**THE BRIGAND**

**“The Hijack Caper”**

**Episode One of a Spinoff from:**

**“The Platinum Heist Cross-up”**

**(A 90 minute TV Pilot Episode)**

**Story and Screenplay**

**by:**

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**PRODUCTION NOTES:**

**Since most of the action in the pilot episode entitled “The Hijack Caper,” a spinoff from a TV series called “The Brigand,” from the “Cross-up” miniseries entitled, “The Platinum Heist Cross-up,” takes place aboard a 150-foot motor yacht, it’s important we understand the configuration of that particular yacht.**

**This particular configuration represents a series of successful motor yachts currently built by a top notch Florida builder. These boats are found up and down the east coast. It is anticipated that – other than establishing the yacht in various locations (possibly by using several different yachts) – the boats interiors will be filmed on sets built within the so-called Hollywood 30-mile limit.**

**CONFIGURATION OF THE DECKS AND CABINS OF*****LA PRINCESSE*:**

**Deck level: Guest dining area, two large lounges with spectacular sea views of the yacht’s surroundings, a library and, of course, the bar – also with a spectacular view. The entertainment room has satellite TV, radio, DVD, and CD, playback capability. The number of DVD movies in the library is impressive.**

**Third upper deck level: Pilothouse, Captain’s quarters, and in the rear, Benedict’s large, master suite. Hanging over both sides of the yacht by their davits are two large, 8-passenger (plus 1-crew member), well stocked, high speed RIB Zodiac rubber boats with twin outboard engines and enough fuel for a 65 mile run.**

**Second upper deck level: Six modest sized guest cabins.**

**Below main deck level: The engine room, diesel, fresh water storage tanks, and three large crew cabins (two to a cabin), together with the crew’s mess. Also, below deck are the laundry, food, liquor, and storage compartments for sundry items. There is also the engine room, fresh water and diesel fuel storage, food and liquor compartments, a room for tools and spare parts, and a mess – where the crew takes their meals out of sight of the guests.**

**While the upper deck guest rooms, except for Benedict’s (which doubles as an office) are smaller than on many luxury yachts, they are lavishly furnished - two double beds a bathroom with shower and bidet. Satellite TV with a 42-inch flat HD screen is also available.**

**The yacht tends to be a little top heavy but in rough seas and the keel lowered she is stable enough.**

**The dining area and adjacent bar and lounge are located on the main deck. This is the gathering point for all guests.**

**001**

**001 EXT. SHIP REPAIR YARD – LONG ISLAND, N.Y. – DAY 001**

**The yacht repair shop with both sail and motor yachts on scaffolding – filling the yard together with other boats**

**moored in the water of the small manmade harbor.**

**002 INT. REPAIR SHOP – DAY 002**

**A tall, lean, handsome man in his early 30s, BRIG, using the name Don Cobane, is working on a marine engine when his boss SCHULTZ approaches.**

**SCHULTZ**

**Cobane?**

**Brig stops working on the diesel engine and turns to face his boss.**

**BRIG**

**What’s on your mind, Schultz?**

**SCHULTZ**

**Word has it that you’re leaving us**

**to accept a job as chief engineer**

**on a 150-foot motor yacht, making**

**a trip down the Intracoastal Water-**

**way to Miami.**

**BRIG**

**I put in my application. As yet, I**

**haven’t heard back from anybody.**

**SCHULTZ**

**Sounds like a cushy job. ...They’re**

**fools if they don’t hire you.**

**(smiling)**

**We’ll miss you.**

**The two shake hands warmly.**

**003 EXT. SECURITIES & EXCHANGE BLDG., MANHATTAN – DAY 003**

**Establish.**

**004 INT. BOARD ROOM – SEC OFFICES – MANHATTAN – DAY 004**

**SEC special agent SETH MERIWETHER is giving his report to his five colleagues and bosses. Seth stands out from his fellow agents in that while they are**

**002**

**the typical button-down, spit and polish agents, Seth is any-**

**thing but. Instead he is a disheveled, overweight man in his mid-to-late 40s - with a large untrimmed moustache, full head**

**of equally disheveled, curly hair and wearing a corduroy jacket and pair of dark slacks – both in need of pressing.**

**SETH**

**I’ve managed to get fairly close**

**to our target and, following the**

**suggestion of Commissioner Bil-**

**lings, have given the impression**

**that I could be bribed.**

**Commissioner BILLINGS smiles and asks.**

**BILLINGS**

**And how has that worked out, Seth?**

**SETH**

**While he is aware my job is to**

**bring him and his trading company**

**down, and throw the lot in jail,**

**he’s hinting that he would like to**

**have me on his team.**

**(beat)**

**Subtle hints, of course.**

**BILLINGS**

**And that yacht of his? Still making**

**offshore trades not subject to Amer-**

**ican trading laws?**

**005 EXT. LA PRINCESSE AT SEA – DAY 005**

**The 150-foot luxury motor yacht is heading out to sea.**

**SETH (V.O.)**

**Sets sail for international waters**

**twice a week.**

**BILLINGS (V.O.)**

**(disgusted)**

**And there’s nothing we can do about**

**it. This guy makes the *Wolf of Wall***

***Street* look like an amateur.**

**006 EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS - LOWER MANHATTAN – DAY 006**

**Beauty shots of the ferry departing for Staten Island and the Wall**

**003**

**Street district.**

**007 LA PRINCESSE – N.Y. MOORING - DAY 007**

**With its two upper decks, the 150-foot luxury yacht is tied**

**up at its exclusive, Lower Manhattan dock.**

**008 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 008**

**In the yacht’s master suite, the owner, WILLIAM “JETT” BENEDICT, early 50s and physically fit, with a winning smile, is seated behind his desk carrying on a conversation with Seth Meriwether, seated across from him.**

**SETH**

**I hope you’ve worked out your get-**

**away. ...As I figure, you’ve only a**

**matter of weeks before Securities &**

**Exchange hits you with everything**

**they’ve got, and believe me, they’ve**

**got plenty. ...They’re going to con-**

**fiscate all your assets, including**

**this *boat.***

**BENEDICT**

**I’m about to announce a voyage down**

**the Intracoastal Waterway with the**

**actress Karen Vaughn and her producer**

**husband, Brad Taylor. ...All the ar-**

**rangements have been made.**

**(beat)**

**Plan is to sell the boat in Miami**

**then fly back here in about 30 days.**

**009 EXT. LA PRINCESSE – INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY – DAY 009**

**The 150-foot yacht is making its way down the waterway.**

**SETH (V.O.)**

**Clever move, taking any traders**

**with you?**

**BENEDICT (V.O.)**

**Four of my best. We’ll be making**

**trades the whole time.**

**(beat)**

**You and Mrs. Meriwether are welcome**

**to join us. You’d enjoy it. Lots**

**of gourmet dining and expensive booze.**

**004**

**010 BACK TO SCENE 010**

**SETH**

**And your Wall Street trading office?**

**BENEDICT**

**Will continue to be run by my partner.**

**SETH**

**The lovely Miss Nicole Kelley?**

**BENEDICT**

**The very same. ...She’s an honest**

**trader; I hope they’re not going**

**after her?**

**SETH**

**Not that I’m aware of. ...It’s YOU**

**they want.**

**BENEDICT**

**All I want is to get to Miami and**

**sell La Princess before being ar-**

**rested.**

**SETH**

**I think I can arrange that.**

**011 EXT. WALL STREET BUILDING – DAY 011**

**Establish.**

**012 INT. HALLWAY – WALL STREET BUILDING – DAY 012**

**The sign pained on the door’s frosted window reads: Seven Seas Brokerage and Investment Banking. William Benedict approaches and opens the door.**

**013 INT. WALL STREET SEVEN SEAS TRADING OFFICE – DAY 013**

**Entering the office, the call goes out.**

**A TRADER**

**Hey?! It’ “Jett” Benedict!!**

**This greeting, of course, get’s the attention of the 50 traders working the phones. Among the glad hands and pats on the back, Benedict works his way towards the office of his partner, Nicole Kelley, a beautiful woman in her early 30s. He enters.**

**005**

**014 INT. NICOLE KELLEY’S WALL STREET OFFICE – DAY 014**

**NICOLE KELLEY greets Jett with a brief hug.**

**NICOLE**

**Jett...what a pleasant surprise.**

**What is it that drags you away from**

***La Princesse*?**

**BENEDICT**

**You might say, I’ve finally decided**

**it’s time to get outta Dodge.**

**NICOLE**

**For how long?**

**BENEDICT**

**Perhaps, permanently.**

**NICOLE**

**I don’t understand.**

**BENEDICT**

**SEC is set to crack down on me,**

**seize all my assets. ...I have it**

**from a good source that they’re**

**not looking at you.**

**NICOLE**

**(nodding)**

**So, your sordid past is finally**

**catching up with you?**

**BENEDICT**

**I’m taking my share of the secure-**

**ties, bonds and cash, and placing**

**them aboard La Princesse.**

**NICOLE**

**And setting sail for where?**

**BENEDICT**

**Probably the Caymans.**

**NICOLE**

**(smiling)**

**Where, along with your banking**

**partner, a Cayman citizen, you own**

**your own bank. Makes sense.**

**006**

**BENEDICT**

**I’ll need Emmaline, Lori, Mark and**

**and Glenn for about 20-25 days.**

**NICOLE**

**Fine, I’ll notify them of their pend-**

**ing voyage.**

**BENEDICT**

**(kissing her)**

**Thanks, Nicole. You’re the best.**

**(beat)**

**Now, if you have a couple of large**

**bags, I’d like to get my share of**

**the loot out of the safe and aboard**

**La Princesse.**

**015 EXT. SECURITIES & EXCHANGE BLDG., MANHATTAN – DAY 015**

**Establish.**

**016 INT. OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER BILLINGS – DAY 016**

**Seth is seated across the desk from his boss.**

**BILLINGS**

**So, he’s going to sell the yacht**

**in Miami?**

**SETH**

**Then fly back to New York.**

**BILLINGS**

**And how long will this take?**

**SETH**

**He estimates 30 days.**

**(beat)**

**I figure we might as well let him**

**sell the boat and then, upon his re-**

**turn, attach the cash from the sale**

**– along with all his other assets.**

**BILLINGS**

**Good work, Seth.**

**SETH**

**One other thing. ...He invited Mrs.**

**Meriwether and me to join him.**

**007**

**BILLINGS**

**(thinking hard)**

**You don’t say.**

**017 EXT. WALL STREET BUILDING – NIGHT 017**

**Establish.**

**018 INT. NICOLE KELLEY’S WALL STREET OFFICE – NIGHT 018**

**Nicole is meeting with MARK MERCIER and GLENN MORISSON, two**

**good looking, hotshot traders in their late 20s.**

**NICOLE**

**He’s fleeing aboard *La Princesse***

**with all his assets...cash, bonds,**

**securities and jewels.**

**MERCIER**

**Christ. With the securities, that**

**could be as much as five hundred**

**million?!!**

**NICOLE**

**Five hundred sixty-five, to be exact.**

**MORRISON**

**And that includes those investment**

**diamonds, said to be worth forty**

**to fifty million.**

**NICOLE**

**It does. ...He wants to take you two**

**with him...make trades along the way.**

**MORRISON**

**I certainly wouldn’t mind going;**

**gourmet food, Champagne, fine wines;**

**spectacular views. Sounds like the**

**trip of a lifetime.**

**MERCIER**

**I don’t particularly like the idea**

**of all that money being aboard.**

**MORRISON**

**I agree. ...Be wise to keep that a**

**closely guarded secret.**

**008**

**MERCIER**

**Imagine if the yacht were hijacked**

**and the *perps* were able to make off**

**with all that loot?**

**Nicole has a wry smile on her face.**

**NICOLE**

**Yeah...just imagine.**

**019 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 019**

**Once again William “Jett” Benedict and Seth Meriwether are in deep conversation.**

**SETH**

**Commissioner Billings thinks I**

**should accept your generous offer**

**to be a guest aboard La *Princesse***

**when she sails.**

**Benedict jumps to his feet and sticks out his hand.**

**BENEDICT**

**(rising)**

**Excellent!!**

**The two shake hands warmly.**

**BENEDICT**

**(continuing)**

**Did the Commissioner buy the fact**

**that I’m selling La Princesse in**

**Miami and fly home?**

**SETH**

**It would appear so.**

**BENEDICT**

**And there won’t be any attempt to**

**board us prior to reaching Miami?**

**SETH**

**No attempt. ...My being aboard is**

**your get out of jail free card.**

**(beat)**

**At least for the time being.**

**020 EXT. SHIP REPAIR YARD – LONG ISLAND, N.Y. – DAY 020**

**009**

**Re-establish.**

**021 INT. REPAIR SHOP – DAY 021**

**William Benedict enters the repair shop and approaches the**

**man using the stolen ID of a man named Don Cobane.**

**BENEDICT**

**Mr. Cobane? ...May I have a word?**

**Brig answers cautiously.**

**BRIG**

**And who are you?**

**BENEDICT**

**Bill Benedict. ...You’re a hard man**

**to get hold of.**

**BRIG**

**(brightening)**

**Mr. Benedict. ...Hardly expected to**

**see you *here?***

**BENEDICT**

**We’re sailing in four days. Wanted**

**to make sure you got the message.**

**BRIG**

**Thank you, sir. I’m ready to board**

**anytime.**

**BENEDICT**

**Good. ...There’s something else.**

**Jett has Brig’s attention.**

**BRIG**

**Yes, sir?**

**BENEDICT**

**Saw on your application that you’ve**

**had experience with the military**

**police.**

**(explains)**

**In addition to acting as the Chief**

**Engineer, I would like you to act as**

**security chief, as well. ...Think**

**you can handle it?**

**010**

**BRIG**

**I’ll do my best. Expecting trouble?**

**BENEDICT**

**We’ll have some wealthy guests who**

**may be packing a lot of cash and**

**Jewelry.**

**022 EXT. LA PRINCESSE – N.Y. MOORING - DAY 022**

**William “Jett” Benedict is on the dock, personally greeting**

**all the guests, as they board. Paparazzi are aggressively photographing everyone coming aboard. Flashes of strobe**

**lights greet the once drop dead gorgeous now merely beautiful actress, KAREN VAUGHN and producer husband, BRAD TAYLOR. Both are greeted warmly by Jett.**

**BENEDICT**

**Karen Vaughn, so good of you to**

**come.**

**There’s the ubiquitous kiss on the cheek and the handshake with Brad.**

**BENEDICT**

**(to Brad)**

**You are both in Cabin Two, on the**

**second deck. ...I’ll join you later,**

**in the lounge.**

**The actress and producer go aboard, followed by the stewards, DIXIE GROVER and VICKI MURPHY, schlepping their luggage.**

**023 ANOTHER ANGLE 023**

**Next to arrive are CHEF ROBERT LAWRENCE, his pastry chef,**

**DAVID GIBSON, whose luggage is being schlepped by a steward BRUNO ANTINORI. Robert and Jett shake hands.**

**CHEF LAWRENCE**

**I know you were expecting my regular**

**pastry chef, but he’s in the hospital**

**as the result of an auto accident.**

**Let me introduce you to his replace-**

**ment, David Gibson.**

**Benedict shakes hands with the handsome chef, in his early 30s.**

**011**

**BENEDICT**

**The two of you are in Cabin Three.**

**...Second deck.**

**The celebrity chef and pastry chef go aboard.**

**024 EXT. STREET NEAR LA PRONCESSA – LOWER MANHATTAN – DAY 024**

**Carrying their own luggage, the four traders (Emmaline, Lori, Mark and Glenn) are headed for La Princesse when Mark**

**Mercier’s cell phone RINGS.**

**MERCIER**

**(answering)**

**Mercier.**

**INTERCUT WITH:**

**025 INT. NICOLE KELLEY’S WALL STREET OFFICE – DAY 025**

**NICOLE**

**(on her iPhone)**

**I’ve recruited another person to**

**help with the job at hand. He’s**

**already aboard. When the time is**

**right, he or she will simply ask,**

**“Do you think that money is the**

**root of all evil?**

**(beat)**

**Your reply will be...no, but it**

**sure grows into nice looking**

**shrubbery.**

**MERCIER**

**Understood.**

**Mercier snaps off his cell and continues on to the yacht with his three companions.**

**026 EXT. LA PRINCESSE – N.Y. MOORING - DAY 026**

**Benedict is on the dock greeting his daughter MARGARET BENEDICT, for whom the yacht is named when his secretary, LEIGH RYDER also shows up. Both are carrying their own luggage.**

**BENEDICT**

**(hugging)**

**Margaret, my princess. Glad you**

**could make it.**

**012**

**As she approaches, he gives his secretary a cursory hug.**

**BENEDICT**

**Imagine both of you showing up at**

**the same time?**

**MARGARET**

**Daddy, you said to be here at 10 am**

**sharp**

**Benedict indicates his secretary.**

**BENEDICT**

**Margaret, this is my secretary,**

**Leigh Ryder.**

**The two exchange pleasantries.**

**BENEDICT**

**Hope the two of you don’t mind shar-**

**ing a cabin. You’re both in Cabin**

**Four...second deck.**

**027 ANOTHER ANGLE 027**

**The four super traders walk up together. Benedict greets the two women.**

**BENEDICT**

**Glad you all decided to come. We’ll**

**get in a little trading, but it will**

**mostly be fine food and wine...with**

**much sightseeing and camaraderie.**

**EMMALINE**

**Long as I can get in some trades,**

**it’s the best of all worlds.**

**Lori Walters nods her agreement.**

**BENEDICT**

**Fine. You two share Cabin Five,**

**second deck.**

**As the women go aboard, Benedict turns his attention to the**

**two young men.**

**013**

**BENEDICT**

**(shaking hands)**

**Mark Mercier, Glenn Morrison, glad**

**you could make it as well.**

**MORRISON**

**Glad to be here, sir.**

**BENEDICT**

**The two of you share Cabin Six...**

**you know where it is.**

**The men nod and go aboard.**

**028 ANGLE ON THE MERIWETHERS 028**

**Finally, it’s Seth and DIANE MERIWETHER who approach. Their luggage is being schlepped by the muscular and physically fit steward, DONALD JOHNSON.**

**Seth introduces his wife, a tall, trim, fit, younger woman with short, blond, coiffured hair.**

**SETH**

**Jett, this is my wife, Diane.**

**It’s obvious Jett is smitten. Diane Meriwether is not only beautiful but proves to be both eloquent in speech and elegant in manner and style. They shake hands; then Jett looks her**

**in the eye and smiles.**

**BENEDICT**

**I’ve waited so long to finally meet**

**the heiress of the fast food giant.**

**...If there’s anything you need,**

**don’t hesitate to contact me per-**

**sonally. I’m in Cabin One, on the**

**top deck.**

**DIANE**

**That’s very kind of you. My only**

**concern is likely the concern of**

**everyone else on board. That is**

**rough seas. I understand we won’t**

**be entering the Intracoastal Water-**

**way until Chesapeake Bay. That**

**means a great deal of time spent in**

**the Atlantic.**

**014**

**BENEDICT**

**I assure you Miss Meriwether – I**

**mean Mrs. Meriwether, we will do**

**everything possible to avoid rough**

**seas.**

**029 INT/EXT PILOT HOUSE, LA PRINCESSE, LOWER MANHATTAN – DAY 029**

**The two powerful diesel engines are fired up and CAPTAIN MCGRAW slowly backs La Princesse out of its Lower Manhattan birth.**

**The navigator and radio operator, PETER “Pete” STARK is on the**

**radio’s VHF frequency to the Harbor Master.**

**STARK**

**(into Mic)**

**Power boat La Princesse...to Harbor**

**Master--**

**030 INT. CABIN TWO – DAY 030**

**The 40s something actress Karen Vaughn and 50s something producer husband Brad Taylor are unpacking. The conversation between the two has an edge to it.**

**KAREN VAUGHN**

**You were the one invited; don’t know**

**why you had to drag me along. ...To**

**leave Martha’s Vineyard for *this?***

**BRAD TAYLOR**

**When are you going to get it through**

**your head, you’re no longer among the**

**first names director’s think of when**

**casting their pictures. Truth is, al-**

**though you’re still a great actress,**

**they hardly think of you at all.**

**KAREN**

**And you’ve got your hands on a script**

**that, if you can get it produced and**

**I am in the leading role, will put**

**both of us on top, once again.**

**BRAD**

**Something like that.**

**015**

**KAREN**

**And you figure because of my past**

**relationship with Benedict you can**

**talk him into financing your project.**

**BRAD**

**It’s not *my* project, it’s *our* project.**

**031 EXT. LA PRINCESSE – AT SEA – ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAY 031**

**La Princesse is southbound in calm waters.**

**032 INT. MAIN DECK LOUNGE – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 032**

**Donald Johnson is serving trays of finger food while Brig, in steward’s uniform, bottle in each hand is pouring premium champagnes into the glasses of the shipboard guests: Margaret Benedict, Leigh Ryder, actress Karen Vaughn and husband Brad Taylor, SEC agent Seth Meriwether and wife Diane, and the four securities traders – Emmaline Stevens, Lori Walters, Mark Mercier and Glenn Morrison.**

**An occasional glimpse of the Champagne bottles indicates that currently Dom Perignon and Roederer Cristal are being poured.**

**William “Jett” Benedict, whose glass was the first to be filled, is standing – introducing the guests to what they can expect during the voyage. Waving his champagne glass, he announces.**

**BENEDICT**

**Breakfast is served from 7 a.m. to   
9:30 a.m. ...Lunch from 11:30 to**

**1 p.m.**

**FLASH CUT TO:**

**033 INT. GALLEY – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 033**

**Chef Robert Lawrence, with pastry chef David Gibson and with**

**the assistance of Vicki Murphy, is preparing dinner.**

**BENEDICT (V.O.)**

**...For the evening meal, prepared**

**by Chef Robert Lawrence, there is**

**only one sitting – 8 p.m. sharp.**

**FLASH CUT TO:**

**034 INT. DINING ROOM – DAY 034**

**016**

**In the guest dining room, Bruno Antinori and Dixie Grover are preparing the large dining table for dinner.**

**BENEDICT (V.O.)**

**Anyone who wants to enjoy Chef Law-**

**rence’s gourmet dinner is expected**

**to be on time.**

**On the SOUND TRACK there is enthusiastic CLAPPING at the men-**

**tion of the celebrity chef’s name.**

**FLASH CUT TO:**

**035 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 035**

**A MALE FIGURE is going through the drawers of Benedict’s desk. We do not see his head and thus cannot identify him. Finally**

**he finds what he’s looking for. He pulls out two maps from one of the desk drawers, looks them over, and then unfolds one of them on the desk top.**

**Taking a digital camera he begins digitally recording the map; which map has an inked-in redline from Miami to Nassau.**

**036 BACK TO SCENE – LOUNGE 036**

**Benedict is still addressing his guests.**

**BENEDICT**

**Room service hours are between 10:30**

**and 11:30 p.m. wherein fast foods**

**and cocktails can be ordered. Bad**

**news is that only wine can be**

**ordered by the bottle. All other**

**adult beverages must be ordered by**

**the glass.**

**(beat)**

**Good news is that everything’s free**

**and the bar never closes. Whether**

**or not there’s a bartender on duty,**

**you’re welcome to serve yourselves.**

**More cheering and clapping.**

**BENEDICT**

**(continuing)**

**Only one rule – other than a single**

**bottle of wine, no bottles of spir-**

**(MORE)**

**017**

**BENEDICT (Cont’d)**

**its are to leave the bar, only cock-**

**tail glasses.**

**(beat)**

**After all we don’t want a single**

**guest hogging all the good stuff.**

**Then, a VOICE from among the guests.**

**KAREN VAUGHN**

**What’s your definition of *fast***

***food?***

**FLASH CUT TO:**

**037 INT. GALLEY – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 037**

**Chef Lawrence is carefully building a gourmet hamburger.**

**BENEDICT (V.O.)**

**Gourmet hamburgers and the catch of**

**the day...both served with an appro-**

**priate bottle of wine, of course.**

**KAREN (V.O.)**

**But, of course.**

**038 BACK TO SCENE – LOUNGE 038**

**BENEDICT**

**As to the subject most upon your**

**minds, unfortunately, the Intra-**

**coastal Waterway is not contiguous**

**waterway.**

**FLASH CUT TO:**

**039 INT/EXT. PILOTHOUSE – DAY 039**

**Capt. Michael Flynn is behind the wheel, steering La Princesse and the navigator radio operator, Peter Stark, is listening to weather forecasts on the radio.**

**BENEDICT (V.O.)**

**(continuing)**

**We will be popping in and out of the**

**Waterway...and as we do so we will**

**likely be facing an Atlantic Ocean**

**not quite as calm as it is today.**

**018**

**040 BACK TO SCENE 040**

**BENEDICT**

**(smiling)**

**However, in the case of stormy**

**seas, we can always hole up in**

**the Intracoastal Waterway until**

**the storm subsides**

**MARGARET**

**What about cell phone calls? Will**

**we have reliable coverage all the**

**way to Miami?**

**FLASH CUT TO:**

**A040 EXT. LA PRINCESSE’S TRANSMISSION/RECEIVING TOWER – DAY A040**

**The sophisticated gear that provides La Princesse its satel-**

**lite transmissions including Internet, cell calls, and radar.**

**BENEDICT (V.O)**

**Internet access is provided for**

**via satellite. ...Our onboard**

**Wi-Fi then takes over and allows**

**for unlimited cell calls through**

**the Internet. If your cell is**

**roaming and picks up a shore bound**

**tower by mistake, you might find**

**the call to be somewhat distort-**

**ed and noisy due to competing sig-**

**nals. If that happens, hang up and**

**redial...odds are you will get a**

**clear, Internet line.**

**B040 BACK TO SCENE B040**

**MARGARET**

**Using the Internet system, is a**

**log made of the calls to and from**

**the yacht?**

**BENEDICT**

**(nodding, curiously)**

**Yes. ...Computer keeps a record.**

**Margaret appears upset with the answer.**

**Benedict checks his watch.**

**019**

**BENEDICT**

**Now dinner will be served in three**

**hours and twenty-two minutes.**

**Placing his half empty champagne glass on the nearby bar, Benedict exits the lounge to cheers:**

**THE GUESTS**

**(in unison)**

**For *Jett’s* a jolly good fellow; for**

***Jett’s* a jolly good fellow; for**

***Jett’s* a jolly good fellow--**

**041 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 041**

**Still in his steward’s uniform, Brig is seated across the desk from his boss. A bottle of Gentlemen Jack is on the desk**

**between them. Brig takes a sip from his glass.**

**BRIG**

**Tell me, Mr. Benedict. What’s**

**this *“Jet”* they keep calling you?**

**...Some kinda nickname?**

**BENEDICT**

**It’s *Jett* – with two “Ts.” It’s a**

**long story, someday I’ll tell you**

**about it.**

**(beat)**

**Since I think of you as a friend,**

**instead of calling me Mr. Benedict,**

**I’d appreciate it if you’d call me**

**Bill...or Jett.**

**BRIG**

**I too have a nom de guerre. In-**

**stead of calling me Mr. Cobane, I’d**

**be pleased if you merely referred**

**to me as Brig.**

**BENEDICT**

**Since I doubt you were ever a gen-**

**eral, I assume Brig stands for the**

**brigand...the bandit.**

**(beat)**

**Certainly love to hear how you came**

**across that battle tag.**

**020**

**BRIG**

**Someday, maybe I’ll tell you.**

**BENEDICT**

**Something to look forward to.**

**The two lift their glasses in a toast like gesture.**

**BRIG**

**Anything special you want me to do**

**in my official capacity?**

**BENEDICT**

**You mean as head of security?**

**(beat)**

**Yes, there is. ...While everyone’s**

**at dinner, check out my daughter’s**

**cabin.**

**FLASH CUT TO:**

**042 INT. CABIN FOUR – MARGARET & LEIGH’S CABIN – DAY 042**

**Margaret is watching TV and smoking a *joint.***

**BENEDICT (V.O)**

**...Throw her drug supply overboard.**

**...With governmental agents wanting**

**to bring me down, boarding La Prin-**

**cessa and finding drugs is one sure**

**way to accomplish their goal.**

**BRIG (V.O.)**

**How do you know she brought drugs**

**aboard?**

**BENEDICT (V.O.)**

**Because I know my daughter.**

**043 EXT. LA PRINCESSE – AT SEA – ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAY 043**

**The sea is calm as the 150-foot yacht continues southbound.**

**044 INT. CABIN FOUR – MARGARET & LEIGH’S CABIN – DAY 044**

**Margaret is still working on her *joint* when Leigh Ryder**

**enters.**

**021**

**LEIGH RYDER**

**(shocked)**

**Does your father know what you’re**

**doing?**

**MARGARET**

**I’m sure he suspects. But you’re**

**free to tell him.**

**LEIGH**

**Why would I want to do that?**

**Returning the smile, the two not only start to become fast friends but reach an understanding.**

**Margaret hands over the makings so that Leigh can roll a joint of her own. Accepting the makings, Leigh goes to work making her own joint.**

**045 INT. CABIN SIX - MERCIER & MORRISON’S CABIN – DAY 045**

**Mark Mercier and Glenn Morrison enter their cabin and notice**

**the note and thumb drive on their desk.**

**Mercier picks up the note and reads it aloud.**

**MERCIER**

**La Princesse is not sailing to the**

**Caymans, as you were led to believe,**

**but instead sailing for Nassau. See**

**maps on thumb drive for route.**

**(beat)**

**Suggest you make plans for our es-**

**cape, A-SAP!!**

**Looking up at Morrison.**

**MERCIER**

**It’s unsigned.**

**MORRISON**

**Naturally.**

**Mercier fires up his laptop and sticks the thumb drive. Finally the image comes onto the screen. It is the redlined**

**map of the route between Miami and Nassau.**

**MERCIER**

**Looks like we got our work cut out.**

**022**

**Morrison nods agreement.**

**046 INT/EXT. PILOTHOUSE – DAY 046**

**Peter Stark is now at the wheel. Dressed for dinner, CAPT Michael Flynn hands the navigator/radio operator a map.**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**Here’s the chart for the entrance**

**to Chesapeake Bay**

**(beat)**

**Since the captain is expected to**

**be present for the first dinner at**

**sea...you’re now in charge.**

**047 INT. DINING ROOM – EVENING 047**

**CAPT Flynn, Jett Benedict and all the guests are seated at the large table as the stewards serve the meal from large silver salvers.**

**JOHNSON**

**Who ordered the duck?**

**Several hands go up and Donald Johnson and Bruno Antinori place**

**the plates containing the duck serving in front of those guests with their hands raised.**

**DIXIE GROVER**

**And those who ordered the Veal**

**Piccata?**

**More hands go up.**

**Dixie and Vicki Murphy serve the guests who recently raised their hands.**

**The table is well supplied with rare and expensive wines which the guests select and pour themselves as some of the labels are visible.**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**Sometime during the night, we’ll be**

**entering the Intracoastal Waterway.**

**DIANE**

**Will we be traveling at night?**

**023**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**There are many sections of the Water-**

**way where it’s not advised and we**

**will drop anchor. But there are**

**some sections where we will be con-**

**tinuing through the night.**

**MARGARET**

**Will we be getting shore leave?**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**That will be up to Mr. Benedict.**

**MARGARET**

**Well, Daddy?**

**BENEDICT**

**(pause)**

**We will be making several stops.**

**048 INT. SECOND DECK PASSAGEWAY – NIGHT 048**

**Using his pass key, Brig enters Cabin four.**

**049 INT. CABIN FOUR - MARGARET & LEIGH’s CABIN – NIGHT 049**

**Working quickly and efficiently, Brig searches for any drugs that might be hidden in the cabin.**

**050 INT. BATHROOM – CABIN FOUR – NIGHT 050**

**Brig lifts the lid from the toilet’s water reservoir and makes**

**his discovery. The cache of drugs and paraphernalia secured**

**in a quick lock plastic bag and dropped into the reservoir.**

**051 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – NIGHT 051**

**BENEDICT**

**(to Brig)**

**So, what did you find?**

**BRIG**

**Marijuana and cocaine...found in**

**what was hardly an original hiding**

**place.**

**BENEDICT**

**And that tells you what?**

**024**

**BRIG**

**Suggests your daughter is only a**

**recreational user...not hard core.**

**BENEDICT**

**I suspected as much, but it’s nice**

**to have my suspicions confirmed.**

**(beat)**

**And what happened to the drugs?**

**BRIG**

**Thrown overboard, as you suggested.**

**052 INT. CABIN SEVEN – SETH & DIANE MERIWETHER CABIN – NIGHT 052**

**Diane is undressing for bed; Seth brushing his teeth.**

**DIANE**

**I have to admit, that was a deli-**

**cious dinner. The duck was prepared**

**perfectly, not always easy to do.**

**SETH**

**Veal was great, as well.**

**DIANE**

**What I don’t understand is, what are**

**we doing here?**

**SETH**

**Securities & Exchange is about to**

**bust him for securities fraud.**

**DIANE**

**That is serious. Can you tell me**

**what he did?**

**FLASH CUT TO:**

**053 INT. WALL STREET TRADING OFFICE – DAY 053**

**All fifty traders are working the phones.**

**SETH (V.O.)**

**He deals in over-the-counter trading,**

**penny stocks mostly – below $10 – but**

**he sells a tremendous amount of units**

**to wealthy, high-end customers for**

**commissions as high as 50-percent.**

**025**

**DIANE (V.O.)**

**And this is illegal??**

**SETH (V.O.)**

**Way he does it...is.**

**(explaining)**

**He’s taken no less than five small**

**companies public, cleverly manipu-**

**lating the market and making $30-**

**$40 million in each case.**

**054 BACK TO SCENE – CABIN SEVEN 054**

**The beautiful Diane, now down to her underwear, removes her**

**bra and slips beneath the covers of**

**the queen-size bed.**

**DIANE**

**What about this Nicole women?**

**Aren’t they going after her, as**

**well?**

**FLASH CUT TO:**

**A054 INT. NICOLE KELLEY’S WALL STREET OFFICE – DAY A054**

**All fifty traders are working the phones.**

**SETH (V.O.)**

**Although they both work under the**

**Seven Seas license, they keep their**

**trades separate. Of the fifty trad-**

**ers working the phones, thirty work**

**for Nicole and twenty for Benedict.**

**(beat)**

**Benedict’s traders are the ones break-**

**ing the law.**

**B054 BACK TO SCENE B054**

**Wearing his pajamas, Seth moves to join his wife in bed,**

**turning off the light as he does so.**

**In the dimly lit cabin, Seth slips under the covers.**

**SETH**

**IRS is also bringing a case of mon-**

**ey laundering against him. ...He**

**(MORE)**

**026**

**SETH (Cont’d)**

**owns his own bank in the Caymans and**

**is suspected of smuggling millions**

**into the tax free zone.**

**DIANE**

**Suspected?? ...You’re saying they**

**don’t know for sure?**

**SETH**

**Both the SEC and IRS are still gath-**

**ering evidence. ...It will finally**

**come down to who outsmarts whom.**

**DIANE**

**I’ll put my money on Benedict.**

**055 INT. CABIN FOUR - MARGARET & LEIGH’s CABIN – NIGHT 055**

**In the bathroom, Margaret lifts the lid from the toilet and**

**goes ballistic.**

**Stomping into the main cabin, Benedict’s daughter unloads on**

**her father’s secretary, Leigh Ryder.**

**MARGARET**

**What did you do with my stash??**

**LEIGH**

**What’re you talking about??**

**MARGARET**

**The marijuana and cocaine I had**

**taped to the underside of the**

**toilet lid...it’s gone!!!**

**LEIGH**

**I swear. If it’s missing, I had**

**nothing to do with it.**

**MARGARET**

**(after careful**

**thought)**

**I know you didn’t. ...I’m sorry.**

**056 EXT. LA PRINCESSE ON THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY – DAY 056**

**Compared to the Atlantic, the water is calm.**

**027**

**057 INT. DINING ROOM – MORNING 057**

**Unlike dinner, which is individually served by the stewards, breakfast is smorgasbord style; heated containers filled with**

**a variety of delicacies. Load your plate then take it to the large table, where coffee, tea, and a variety of juices are available to help wash it down.**

**Movie star Karen Vaughn and her producer husband Brad Taylor**

**are loading their plates with calves’ liver along with sausage and eggs Benedict, as well as scrambled eggs.**

**His wife grimaces as Brad loads a couple of scoops of heated mushrooms on top of everything.**

**KAREN VAUGHN**

**When are you going to talk to Bene-**

**dict about financing your film?**

**BRAD TAYLOR**

**You mean *our* film.**

**KAREN**

**Whatever. I just want to know one**

**way or the other. If he is not**

**going to fund it, then I’m for de-**

**parting this boat ride at the next**

**port-of-call and returning to**

**Martha’s Vineyard.**

**BRAD**

**I’ll speak with him no later than**

**tomorrow. ...Important I get him**

**when he’s relaxed.**

**058 INT. CABIN SIX - MERCIER & MORRISON’S CABIN – DAY 058**

**Mercier is still working on his laptop when Morrison greets the new day from his comfortable bed. Curious, Morrison rises and in his pajamas, sits beside his partner – in front of the laptop.**

**INTERCUT WITH COMPUTER SCREEN**

**059 ANOTHER ANGLE 059**

**Both facing the computer screen and using a sharpened pencil to show a possible escape route – from the redlined map displayed**

**on the screen, Mercier explains.**

**028**

**MERCIER**

**We take over the yacht as it ap-**

**proaches Nassau, just off Andros**

**Island. We make it look like we’re**

**heading for Andros, but once over**

**the horizon we circle around and**

**head for Chub Cays, which also has**

**an international airport. From**

**there we fly to Turks and Caicos**

**...And from there to Jamaica.**

**MORRISON**

**And where do we end up?**

**MERCIER**

**Costa Rica. ...A lovely house on**

**the Pacific Ocean at a spot called**

**Playa Flamingo.**

**MORRISON**

**And our new passports, and names?**

**MERCIER**

**They’ll be delivered to us in Miami.**

**060 ANOTHER ANGLE 060**

**Looking up from the computer screen.**

**MORRISON**

**And the weapons? Able to get any**

**aboard?**

**MERCIER**

**(a nod)**

**And you?**

**A return nod.**

**MORRISON**

**And our yet unknown collaborator?**

**MERCIER**

**Who knows? Once we reach Jamaica,**

**he or she will be on their own.**

**(beat)**

**Get dressed and we will get some**

**breakfast, while it’s still being**

**served.**

**029**

**061 INT. GALLEY – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 061**

**At a table for two, Chef Lawrence and bakery chef David Gibson**

**are finally getting their breakfast.**

**CHEF LAWRENCE**

**(to Gibson)**

**I miss working with my regular past-**

**ry chef, but I must compliment you –**

**you’re good.**

**DAVID GIBSON**

**Automobile accident, you say?**

**LAWRENCE**

**Yes, and from the police report, a**

**strange one at that.**

**GIBSON**

**How so?**

**LAWRENCE**

**According to the report, skid marks**

**and debris indicate he was purposely**

**ran off the road.**

**GIBSON**

**You’re saying someone may have**

**tried to kill him?**

**LAWRENCE**

**Or purposely injure him.**

**GIBSON**

**Why would anyone want to do that?**

**LAWRENCE**

**That’s what I intend to find out.**

**062 INT/EXT. PILOTHOUSE – DAY 062**

**Peter Stark is at the wheel when Capt. Flynn enters.**

**STARK**

**‘Morning captain.**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**Likewise, Stark. Slept peacefully,**

**indicating a good job on your part.**

**030**

**STARK**

**Thank you, sir.**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**Better get below and get some chow.**

**Then get some sleep.**

**(beat)**

**Tonight, about 11 p.m., we’ll drop**

**anchor, then we’ll both get some**

**sleep. ...I’ll see you back here at**

**4:00 p.m.**

**STARK**

**Aye, aye, sir!**

**063 INT. ENGINE ROOM – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 063**

**Brig is servicing the powerful, twin diesel engines. Finished, he exits the compartment.**

**064 INT. CREW’S MESS – DAY 064**

**Stewards Donald Johnson and Bruno Antinori are having their break-fast. Peter Stark is on the phone next to the dumb-**

**waiter ordering his own breakfast.**

**STARK**

**(on phone)**

**Three eggs over easy, hash browns,**

**two bacon strips and two sausages.**

**And, oh yes. Large fresh squeezed**

**orange juice.**

**Stark hangs up the phone, pours himself a cup of coffee and joins Johnson and Antinori at the mess table.**

**Brig enters, pours himself a cup of coffee, and joins his ship-mates at the table.**

**BRIG**

**Glad to report that the engines are**

**running smoothly.**

**STARK**

**(to Brig)**

**I understand we’ll we anchoring near**

**a large town around 11 p.m. tonight.**

**...any chance we can get some shore**

**leave?**

**031**

**BRIG**

**I assume that would be up to Mr.**

**Benedict. Whether or not he wishes**

**to lower one of the Zodiacs from its**

**davit in order to accommodate any of**

**his guests.**

**(beat)**

**I doubt it if he would do it sole-**

**ly for a crew member, unless it was**

**the captain.**

**STARK**

**Well I *need* to get ashore.**

**BRIG**

**Don’t know why, everything’s aboard**

**that you could possibly need.**

**STARK**

**I doubt any of the females aboard**

**would willingly fulfill the *need* I**

**was referring to.**

**BRIG**

**I see...a *need* of the carnal nature.**

**It’s Johnson who comments on behalf of him and Antinori.**

**JOHNSON**

**If you figure a way to get ashore,**

**my buddy Bruno and I would like to**

**go along.**

**The dumbwaiter bell SOUNDS and Peter Stark climbs to his feet, opens the door and takes out his breakfast.**

**065 EXT. LA PRINCESSE ON THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY – DAY 065**

**Picturesque shot of La Princesse on the Waterway.**

**066 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 066**

**Secretary Leigh Ryder’s computer station is only a few feet**

**from Benedict’s big desk. She stops typing on the keyboard**

**and turns to Jett.**

**LEIGH**

**Your emails have been sent, Mr.**

**Benedict. ...What’s next on the**

**list of things to do?**

**032**

**There’s a KNOCK at the door.**

**BENEDICT**

**(checking watch)**

**Catch the door. ...Must be Brig.**

**Leigh hastily moves to and opens the cabin door.**

**067 ANOTHER ANGLE 067**

**BRIG**

**(introducing**

**himself)**

**Hello, My name’s Cobane. My friends**

**call me Brig. ...I was told Mr. Ben-**

**edict wished to see me.**

**LEIGH**

**Come in, Mr. Brig.**

**BRIG**

**No *mister*...just Brig.**

**Brig enters as Benedict climbs to his feet and approaches as Leigh returns to her computer station.**

**BENEDICT**

**Right on time, Brig.**

**The two shake hands warmly.**

**BENEDICT**

**Around 11 p.m. we’ll be anchoring**

**off Ocean City, Maryland.**

**BRIG**

**Some of the male crew members have**

**expressed a desire to go ashore – I**

**think their desire is of a carnal**

**nature, sir.**

**The remark gets a smile from Leigh.**

**BENEDICT**

**I think that can be arranged.**

**Benedict escorts Brig to the nearby bookcase where he reveals**

**a secretly located button. He presses the button and the bookcase opens revealing a compartment loaded with arms, including assault rifles.**

**033**

**068 ANGLE ON ARMS COMPARTMENT 068**

**Brig picks up and examines several of the pieces.**

**BENEDICT**

**Careful...most of them are loaded.**

**BRIG**

**Expecting trouble?**

**BENEDICT**

**Pays to be prepared.**

**BRIG**

**You’re certainly a step ahead.**

**BENEDICT**

**While at anchor we will be vulner-**

**able. ...I want you to be prepared.**

**Jett hands over a 9mm Glock and several loaded magazines which Brig sticks into the pockets of his sports jacket.**

**069 BACK TO SCENE 069**

**Benedict presses the hidden button and the bookcase comes back together.**

**The door to the walk-in vault is open and Brig takes note.**

**BRIG**

**Impressive. How the hell did you**

**get it aboard?**

**BENEDICT**

**Crain lowered it onto the rein-**

**forced deck during construction.**

**Benedict closes the vault door and twirls the combination.**

**BENEDICT**

**(continuing)**

**Takes both the combination and a**

**thumb print to open.**

**070 EXT. LA PRINCESSE ANCHORED OFF OCEAN CITY – NIGHT 070**

**In the near distance La Princesse stands out among the other anchored craft.**

**034**

**071 EXT. THIRD LEVEL GANGWAY - AT YACHT’S RAILING – NIGHT 071**

**Brig is helping Peter Stark lower the portside Zodiac from**

**its davit.**

**071 MAIN DECK LEVEL – YACHT’S PORTSIDE RAILING – DAY 071**

**As the Zodiac settles onto the water, Donald Johnson and Bruno Antinori scramble down the steps over the yacht’s side, used**

**for just such purpose.**

**Back on the main deck level, the pastry chef, David Gibson and Margaret Benedict show up. Gibson calls down to Bruno and Donald.**

**GIBSON**

**Mind if I join you?**

**MARGARET**

**I want to go ashore, too.**

**ANTINORI**

**Come on down, watch your step.**

**Margaret, then Gibson begin maneuvering their way down the ladder.**

**072 ANOTHER ANGLE 072**

**Peter Stark arrives on the portside of the main deck level and descends the ladder, joining the other four in the Zodiac.**

**073 EXT. RIB ZODIAC – NIGHT 072**

**Stark releases the davit cables and fires up the two outboard engines.**

**The Zodiac ROARS off towards Ocean City.**

**074 INT. ENTERTAINMENT ROOM – NIGHT 074**

**Chef Robert Lawrence, Margaret Benedict, Leigh Ryder, Karen Vaughn, and Brad Taylor are watching a DVD on the 50 plus inch**

**HD flat TV screen. The image on the TV is of Karen Vaughn herself, from a nearly decade old film. Champagne glasses**

**are kept full by stewards Dixie Grover and Vicki Murphy.**

**075 EXT. MANHATTAN – RIVERSIDE PARK TOWNHOUSE – NIGHT 075**

**The SOUND of a PHONE RINGING.**

**035**

**076 INT. NICOLE’S BEDROOM – UPPER EASTSIDE TOWNHOUSE – NIGHT 076**

**The RINGING PHONE awakens Nicole and she is wide awake as she answers.**

**NICOLE**

**(into handset)**

**Hello?**

**(beat)**

**Don’t tell me you’re calling me**

**from the boat or using your cell?**

**(pause)**

**From town?**

**(beat)**

**Anchored for the night...I see.**

**...So what’s so important you had**

**to risk the call??**

**(long pause)**

**You’re kidding...he’s not going to**

**the Caymans but instead to Nassau,**

**in the Bahamas?? ...Why would he**

**do that? ...Never mind. Thanks**

**for the information. Call me from**

**Miami.**

**Dressed only in her underwear, after hanging up, Nicole sits**

**on the edge of her bed – in deep thought.**

**077 EXT. LA PRINCESSE – INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY – DAY 077**

**The motor yacht is moving southbound on the Waterway.**

**078 INT. DINING ROOM – DAY 078**

**Benedict, seated at the end of the table with his traders: Emmaline Stevens, Lori Walters, Mark Mercier, and Glenn Morrison, is pouring syrup on his pancakes.**

**BENEDICT**

**(to the team)**

**I want you to start selling shares**

**in a company called Namibia Recov-**

**ery. Company holds some 2 million**

**of its own shares, which I have**

**permission to sell for the usual**

**commission.**

**MERCIER**

**Namibia Recovery?? Never heard**

**of it.**

**036**

**EMMALINE**

**Me neither.**

**BENEDICT**

**It’s a penny stock selling for**

**around US$4.15 a share. They**

**just built one of their own ships,**

**in competition with Anglo American,**

**that can scoop up diamonds from**

**the ocean floor, isolate and rate**

**each individual diamond, all by**

**computer. ...Ship’s starting oper-**

**ation near Walvis Bay in two weeks.**

**We’ll pump the price up to around**

**$20 per share then start unloading.**

**079 ANOTHER ANGLE 079**

**Brad Taylor enters the dining room, pours himself a cup of coffee and approaches Benedict.**

**BRAD**

**Jett? ...I need to talk to you, in**

**private.**

**BENEDICT**

**But of course, Brad. My cabin,**

**11:45 this morning?**

**BRAD**

**I’ll be there.**

**080 INT. CABIN SEVEN – SETH & DIANE MERIWETHER CABIN – DAY 080**

**Diane is on her laptop while Seth is clicking off his cell.**

**SETH**

**(to Diane)**

**That was Commissioner Billings, giv-**

**ing me a heads-up.**

**(explaining)**

**Our trip may be ending sooner than**

**we thought.**

**DIANE**

**I don’t understand?**

**037**

**SETH**

**Seems undercover customs agents ob-**

**served Benedict’s daughter purchas-**

**ing marijuana and cocaine last night,**

**in Ocean City. ...Instead of arrest-**

**ing her at the site, Customs informed**

**the Coast Guard.**

**DIANE**

**(finishing thought)**

**And under current law, if drugs are**

**found aboard, the vessel and every-**

**thing aboard can be seized.**

**SETH**

**Correct, my dear.**

**DIANE**

**I can’t believe they would stoop to**

**anything so low. Can’t you stop it?**

**SETH**

**SEC has no control over Customs.**

**I’d say it has to do with the money**

**laundering charges.**

**DIANE**

**(urgently)**

**You’ve got to warn him.**

**081 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 081**

**Leigh is at her computer.**

**Seth, Brig & Jett are standing together in a quiet discussion but the CAMERA angle is too distant to overhear the conver-**

**sation. Finally, Brig breaks off and exits the cabin.**

**082 TIGHTER ANGLE – SETH & JETT 082**

**BENEDICT**

**Thank’s Seth...you’re a good friend.**

**The two shake hands and Seth exits.**

**083 ANOTHER ANGLE – JETT & LEIGH 083**

**Although there is a big clock on the wall, Jett checks his watch.**

**038**

**BENEDICT**

**(to Leigh)**

**Why don’t you get some lunch?**

**(beat)**

**Brad Taylor is coming by. Wants**

**to have a private conversation.**

**084 INT. CABIN FOUR – MARGARET & LEIGH’s CABIN – DAY 084**

**A fully dressed Margaret Benedict is sitting in one of the stuffed chairs smoking a marijuana cigarette when there is a KNOCK at her cabin door. She elects not to answer but to continue smoking. Even though the KNOCK is persistent, she ignores it.**

**085 ANGLE ON DOOR 085**

**The door’s latch begins to move.**

**086 BACK TO SCENE 086**

**Margaret slowly reaches for her purse and withdraws a small**

**.32 cal semi automatic and aims it at the cabin door.**

**The door opens and Brig, with key in hand, enters and comes face-to-face with the .32 semi auto.**

**MARGARET**

**What the hell do you want?**

**BRIG**

**Word is that a customs agent, out**

**to get your father, witnessed your**

**purchasing drugs last night in**

**Ocean City. Coast Guard intends**

**to board us. ...You know what’ll**

**happen if they find drugs aboard?**

**MARGARET**

**Legally, they can confiscate the**

**yacht?! ...Think they’ll actually**

**do it?**

**BRIG**

**Seems likely.**

**MARGARET**

**Well, having found it before, I**

**guess you know where it’s stashed.**

**(MORE)**

**039**

**MARGARET (Cont’d)**

**(beat)**

**Help yourself.**

**087 ANOTHER ANGLE 087**

**The STEADICAM follows Brig into the bathroom where he removes the toilet lid and removes the stash taped to the underside**

**of the lid.**

**088 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 088**

**At the massive deck, Brad Taylor is seated opposite Benedict.**

**BRAD**

**Look, Jett, I know you want to**

**finance this film.**

**BENEDFICT**

**I do, it’s a superb script.**

**BRAD**

**Then what’s the hold-up?!!**

**BENEDICT**

**The female lead needs to be younger**

**than Karen...needs to be in her**

**late teens or early 20s.**

**BRAD**

**Doesn’t acting talent count?**

**BENEDICT**

**In character roles, yes. But as**

**the lead? ...You know sex is what**

**sells. Sex delivered by beautiful**

**young women in the age range I just**

**referred to. No, Brad, at 40 some-**

**thing years of age I would like**

**Karen to concentrate on character**

**roles.**

**(beat)**

**There are a number of interesting**

**scripts out there with great char-**

**acter roles, many of them Oscar**

**material. You can still produce,**

**but your wife as the lead is out!!**

**040**

**BRAD**

**You know this means the end of our**

**marriage.**

**BENEDICT**

**Sorry. But if that was all your**

**marriage was built on, it wasn’t a**

**very good marriage to start with.**

**089 EXT. FANTAIL – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 089**

**As the Coast Guard cutter approaches, Brig drops Margaret’s stash overboard.**

**090 INT/EXT. PILOTHOUSE - DAY 090**

**CAPT Flynn and Peter Stark are listening to the radio traffic from the cutter.**

**COAST GUARD (VHS)**

**Coast Guard cutter 509 to motor boat**

**La Princesse, stop your engines and**

**prepare to be boarded.**

**091 INT. THE BAR – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 091**

**Seth and Diane Meriwether have joined Margaret Benedict and**

**Brad Taylor at the bar – where they are enjoying finger food, along with their favorite cocktails and mixture of soft drinks and juices.**

**DIANE**

**As I understand it, these storm**

**troopers are going through all our**

**things, trying to find illegal**

**drugs. ...Far as I’m concerned,**

**they’ve overreached and I intend**

**to have my lawyers file a complaint.**

**MARGARET**

**My suggestion is to let them do**

**their job, search the yacht then**

**give us a clean bill of health and**

**be on our voyage to Miami without**

**further interference.**

**Toasts are made to this bit of common sense.**

**092 INT. CABIN FOUR – MARGARET & LEIGH’s CABIN – DAY 092**

**041**

**Neither Margaret nor Leigh are present as Two Sailors, one female, are going through the cabin. The STEADICAM follows**

**one of the females as she goes into the bathroom where she**

**checks the medicine cabinet and then lifts the toilet lid and checks the tank.**

**093 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 093**

**LCDR COLIN BROWN is introducing himself to Jett Benedict.**

**LCDR BROWN**

**(both standing)**

**Sir, I am Lieutenant Commander**

**Colin Brown and I’m here to inspect**

**your vault. Would you please open**

**it so that my men can finish their**

**job.**

**BENEDICT**

**And what job might that be, Com-**

**mander?**

**LCDR BROWN**

**Making sure there are no drugs**

**aboard, sir.**

**BENEDICT**

**And my assurance that there are**

**not, is not enough?**

**LCDR BROWN**

**Sorry, sir.**

**BENEDICT**

**Very well.**

**Jett moves to the walk-in vault and opens for inspection.**

**While the TWO Coast Guard SAILORS guard Jett, LCDR Brown**

**enters the large vault.**

**INTERCUT WITH:**

**094 INT. WALK-IN VAULT – BENEDICT’S CABIN – DAY 094**

**Inside, the LCDR Brown starts going through all the boxes**

**stored on the shelves.**

**LCDR Brown opens several boxes containing bonds then calls out.**

**042**

**LCDR BROWN**

**A lot of bonds here, Mr. Benedict.**

**May I ask what you intend to do with**

**them?**

**BENEDICT**

**(calling back)**

**Keep them by my side. You’ll notice**

**they are registered, not *bearer* bonds,**

**and therefore there’s no possible**

**legal reason why they shouldn’t re-**

**main in my possession at all times,**

**no matter where I go.**

**LCDR Brown opens another box – and then another, and another; all filled with US$100.00 bills.**

**LCDR BROWN**

**(calling out)**

**How much cash do you think is in**

**these boxes, Mr. Benedict?**

**BENEDICT**

**(calling back)**

**At least five or six million, I**

**would guess.**

**(beat)**

**Considering the value of my estate,**

**I assure you that is pocket money.**

**Then LCDR Brown hits the jackpot; several black, felt covered trays of what looks to be large cut diamonds**

**LCDR BROWN**

**My, my, what have we here?**

**Brown opens one of the cases, picks out one of the diamonds and**

**examines it closely.**

**LCDR BROWN**

**(calling out)**

**These real or Cubic Zirconium?**

**BENEDICT**

**For what I paid for them, they bet-**

**ter be real.**

**Satisfied, LCDR Brown exits the vault.**

**043**

**095 BACK TO SCENE – MAIN CABIN 095**

**Brown steps up to Jett, as if to confront him.**

**BENEDICT**

**Well??**

**LCDR BROWN**

**No drugs found...and that was our**

**mission, Mr. Benedict. ...Once my**

**crew is safely aboard the cutter,**

**you can proceed.**

**Brown nods to his two sailors and the three men begin exiting the master cabin.**

**096 ANOTHER ANGLE 096**

**As LCDR Brown and the two sailors exit, Margaret Benedict enters. She rushes up to her father and throws her arms**

**around him.**

**MARGARET**

**(sobbing)**

**Daddy...I’m so sorry.**

**BENEDICT**

**(returning hug)**

**Don’t worry Princess, apparently**

**they didn’t find what they were**

**looking for.**

**MARGARET**

**Thanks to Brig.**

**097 INT/EXT. PILOTHOUSE – DAY 097**

**Peter Stark is on the radio.**

**STARK**

**(into mic)**

**La Princesse to Coast Guard Cutter**

**509...permission to proceed.**

**A VOICE comes back over the speaker.**

**CG RADIO OP**

**Permission granted.**

**044**

**STARK**

**Roger, Cutter 509...out.**

**Stark climbs to his feet.**

**STARK**

**Glad that’s over.**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**I wonder if it *is*...over.**

**CAPT Flynn fires up the two powerful diesels.**

**098 EXT. SECURITIES & EXCHANGE BLDG., MANHATTAN – DAY 098**

**Re-establish.**

**099 INT. COMMISSIONER BILLINGS OFFICE – DAY 099**

**Billings is on the phone when AGENT JACK COLTON enters.**

**BILLINGS**

**(into handset)**

**I don’t care about that. We have**

**an over the counter stock that was**

**trading for $4.15 yesterday and to-**

**day it’s trading for $12.00. I want**

**to know who’s behind the push.**

**Billings hangs up the phone and turns his attention to Agent Colton.**

**BILLINGS**

**What is it, Agent Colton?**

**AGENT COLTON**

**I think I might have the answer as**

**to who’s behind the Namibia Recovery**

**trades.**

**INTERCUT WITH:**

**100 INT. CABIN SEVEN – SETH & DIANE MERIWETHER CABIN – DAY 100**

**Diane and Seth are dressing for dinner when Seth’s cell phone RINGS.**

**SETH**

**(answering)**

**Seth!**

**045**

**BILLINGS**

**Billings here. There’s an over**

**the counter penny stock...Namibia**

**Recovery, that’s moving up much too**

**fast...has Benedict’s finger prints**

**all over it. I know he’s trading**

**from his yacht. Find out what you**

**can and get back to me.**

**SETH**

**Aye, aye, sir.**

**101 ANOTHER ANGLE 101**

**Seth clicks off his cell and turns to his wife.**

**SETH**

**Billings. ...Claims Jett is manip-**

**ulating another penny stock, wants**

**me to look into it.**

**DIANE**

**That means he wants you to get the**

**goods on him?**

**SETH**

**That would appear to be the case.**

**DIANE**

**Seth, I like this man. I wouldn’t**

**want to see anything happen to him.**

**SETH**

**Nor would I.**

**DIANE**

**What are you going to do?**

**SETH**

**(thoughtfully)**

**I don’t know.**

**102 INT. DINING ROOM – NIGHT 102**

**All the guests are seated as Jett describes the evening’s meal.**

**BENEDICT**

**Chef Lawrence has arranged a wine**

**(MORE)**

**046**

**BENEDICT (Cont’d)**

**pairing with six appetizers and a**

**choice of two main dishes...Steak**

**Tartare and Maigret de Canard.**

**(explaining)**

**Raw hamburger and duck breast.**

**DIANE**

**And the appetizers??**

**BENEDICT**

**Let me check my notes.**

**Jett pulls a 3X5 card from his jacket and begins reading.**

**BENEDICT**

**Escargots, Quiche Lorraine, Soupe**

**au Pistou, Pissaladière, Moules**

**Marinière, and Sole Meuniére.**

**Everyone smiles and nods approvingly.**

**103 INT/EXT. PILOTHOUSE – NIGHT 103**

**CAPT Flynn is at the wheel when Peter Stark enters to relieve him.**

**STARK**

**Are we anchoring for the night?**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**No. Mr. Benedict says to push on**

**at maximum allowable speed. Seems**

**he wants to arrive in Miami a week**

**earlier than planned. ...However,**

**we’ll have to anchor at Corolla,**

**North Carolina.**

**(explains)**

**No night travel is permitted.**

**104 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – NIGHT 104**

**Jett opens the cabin door and Seth enters the cabin.**

**SETH**

**What a great meal. Chef Lawrence**

**certainly lived up to his reputa-**

**tion tonight.**

**047**

**BRNEDICT**

**Glad you enjoyed it. ...But you’re**

**not here to compliment the chef,**

**are you.**

**SETH**

**Hardly. ...Seems we have an issue.**

**105 INT. CABIN TWO – KAREN AND BRAD’S CABIN - NIGHT 105**

**KAREN**

**(angrily)**

**You’re telling me that Benedict**

**won’t finance the film with me in**

**the lead??**

**Brad doesn’t answer, merely dropping his head.**

**BRAD**

**(finally)**

**He suggests you take a supporting**

**role.**

**(beat)**

**After all, it’s going to be a hit.**

**...Your presence, in any role, will**

**be a boost to your career.**

**KAREN**

**(angrily)**

**I’m not a supporting player!!**

**BRAD**

**I don’t blame you for being angry,**

**my dear. Anyone who has been on**

**top long as you – would feel the**

**same way.**

**KAREN**

**(tearfully)**

**Oh, Brad. I don’t like being a prima**

**donna, but I cannot help myself.**

**She tearfully embraces her husband.**

**KAREN**

**Long as he lets you produce, I’ll**

**do whatever you say. ...Who knows?**

**It might all work out.**

**106 INT. GALLEY – LA PRINCESSE – NIGHT 106**

**048**

**Seated at their small table, Chef Lawrence and David Gibson**

**are enjoying their own cooked meal.**

**GIBSON**

**Wonder if we’ll be anchoring for**

**the night. ...Be nice to go ashore.**

**CHEF LAWRENCE**

**Scuttlebutt has it that we’re push-**

**ing on. Seems Mr. Benedict wants**

**to reach Miami a week early.**

**107 INT. CABIN SEVEN – SETH & DIANE MERIWETHER CABIN – DAY 107**

**Diane is on her laptop and Seth is dialing up a number on his cell phone.**

**108 EXT. CHELSEA AREA (19th St. & 8th Ave.) NYC – NIGHT 108**

**To establish the upscale, Manhattan apartment building.**

**The RING of a PHONE.**

**109 INT. BEDROOM OF COMMISSIONER BILLINGS – NIGHT 109**

**Billings reaches for the ringing phone before it awakens his sleeping wife. He’s too late.**

**BILLINGS**

**(into handset)**

**Hello?**

**INTERCUT WITH:**

**110 INT. CABIN SEVEN – SETH & DIANE MERIWETHER CABIN – DAY 110**

**SETH**

**Commissioner...it’s Seth. Sorry**

**to call you so late, but I have**

**the information you requested.**

**BILLINGS**

**And??**

**SETH**

**Benedict has four hotshot traders**

**working the stock. They’re on the**

**phones 16 hours a day pushing Nami-**

**bia Recovery to wealthy investors**

**around the world.**

**049**

**BILLINGS**

**Just as I thought.**

**SETH**

**What do you want me to do?**

**BILLINGS**

**Keep me posted on every move he**

**makes.**

**110 ANOTHER ANGLE 110**

**As he clicks off his cell, Diane turns to her husband.**

**DIANE**

**Was it wise giving Billings all**

**that information?**

**SETH**

**Jett and I discussed it and he saw**

**no reason not to give the commis-**

**sioner what he already knew or sus-**

**pected.**

**DIANE**

**Then it was the right thing to do.**

**Diane climbs to her feet and steps over to confront her hus-**

**band.**

**DIANE**

**I didn’t hear you mention that La**

**Princesse would be getting into**

**Miami a week early.**

**SETH**

**(facetiously)**

**Shucks. ...How could I forget to**

**mention that bit of trivia??**

**Both let out a smile as they hug one another lovingly.**

**111 EXT. LA PRINCESSE ON THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY – DAY 111**

**La Princesse is motoring southbound in a pictureesque portion**

**of the Waterway.**

**112 EXT. FBI LOS ANGELES HEADQUARTERS - DAY 112**

**Establish the government building at 11000 Wilshire Blvd.**

**050**

**113 INT. SUITE 1700 – GOVERNMENT BLD. – WILSHIRE BLVD. – DAY 113**

**AGENT FRANK NUGENT finishes printing the copy of a recent email from his computer printer, then rushes to his superior.**

**114 INT. OFFICE OF FBI SPECIAL AGENT JESSE CORALLO – DAY 114**

**FBI Special Agent-in Charge, JESSE CORALLO is on his computer when Agent Nugent barges in, holding up his email copy.**

**AGENT NUGENT**

**Email from our contact aboard La**

**Princesse, asking if we received**

**the glass with the suspect’s prints,**

**which was mailed from Ocean City.**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**(looking up)**

**So...did we?**

**NUGENT**

**Yes, sir. ...And they have been**

**confirmed. Our fugitive, Richard**

**Leslie, is definitely aboard the**

**yacht.**

**CORALLO**

**Good work, Agent Nugent. And did**

**our agent update the arrival time**

**for La Princesse’s arrival in Miami?**

**NUGENT**

**No, sir. But I suspect that it’s**

**likely the same estimated date we**

**were given before.**

**115 EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS – LA PRINCESSE SAILING WATERWAY – DAY 115**

**Multiple coverage of La Princesse motoring down the more pic-**

**turesque portions of the Intracoastal Waterway**

**116 EXT. LA PRINCESSE ANCHORED OFF COROLLA, NC – NIGHT 116**

**Establish.**

**117 EXT. PORTSIDE – DECK LEVEL – NIGHT 117**

**The RIB Zodiac is seen powering itself towards the city of Corolla, North Carolina. Although it appears that the Zodiac**

**051**

**is carrying four passengers and a crew member operating the**

**twin outboards, we cannot identify anyone.**

**118 INT. NICOLE’S BEDROOM – UPPER EASTSIDE TOWNHOUSE – NIGHT 118**

**Nicole answers the phone on the second RING.**

**NICOLE**

**(into handset)**

**Nicole.**

**(beat)**

**You’re saying La Princesse is ex-**

**pected to arrive in Miami a week**

**earlier than expected.**

**(pause)**

**Wonder what precipitated that move?**

**...Not to worry, I’ll find out.**

**(beat)**

**Thanks for the call.**

**Hanging up the phone, Nichole is in deep thought. Then she**

**picks up the phone’s handset and goes to work.**

**119 EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS – LA PRINCESSE SAILING WATERWAY – DAY 119**

**More coverage of La Princesse motoring down the more pic-**

**turesque portions of the Intracoastal Waterway**

**120 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 120**

**Brig KNOCKS on the open door to Benedict’s cabin and Jett immediately calls out from behind his desk.**

**BENEDICT**

**Oh, Brig. ...Come in.**

**Jett motions for Brig to take one of the two seats in front**

**of the desk.**

**BRIG**

**(seating himself)**

**What’s on your mind, Jett?**

**Benedict reaches for a paper on his desk and hands it to Brig.**

**BENEDICT**

**(explains)**

**Just received this email from FBI**

**headquarters, Los Angeles.**

**052**

**As Brig reads the email, Jett voices a summary of the content.**

**BENEDICT**

**FBI says your real name is Rich-**

**ard Leslie and is ordering me not**

**to let you off the yacht. You’ll**

**be arrested when we reach Miami.**

**(beat)**

**What is it you’re wanted for?**

**Having finished reading the email, Brig looks Jett in the eye.**

**BRIG**

***Murder.***

**Jett’s eyebrows rise as he pours himself a drink.**

**BENEDICT**

**(about to swallow)**

**And who did you murder?**

**BRIG**

**My father.**

**Jett proceeds to choke on his drink.**

**SCENES FROM “THE PLATIUM HEIST CROSS-UP.”**

**121 EXT. SAN MARINO, CA – NEAR PASADENA – DAY 121**

**The huge three-story Leslie estate is located near Longden Avenue in the exclusive San Marino area adjacent to Pasadena.**

**BRIG (V.O.)**

**I felt it was my duty as a faithful**

**and loving son to do his bidding.**

**122 INT. LESLIE ESTATE – SAN MARINO – DAY 122**

**Richard Leslie, AKA Brig, is seen walking up the elaborate staircase. Arriving on the second floor he walks down the hallway towards one of the many bedrooms.**

**123 INT. CARTER LESLIE’S BEDROOM – DAY 123**

**Brig enters the bedroom of his father, Carter Leslie, to find**

**a NURSE feeding the bedridden patriarch as though feeding**

**a small child. From his expression, the scene obviously has**

**a devastating effect on Richard.**

**053**

**The patriarch waves the nurse away.**

**CARTER**

**Please! ...I want to talk to my**

**son, alone.**

**NURSE**

**Whatever you wish, Mr. Leslie.**

**With that, the nurse gathers her food tray and departs.**

**124 ANOTHER ANGLE 124**

**Alone with his bedridden father, Brig settles down on the chair used by the nurse to hear what his father wishes to tell him.**

**CARTER**

**Richard...**

**BRIG**

**Yes, father?**

**CARTER**

**I want you to kill me.**

**BRIG**

**Dad, you don’t know what you’re**

**asking.**

**CARTER**

**I can’t go on like this.**

**(reflecting)**

**When I first learned of my condi-**

**tion, I imagined my out would be to**

**consume a case of Cristal Champagne**

**and die with a smile on my face.**

**(beat)**

**It was a blow when I found out I**

**could no longer tolerate alcohol**

**of any type.**

**BRIG**

**Dad. ...What you’re asking is im-**

**possible.**

**CARTER**

**I’ve discussed it with your sister,**

**but I’d rather you do it.**

**054**

**125 BACK TO SCENE – BENEDICT’S CABIN 125**

**BRIG**

**(explaining further)**

**An audit determined there was a lot**

**of money missing and the police**

**deemed that was my motive. Found**

**out later my brother had been steal-**

**ing from the estate for years.**

**BENEDICT**

**I see.**

**BRIG**

**If you want to confine me to my**

**quarters, I give you my word, I will**

**not try to escape.**

**BENEDICT**

**(incredulously)**

***Confined to quarters*?? Why would I**

**do that?**

**BRIG**

**‘Fraid I don’t understand, sir.**

**BENEDICT**

**I want you to carry on with your**

**duties, at least until you’re ar-**

**rested – if it comes to that.**

**BRIG**

**All my duties, sir? Even as secu-**

**rity chief?**

**BENEDICT**

***Especially* as security chief!!**

**126 INT/EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS – LA PRINCESSE – DAY & NIGHT 126**

**To a proper MUSICAL THEME, a series of shots depict life**

**aboard La Princesse as it treks southbound on the Intracoastal Waterway.**

**Guests being served gourmet meals; different guests singing Karaoke songs in the bar; the beautiful shoreline scenery, and sex.**

**127 INT. CABIN THREE – CHEF LAWRENCE & GIBSON’S CABIN – NIGHT 127**

**055**

**In the absence of Chef Lawrence, David and Benedict’s secretary, Leigh Ryder, are in bed – *humping* the hell out of each other.**

**128 EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS – (STOCK) - MIAMI – DAY 128**

**A series of STOCK SHOTS from the TV series “CSI–MIAMI” show Miami and the surrounding area in all its color and beauty.**

**129 EXT. GUEST MOORING - LA PRINCESSE - MIAMI – DAY 129**

**La Princesse moored at a prestigious Miami dock.**

**130 INT. LOUNGE – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 130**

**Both crew and guests are gathered in the larger of the two lounges. The stewards (Johnson, Antinori, Grover & Murphy)**

**are serving finger food and pouring expensive champagnes and wines.**

**Benedict enters the lounge and addresses the group.**

**BENEDICT**

**You’ll note we’ve arrived at our**

**destination a week earlier than**

**anticipated.**

**(beat)**

**For those who wish to be flown to**

**their chosen destinations, I will**

**make arrangements.**

**FLASH CUT TO:**

**131 EXT. ATLANTIS RESORT (STOCK FOOTAGE) – DAY/NIGHT 131**

**While listening to Jett, on screen are beauty shots of the Atlantis Resort.**

**BENEDICT (V.O.)**

**But for those who wish to finish**

**out their week aboard, later to-**

**night I intend to take La Princesse**

**to Nassau, in the Bahamas, where I**

**will put her up for sale.**

**(beat)**

**After a day or two at the Atlantis**

**Resort on Paradise Island, at my**

**expense, I will have you flown to**

**your chosen destinations. ...Chef**

**(MORE)**

**056**

**BENEDICT (Cont’d)**

**Lawrence and pastry chef Gibson**

**have agreed to stay on and we have**

**hardly put a dent into the many**

**fabulous wines in the cellar.**

**(adding)**

**Be a shame to leave the new owner**

**with such a treasure trove.**

**132 BACK TO SCENE 132**

**BENEDICT**

**Give it some thought and let my**

**secretary, Miss Ryder, know your**

**decision.**

**With that, Jett Benedict exits the lounge, leaving the crew**

**and guests to their thoughts.**

**133 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 133**

**Jett is on the phone when his secretary, Leigh Ryder, enters. Jett hangs up the handset and looks up at his secretary.**

**BENEDICT**

**Well??**

**LEIGH**

**Only Diane Meriwether, Karen Vaughn**

**and Brad Taylor wish to depart; Meri-**

**wether to fly back to New York and**

**Karen and Brad to L.A.**

**BENEDICT**

**(surprised)**

**Everyone else is willing to make**

**the trip?**

**LEIGH**

***Delighted* would be a better descript-**

**tion.**

**BENEDICT**

**(thoughtfully)**

**We must be doing *something* right.**

**(beat)**

**I also want my daughter ashore.**

**(beat)**

**Send for Brig.**

**057**

**134 INT. CABIN SEVEN – SETH & DIANE MERIWETHER CABIN – DAY 134**

**Diane and Seth are having a bit of a disagreement.**

**DIANE**

**I don’t understand. To begin with,**

**I didn’t want to come on this voyage**

**and now that I find it so interest-**

**ing, you’re getting rid of me. What**

**the hell’s going on??**

**SETH**

**It’s for your safety, my dear.**

**DIANE**

**I still don’t understand.**

**SETH**

**There’s a chance La Princesse will**

**be hijacked between here and Nassau.**

**DIANE**

**How do you know this?**

**SETH**

**SEC wiretaps on his partner’s phone.**

**DIANE**

**(alarmed)**

**And you’re staying aboard? ...Why??**

**SETH**

**It’s my duty.**

**Their embrace is genuine.**

**135 INT. BAR – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 135**

**With Margaret Benedict schlepping her own luggage and Donald Johnson handling Diane Meriwether’s luggage and Bruno Antinori Karen Vaughn and Brad Taylor’s, the four are saying goodbye to their fellow travelers, accompanied by lots of toasts and best wishes.**

**136 EXT. MULTI-DECK STAIRCASE – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 136**

**As Jett descends from the third deck level, he runs into Brig ascending the staircase.**

**058**

**BRIG**

**You sent for me, sir.**

**BENEDICT**

**Yes...Follow me. We have a lot to**

**discuss.**

**137 INT. BAR – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 137**

**With Brig following behind, Jett enters the bar, to a round**

**of applause. He steps in front of the departing Diane and plants a kiss on her lovely cheek.**

**BENEDICT**

**It was a pleasure having you aboard.**

**DIANE**

**It was a pleasure being aboard.**

**BENEDICT**

**Perhaps we’ll see each other again.**

**DIANE**

**That would be nice.**

**Then, turning to Karen and Brad, Jett gives Karen a kiss on**

**the cheek and shakes hands with Brad.**

**BENEDICT**

**(to Karen)**

**There’s an excellent supporting role**

**in Brad’s script. If you’ll accept**

**it, I’ll have the money sent from**

**my account in the Caymans.**

**(beat)**

**I’ll give you the opportunity to de-**

**liver a performance of a lifetime.**

**Then Jett turns to his curious daughter.**

**MARGARET**

**Daddy, you practically forced me**

**to join you on this voyage and now**

**you’re forcing me to go ashore.**

**...I don’t understand.**

**BENEDICT**

**Let’s just say, it’s my desire**

**that you live a long and fruitful**

**life.**

**059**

**138 EXT. MULTI-DECK STAIRCASE – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 138**

**Brig and Jett are ascending the staircase together.**

**BENEDICT**

**Less than 90 minutes and we’ll be**

**in international waters. I have it**

**from a good source that we might be**

**subject to a highjack attempt.**

**(beat)**

**We’re going to need help. Is there**

**anyone aboard that we can count on**

**to come to our aide??**

**BRIG**

**(thoughtfully)**

**The navigator, Pete Stark, seems**

**to be a man capable of handling**

**himself.**

**BENEDICT**

**Find him and bring him to my cabin.**

**139 INT. OFFICE OF FBI SPECIAL AGENT JESSE CORALLO – DAY 139**

**Agent Nugent enters the office of Special Agent-in-charge,**

**Jesse Corallo.**

**AGENT NUGENT**

**You sent for me, sir?**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**Do we have a position on the yacht**

**La Princesse?**

**AGENT NUGENT**

**Last email I received from our agent**

**aboard was that it was due to arrive**

**in Miami six days from now.**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**Send him an email...I want to know**

**La Princesse’s current position and**

**I want you on a flight to Miami this**

**afternoon.**

**AGENT NUGENT**

**Yes, sir.**

**060**

**140 EXT. LA PRINCESSE – AT SEA – MIAMI AREA – DAY 140**

**La Princesse leaving the picturesque Miami area.**

**141 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 141**

**Brig and navigator/relief pilot Peter Stark are seated on the two chairs in front of Benedict’s deck.**

**STARK**

**Can you at least tell me the source**

**for your suspicion that we may be**

**high jacked somewhere between here**

**and Nassau?**

**BENEDICT**

**Not at this time. ...Perhaps later.**

**Benedict climbs to his feet, glancing towards the bookcase.**

**BENEDICT**

**I want you both fully armed--**

**That’s when Jett notices the negative nod from Brig and backs off. Instead of showing Stark the arms, he dismisses him.**

**BENEDICT**

**But we’ll have to work that out**

**later. For now, I just want you**

**to keep your eyes open. ...That’s**

**all for now.**

**STARK**

**Yes, sir.**

**Brig and Jett watch as Stark exits the cabin.**

**142 ANOTHER ANGLE 142**

**After Stark has departed, Jett turns to Brig for an explana-tion.**

**BENEDICT**

**You have a concern?**

**BRIG**

**I only suggested that Stark was**

**someone who could take care of him-**

**(MORE)**

**061**

**BRIH (Cont’d)**

**self. I think it’s prudent that we**

**check him out before showing him**

**all the cookies.**

**Jett nods in agreement.**

**BENEDICT**

**Good idea, I’ll have Leigh get on**

**it.**

**BRIG**

**She might as well check me out, as**

**well.**

**BENEDICT**

**She’s already done that.**

**BRIG**

**And??**

**BENEDICT**

**Let me ask? ...You use the battle**

**tag Brigand, which normally stands**

**for *bandit*. ...But you’re wanted**

**for *murder*.**

**(beat)**

**Might I assume it’s a message to**

**your brother?**

**BRIG**

**You’re very perceptive.**

**143 INT/EXT. PILOTHOUSE – DAY 143**

**From behind the wheel, CAPT Flynn comments to Peter Stark.**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**We’re now officially in interna-**

**tional waters.**

**STARK**

**(monitoring radio)**

**This is interesting. I’m monitor-**

**ing the Weather Channel, which is**

**saying a tropical storm is develop-**

**ing that is expected to hit the**

**Bahamas in two or three days.**

**062**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**That IS an unexpected development.**

**...Take the wheel, I better notify**

**the boss.**

**144 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 144**

**CAPT Flynn is bringing a thoughtful Jett up to date on the possible storm they might be facing.**

**BENEDICT**

**Any way we can skirt it and still**

**reach Nassau in 10 hours?**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**I don’t see how.**

**Benedict is in deep thought. Finally:**

**BENEDICT**

**La Princesse was built to with-**

**stand such storms. ...We’ll survive**

**this one. ...Keep the original**

**course.**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**Wasn’t thinking of the ship, sir.**

**...Only of the passengers.**

**145 INT. OFFICE OF FBI SPECIAL AGENT JESSE CORALLO – DAY 145**

**The phone RINGS and Corallo picks up on the first ring.**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**(into handset)**

**Corallo.**

**INTERCUT WITH:**

**146 EXT. GUEST MOORING - LA PRINCESSE - MIAMI – DAY 146**

**Cell phone to his ear, Agent Nugent is standing at the empty birth where La Princesse was once moored.**

**AGENT NUGENT**

**By now, La Princesse is in interna-**

**tional waters.**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**How could that be??**

**063**

**AGENT NUGENT**

**Yacht arrived in Miami six days**

**early.**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**And our agent aboard?**

**AGENT NUGENT**

**Not a word.**

**147 EXT. LA PRINCESSE – AT SEA – DAY 147**

**The sea is still reasonably calm.**

**148 INT. CABIN FIVE – EMMALINE & LORI’S CABIN – DAY 148**

**The women are on their phones, pushing *Namibia Recovery* stock.**

**There is a KNOCK at the door.**

**EMMALINE**

**(calling out)**

**Come in!!**

**The door opens and Jett enters the cabin listening patiently as the women wind up their sales call.**

**LORI WALTERS**

**(into handset)**

**I’m emailing you confirmation for**

**five thousand shares at U.S. four-**

**teen dollars per share. ...Thank**

**you...you won’t regret it.**

**Hanging up, Lori turns to Jett.**

**LORI WALTERS**

**The price of our penny stock is**

**now up to fourteen dollars. In a**

**couple days it should hit nineteen.**

**With a one-third commission, we**

**should all do very well.**

**Emmaline finishes her call and is listening.**

**BENEDICT**

**When the price reaches nineteen,**

**you know what to do.**

**064**

**149 INT. CABIN SIX - MERCIER & MORRISON’S CABIN – DAY 149**

**Mercier and Morrison are commiserating.**

**MERCIER**

**You have to hand it to ol’ Benedict.**

**Once again he picked the right stock**

**to push...one with a plausible back**

**story.**

**MORRISON**

**I don’t understand what we’re doing.**

**MERCIER**

**How so??**

**MORRISON**

**We’re not going to see any commis-**

**sions from our trades, so why are**

**we busting our butts??**

**MERCIER**

**(angrily)**

**Look, we’re going to steal all his**

**money, might as well leave him with**

**something.**

**MORRISON**

**(realization)**

**You like the guy??**

**MERCIER**

**For a rogue, he’s not a bad sort.**

**Mercier looks his partner in the eye.**

**MERCIER**

**Yeah, I like the guy. ...But, as a**

**fellow rogue, I’m not above taking**

**his money. ...I just don’t want to**

**see him destroyed.**

**150 EXT. LA PRINCESSE – AT SEA – DAY 150**

**The sea is now less calm.**

**151 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 151**

**Leigh Ryder is taking dictation from Benedict.**

**065**

**BENEDICT**

**(dictating)**

**--At our agreed upon commission of**

**one-third, we’ve now sold nearly all**

**of the 2 million over-the-counter**

**shares held by your company. You**

**will hear from me when the rest of**

**the shares are sold--**

**The dictation over, Jett gives Leigh her marching orders.**

**BENEDICT**

**Email this to the president of Nami-**

**bia Recovery. ...Then get yourself**

**some lunch and take the rest of the**

**day off. ...Sea’s getting too rough**

**to get any work done.**

**152 INT. LOUNGE – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 152**

**With four of the guests having departed, several crew members are now seen enjoying finger food and adult beverages in the lounge with the remaining guests. Conversation is strictly concerning the weather.**

**The pastry chef, David Gibson, fills two champagne glasses and hands one to Jett’s secretary, Leigh Ryder.**

**DAVID GIBSON**

**I hope the rough sea is not causing**

**you distress.**

**LEIGH RYDER**

**Not at all. By now, I have my sea**

**legs. ...And you??**

**GIBSON**

**Still struggling.**

**(pause)**

**Look, I have to get back to the**

**kitchen, but I won’t be long. In**

**about 20 minutes, I’ll take a break.**

**David slips Leigh the key to cabin three.**

**GIBSON**

**Go to my cabin and wait for me.**

**...I’ll be along soon.**

**066**

**LEIGH**

**What about Chef Lawrence?**

**GIBSON**

**Fortunately, he’s not able to take**

**a break.**

**Leigh accepts the key with a smile.**

**153 ANOTHER ANGLE 153**

**Mark Mercier and Glenn Morrison are seated together, chatting,**

**when Peter Stark approaches and sits in a chair across from**

**them.**

**STARK**

**How’s the trading going. Making**

**any money for the boss?**

**MERCIER**

**What’s it to you?**

**STARK**

**(smiling)**

**I contend that money is the root of**

**all evil.**

**After a long pause, Mercier answers.**

**MERCIER**

**Yes, but it grows into nice looking**

**shrubbery.**

**Mercier reaches into the inside pocket of his sports coat and withdraws a single sheet of paper, handing it over to Stark.**

**MERCIER**

**(voice low)**

**These are the escape plans. Guard**

**them with your life.**

**Stark nods his understanding and, without reading it, sticks**

**the paper into his own sports jacket’s inside pocket.**

**154 ANGLE ON BRIG 154**

**Unknown to anyone else in the lounge, Brig has witnessed the exchange.**

**067**

**155 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 155**

**Seated across from each other at Benedict’s big desk, Brig and Jett are in deep thought.**

**BENEDICT**

**(finally)**

**Well, at least we know who the**

**players are.**

**BRIG**

**(nodding)**

**Could give us a *slight* advantage.**

**156 INT. CABIN THREE – CHEF LAWRENCE & GIBSON’S CABIN – DAY 156**

**Alone, waiting for Gibson, Leigh Ryder is stripping down to**

**her underwear.**

**In her underwear, she starts to roll back the comforter from Gibson’s double bed and climb in – but then she notices his street clothes tossed on the end of the bed.**

**She moves to pick up and hang the clothes in the closet. But**

**as she grabs the jacket, the wallet-type identification falls**

**to the floor. She picks it up and opens the wallet.**

**157 CLOSE-UP – WALLET IDENTIFICATION 157**

**The badge and identification is for FBI agent Gibson.**

**158 BACK TO SCENE 158**

**It’s at this point that Gibson enters the cabin and spots Leigh examining his ID.**

**LEIGH**

**(looking at Gibson)**

**So you’re a FBI agent, not a past-**

**ry chef.**

**GIBSON**

**True. ...My father was the pastry**

**chef. Taught me all he knew.**

**Leigh tosses the ID on the bed and begins dressing.**

**159 INT. OFFICE OF FBI SPECIAL AGENT JESSE CORALLO – DAY 159**

**068**

**Corallo picks up the handset on the first RING.**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**Corallo. ...Agent Gibson! ...Where**

**the hell have you been??**

**INTERCUT WITH:**

**160 EXT. FANTAIL – LA PRINCESSE – DAY 160**

**Agent Gibson is making his cell call from the small fantail portion of the main deck.**

**GIBSON**

**Sorry, sir. For a time, I allowed**

**myself to be distracted. But I’m**

**now on top of it.**

**(beat)**

**By the way, we’re heading for Nas-**

**sau.**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**Nassau?! You sure? ...Doesn’t make**

**sense. SEC is convinced he’s head-**

**ing for the Caymans??**

**GIBSON**

**If that’s the case, it’s news to me.**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**Are you armed?**

**GIBSON**

**I have a Glock and three clips of**

**9mm ammo hidden in my cabin.**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**Well, you better start packing...**

**...We’ve received word from SEC that**

**La Princesse is about to be hi-**

**jacked by a small group...already**

**aboard.**

**161 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 161**

**With Leigh Ryder at her computer, Brig, Seth, Jett and Agent Gibson are standing around discussing the situation. Gibson turns to Jett.**

**069**

**GIBSON**

**If we know who the *perps* are, why**

**not let me go ahead and arrest them.**

**SETH**

**Firstly, because, as of yet, they**

**haven’t committed any crime and sec-**

**ondly, because of the wire taps, we**

**know that one or more additional**

**persons are likely involved. ...We**

**need to catch them all.**

**BENEDICT**

**What we have going for ourselves is**

**that Mercier and Morrison don’t know**

**that we’re on to them.**

**BRIG**

**This might be a good time to show**

**our friends where the arms are**

**stashed.**

**162 EXT. LA PRINCESSE - AT SEA – DAY 162**

**The storm bearing down, the sea is now extremely choppy**

**163 INT/EXT. PILOTHOUSE – DAY 163**

**Peter Stark is at the wheel, consulting some charts, when CAPT Flynn enters.**

**STARK**

**Were you able to get some sleep?**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**A little.**

**STARK**

**(reporting)**

**According to weather reports, we’re**

**about seven hours from the worst of**

**it. ...No way we’re going to make**

**Nassau on schedule.**

**(beat)**

**By the way, what’s so important about**

**arriving in Nassau on schedule?**

**070**

**CAPT FLYNN**

**Benedict made arrangements for poten-**

**tial purchasers to meet the yacht upon**

**arrival.**

**(beat)**

**You better get some food and a nap.**

**...Report back here in four hours.**

**164 INT. LOUNGE – LA PRINCESSE – AT SEA – DAY 164**

**The crew and remaining guests gathered in the lounge are not happy campers. No one is eating or drinking; just commiser-ating with each other on how lousy they feel.**

**Benedict enters the lounge and is immediately pounced upon.**

**ANTINORI**

**(angrily)**

**Is there a reason why we’re not**

**diverting our course to avoid this**

**storm?**

**BENEDICT**

**Too widespread. ...Storm came up**

**suddenly. ...There was no way to**

**avoid it.**

**DIXIE GROVER**

**I guess the question is, how long**

**are we going to have to endure**

**this??**

**BENEDICT**

**Even with the storm, we’re now less**

**than 10 hours from Nassau.**

**165 EXT. LA PRINCESSE - AT SEA – DAY 165**

**The yacht is now taking a real beating.**

**166 INT. CABIN SIX - MERCIER & MORRISON’S CABIN – DAY 166**

**Mercier and Morrison are studying the redlined map indicating their intended escape route.**

**MERCIER**

**We’re approaching the isle of An-**

**dros...time to go to work.**

**071**

**The two extract their .45 caliber (model 1911) semi automatics; together with a silencer and several fully loaded clips, from their hiding places and prepare for war.**

**167 INT. CREW CABINS – BELOW DECK – DAY 167**

**Stark pulls out his Glock, a silencer and several fully loaded clips, from its hiding place.**

**168 INT. LOUNGE – LA PRINCESSE – AT SEA – DAY 168**

**The mood among those still gathered in the Lounge is grim.**

**169 INT. THIRD DECK PASSAGEWAY – DAY 169**

**Carrying trash bags and pulling out their weapons, silencers attached, Stark, Mercier and Morrison approach the door to Jett’s cabin. Stark KNOCKS.**

**BENEDICT (O.S.)**

**(from inside)**

**Who is it?**

**STARK**

**(calling out)**

**Stark. ...Captain sent me.**

**After a moment the cabin door is opened by Leigh Ryder.**

**170 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 170**

**Once the door is open, Stark, Mercier and Morrison rush in, taking secretary Leigh Ryder hostage. Stark has his weapon pointed at Jett’s head. Mercier quickly closes and locks the cabin door.**

**STARK**

**(to Benedict)**

**Here’s what’s going to happen.**

**(beat)**

**You’re going to open the safe and**

**if it’s not open within 30 seconds**

**your secretary get’s a bullet be-**

**tween her eyes.**

**(beat)**

**And if it’s not open with 60 sec-**

**onds, you get a bullet in both knee-**

**caps...and if it’s not open within**

**(MORE)**

**072**

**STARK (Cont’d)**

**90 seconds, you too get it between**

**the eyes.**

**(beat)**

***Comprende!!***

**As Mercier, Morrison and Leigh Ryder look on, patiently, Jett moves to the door of the walk-in vault and begins working the combination. Mercier and Morrison look like they’re about to wet their pants.**

**Finally, Benedict gets the huge vault door open and stands by for further instructions.**

**Stark indicates the trash bags the men are carrying.**

**STARK**

**(impatiently)**

**Well??**

**Mercier and Morrison rush into the vault.**

**171 INT. WALK-IN VAULT – DAY 171**

**Mercier and Morrison start stuffing cash, bonds, diamonds and**

**other jewelry into the trash bags.**

**172 INT. THIRD DECK PASSAGEWAY – DAY 172**

**Brig approaches Benedict’s cabin and is about to knock when**

**he hears loud VOICES from within. Instead of knocking, he listens.**

**INTERCUT WITH:**

**173 BENEDICT’S CABIN 173**

**Benedict addresses the gun-pointing Stark.**

**BENEDICT**

**(calmly)**

**If you don’t mind my pointing out,**

**there are several flaws to your plan**

**STARK**

**(angrily)**

**Like what??**

**073**

**BENEDICT**

**First of all, the bonds are regis-**

**tered, not bearer bonds...making**

**them impossible for you to sell.**

**(beat)**

**Secondly, the diamonds are etched**

**and the etched numbers will lead**

**to my ownership.**

**(adding)**

**Finally, the jewelry is insured.**

**...Know what that means?**

**MERCIER**

**I do!! Means the gems will have to**

**be broken down and remounted.**

**BENEDICT**

**Finally, assuming your escape plan**

**involves one of the Zodiacs, in**

**this weather, you’ve only a 20-per-**

**cent chance of a safe launch.**

**STARK**

**(waiving gun)**

**What’s your point??**

**BENEDICT**

**I think we can make a deal.**

**STARK**

**What kind of deal?**

**BENEDICT**

**One where everyone gets part of**

**what they want.**

**STARK**

**(hesitantly)**

**I’m listening.**

**BENEDICT**

**The vault contains approximately**

**$35 million in cash and another**

**$35 million in jewelry; jewelry in**

**which the stones can be extracted**

**and fenced for approximately $15 to**

**$20 million.**

**(beat)**

**(MORE)**

**074**

**BENEDICT (Cont’d)**

**That’s $50 million...enough to set**

**you up with a nice lifestyle, espe-**

**cially if you choose your country**

**wisely.**

**STARK**

**And you?**

**BENEDICT**

**I keep the diamonds, which are laser**

**etched and thus traceable - and I**

**keep the bonds – which are regis-**

**tered, and thus traceable.**

**STARK**

**(not convinced)**

**And you keep your boat, provided it**

**survives the storm.**

**BENEDICT**

**It too, is insured.**

**From inside the vault, Mercier and Morrison anxiously look for**

**Stark to agree to the generous terms.**

**MERCIER**

**(angrily, to Stark)**

**Listen to him. He’s offering us**

**the deal of a lifetime!!**

**STARK**

**Are you stupid? ...You actually**

**believe that crap he’s selling??**

**MERCIER**

**Yes, I do.**

**STARK**

**He’s bluffing; trying to buy time.**

**(beat)**

**Now get everything in those trash**

**bags, we’re leaving nothing behind**

**but the boat.**

**BENEDICT**

**(calmly)**

**You will come to regret not accept-**

**ing my offer.**

**075**

**STARK**

**You’re kidding.**

**BENEDICT**

**(flatly)**

**That’s my prediction.**

**174 INT. THIRD DECK PASSAGEWAY – DAY 174**

**Outside Benedict’s cabin, Brig is no longer listening at the door**

**175 INT. CABIN TWO – CAPT FLYNN & BRIG’S CABIN – DAY 175**

**Seated at a desk, tools in hand, Brig is busy taking apart his Samsung Galaxy cell phone.**

**Suddenly, steward Dixie Grover enters. She witnesses Brig mutilating the smart phone with a large hat pin.**

**DIXIE GROVER**

**You must hate that cell phone a lot**

**to be doing what you’re doing to it.**

**...What *are* you doing to it?**

**Brig starts reassembling the smart phone.**

**BRIG**

**Putting some holes in the lithium**

**battery**

**With the cell phone reassembled, Brig rushes from the cabin.**

**176 INT. THIRD DECK PASSAGEWAY – DAY 176**

**Once again, Brig is outside the door to Benedict’s cabin.**

**177 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 177**

**With a terrified Leigh Ryder looking on, Mark Mercier and**

**Glenn Morrison are filling the garbage bags with stocks,**

**bonds, cash and rare stones. Then there is a KNOCK on the**

**cabin door and everyone freezes.**

**With a wave of his Glock, Stark motions for Benedict to take care of the matter.**

**BENEDIT**

**(calling out)**

**Who is it.**

**076**

**BRIG (O.S.)**

**(calling back)**

**Brig.**

**STARK**

**Let him in.**

**Jett gives a nod to Leigh, who moves to the door where she unlocks and opens it.**

**178 ANOTHER ANGLE 178**

**Brig enters and immediately takes note of the situation. He slowly opens his jacket exposing the semi automatic resting on his hip.**

**Stark cautiously removes the weapon; motioning for Brig to move over and stand next to Leigh.**

**179 EXTREME CLOSS-UP 179**

**As Brig does so, he slips the cell phone from his pocket and turns it on.**

**180 BACK TO SCENE 180**

**Brig hands the cell to Stark, who slips it into his pocket.**

**181 INT. WALK-IN VAULT – DAY 181**

**Mercier and Morrison now have all the cash, bonds, diamonds and**

**other jewelry stuffed into three trash bags. They exit the vault.**

**182 BENEDICT’S CABIN 182**

**Mercier and Morrison drop the trash bags on the floor, in the center of the cabin and stand there – as if standing guard.**

**183 ANGLE ON STARK & BENEDICT 183**

**Suddenly, from the pocket of Stark’s jacket – an EXPLOSION!!**

**In an instant, Jett grabs the startled Stark’s gun and as Stark goes for Brig’s weapon, Benedict fires two shots, killing Stark almost instantly.**

**184 WIDER ANGLE 184**

**Time seems frozen as Mercier and Morrison have their guns drawn**

**077**

**and pointed at Brig and Benedict as they look in horror at the dead body on the floor. Jett has his weapon pointed at Mercier’s head.**

**BRIG**

**Gentlemen. ...What we have here is**

**the proverbial standoff.**

**(pause)**

**So what do you intend to do about**

**it?**

**MERCIER**

**The original deal still stand??**

**BENEDICT**

**With two exceptions.**

**MERCIER**

**And they are?**

**BENEDICT**

**First, you take Brig with you.**

**(explains)**

**When we land in Nassau, police will**

**be all over this yacht. Something**

**I don’t think Brig would find very**

**comfortable.**

**(Beat)**

**Besides, you’ll need him to help**

**launch the Zodiac.**

**MERCIER**

**Agreed. ...Secondly?**

**BENEDICT**

**From the cash, peal off three hun-**

**dred-fifty grand and give it to Brig.**

**...You can take it from what would**

**have been Stark’s share.**

**MERCIER**

**Agreed.**

**Jett is the first to lower his weapon.**

**BENEDICT**

**Now, let’s separate the cash and**

**jewelry into a separate trash bag.**

**078**

**Mercier and Morrison now lower their weapons and everyone goes to work separating the loot.**

**185 INT/EXT. PILOTHOUSE – DAY 185**

**Benedict enters the pilothouse and confronts CAPT Flynn.**

**BENEDICT**

**Captain? I know it would be unsafe**

**to stop the boat in a storm like**

**this, but some of my people are go-**

**ing to launch one of the Zodiacs.**

**(beat)**

**Want you to give them all the help**

**you can.**

**186 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 186**

**As the ties are being twisted around the opening of the trash bag, making it water tight, Jett enters the cabin and announces:**

**BENEDICT**

**Captain Flynn is going to give you**

**all the help he can but, in this**

**weather, ‘fraid it won’t be much.**

**MORRISON**

**I suppose you’ll come after us.**

**...Wouldn’t blame you.**

**BENEDICT**

**No. ...A deal is a deal.**

**MORRISON**

**Hardly a good one for you, under**

**the circumstances.**

**BENEDICT**

**As my Pappy used to say, “make a**

**bad deal and you hug it all the**

**harder.”**

**MERCIER**

**I believe him. ...Let’s get on**

**with it.**

**Almost as an afterthought, Jett moves to the closet and pulls out the large Ralph Lauren suitcase, empties the contents onto the floor, and hands it over to Mercier.**

**079**

**BENEDICT**

**When you reach land, for less con-**

**spicuous travel you might want to**

**transfer the contents of the trash**

**bag to a suitcase.**

**187 EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS – LAUNCH OF RIB ZODIAC. – DAY 187**

**The painstaking launch of the Zodiac from its third deck**

**Davit is at the expense of great peril.**

**Brig is in charge, giving the crucial orders.**

**Even when the Zodiac is in the water, the peril is not over.**

**It’s Brig’s job to see that Mercier, Morrison and the loot are safely aboard the Zodiac before Brig attempts to board himself.**

**Mercier and Morrison scramble down the ladder thrown over the side of the yacht.**

**Now that Mercier and Morrison are safely aboard the Zodiac,**

**Brig tosses down the trash bag.**

**Brig is now finally free to climb down the ladder himself and**

**he does so.**

**Once aboard the Zodiac, Brig removes it from the confines of**

**its davit cables, fires up the two powerful twin outboard engines, and pilots the shuttle safely away from La Princesse.**

***SUPERIMPOSE: EPILOGUE***

**188 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 188**

**Indicating the remaining contents from the trash bags spread**

**out on the floor, Benedict gives his secretary, Leigh Ryder,**

**her marching orders.**

**BENEDICT**

**Before landing at Nassau, I’m going**

**to drop off you and the contents of**

**what’s there, on the floor, on Para-**

**dise Island.**

**(explaining)**

**It will be your job to hire a shut-**

**tle to fly the contents to the Cay-**

**mans where you’ll see that every-**

**thing reaches my bank, safely.**

**080**

**LEIGH**

**And what do I use for money?**

**BENEDICT**

**Why, my good credit, of course.**

**Then Jett reaches for his wallet, pulls out a number of bills, handing them to his secretary.**

**BENEDICT**

**Here’s $1,500. ...Should cover your**

**personal expenses. I’ll reimburse**

**your personal credit card expenses,**

**of course. Once you’ve completed**

**your mission, get back to Nassau**

**quickly as possible. You’re the only**

**witness as what happened in the**

**demise of Mr. Stark.**

**LEIGH**

**What do I give as a reason for my**

**leaving the yacht at Paradise**

**Island?**

**BENEDICT**

**The truth, of course.**

**LEIGH**

**(relieved)**

**Thank you, Mr. Benedict.**

**BENEDICT**

**Thank you for what?**

**LEIGH**

**Thank you for being who you are.**

**189 EXT. LA PRINCESSE – AT SEA – BAHAMAS – DAY 189**

**Once again the sea is calm.**

**190 INT. BENEDICT’S THIRD DECK CABIN – DAY 190**

**Things in the Benedict cabin are running normally. Seth Meriwether is seated across the large desk from Jett.**

**BENEDICT**

**Thirty minutes, we’ll be in Nassau**

**(MORE)**

**081**

**BENDDICT (Cont’d)**

**where La Princesse will be met by**

**the police, taking charge of the**

**body of one Peter Stark and where**

**I will meet with potential buyers**

**of La Princesse.**

**SETH**

**(interrupting)**

**So that’s why out of Miami you set**

**sail for the Bahamas instead of the**

**Caymans.**

**(beat)**

**I couldn’t figure that out.**

**BENEDICT**

**You need only to have asked.**

**SETH**

**In the Caymans it would take months**

**to find a proper buyer for La Prin-**

**cessa.**

**(beat)**

**Whereas, in the Bahamas, she would**

**sell in a heartbeat.**

**BENEDICT**

**I thought you knew that?**

**SETH**

**No, I did not. ...You took a big**

**risk.**

**(pause)**

**I suppose you know that when we**

**reach Nassau, FBI agent David Gibson**

**and I will have to arrest you for**

**stock market manipulation and money**

**laundering.**

**BENEDICT**

**How much time do you think I’ll get.**

**SETH**

**No more than three years.**

**BENEDICT**

**What about reparations??**

**082**

**SETH**

**They will try but, in my opinion, be**

**unsuccessful. After all, almost**

**everyone made money.**

**(beat)**

**After all, with the hijack, where do**

**they think the money would be coming**

**from?**

**191 INT. WALL STREET SEVEN SEAS TRADING OFFICE – DAY 191**

**Federal agents with yellow printouts on their jackets, indi-cating they are FBI, enter the premises.**

**To the stunned disbelief of the traders, led by Special Agent Corallo, the agents move to the office of Nicole Kelley.**

**192 INT. NICOLE KELLEY’S WALL STREET OFFICE – DAY 192**

**FBI Agents enter the office and place the startled Miss**

**Kelley under arrest.**

**NICOLE**

**(indignant)**

**What’s the charge?**

**SPL AGENT CORALLO**

**Conspiracy to hijack an American**

**registered ship at sea.**

**193 EXT. GEORGE TOWN – GRAND CAYMAN ISLE – DAY 193**

**We’re looking at Seven Mile Beach.**

***SUPERIMPOSE: GEORGE TOWN,***

***GRAND CAYMAN ISLAND***

**194 EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS - DOWNTOWN GEORGE TOWN – DAY 194**

**Brief images show the capital city – ending on a rather**

**indistinct looking bank.**

**195 INT. BANK MGRS OFFICE – GEORGE TOWN – DAY 195**

**Leigh is seated alone in the office, when the BANK MGR enters and sits behind his desk, handing three computer printed**

**pages over to Miss Ryder.**

**083**

**BANK MGR**

**Here are copies of the deposits;**

**consisting of stocks, bonds and**

**diamonds; everything safely in one**

**of our vaults.**

**(adding)**

**Per Jett’s wishes, I will sell $18**

**million of stocks and see that Brad**

**Taylor gets the proceeds to be used**

**funding his movie.**

**196 EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS – NASSAU – BAMAMAS – DAY 196**

**Images of the city – ending and holding on the Nassau Magis-trate Court House.**

**197 INT. NASSAU MAGISTRATE COURT – DAY 197**

**Leigh Ryder is in the dock, being grilled by the MAGISTRATE.**

**MAGISTRATE**

**A witness to the killing, why did**

**Mr. Benedict drop you off on Para-**

**dise Island before landing La Prin-**

**cessa at Nassau?**

**LEIGH**

**He wanted me to get a jump on track-**

**ing the hijackers. He knew that if**

**I rode the boat into Nassau, by the**

**time I was through testifying,**

**they’d have such a lead, no one**

**could track them.**

**MAGISTRATE**

**You want us to believe Benedict was**

**willing to put his freedom in jeop-**

**ardy so that you could get a lead on**

**where the hijackers had gone.**

**LEIGH**

**It would appear so.**

**MAGISTRATE**

**Perhaps.**

**(pause)**

**So you leased a jet and flew to the**

**Caymans. ...Why did you do that,**

**Miss Ryder?**

**084**

**LEIGH**

**Caymans seemed the logical place**

**for the hijackers to go.**

**MAGISTRATE**

**But you did not get a lead on them,**

**did you?**

**LEIGH**

**True, I did not.**

**198 EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS - OLD BROOKVILLE – OYSTER BAY – DAY 198**

**Long Island, in the wealthy community of Old Brookville, brief glimpses of mansions and estates, coming to rest on the estate of Seth and Diane Meriwether.**

**199 INT SERIES OF SHOTS – MERIWETHER MANSION – DAY 199**

**A few shots of the magnificent home of Seth and Diane Meri-wether.**

**200 INT. KITCHEN – MERIWETHER MANSION – DAY 200**

**Seth and Diane in their kitchen, where breakfast is being**

**served by the MAID. Seth is reading the paper. He points**

**out an interesting article.**

**SETH**

**(to Diane)**

**Says here that Benedict’s killing**

**of Peter Stark was ruled justified.**

**DIANE**

**That’s a relief.**

**Seth continues his read of the article.**

**SETH**

**Sold his boat and has agreed to**

**voluntarily be extradited back to**

**New York. ...Suppose he’s looking**

**to put all this behind him so as to**

**enjoy his money when he gets out.**

**DIANE**

**Will you have to testify against**

**him?**

**085**

**SETH**

**Likely.**

**DIANE**

**What will you testify to?**

**SETH**

**I will have to testify that I’m**

**telling the truth to any question**

**I’m asked.**

**DIANE**

**Without volunteering any informa-**

**tion, or elaborating.**

**SETH**

**(with wry smile)**

**That’s the way it usually works.**

**Diane returns the smile then jumps to her feet and throws her arms around her husband’s neck and gives him a big kiss.**

**DIANE**

**Seth, my darling, I love you so**

**much.**

**201 EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS – PLAYA FLAMINGO – DAY/NIGHT 201**

**The city located on the Pacific Ocean has a great nightlife, terrific restaurants and a beach-going atmosphere.**

**202 EXT. HOUSE ON BEACH – PLAYA FLAMINGO – EVENING 202**

**The beach house houses Mercier, Morrison and Richard Leslie (AKA) the Brigand.**

**203 INT. DINING ROOM – EVENING 203**

**Brig, Mercier and Morrison are being served a typical four course dinner (with appropriate wine) by the servant.**

**BRIG**

**You guys have been terrific but**

**it’s time I moved on.**

**MERCIER**

**(taken aback)**

**You’re leaving us?**

**086**

**MORRISON**

**But why?**

**BRIG**

**I need to track down my brother,**

**Wade, and get him to confess to**

**stealing from my father’s estate.**

**...Police think I stole the money**

**and that was the reason I killed**

**him.**

**MERCIER**

**And why *did* you kill him?**

**BRIG**

**He asked me to.**

**Mercier and Morrison exchange dumbfounded looks. Then, slowly Mercier nods his understanding.**

**MERCIER**

**How old was your father?**

**BRIG**

**Ninety-eight.**

**MERCIER**

**In pain?**

**Brig nods.**

**Getting a nod from Morrison, Mercier looks Brig in the eye.**

**MERCIER**

**We understand.**

**But then Morrison adds:**

**MORRISON**

**Still, I’m not comfortable with you**

**out in the world, knowing our**

**location.**

**BRIG**

**Yes, and I know your fear. Should I**

**be arrested, I may reveal your hiding**

**place in exchange for a lesser sen-**

**tence. ...Well, forget it. I would**

**not do that.**

**087**

**MORRISON**

**We know you wouldn’t.**

**BRIG**

**Never give up this house. I may**

**want to return some day.**

**MERCIER**

**We’ll be here...waiting for you.**

**BRIG**

**Thanks.**

**MORRISON**

**You’ll, of course, be joining us**

**for this evening’s club hopping**

**excursion?**

**BRIG**

**(smiling)**

**But, of course.**

**204 INT/EXT SERIES OF SHOTS - NIGHTLIFE – NIGHT 204**

**Playa Flamingo’s nightlife finds a variety of spectacular**

**MUSIC being featured in local bars and clubs; including SOUND BITES from:**

**(a) The Lounge on top of Mer y Sol restaurant;**

**(b) Yellow Fin Lounge;**

**(c) Amberes;**

**(d) Marias;**

**(e) Angelina’s; and**

**(f) The Monkey Bar.**

**205 EXT. COURTHOUSE – SO. DISTRICT Of N.Y. – DAY 205**

**Establish.**

**206 INT. COURTHOUSE – DAY 206**

**Jett Benedict is seated at the defendant’s table as the jury**

**and JURY Foreman file in.**

**088**

**Seated in the audience are Seth and Diane Meriwether.**

**Brig is also spotted in the audience.**

**The JUDGE enters and takes his seat at the bench and addresses the Jury.**

**JUDGE**

**Having found the defendant guilty**

**of money laundering and stock mani-**

**pulation, do you have a sentencing**

**recommendation?**

**JURY FOREMAN**

**We do, your honor.**

**JUDGE**

**Having written your recommendation**

**on a piece of paper, please pass it**

**to the bailiff.**

**The BAILIFF collects the paper and passes it to the Judge,**

**who takes note of its contents.**

**JUDGE**

**Will the defendant rise?**

**Benedict and his ATTORNEY climb to their feet.**

**The Judge addresses the defendant.**

**JUDGE**

**William Benedict? I hereby sen-**

**tence you to serve 24 months at the**

**Federal minimum facilities prison**

**at Otisville, New York.**

**(beat)**

**Your bail is hereby revoked.**

**(to bailiff)**

**Bailiff? ...Take the defendant**

**into custody.**

**207 ANOTHER ANGLE 207**

**Seth Meriwether steps forward and flashes his badge to the Bailiff.**

**SETH**

**I’d like a minute.**

**089**

**BAILIFF**

**Take your time.**

**Seth and Benedict shake hands.**

**SETH**

**Under federal guidelines, you’ll**

**serve 622 days. You’re lucky. Otis-**

**ville is one of the few country club**

**prisons left. ...But there are cer-**

**tain rules. Obey the rules and keep**

**a low profile and with good behavior**

**and overcrowding, you could be out**

**in as little as 18 months.**

**(beat)**

**Should be a walk in the park for an**

**ex-marine.**

**Benedict nods his understanding.**

**SETH**

**(adding)**

**Diane and I will be there to pick**

**you up.**

**Benedict shoots Diane a smile.**

**With a nod, Seth indicates that the Bailiff can take the defendant away.**

**208 ANGLE ON BRIG 208**

**Brig rises and slips out of the courtroom without drawing**

**attention to himself.**

***SUPERIMPOSE: Look for the next episode in***

***the “Brigand” limited TV series*.**

**FADE OUT**

**090**

**PRODUCTION NOTES:**

**The “Brigand” TV series consists of three 90-minute mini series episodes and one 120-minute conclusion episode. During the series, we will revisit many of the characters introduced in this first episode, a spinoff from episode eleven of the Cross-up TV miniseries.**

**What distinguishes the “Brigand” from the “Fugitive” TV series is that whereas each “Fugitive” episode focused on the David Janssen character, each new episode of “Brigand” focuses on a new, conflicted character; like Jett Benedict. Brig is more a peripheral character; that is until he steps in and saves the day in the end.**

**OPTION THIS MATERIAL:**

**Individual episodes of this miniseries can be optioned for one year by payment $1.00 per episode optioned; together with other unnamed goods and services. The option can be extended for an additional year by mutual agreement or if not by mutual agree-ment, by payment of $5,000 per episode optioned. Purchase price is the WGA Minimum Basic Agreement amount in effect for a first draft television movie screenplay, of the same length, at the time of the option’s exercise, less any option payments.**

**Mini synopsis (Series):**

**Fugitive Richard Leslie is sought for killing his wealthy fa-ther, which he acknowledges doing – but at his ailing father’s request. When millions are found missing from the estate, po-lice assume thievery, not euthanasia as the motive for the murder.**

**Richard suspects it is his wayward brother, Wade, who is the ac-tual thief. Richard is willing to take whatever punishment the courts settle on for the mercy killing but is not willing to go down for murder. He launches a search to locate and track down his brother.**

**We are introduced to colorful but conflicted characters which Richard – now going by the battle tag “Brig,” short for Brigand – introduces us to along the way.**

**091**

**Logline for series:**

**When his brother gets mixed up with crooks planning a heist, the man calling himself Brigand steps in. If his brother dies, “Brig” has no defense for the mercy killing of his ailing father – the charge will be *murder.***

**Logline for episode one: The Hijack Caper:**

**With the SEC and FBI closing in on William “Jett” Benedict for securities violations and money laundering, the Jordan Belfort-type wall street trader loads his assets aboard his 150 foot luxury power boat and attempts an escape. But the yacht is hijacked on the high seas during a tropical storm and Benedict’s plans are turned upside down.**

**Then the yacht’s diesel engineer and security officer, who calls himself “Brig,” short for Brigand, goes to work. Will Brig save the day and if so, how??**

**Logline for episode one: The Hijack Caper:**

**A fugitive, who calls himself the *Brigand*, goes to the aid of his fugitive boss when the boss’s 150 foot luxury power boat is hijacked on the high seas during a tropical storm.**

**Taglines for the series:**

**Meet good-hearted people on the wrong side of the law.**

**Lawbreakers with a cause.**

**END**