of
killing a person with a single blow. The pend-
ulum is not now in motion, the gong does not
sound. Solo and Amra Palli are alone in the room.
They are not bound. The door, their only possible
means of escape, is locked.

AMRA PALLI

... It will be a fate that I have
earned. For I led the rightful High
Lama to his death ... I am only sorry
that you ... that you must share my
punishment.

SOLO

For the last time, you're not to
blame ... And there's still hope ...

AMRA PALLI

Your friend? Mr. Kuryakin?

SOLO (nods)

If he's not badly hurt, there's a
chance he can get us out of this.

AMRA PALLI

But they know where he is! They
must have gone to find him.

The door opens ...

SOLO

Illya is very resourceful.

... and Illya and Calamity are shoved in by a
Warrior while the Prime Minister, standing in the
doorway, smiles.

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SOLO (as he sees
Illya)
... Sometimes.

64
CONT'D
(2)

ILLYA (surprised)
Napoleon!

SOLO
We were just talking about you. Amra
Palli, this is Illya Kuryakin ...
(pointedly)
... the fellow who was going to get us
out of this.

The Warrior is holding a gun on all four, to pre-
vent any ideas. Illya gives Solo a look.

ILLYA
I had no idea you were in it, Napoleon.
But you do have a talent for such things.
(looks at Calamity, introduces
her)
This is Calamity Rogers.

SOLO (blinks)
The fastest...?

ILLYA
... gun in the West. Yes.

Now the Prime Minister steps forward, beams oilily.

PRIME MINISTER (to all)
Now that the formalities have been
concluded, I should tell you my plans
for all of you.

(indicates pendulums)
In a moment or two, these pendulums will
be set in motion. As they strike the
gong, the sounds will be deafening.
The reverberations, we have discovered,
can drive a person to madness before
too many hours have passed...

SOLO
The ladies ... They haven't harmed
you. There's no reason for ...

PRIME MINISTER (cutting
in)
Ah, but there is ... They provide
what you in the West call a ...
bargaining point.

ILLYA (a beat)
I see.

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PRIME MINISTER (smiles)

64
CONT'D
(3)

I knew you would ... To spare Miss Rogers and Amra Palli the ordeal ... and to avoid it yourselves ... you need only accede to a very simple request ...

(a beat)

Notify your headquarters that the new High Lama is indeed the rightful one.

CALAMITY

No!

SOLO

And what if we do ... then what?

PRIME MINISTER

Oh, you'll have to die, of course.

(smiles)

Swiftly and with a minimum of pain, an appropriate accident will be arranged. After all, you cannot very well be permitted to reveal the truth later ... But the ladies will be permitted to live.

AMRA PALLI

Do not do it, Mr. Solo ... I beg you!

PRIME MINISTER

No need to make your decision immediately. Perhaps the gong will help you arrive at it. I shall have my Chief of Warriors look in on you from time to time.

(he starts out, then turns)

Oh, incidentally, don't rely on your Mr. Waverly to save you.

(to Illya)

My men overheard your conversation with him, Mr. Kuryakin. We know he's on his way to Chupat.

(beat)

He shall meet with an accident, too.

As he exits, we

ZIP PAN TO:

INT. CHARTERED PLANE - WAVERLY - DAY

65

Waverly, the only passenger on the plane, sits in the co-pilot's seat.

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WAVERLY (to pilot,
looking down at the jungles)
Right there! Amazing. Instead of
a rare antelope, I trapped an ele-
phant calf ...

65
CONT'D
(2)

(the pilot reacts)
I couldn't keep him. The High Lama
of Ghupat wanted the elephant for
his reincarnation. It was prophesied
that he would appear to the people
astride this beast. So, I released
the elephant, and ever since we have
remained very ...

Waverly breaks off as bullets plow into the plane.
The Pilot spins out of his seat, hit. Waverly
reacts with alarm.

STOCK SHOTS

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66-67

of a plane, afire, plummeting toward earth.

FADE OUT

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:
INT. AURIC GONG ROOM - DAY

67X1

All four of the captives are near exhaustion from dodging the wildly swinging pendulum; all are near the mental edge of endurance from the echoing, reverberating SOUNDS of the GONG being struck. Now Calamity staggers and falls. Solo pulls her away, in the nick of time, from the lethal pendulum.

SOLO (breathlessly,
with difficulty)
ILLYA.... I'm going to have him
call if off.... I don't know how
much longer...the girls can take it....

CALAMITY (her voice
weak but firm)
No.... Please.... I'd rather die
than give in to him....

AMRA PALLI
Do not -- concern yourself about me,
Mr. Solo...in the East, we have
learned to endure all pain -- ex-
cept that of the spirit.

Over these speeches, the GONGS continue to reverberate.

ILLYA
Let's try to... hang on a little
longer, Napoleon.... I think he's
the one who's going to crack.... He
doesn't want us to die... Not until
we give his new Lama the seal of
approval....

Solo ponders this for a moment. Then the door opens,
and the Chief of Warriors enters.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS
Enough...?

Solo looks at him, then at the others -- whose eyes
tell him what course he must take. He turns back
to the Chief of Warriors, shakes his head.

SOLO
Tell your boss we're enjoying the
music.

The Chief of Warriors looks hard at Solo, then turns
and exits, as we --

67X1
CONT'D
(2)

CUT TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

The Prime Minister is in ceremonial robes, looking
into a mirror -- a final check before beginning the
task that he has looked forward to all his life.
The Chief of Warriors is beside him.

PRIME MINISTER

...Another hour or two, and they
will not enjoy the music quite as
much...

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

If you will forgive me, Your Ex-
cellency, I do not think the prison-
ers will yield...

PRIME MINISTER

Not even for the sake of the women?

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

It is the women who add to their
strength.

(a beat)

If the UNCLE agents are driven in-
sane -- or if they die -- they are
of no use to us.

The Prime Minister considers this, frowns.

PRIME MINISTER

(thoughtfully)

I seldom make errors. Perhaps my
selection of the Auric Gong Room
was one.

(thinks hard, then breaks
into a smile)

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

You -- have another scheme?

PRIME MINISTER

I do indeed. Consider the problem.
Mr. Solo and Mr. Kuryakin --

(wryly)

-- and the ladies who add to their
strength -- must be permitted to
think clearly and intelligently.

(Continued)

67X2
CONT'D
(2)

PRIME MINISTER (cont'd)
So that their decision may be the correct one. Distractions -- such as a gong -- are not conducive to such careful thought. It follows, then, that they must be provided with an atmosphere that is peaceful and quiet --

(pointedly)
-- as quiet as a tomb.

Now it is the Chief of Warriors' turn to smile.

CHIEF OF WARRIORS
I understand.

PRIME MINISTER
Then see to it. I shall join you in due course.

(starts for door)
Right now, I must begin the ceremony of -- the coronation.

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CUT TO:

68-70 OUT

EXT. LAMASERY COURTYARD - DAY

71

The courtyard is appropriately decorated for the coronation ceremony. At the end of the courtyard there is a pedestal with a throne on it. The coronation crown rests on a small stool nearby. The throne is empty. Many people have gathered. On one side there are monks, on the other side are the citizens of Bhupat. The Prime Minister comes into scene, moves to a podium, raises his hand for silence. The throng hushes quickly.

PRIME MINISTER
Now the auspicious moment of the coronation nears. It is a well-known fact that the new High Lama arrives at the coronation astride the royal elephant. Unfortunately, the royal elephant -- Ganesh, the jewel of our land, has met with an accident.... in the jungle. He was killed by the man-eating tiger. But the stars in their wisdom have decreed that this tiger should be slain in turn - and that the new high Lama appear sitting on the skin of the very beast who has destroyed Ganesh.

There are the SOUNDS of trumpets, horns, drums.
Baku is brought in on a chair covered with a
tiger's skin. There are claps and cheers. Baku
mounts the throne. The Prime Minister bows to
him. Baku wears a blank expression.

71
CONT'D
(1)

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PRIME MINISTER
Your Serenity ...

71
CONT'D
(2)

BAKU (emotionless)
Excellency.

The Prime Minister turns, proclaims:

PRIME MINISTER
Let the ceremony begin!

ZIP PAN TO:

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INT. DUNGEON - DAY

71X1

There is -- or was -- a niche in one of the walls, large enough to accommodate four persons if they stand very close together. Illya, Solo, Calamity and Amra Palli are standing in it now, a single chain, anchored to the wall behind, encircling them all. And we do not see the bottom halves of their torsos. For the niche is being bricked in by a skilled mason, and the bricks are already up to the waists of the captives.

SOLO (to mason)
You're quite good at this. Tell me, do you have a union card?

The mason looks at Solo with some puzzlement, shrugs, continues with his job. Now the Prime Minister enters the scene, examines the mason's handiwork, appears satisfied, bestows one of his patented evil smiles on the captives.

ILLYA (to Prime Minister)
I thought the coronation had begun.

PRIME MINISTER
The ceremony has started, yes. At the moment, there is a ritual dance to drive off the evil spirits.

SOLO
So that's what brings you here -

PRIME MINISTER
This is a big day in my life and I shall overlook your insolence. For the last time, will you change your mind and save the lives of those two innocent women?

71X1
CONT'D
(2)

CALAMITY (to Prime
Minister)
Look who's talking! You're the
one who killed my husband -- aren't
you?

PRIME MINISTER (nods)
Alas, it was necessary. You see, the
late High Lama had visions of my plan.
He asked Chang Li -- your husband --
to supervise the succession. Leaving
me with no choice, Miss Rogers. I had
to kill Chang Li. I still think of
him very fondly.

SOLO
I'm still not quite clear about your --
plan.

PRIME MINISTER
Tami, whom you saw, Mr. Solo, is my
son Baku. Not legally -- monks are
not permitted to marry, you know --
but nevertheless my son.... In but
a few moments, he will be the new
High Lama of Chupat, with millions
of followers!
(a beat)
And you and Mr. Kuryakin will vouch
for the authenticity of it.

ILLYA
We've been through that matter before.

PRIME MINISTER
And this will be the last time.
(Indicates the mason)
Very shortly, this highly skilled
artisan will have completed his task.
Once you are completely -- entombed,
you will have enough air to survive
perhaps -- oh, fifteen minutes. You
see, it's much quicker than the Gong.
And every bit as imaginative, I would
think.

(a beat)
I must get back to more pressing mat-
ters, now. The mason will remain here
after his job is finished. If you wish
to yield to my demands -- before the
mortar is hardened --
(that smile again)
-- just knock.

He exits. STAY with the captive quartet, in the dim
-- and ever-dimming -- light of their tomb.

71X1
CONT'D
(3)

ILLYA (to Solo)
Which one of us has the plan?

SOLO (thoughtfully)
Well, there's a detonator in my
necktie. That should take care
of the chain.
(glumly)
Except for one thing.

ILLYA (matching
Solo's frown)
Nothing to detonate.
(a beat)
Or is there?
(turns to Calamity)
Miss Rogers, I noticed you're
wearing a good deal of jewelry....

CALAMITY (after all,
she's a woman)
Nice stuff, huh? My husband always
thought a star should look like a
star.

ILLYA
I -- ah -- hope you won't take
offense, but some of it appears
to have come from the five-and-
dime store.

CALAMITY (taking offense)
Now, hold on there just a minute,
buddy....

ILLYA (very seriously)
Please. It's very important.

In the dimming light, Calamity sees the importance
of it written on Illya's face, backs down.

CALAMITY
Well, most of the stuff is the
real McCoy, but this bracelet here --

SOLO (to Illya,
catching on)
Magnesium?

ILLYA
Possibly. A lot of imitation
jewelry is made of it.

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71X1
CONT'D
(4)

SOLO (to Amra Palli)
If you can get my necktie off...

Amra Palli looks dazed for a moment, then, without a word, sets about doing so with her teeth.

CALAMITY
I don't understand.

ILLYA
Magnesium can be very explosive.

CALAMITY (dully)
Oh.

Set sets about working the bracelet off her wrist.
Amra Palli continues working on Solo's necktie.

CALAMITY (indicating
the bracelet)
What -- what if it's not magnesium?

SOLO (judiciously)
Then I'd say we have a problem.

The necktie is off now, and the mechanics of what follows will be worked out by the genius and facilities of the Special Effects Man. Suffice it to say here that in due course -- BANG!

The chain breaks under the force of the explosion. In a second, the quartet is free. Solo and Illya hurl their bodies at the wall whose bricks are held together by still un-set mortar. And they break through the wall, to the utter astonishment of the mason, who is promptly Karate-chopped by Illya and crumples to the floor. As Illya, Solo, Calamity and Amra Palli start for the dungeon exit --

CUT TO:

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EXT. LAMASERY COURTYARD - DAY - VARIOUS ANGLES

72-76

The animal mask dancers, drums, chanting. It's quite a pageant. The DRUMS become louder and louder. Then, almost in an instant, all sounds cease as the Prime Minister steps to the throne on which Baku sits. In his hands is the sacred crown that will adorn the head of the new High Lama. Several Monks now arrange themselves about the pair. The moment of the actual coronation is at hand.

PRIME MINISTER (to all,
in a loud voice)
As is ordained, the time is now. On the head of the child Jami there shall be placed this jeweled hat -- and from that moment on he shall be Jami no longer. He shall be the new High Lama of Ghupat, to whom we all owe eternal loyalty and to whom we offer -- from this time forward -- our humble obeisances.

The monks begin to chant. The Prime Minister is about to place the crown. At this moment, Solo, Illya, Calamity and Amra Palli burst into the courtyard from the lamasery.

CALAMITY (dramatically
as possible)
Stop! It's a fake!

The crowd, understandably, reacts. Baku looks at Calamity as if giving thanks for deliverance.

PRIME MINISTER (shout-
ing)
Seize them!

Now the battle begins. Solo and Illya quickly knock down a couple of Warriors, seize their weapons. The crowd breaks.

The fight itself will be staged at the discretion of the director and, of course, in keeping with the nature of the set. There will be some gunfire exchanged -- with Solo and Illya being particularly careful to avoid shooting near the throne on which sits the boy Baku. And the fight will end with all four of the erstwhile captives -- including Calamity, who has managed to get hold of a fallen Warrior's gun and begun to stalk the Prime Minister -- captured once more. Order of a sort is restored, as Warriors hold Solo, Illya, Calamity and Amra Palli. The Prime Minister once again raises his hands for silence.

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PRIME MINISTER

At the conclusion of this sacred
rite, there will be yet another
ceremony. These four --

(he gestures contemptuously
toward the captives)

three foreigners and a native
traitor -- have committed a shock-
ing crime. They have conspired to
deprive our Jami, the reincarnation
of the late Lama, of his rightful
throne. For this they will be
executed.

72-76
CONT'D
(2)

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There is a murmur from the crowd, then a mighty
cheer as the Prime Minister finally places the
crown on Baku's head. And then the crowd's reac-
tion is an altogether different one as all eyes
-- drawn there by a couple of shouts -- turn
toward the open courtyard gates. Approaching
those gates, in a cloud of dust, there is a dark
colored object coming nearer and nearer. Then
there is another SOUND. The awesome trumpeting
emitted by Ganesh, the elephant. There is mur-
muring among the Monks. The citizens gape.
There are two figures on the howdah on the
elephant's back: the boy Jami and Mr. Waverly.
And, in the minds of all present, springs the
memory of the ancient prophecy:

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

It's Ganesh. The royal elephant!...
And the true High Lama.

The elephant charges into the courtyard and heads
straight for the Prime Minister, who cannot believe
his eyes. He orders the Chief of Warriors and his
men to shoot.

PRIME MINISTER

Shoot the boy!

CHIEF OF WARRIORS

(aims his rifle -- but
he is sweating)

I can't! It's -- it's a sign
from Heaven!

(throwing his rifle
on the ground)

Hail the High Lama!
(he bows)

Other Warriors also throw their rifles and begin kneeling on the ground...with "Hail the High Lama." The elephant with Jami and Waverly chase the Prime Minister, who runs from one side of the yard to the other. Baku takes off his crown -- relieved. In the chaos, Solo and Illya and the others break loose again, look with surprise at Waverly on the elephant's back.

72-76
CONT'D
(4)

ILLYA
Mr. Waverly!

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Waverly tips his hat. Not to be reproduced or quoted without permission.

WAVERLY
Good afternoon, gentlemen.

Solo and Illya take on those Warriors still loyal to the Prime Minister, dispose of them in U.N.C.L.E-ish manner. Now the Prime Minister trips and falls on the ground. The elephant raises his massive foreleg over him.

PRIME MINISTER
(panicky)
I beg of you! Please don't! Don't crush me! Your Serenity, Jami, forgive me for my sins. I confess! Please don't kill me! Ganesh! Your Serenity! Forgive me! Forgive me!

The crowd has gathered. Waverly looks at Jami. The elephant's foot hovers scant inches over the Prime Minister's body...and from the crowd comes Baku. He stands near his father...and looks at Jami pleadingly.

BAKU (coronation
crown in his two palms)
Hail, Hail the High Lama.

INTERCUT CLOSEUPS

77-78

Baku's pleading expression and Jami's calm serenity.

BACK TO SCENE

79

Then the elephant slowly removes his massive foot from above the Prime Minister's body. Solo and Illya and everyone else watch with fascination.

ZIP PAN TO:

INT. HIGH LAMA'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

80

It is evening, following the coronation. Jami is seated on the throne wearing the crown. He is absorbed in the pictures of the gift book from Waverly. THE MEMOIRS OF THE WHITE ELEPHANT.

Amra Palli and Illiya are absorbed in sweet talk.

AMRA PALLI

...Not until then did I realize that I was a woman, Mr. Kuryakin.

ILLYA

You are indeed. Uh -- call me Illiya.

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Solo interrupts.

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SOLO

Excuse me, Amra Palli. Would you like to join me for a sunset stroll?

AMRA PALLI

(apologetically)

Well, you see, Mr. Solo, my Jupiter is in descending aspects with rising half-moon -- but Mr. Kur -- I mean, Illiya's --

SOLO (slightly hurt)

I understand.

Solo walks towards June Rogers who is engrossed in a conversation with Waverly.

WAVERLY

Happily, I was able to bring the plane down in a clearing.

(modestly)

It wasn't a very good landing, you understand, but under the circumstances, it was an acceptable one. And who do I see? Ganesh! An elephant never forgets...

JUNE ROGERS

It's just like the ending of "The Cowboy And The Single Girl." Except instead of the elephant, there was a horse.

(ignoring Solo)

Mr. Waverly, shall we go and watch the sunset?

The lonesome Solo walks away from them and looks at a typical eastern erotic statue -- with a clinical, but (alas!) sublimated eye...