

AGENTS

by Robert Arnold

EPISODE SIX:

ULYSSES TECHNOLOGY

CHARACTERS

VINCE	A depressed poet
ELAINE	A doctor
MADELEINE	A politician
BISHOP	A sniper
OMNI	A hotel desk clerk
OVERSTREET	A Human Resources Manager
FLOWERS	Mr. Overstreet's muscle
RADIO	An electronics expert
DEVON	A campaign manager
SECURITY	Chief of Security
ARCHIE	A gunman

1 DEVON: Hey, what is this? What are you doing? You
2 can't just barge in here! You --

3 SOUND: SILENCED GUNSHOTS.

4 MADELEINE: No -- !

5 DEVON: Uhh!

6 SOUND: BODY FALLS.

7 MADELEINE: You bastard. Who are you men? What do you
8 want?

9 ARCHIE: Aw, don't be upset, lady. We're just two
10 fellas working a job. The bad news is -- our
11 job is you.

12 SOUND: SILENCED GUNSHOTS.

13 SOUND: BODY FALLS.

14 MADELEINE: (PAUSE) Why did you do that? Wasn't that man
15 your partner?

16 RADIO: He thought he was. Look, we need to get out of
17 here. Quick. You're gonna have to trust me.

18 MUSIC: TRANSITION.

1 **MADELEINE:** **Mr. Fellows -- Claude -- saved my life. He**
2 **brought me here, told me to stay indoors.**
3 **Promised I'd be safe. And so far, I have been.**
4 **But when I saw the news -- the attack --**

5 **VINCE:** **Yeah. We were there. In fact, his last words**
6 **brought us to you.**

7 **MADELEINE:** **He was a good man.**

8 **ELAINE:** **Jonas must have had him working undercover.**
9 **Posing as an assassin. And somehow he got**
10 **himself involved with the crew that was sent**
11 **to take you out.**

12 **VINCE:** **I guess they figured out the double-cross.**

13 **MADELEINE:** **I'm not so sure. Mr. Fellows maintained his**
14 **cover by claiming my security detail fought**
15 **back harder than anticipated, killing his**
16 **colleague and allowing me to escape.**

17 **ELAINE:** **Then why did those gunmen come after him?**

18 **MADELEINE:** **There was -- something else.**

19 **ELAINE:** **What?**

1 **MADELEINE:** Please understand. If I share this
2 information with you, then you will be in
3 exactly the same danger he was.

4 **ELAINE:** I think we're in it already. Vince?

5 **VINCE:** Yeah... what's one more death threat, right?
6 Go ahead.

7 **MADELEINE:** A few months ago, my people in the State
8 Department got wind of... a plot. Something
9 originating from inside the current
10 administration.

11 **VINCE:** What kind of plot?

12 **MADELIENE:** I don't know, exactly. All we had were
13 clues. Hints. But it had the hallmarks of
14 something major, so my people were asking
15 around. I believe that may have been what
16 prompted the attempt on my life. I told Mr.
17 Fellows about it, and he offered to help
18 look into it.

19 **ELAINE:** And you think he got too close.

1 **MADELEINE:** In which case... I fear his death may have
2 been my fault.

3 **VINCE:** I'm more inclined to blame the guys with
4 guns. So what did he find out, exactly?

5 **MADELEINE:** Not enough to get a clear picture. But, as I
6 understand it, somewhere in the Territory
7 there is a train car --

8 **SOUND:** **WINDOW PANE CRACKS.**

9 **VINCE:** (PAUSE) What was that?

10 **ELAINE:** Down. Get down!

11 **SOUND:** **WINDOW CRACKS, SHATTERS.**

12 **SOUND:** **SCRAMBLING.**

13 **ELAINE:** Snipers. Ms. Stevenson, get close to the
14 wall there. Stay low.

15 **MADELEINE:** Could someone have followed you here?

16 **ELAINE:** It's possible. I wasn't really thinking
17 about being tailed.

1 VINCE: You think it's our friend from the rooftops
2 the other night? He did --

3 SOUND: SHATTERING. CLOSE.

4 ELAINE: (STARTLED) Damn it! Vince, we need to get
5 her out of here.

6 VINCE: (PAUSE) Elaine. It's only us.

7 ELAINE: What?

8 VINCE: He's only shooting through this window --
9 the one near us. He's not trying to hit Ms.
10 Stevenson.

11 ELAINE: Are you sure?

12 VINCE: Remember what he said to me? I think he's
13 trying to rescue her.

14 MADELEINE: Then how do we call him off?

15 VINCE: Maybe we do exactly that. Hand me that vase.

16 ELAINE: Okay. Here. What are you --

17 VINCE: I'm just going to lift it up -- very slowly
18 -- in front of the window. Just to see --

1 **SOUND:** VASE SHATTERS.

2 **ELAINE:** So he's not a fan of daisies.

3 **VINCE:** Ms. Stevenson -- see that picture frame near
4 you? Can you hold it up in front of that
5 window, like I just did with the vase?

6 **MADELEINE:** All right...

7 **ELAINE:** Vince --

8 **VINCE:** Careful! Be careful. Don't give him any part
9 of you to hit. (PAUSE) There. See?

10 **ELAINE:** Yeah, but that's just a picture frame.

11 **VINCE:** Right. Ms. Stevenson -- what happens if you
12 put your hands up to the window?

13 **ELAINE:** Vince! No!

14 **MADELEINE:** It's -- it's all right. If it will help.

15 **VINCE:** Slow. Go slow! (PAUSE) See? Nothing.

16 **MADELEINE:** Now what?

1 VINCE: Do this. Signal. Signal "eight" -- the
2 number eight.

3 MADELEINE: All right...

4 ELAINE: What are you doing?

5 VINCE: Hold on. Okay, now five. Five again. Then
6 seven. Four. One. Two.

7 MADELEINE: All right. All right. I've done it.

8 SOUND: (PAUSE) CELL PHONE RINGS.

9 ELAINE: Oh my God.

10 SOUND: PHONE ANSWERED.

11 VINCE: We are here to rescue Madeleine Stevenson.
12 We are not trying to hurt her.

13 BISHOP: (PAUSE) (PHONE) Then we should talk.

14 MUSIC: TRANSITION.

15

1 SOUND: OUTDOOR AMBIENCE. NIGHT.

2 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS.

3 BISHOP: That's close enough.

4 VINCE: Where's your firepower?

5 BISHOP: Big one's put away. Small one's here in this
6 pocket. Don't make me demonstrate. Secretary
7 Stevenson, are you all right?

8 MADELEINE: I'm all right. Please, these people are
9 friends. They were sent here to help me.

10 BISHOP: We'll see about that. Who sent you? (PAUSE)
11 All right, then, I'll tell you. You work for
12 a man who calls himself Mr. Jonas. After the
13 radio character. And that man is directly
14 responsible for the attempt on Madeleine
15 Stevenson's life.

16 ELAINE: What? No! No, Mr. Jonas had nothing to do
17 with that.

18 VINCE: It was one of his agents who saved her, hid
19 her out here --

1 BISHOP: Yes -- as a double-cross. And now that man
2 is dead.

3 ELAINE: Who are you, anyway? Who do you work for?

4 BISHOP: I represent a group of concerned citizens
5 who refuse to allow people like your boss to
6 seize power.

7 VINCE: Seize power? Listen, pal, we clearly attended
8 two very different orientation sessions. Mr.
9 Jonas has been taking down the powerful.

10 ELAINE: Remember Hockstead? That was his doing.

11 BISHOP: Of course. Secretary Hockstead was
12 embezzling from the Party. He had to go.

13 ELAINE: Wait, you think Mr. Jonas is a Party
14 operative? They're exactly who we're
15 fighting against!

16 BISHOP: I'm sure that's what he told you. But think
17 about it. How many details does he share
18 about these little missions he sends you on?
19 Has he ever given you enough information to
20 see the full picture?

1 VINCE: His whole M.O. is puzzles.

2 BISHOP: His whole M.O. is shadows and subterfuge.
3 Isn't it conceivable that Mr. Jonas could be
4 taking advantage of your good intentions --
5 your goodwill -- to accomplish his own goals?

6 ELAINE: No. That can't be... it can't.

7 MADELEINE: Please. If they believe this man can be
8 trusted --

9 BISHOP: All right, I'll tell you what. Why don't we
10 go see him, and ask?

11 VINCE: (LAUGHS) Are you serious? We don't know where
12 he is. He contacts us when he needs us.
13 There's no way to just go out and find him.

14 ELAINE: (PAUSE) There may be a way.

15 MUSIC: TRANSITION.

16

1 SOUND: HOTEL LOBBY AMBIENCE.

2 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS ON TILE.

3 OMNI: Evening, folks. Welcome to the Columbia
4 Hotel. How can I help you?

5 ELAINE: Omni.

6 OMNI: (UNDER HIS BREATH) My manager is here. Make
7 it quick.

8 VINCE: We need to see Mr. Jonas.

9 OMNI: Are you crazy? You know how this works.

10 ELAINE: Omni, it's an emergency. Life and death. See
11 those two people who walked in with us?

12 OMNI: Yes. Who are they?

13 ELAINE: We -- can't tell you that right now. Not
14 until we clear a few things up.

15 VINCE: But we can tell you that the man has a gun
16 in his coat pocket, and that he is making
17 some pretty wild claims.

1 OMNI: I don't see how that's my problem. Or Mr.
2 Jonas's.

3 ELAINE: Omni, please.

4 OMNI: Look, I'm sorry. I don't mean to be cold.
5 But telling you anything without clearance
6 could put the whole organization in danger.

7 ELAINE: How much do you know about "the whole
8 organization"?

9 OMNI: Excuse me?

10 ELAINE: That man back there? He's claiming Mr. Jonas
11 is behind some really evil stuff.

12 OMNI: He's lying. He's trying to confuse you.

13 ELAINE: I think so too. But we need to know for
14 sure. Omni -- please. We wouldn't ask if it
15 weren't important.

16 OMNI: (PAUSE) I thought you two were supposed to
17 be off active duty for a while.

18 ELAINE: This one found us. Please.

1 OMNI: (SIGHS) There's... an address. Where I send
2 things that need to get to him. Don't get
3 your hopes up! It's probably just a mailbox.

4 VINCE: It's something. We'll take it.

5 ELAINE: Yes, we will. Thank you.

6 OMNI: All right. But if this gets traced back to
7 me, we may all get left out in the cold. Or
8 worse. Let me get a pen.

9 MUSIC: TRANSITION.

10

1 SOUND: LOBBY DOOR OPENS.

2 SOUND: ECHOING FOOTSTEPS.

3 VINCE: I guess everyone's gone home for the night.

4 MADELEINE: I don't understand. You think your contact
5 has an office in this building?

6 ELAINE: We don't know. But this is the address Omni
7 gave us. We're looking for something called
8 Ulysses Technology.

9 VINCE: There's a directory.

10 BISHOP: Whoa, hoss. Don't go running off.

11 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS. CONTINUE BRIEFLY.

12 MADELEINE: Is it really necessary to continue pointing
13 that weapon at them? They have been nothing
14 but cooperative.

15 VINCE: Don't worry, Madame Secretary. For a sniper,
16 he's a terrible shot. You saw him back at
17 the house.

1 BISHOP: Ms. Stevenson, my first priority is to
2 protect you. If you insist on joining us for
3 this little adventure, then I'm not taking
4 any chances. As for you -- those were
5 warning shots. I'm not in the business of
6 murdering people.

7 VINCE: Oh, so you just shoot at them in a friendly
8 fashion?

9 BISHOP: Listen --

10 ELAINE: It's not here.

11 VINCE: What do you mean?

12 ELAINE: Look. Nine floors of tenants, and there's no
13 "Ulysses Technology" anywhere.

14 MADELEINE: Perhaps we've been sent on a wild goose chase.

15 VINCE: Omni did say it may just be a mailbox.

16 BISHOP: Or maybe your man led us into a trap.

17 ELAINE: (REALIZING) It's not a trap. It's a puzzle.
18 With Mr. Jonas, it always is.

1 VINCE: What kind of puzzle?

2 ELAINE: I don't know. I don't know. Think. Ulysses
3 Technology. Maybe it's an anagram. Lus...

4 VINCE: Sly...

5 MADELEINE: Lye... usss?

6 VINCE: Sly uses?

7 ELAINE: Doesn't sound like anything. Okay, Ulysses.
8 What did Ulysses do?

9 MADELEINE: Anybody remember their undergraduate poetry
10 courses?

11 VINCE: Remember them? I used to teach them.

12 BISHOP: Can't imagine that's ever come in handy before.

13 VINCE: Ulysses is the Roman name for Odysseus. Hero
14 of the Odyssey. After the Trojan War, he and
15 his crew wandered for ten years.

16 MADELEINE: That doesn't bode well for us.

17 ELAINE: There's got to be more to it.

1 VINCE: Well, they blind a Cyclops, get turned into
2 pigs, escape the Sirens...

3 ELAINE: Does any of that mean anything? Come on,
4 Vince. Think.

5 BISHOP: Your time to shine, Poet.

6 VINCE: Please don't call me that. I -- hang on.
7 Elaine, you said this place has nine floors?

8 ELAINE: Yeah?

9 VINCE: (THINKING) Maybe it's not the Odyssey.

10 ELAINE: Then what?

11 VINCE: Ulysses also shows up in Dante's Inferno.
12 Which has nine circles of hell.

13 ELAINE: Okay! Now we're getting somewhere.

14 MADELEINE: Which circle is he in?

15 VINCE: Number eight. Counselors of fraud.

16 BISHOP: Cute.

1 VINCE: And he and Diomedes show up in Canto...
2 Canto... twenty-six?
3 ELAINE: So, suite 826? Eighth floor?
4 BISHOP: Seems like a real stretch.
5 ELAINE: That's Mr. Jonas for you. Come on. Elevators
6 are this way.
7 MUSIC: TRANSITION.
8

1 SOUND: GLASS SHATTERED.

2 SOUND: DOOR UNLOCKED, OPENED.

3 VINCE: I'm sure we could have figured out how to do
4 that a little more... quietly.

5 BISHOP: We've been doing things your way. Go.

6 SOUND: LIGHT CLICKED ON.

7 MADELEINE: Doesn't look like much.

8 VINCE: Just some bland office. What are we
9 searching for, exactly?

10 ELAINE: Well, if Mr. Jonas isn't here, then -- some
11 way to get in touch, maybe? Or else some
12 evidence of what he's really up to.

13 VINCE: (QUIETLY) Elaine. Are you sure you want to
14 open this can of worms? And risk getting us
15 blacklisted... or worse? All because some
16 gunman --

17

1 ELAINE: I know. But we've got to. It's like I told
2 you -- if we can't trust each other, we're
3 lost. (LOUDER:) Okay. I'll start with these
4 files. Vince, will you check the desks?

5 SOUND: FILE CABINET SLIDES OPEN.

6 MADELEINE: Maybe I can look over here.

7 BISHOP: Just stay clear of the two of them, Madame
8 Secretary. Leave me a good line of sight.

9 SOUND: RUMMAGING.

10 VINCE: You could help, you know.

11 BISHOP: Why? I don't need any evidence. I already
12 know the score.

13 VINCE: Right, because some nobody told you --

14 ELAINE: Vince. Come look at this.

15 VINCE: What is it?

16 SOUND: RUMMAGING THROUGH FILES.

17 ELAINE: Files. On us. And all the others.

1 VINCE: Okay, so he keeps some information on his
2 agents. That's no surprise.

3 ELAINE: Yeah, but listen. This is from a memo in your
4 file. "Witness to Fellows cleanup. Continue
5 to monitor for signs of disloyalty."

6 VINCE: "Cleanup?"

7 ELAINE: And look -- it's signed by Overstreet.

8 VINCE: Oh my God.

9 BISHOP: Should I be impressed? Who is Over -- uhh!

10 SOUND: HE IS STRUCK, COLLAPSES.

11 OVERSTREET: (APPROACHING) Evening, all. Forgive the
12 dramatic entrance. I was hoping it wouldn't
13 prove necessary. Mr. Flowers, check Mr.
14 Bishop for additional weapons, please.

15 FLOWERS: I'll take that. Move. Stand by them.

16 VINCE: That is Mr. Overstreet.

17 BISHOP: Funny. I know this guy as Mr. Maxwell.

1 OVERSTREET: What a strange crew we find assembled here,
2 Mr. Flowers. I must say, you all discovered
3 this office far too easily. I worried about
4 getting clever with the name. But no matter.

5 VINCE: Overstreet -- what are you doing here?

6 OVERSTREET: Mr. Harris. The incredible gall it must take
7 to break into someone's office, then demand
8 to know what they are doing there...

9 ELAINE: Listen, we need to see Mr. Jonas. This man --

10 OVERSTREET: This man is a dangerous assassin. Or have
11 you two forgotten your little rooftop
12 adventure?

13 BISHOP: Assassin? Maxwell, you know I've never killed
14 anybody. And I've been acting under your
15 orders!

16 OVERSTREET: And yet you've brought these two enemy agents
17 here, Mr. Bishop, along with the missing
18 Secretary of State. Hello, Madame Secretary.

19 MADELEINE: Look, I don't know what's going on --

1 OVERSTREET: (SIGHS) A mess, I'm afraid. But one we can
2 clean up rather efficiently, since you're
3 all gathered here together. Hand over your
4 phones, please. Mr. Flowers, the fuel?

5 FLOWERS: Yessir.

6 SOUND: SLOSHING.

7 MADELEINE: Wait a minute. Fuel?

8 VINCE: You're -- you're burning it?

9 OVERSTREET: Drastic, I know. But once secure data has
10 been compromised, destruction is the safest
11 response. It's always frustrating to start
12 over. But it won't be the first time.

13 ELAINE: What about us?

14 OVERSTREET: Like I said. The drastic response is the
15 safest.

16 MADELEINE: You -- you can't do this. These are innocent
17 lives.

18 OVERSTREET: I wish you all had left me some option.

1 VINCE: You're gonna just kill the Secretary, too?

2 ELAINE: Of course he is. He's the one who botched
3 the job in the first place.

4 OVERSTREET: You know, it is always a little suspicious
5 when someone as reliable as Mr. Radio fails
6 to deliver. His subsequent actions confirmed
7 that he was no longer the partner we
8 believed him to be.

9 VINCE: So, what, you're going to burn down a whole
10 building just to cover your tracks?

11 OVERSTREET: Thankfully, no. The walls in this building
12 are reinforced with steel, the windows are
13 shatterproof, and each suite has its own
14 fire door. The flames will stay contained.
15 In fact, if the alarm system in this suite
16 is offline -- which I assure you it is --
17 the blaze may not even be detected until
18 morning. Ready, Mr. Flowers?

19 FLOWERS: Ready.

20 OVERSTREET: Well then.

1 SOUND: LIGHTER UNCAPPED.

2 ELAINE: Overstreet. This is insane. Why are you
3 doing this? Where is Mr. Jonas?

4 OVERSTREET: (SIGHS) Dr. Margulies. You are so
5 intelligent in so many ways. Yet you've come
6 this far, and you still haven't realized?

7 ELAINE: Realized what?

8 OVERSTREET: There is no "Mr. Jonas." He doesn't exist.
9 Never has. Goodbye.

10 SOUND: LIGHTER LIT.

11 SOUND: WHOOSH OF FLAMES.

12 SOUND: METAL DOOR ROLLED DOWN, SLAMMED.

13 MUSIC: CLOSING.

14

15 END OF EPISODE SIX