

LENCHO: CHAPTER THREE
"THE SEAL OF APPROVAL"

By

Joseph Isho Levinson

FADE IN:

EXT. GUERRILLA CAMP - AFTERNOON

Attack jets FLY over the Guerrilla camp, past the pond behind the camp. They circle back.

The jets FLY by, shooting at the tents.

Guerrilleros come running out of their tents. A lot of them are GUNNED DOWN as they disperse.

Alondra and El Engineer run to take cover. They command the Guerrilleros to retaliate.

Attack jets make a second round of attacks. Guerrilleros retaliate with BAZOOKAS.

A Guerrillero FIRES a Bazooka and hits a jet, which makes a headfirst CRASH right next to the pond behind the camp.

As Alondra, El Engineer, and Guerrilleros celebrate, they see Lencho's ground troops approaching the edges of the camp.

Attack jets make another round, shooting MISSILES, clearing the path for the incoming ground troops.

There's a moment of quiet.

Then the ground troops enter the camp, SHOOTING. Many Guerrilleros fall down.

Alondra commands a head on attack towards the mass of incoming Soldiers.

Troops on the ground FIGHT it out, FIRING at each other and launching GRENADES.

El Engineer grabs Alondra and pulls her back. Alondra fights El Engineer, wanting to be in the middle of the action. He drags her against her will behind a barricade.

Alondra, snaps out of her rage. She takes a deep breath and begins shouting orders at the Guerrilleros. They can barely hear her. The ongoing battle is loud. All sorts of ARTILLERY going off.

Alondra peers over the barricade. Lencho's soldiers are fast advancing. Lots of Guerrilleros getting killed. She looks up at the sky and sees the attack jets circling back around, on their way over the camp.

Alondra looks almost tranquil, accepting of her fate. She turns to El Engineer. They have a "this is it" moment.

With attack jets fast approaching up in the sky, they nod at each other and yell a long battle cry as they climb out of the barricade opening fire...

Suddenly, out of nowhere, a big something drops from the sky and COLLIDES against the ground right in the middle of the fight. It sounds like THUNDER as it hits the ground, but no explosion, only a huge cloud of dust. The battleground goes silent.

Alondra and El Engineer look at each other, fearful, confused. They can barely see inside the cloud of dust and smoke.

A dark shape emerges from the cloud of smoke.

It's Bandana. Confident. Marching out of the cloud of smoke as it begins to dissipate, guns a-blazing, SHOOTING down soldiers.

Alondra and El Engineer, frozen and stunned on top of the barricade, can't look away.

Bandana SHOOTs down soldiers with uncanny accuracy. He kills so many, so fast.

He SHOOTs with ease and with flair.

Bandana launches grenades at two incoming tanks, then quickly types on his wristpad screen.

HIGH UP IN THE SKY

A spaceship-looking stealth aircraft floats in stealth mode way up in the sky.

STEALTH AIRCRAFT

On the PILOT's screen a message appears. It reads "Double down on all grenades coded Purple."

The Pilot nods.

PILOT
Okeydoke.

The Pilot PRESSES a few buttons.

GUERRILLA CAMP - RESUMING

As the tanks approach Bandana, the grenades he had thrown at them GO OFF, followed by missiles clearly coming from above, DOUBLING DOWN and expanding on the explosive action. The tanks fall apart. Soldiers on fire flee from inside the remains of the tanks. They are SHOT by Guerrilleros.

Bandana looks around. No more soldiers or tanks on sight. They're all dead on the ground.

A couple of jets FLY by and Bandana SHOOTs at them with a small shotgun. He then quickly types something on his wristpad screen.

STEALTH AIRCRAFT

On the Pilot'S screen: "Same for bullets. Purple."

PILOT

Okeydoke.

The pilot fires away.

GUERRILLA CAMP - RESUMING

Missiles from above, barely noticeable, STRIKE down the two military jets Bandana had shot at. They EXPLODE midair. The burning jets CRASH into the pond behind the camp.

The remaining jets FLY away. The surviving troops and tanks just outside the camp, retreat in haste.

Guerrilleros cheer. Bandana raises his fists in victory.

Guerrilleros rush to celebrate Bandana. They carry him on their shoulders, like a hero. They chant: "Bandana! Bandana!" Bandana, elated, enjoys the moment with a huge grin.

Alondra and El Engineer stare a few steps away, impressed. Alondra suddenly breaks into a smile and fast-walks towards Bandana, leaving El Engineer behind. She reaches Bandana and extends her hand.

ALONDRA

Welcome to the revolution, Bandana.

El Engineer is taken aback by this, but says nothing.

Bandana proudly grabs Alondra's hand, more an old-timey gentleman gesture than a proper handshake.

BANDANA
It's where I must be...
(light-hearted bow)
The Chief.

Alondra giggles. Bandana smiles red-faced. Both seemingly delighted by each other.

El Engineer looks at both of them with suspicion, resentful.

CUT TO:

TITLE SEQUENCE

FADE TO BLACK:

SUPER: "CHAPTER THREE: THE SEAL OF APPROVAL"

EXT. AN OCTAGON SHAPED STRUCTURE - DAY

Clear skies over a modern looking architectural structure made of several buildings in the shape of an octagon.

INT. OCTAGON INTELLIGENCE HQ - DAY

A large table sits many TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS of different ranks. Half of them suited Intelligence Agency Officers, and the other half Department of Defense Officials in military outfits.

In front of them: a small stage with a podium. Behind the podium there are three big presentation screens, a huge one in the middle and a smaller one on each side.

A woman in her early 40s, dressed in a tight skirt and suit jacket, enters the room behind the Top Government Officials. Her each STEP sounds loud and imposing. She is SOPHIE, a Special Agent.

SOPHIE
No need to stand up gentlemen,
you're not gentle enough to care.
We'll see now just how much quote
unquote men you really are.
This won't take long.

SONG "THE BRIEFING (EXECUTIVE SUMMARY)" BEGINS

The TG Officials sing in unison.

TG OFFICIALS(SINGING)
 THIS IS A SUMMARY! THIS IS A
 SUMMARY!
 IT'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW, WONT
 TELL YOU NOTHING MORE.
 THIS IS A SUMMARY! THIS IS A
 SUMMARY!
 A DUMBED DOWN VERSION OF EVENTS.

MILITARY OFFICER
 And shorter!

TG OFFICIALS (SINGING)
 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY!
 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY!

IA OFFICER
 It serves a purpose!

Sophie arrives at the front of the room, steps up behind the podium. She takes over as her presentation begins.

SOPHIE (SINGING)
 THERE'S SOMETHING BREWING IN THE
 JUNGLE
 REQUIRING OUR FULL ATTENTION!

On side presentation screen: "The Fortuna Files: Top Secret Executive Summary."

On main presentation screen behind her: satellite images of Fortuna Island; on the map, a shaded portion indicates the area controlled by the Guerrilla; photos taken from above of gunfire in the jungle.

On other side screen: an image of a disinterested Lencho, and a smaller image of Ruben with his joystick.

SOPHIE (SINGING) (CONT'D)
 LENCHO IS OUT OF TOUCH WITH HIS
 ISLAND, WE MUST CHACHING! ON HIS
 FRUSTRATION!
 THE GUERRILLA HAS NOW A NEW FACE--

On main presentation screen: Amateur video taken of Bandana in the jungle; in it, Bandana walks through the jungle high-fiving Guerrilleros.

SOPHIE (SINGING) (CONT'D)
 THAT OF A FACELESS MAN!
 NO DOUBT A MAN ON THE INSIDE,
 PERHAPS A COMMODITIES OLIGARCH?

IA DIRECTOR
 A rich kid.

GENERAL
I despise cronyism!

On all presentation screens: A slideshow of photo captures of Chief Alondra, mostly in battle or commanding her troops; some photos show Alondra and Bandana fighting side by side; in one of the pictures featuring Alondra, Bandana can be seen in the background typing on his wristpad screen.

SOPHIE (SINGING)
CHIEF ALONDRA SEEMS TO TRUST HIM,
THOUGH I SENSE A SCHOOLGIRL CRUSH.
DOESN'T FULLY ADD UP, THE WAY SHE'S
WOUND UP, TO LET ANYONE CLOSE TO
HER HEART.

On main screen: A video of people chanting for Bandana; images from a street market where Bandana T-shirts are sold; street art celebrating Bandana, most prominently a stencil of Bandana's face.

SOPHIE (SINGING) (CONT'D)
POTENTIAL IS WHAT SHE SEES IN THIS
MAN, AND SHE IS GRATEFUL AND GIDDY
TOO.
BUT THE ONLY ONE THING THAT COMPELS
HER AND MOVES HER--

On main screen: Back to an image of Alondra in battle.

SOPHIE (SINGING) (CONT'D)
--IS RIDING THE THRILL OF COMMAND.

IA DIRECTOR
What about El Engineer?

SOPHIE
He is an idealist.

GENERAL
Ha, a no one!

On main screen: A collection of images of Bandana and Alondra directing the troops, parading around the camp, posing for photos, etc.

SOPHIE (SINGING)
THE MASKED MAN IS CALLED BANDANA.
HE IS GOOD AT WHAT HE DOES.
HE IS THERE JUST IN TIME, TO SAVE
DIRTY BEHINDS, NOW HE SEEMS TO BE
CALLING SOME SHOTS.

On all screens: images of Bandana and Alondra, continued; in a couple of images, El Engineer can be seen being suspicious of Bandana (and even Alondra); consequently, images of Bandana and Alondra appearing suspicious of each other.

SOPHIE (SINGING) (CONT'D)
 IT'S ALL EQUAL TO HER WE BELIEVE,
 SHE IS SMART, SHE MOST CERTAINLY
 KNOWS,
 A MYSTERIOUS MASKED MAN CAN HOLD NO
 COMMAND, HE'S AT BEST A GOOD NUMBER
 TWO!

IA DIRECTOR
 Keep an eye on him. No one's that
 charitable.

On main screen: images of Lencho in his garden, resting, eating, taking it easy; in some images he appears to be covered in bruises.

SOPHIE (SINGING)
 OUR SON OF A BITCH LENCHO IS LOSING
 IT! HE'S LOST ALL JOY OF THE KILL!

On main screen: satellite maps of Fortuna with an identifier suggesting a plan to take control of the island.
On side screen: strategy charts and graphs, a statistical analysis weighing who to back up: "Lencho or the Guerrilla?"

SOPHIE (SINGING) (CONT'D)
 WE MUST ENCROACH ON THE BLOODIEST
 OF PLAYGROUNDS, AND MAKE IT OUR OWN
 PLACE TO PLAY!

A very stern and self-assured Sophie addresses the officers:

SOPHIE (SINGING) (CONT'D)
 MY TASK, I'VE GIVEN MYSELF AND
 ACCEPTED, THERE'S NO TIME TO
SPECURBATE!

She makes a "jerking off" hand gesture.

SOPHIE (SINGING) (CONT'D)
 I NEED FULL CONTROL!
 I'M ACCOUNTABLE TO NONE!
 PLEASE EXCUSE ME, I GOT AN ISLAND
 TO RUN!

The TG Officials cheer.

IA DIRECTOR
 Granted.

TG OFFICIALS (SINGING)
THIS IS A SUMMARY! THIS IS A
SUMMARY!
IT'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW, WON'T
TELL YOU NOTHING MORE.
THIS IS A SUMMARY! THIS IS A
SUMMARY!
A DUMBED DOWN SHORTER VERSION.

MILITARY OFFICER
If you may.

TG OFFICIALS (SINGING)
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY!
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY!

IA OFFICER
It serves a purpose!

SONG "THE BRIEFING (EXECUTIVE SUMMARY)" ENDS

GENERAL
You know what's dumb? Reading the
full report, that's dumb. Who's got
the time, right folks?

SOPHIE
Bidding on large contracts
commences soon, gentlemen.
Prepare the proper wink wink
paperwork.
Now, I don't need to remind you
about using secure lines, again,
right gentlemen?

They all laugh a ridiculous sitcom group-laugh.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
(serious)
Yeah, I see some repeat offenders
in this room.

They stop laughing.

EXT. GUERRILLA CAMP - NIGHT

The Guerrilla camping ground as seen from the opposite end of
the HQ Tent. Guerrilleros walk around. Some lounge by the
water tank. Others patrol.

An envelope addressed to Chief Alondra. It is held by a hand.
The hand belongs to a Guerrillero.

We follow him, the envelope, across the camping ground, from one end to the other all the way to HQ Tent. Guerrillero and envelope go inside, we're still following them.

INT. HEADQUARTERS TENT - CONTINUOUS

Guerrillero and envelope continue on their way, walking towards Alondra and El Engineer, who stand by the large conference table.

On the opposite end, Bandana sits on a chair with his feet up on the table, playing with a yo-yo.

Envelope arrives at destination. Alondra doesn't say a word, just grabs the envelope.

Alondra's eyes widen as she reads who it is from. She straightens up and opens it, shaking, trying to contain her posture. It appears to be a formal invitation. She reads.

El Engineer looks at a satellite monitor, then at Bandana, disapproving of his feet on the table.

Bandana doesn't care, he instead crosses his legs the other way, feet still up on the table. He stares at El Engineer with a grin while he does this.

ALONDRA

(contained excitement)

I've been invited to deliver a speech at the World General Assembly.

(arrogantly)

They wish to mold me, surely. By honoring me... us.

EL ENGINEER

Bet-hedging bastards!

BANDANA

(genuinely happy)

That's a good thing, right? The world's seal of approval, in a sense?

EL ENGINEER

(condescending to Bandana)

The Assembly is held in enemy territory, The Suprapower.

Bandana stares at El Engineer, half frowning, half rolling-eyes.

ALONDRA

He knows where the Assembly... Er, assembles.

EL ENGINEER

He's a brute, I don't know what he knows

Bandana still staring at El Engineer, smiles an impish smile.

ALONDRA

I don't want their seal of approval. Everyone there is as much our enemy as Lencho. The Suprapower, quite especially.

El Engineer smiles smugly, vindicated.

BANDANA

Why? They could be useful.
(smiling proudly)
And boy do they hate Lencho.

EL ENGINEER

Blow them off! A true Guerrillero is no one's puppet.

BANDANA

Listen, El Engineer... El Engineer of what exactly, anyways?

El Engineer is about to answer...

BANDANA (CONT'D)

Doesn't matter. Couldn't care less. Listen, we need all eyes on us right now. People see you on TV, and keep seeing you day in and day out in newspapers and magazines that, before long, they accept you in their precious little hearts. Control is seized without a peep, cause they're all like 'oh yeah, I know that guy, makes sense he's in charge now, wasn't he always?'

ALONDRA

Bandana may be right, with the exception of a gender-specific pronoun.

Alondra eyes Bandana.

ALONDRA (CONT'D)
I won't give the Assembly the show
they think they paid for. Rather
the show they actually paid for.

BANDANA
That's... unclear. But exciting.
I'll take it!

Alondra suddenly deep in thought, utters out loud to herself.

ALONDRA
Too many words already flowing...
sentences... beautiful sentences...

Everyone stares at Alondra. She snaps back.

ALONDRA (CONT'D)
Upon my arrival to The Suprapower,
I'll arrange a meeting with like
minded individuals underground.
Connect our efforts.

BANDANA
Do you know any such like minded
individuals?

ALONDRA
A few.

A Guerrillero walks in.

GUERRILLERO #1
Chief, you better come see this.

EXT. GUERRILLA CAMP - CONTINUOUS

Guerrilleros guard a group of captives: three farmers, on
their knees, heads down, with hands tied behind their backs.
Alondra, Bandana, El Engineer and Guerrillero #1 approach.

GUERRILLERO #1
They are loyal to Lencho. We caught
them commuting with government men.

Alondra pulls out a gun and SHOOTs the three of them point
blank in the head, one by one, executioner style.

BANDANA
That's it?! Commuting? You shot
them for commuting.

ALONDRA
With government men.

BANDANA
Commuting.

Alondra stares at Bandana with cold menacing eyes. Her gun slightly pointing up, though almost aiming straight ahead, she walks to him, staring him down until they come face to face.

ALONDRA
You haven't been here long so I'll spare you the confusion. I AM the judge in this jungle. And it happens to be MY privilege as judge to also be executioner. That's MY seal of approval. Call it the law of MY jungle, if you will.

Bandana is taken aback. Alondra stares him down as she steps back.

ALONDRA (CONT'D)
Now excuse me, I must go write MY speech.

Alondra turns around and heads back to the Headquarters tent. El Engineer follows her behind. Bandana watches her walk away.

BANDANA
(to himself but out loud)
Was that incredible or terrifying?
I'm confused. And a little tickled to be honest.
(impish half smile)
I'm ticklish.

Guerrillero #1 overhears this and gives Bandana a nod.

LENCHO (O.S.)
Yeah, you know you approve.

INT. LENCHO'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

In a seamless transition from the previous scene, Ruben replies:

RUBEN
Not sure I understand enough to approve or not, sir.

Lencho and Ruben play pool. Ruben can barely reach the table.

LENCHO

You need to be ruthless once in a while. Memorable acts of cruelty remind people what's what. But I do admit, executing those poor dumb peasants seemed unnecessary, at that. I mean, I probably would have done the same once upon a time--

RUBEN

And have.

Lencho is about to speak, but Ruben cuts in.

RUBEN (CONT'D)

Not so long ago.

LENCHO

Right, but to see her do it... I don't know, maybe I am getting old. Perhaps the people do need somebody else.

RUBEN

Sir, where will they find someone better than you?

LENCHO

That's what I say.
But I don't want to do this forever. I don't want to be that guy, you know?
(suddenly overconfident)
But you're right, they need me. And it's a great gig and a fresh start..., and, I mean, to top it off I have a shot at an office-like romance situation, where we're both the boss, together--
(mostly to himself)
--except I'm smarter and better prepared so I'll always keep the upper hand, even if theoretically, and almost practically, why not?, we'd be in a relationship of equals--
(to Ruben)
--A power love story.

RUBEN

That will sell.

THE WORLD

A bird's-eye view of the planet.

As we Zoom In, Superimposed: border divisions and country names.

Zoom In on The Suprapower, Fortuna's huge neighbor.

THE SUPRAPOWER

Keep Zooming In to a coastal city in the North East.

As we get closer, the name of the city is superimposed: "Suprapolis."

SUPRAPOLIS

The city, as it comes closer into view, is revealed futuristic: buildings with long skinny bodies and bubble tops; flying cars travel across the city on floating hologram lanes.

EXT. WORLD GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEADQUARTERS - DAY

A big building, the World General Assembly Headquarters. It is long but unimpressive, except for the flags of every member country waving in the air surrounding the perimeter. The building is heavily guarded by security detail.

Media photographers and journalists wait behind velvet ropes in a designated area.

Limousines ARRIVE, Heads of State stepping out of them one by one.

As they come out of their vehicles, they wave at the FLASHING cameras.

PRESENTER (O.S.)

Please welcome from the Island of
Fortuna,--

INT. WORLD GENERAL ASSEMBLY AUDITORIUM - LATER

The World General Assembly Auditorium seats hundreds of Delegates and Heads of State from all over the world.

PRESENTER (O.S.)

--Chief Alondra.

Every Delegate stands up.

They offer a scattered and unenthusiastic round of applause as Chief Alondra walks to the stage.

Alondra reaches the podium. She looks nervous. She looks angry. She looks nervous again. She looks at the crowd, all the Delegates staring at her. She takes a deep breath, and commences:

SONG "ALONDRA'S SPEECH" BEGINS

ALONDRA (SINGING)
SOME PEOPLE CALL ME A WARRIOR POET,
I HAVE COME TO SAY I AM NEITHER.
FOR YES I DO WELL FIGHT,
AND YES I'LL WRITE A VERSE,
I'M JUST NOT THIS WARRIOR POET,
OR MAYBE I AM.

The Delegates applaud somewhat.
This amuses Alondra, slightly. She continues, more sure of herself, more defiant.

ALONDRA (SINGING) (CONT'D)
THE POINT IS NOT THAT BUT THE
PEOPLE, AND ALWAYS THE PEOPLE!
I BRING A THORNY BRANCH OF ROSES
FOR YOURSELVES, FROM THE PEOPLE.
A GIFT FOR THE PARTING OF WAYS,
WE'VE DECIDED TO SAY--

Alondra flips the bird at the whole assembly.

ALONDRA (SINGING) (CONT'D)
(aggressively)
SCREW YOU!
SINCERELY, THE PEOPLE.

The Delegates go wild.
A surprised Alondra takes in the crowd's unexpected favorable reaction. She likes it. It emboldens her performance.

ALONDRA (SINGING) (CONT'D)
THE POINT IS TO BE SCARED OF THE
PEOPLE--

INT. LENCHO'S MASTER ROOM - SAME TIME

Lencho watches Alondra's speech on his TV. He seems hesitant, but mostly proud of Alondra.

ALONDRA (SINGING) (TV)
--OH TRUST ME, THE PEOPLE!
I BRING A SET OF SPIKES, TORCHES
TANKS, GUNS, AND AMMUNITION!

INT. WORLD GENERAL ASSEMBLY AUDITORIUM - RESUMING

Alondra continues addressing the Assembly:

ALONDRA (SINGING)
 PERHAPS A DETERRENT, OR HOWEVER YOU
 NAME IT, WE ARE READY!
 SINCERELY, THE PEOPLE.

INT. LATE NIGHT SHOW TV SET - NIGHT

Alondra, a guest on a late night show, stands up from her chair and addresses the audience in the studio, and directly at the studio cameras. The HOST, sitting behind his desk with a stupid lovey-dovey smile on his face, can't keep his eyes off Alondra.

ALONDRA (SINGING)
 I AM BARE IN FRONT OF YOU, DO YOU
 BELIEVE I AM AFRAID?
 TO SPARK ON A REVOLUTION?

The Audience cheers and applauds.

INT. ART GALLERY - NIGHT

Chief Alondra converses with a group of Artsy Types and Intellectuals at a Gallery Opening, each holding a fancy drink in their hands.

ALONDRA (SINGING)
 TO IGNITE YOUR INSTITUTIONS?

Impressed by her, they nod in pretentious approval, one eyebrow raised, slight pout.

EXT. COSMOPOLITAN STREET - DAY

A newsstand plastered with magazines, all of which show Chief Alondra on their covers. They vary in genres, but regardless, Alondra posed for them all.

ALONDRA (SINGING) (O.S.)
 IS ANY OF THIS A CHOICE?

INT. AN UNDERGROUND LAIR - NIGHT

A poorly lit unidentifiable place. Only one light bulb hangs from the ceiling.

Alondra converses with some Guerrilla looking types, Guerrilleros from other movements, as can be assumed from their varying Guerrilla-like outfits.

One Guerrillero hands her a small remote control device. A small box with an antenna on the side and a big red button sticking out on top, encased in a clear solid plastic cover. Looks like remote detonation device.

Alondra holds the remote control device, looks at it with a mischievous grin on her face.

ALONDRA (SINGING)
ARE WE COSMICALLY DESTINED TO
COLLIDE INTO EACH OTHER,--

The Guerrillero makes a gesture indicating an explosion, blowing up his cheeks and then releasing, his mouth the shape of an O, hands mimicking shock waves. He then points at a map of The Suprapower (held open by two other Guerrilleros, one on each end).

Alondra is a little intimidated by this. She looks at the remote control device in her hands.

ALONDRA (SINGING) (CONT'D)
--BLASTING OFF INTO LITTLE PIECES?
BLASTING OFF INTO LITTLE PIECES?

INT. LATE NIGHT SHOW TV SET - RESUMING

Alondra stands addressing the audience in the studio. In the background, the host, standing up from his desk, cheers her on.

The audience goes wild. Many of them wear shirts and caps with Alondra's image. Flags with her image wave across the studio.

ALONDRA (SINGING)
BLASTING OFF INTO LITTLE PIECES?!

INT. WORLD GENERAL ASSEMBLY AUDITORIUM - RESUMING

Alondra continues her address at the Assembly:

ALONDRA (SINGING)
SOME PEOPLE CALL ME A WARRIOR POET,
I HAVE COME TO SAY I AM NEITHER.
FOR YES, IN BLOOD I WRITE,
AND YES, I'LL RAISE SOME HELL,
I'M JUST NOT THIS WARRIOR POET,
OR MAYBE I AM!

SONG "ALONDRA'S SPEECH" ENDS

ALONDRA (CONT'D)
Peace out.

DELEGATE #1
She said peace!

DELEGATE #2
She wants peace!

DELEGATE #3
The Warrior Poet of peace!

The Delegates go wild for Alondra with a standing ovation. Alondra, elated, releases an emotional laugh.

INT. LENCHO'S MASTER ROOM - RESUMING

Lencho watches Alondra on TV, smiling and waving after her speech, standing ovation going on strong. The chyron reads: "Alondra's Speech gets a Standing Ovation. A first at the General Assembly."

Lencho no longer seems OK with all this. As the Delegates applaud more and more, he frowns more and more in noticeable increments.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

(The Delegates' standing ovation is still audible on screen.) A group of street artists spray paint walls in an alley, all street art glorifying Alondra. A stenciled image of her big orange hair and military cap is prominent. It is found all over the place. The stenciled image of Bandana's face has been mostly painted over. A girl with a spray can finishes the job.

INT. LENCHO'S ROOM INSIDE THE PALACE - RESUMING

(The Delegates' standing ovation is still audible on screen.) On TV the chyron reads: "Alondra: The Face of Revolution. And a pretty one too!)." Lencho intensifies his frowning.

EXT. A BUSY STREET IN SUPRAPOLIS - DAY

(The Delegates' standing ovation is still audible on screen.) High-end boutique stores lined up one next to the other.

On their window displays they have Alondra-related articles, most displaying the now trademark "big red hair and military cap" image. Mannequins are made to look like Alondra and Guerrilleros. One store goes a step further and displays a "Kill Lencho" sign on their window.

Flying cars hover on top of the pavement as they fly by. A lot of people walk around, quite a few of them with Alondra t-shirts, caps, tote bags, etc.

ON TV

Images of Alondra. The chyron reads: "Alondra achieves Instant Icon Status. Who is she dating?"

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Lencho Close Up: head on, frowning at the max, clearly inside his head, still hearing the applause and cheers from the Delegates.

The sounds fade out as we slowly Zoom Out to realize he is sitting on a hospital bed, in a fancy hospital room, his back against the wall, legs extended on the bed. He wears patient's garbs tailored in the same fashion as his military uniform. One arm is hooked to an IV drip, serum bag dangling from an IV pole.

He snaps out of it and continues reading a book he had resting on his lap. The book's title: "The People."

Suddenly, a MASKED MAN (that resembles Bandana a little) BARGES through the door wielding a sharp long knife. He charges at Lencho.

Lencho jumps out of bed and in a swift move grabs the man's arm, twists it, and the knife DROPS.

He grabs and easily overhand-throws the Masked Man across the room.

The man FLIES INTO the opposite wall and is knocked unconscious.

Lencho's IV line remains intact, still connected to the serum bag, pole still standing.

Lencho sits on the edge of the bed and begins his address, looking straight at us, head on.

LENCHO

My dear nation, it is a fool who
thinks all which seems to be true
will unequivocally be what truly
is.

Lencho nods, proud of his statement.
A broader look of the place reveals a filming sound stage.

SOUND STAGE

The fancy hospital room is a film set. Film and production crew work behind the scenes as Lencho performs for the camera.

LENCHO
Don't be fooled by degenerates who
will have you believe we're taking
things lying down!

ON VIDEO MONITOR

Camera feed shows Lencho performing for the camera.
Lencho stands up, yanks off the IV, and walks slowly but in strong manner towards the camera.

LENCHO
I AM, and the nation IS stronger
than an oak tree in light misty
wind! Stronger than a rock smashing
a poorly constructed sand castle!

The video monitor's feed Jump-Cuts to Lencho now dressed in full military gear. Behind him: a poorly painted backdrop of the Jungle.

LENCHO (CONT'D)
We will fight! We will tear our
enemies apart the way a bird of
prey tears the flesh off a furry
little creature!

Jump-Cut to Lencho now wearing blue collar clothes, standing in a set made to look like a factory, surrounded by prop machinery, a poorly painted industrial-themed backdrop behind. Lencho carries a large wrench.

LENCHO (CONT'D)
The insignificant scum running that
insignificant jungle Guerrilla,
that Junquerilla, if you may, are
enemies of this nation. They are
enemies to us all!

DIRECTOR (O.S.)
Cut!

BACK TO SOUND STAGE

Props and Art Crew rush to set to grab the wrench, reposition the prop machinery, and retouch the painted backdrop. Wardrobe Crew runs to robe Lencho and hand him a drink. The Lighting Crew arranges lights. Camera Crew helps the cameraman climb into a basket mounted to an old ragged crane. Stunts Crew helps the Masked Man up, he is tied to a rope. He is lifted up and sent flying back to the opposite side of the factory set. (One can assume that Lencho was attacked by the Masked Man at the factory, as well.)

Lencho walks off the set to meet Ruben over by his private catering table.

RUBEN

Er, which side are you betting on, sir?

LENCHO

It doesn't matter, now does it? My people need me in any shape or form. The strong moral leader I am today--which given the chance, I can improve on a little, and will, if it comes to that--Or the mysterious leader of an ideologically vague, instinct liberating revolution. Boy, I was always great at revolutions!

RUBEN

You're entirely sure you're the leader over there, sir?

LENCHO

It is a shared leadership between Alondra and I. We understand each other. Where I end and she begins.

RUBEN

Right.

LENCHO

(slightly worried)

But anyways, I will grant you, she is begging to be reminded of this... shared leadership.

Lencho grins and gulps, and gets lost in his thoughts. He snaps out of it when Ruben interrupts.

RUBEN

What do we do with all this?

LENCHO

The videos you will show when I'm tied up in the jungle, in case too many days pass without a "Dear Leader Lencho's Live Message to the Nation".

RUBEN

No, that's clear, sir. I meant, you know...

Ruben points to the people working on set.

LENCHO

Memory black out pills?

RUBEN

I don't think they are... currently on the market. Sir.

LENCHO

We've never used them?

Ruben stares at Lencho. Blinks.

Not one time?

Ruben shakes his head, subtly.

LENCHO (CONT'D)

So, all those times I cleverly said "make them forget this ever happened?"

RUBEN

We employed the permanent solution.

LENCHO

Oh, I see.

(chuckles)

Ha, that's funny. I mean, terrible. But funny.

RUBEN

I do have to say, this is a much bigger film crew.

LENCHO

I know! Craft Service is killing me. But we are shooting several more Live Messages to the Nation than usual.

(MORE)

LENCHO (CONT'D)

I am a new man either way this goes. I won't draw blood unless drawing blood is called for.

RUBEN

So, dungeon?

LENCHO

Dungeon.

RUBEN

Very well, sir.

Lencho seems uncomfortable for a second.

LENCHO

Until after the last Live Message to the Nation airs.

RUBEN

You are fair, sir.

Lencho smiles, proud of his good deed.

EXT. JUNGLE - DAY

A bird's eye view of the jungle.

EXT. GUERRILLA CAMP - DAY

A bird's eye view of the Guerrilla Camp and the pond behind it.
Fighter jets BLAST through the sky above the camping ground.

INT. HEADQUARTERS TENT. DAY

Alondra sits alone at the long conference table, somewhere in the middle.
She holds her remote control device in one hand. She stares at it with intense concentration. Admiring, yet fearful.

El Engineer walks in without her noticing.

EL ENGINEER

What is that?

ALONDRA

Don't you knock?!

EL ENGINEER

I did, but the tent is made of cloth, a material with very poor resonance... properties.
What is that?

ALONDRA

It's nothing.

EL ENGINEER

It looks like it's something.

ALONDRA

It's...

Alondra reacts to hearing something coming from above. The sound of FLYING jets is heard in the distance.

ALONDRA (CONT'D)

Did you hear that?

EL ENGINEER

Don't change the subject. You need to tell me about the remote control thingy in your hand, and what happens when you press that button.

ALONDRA

I believe... it detonates... a big boom.

EL ENGINEER

Where?!

ALONDRA

Suprapower.

EL ENGINEER

That's not good.

ALONDRA

It probably isn't. I really hear something up there.

Alondra points up with her index finger. El Engineer's eyes widen in fear. He jumps at the possibility of Alondra pressing the button with that finger.

EL ENGINEER

Do not press that button!

ALONDRA

I won't. Unless--

25.

Alondra is interrupted by a big BLAST just outside the tent.
Bullets from above PIERCE through the tent.
Alondra and El Engineer run to take cover.

CUT TO:

CLOSING CREDITS

FADE TO BLACK.