

The 51st

Part Six: the Canada App

Charles Campbell

Cast and [Persons]:

Dorothy Simpson	- matriarch, Canadian 69 aka 'Gran' and 'Mom'
Don Simpson	- almost retired University prof - draft dodger - 71 aka 'Poppy' (to Grandchildren) and Pop (to children)
Henry	- son of Dorothy and Don - 42 Captain, U.S. Army
Deb	- grand-daughter - 19 -just entering University Daughter of Beth and Peter
Ethan	- grandson - 15 - son of Beth and Peter
Paula Stroud	- Colonel - Pentagon Liaison

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Characters referred to in Part Six but not on stage

Dorothy and Don have two children

- **Peter** - Governor, Bank of Canada - 45 yrs - Peter is married to **Beth** - they have two children - Deborah and Ethan - they refer to Peter as Dad

- the other son is Henry – Henry refers to his father, Don, as Pop

Nadia - adopted daughter to Dorothy and Don
- came to Canada as refugee age 4 -

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The Canada App is the sixth of a sprawling ten-part family saga—*The 51st*—the story of one small country in a life-and-death struggle for survival with itself.

Time Line - date of play 2022

1953 - Dorothy - born - Can	69
1951 - Don Simpson - born - US - Calif - military family	71
1970 - Don flees draft	
1977 - Dorothy + Don > Peter - Governor Bank of Canada	45
1980 Dorothy + Don > Henry US Intelligence	42
[1990 - Desert Storm]	
1999 - Peter and Beth marry	
1999 - Henry goes to US to school in US - reconciles with US relatives	
2001 - Peter + Beth > Deb	21
2001 - 9/11	
[2003 - Second Gulf War]	
2007 Peter and Beth > Ethan	15

Act One

Scene One

*Fancy cottage interior - moose head - stag antler, etc.
Backdrop out cottage window, sylvan northern lake.*

*

Dorothy (Gran) and Deb are setting the table. They repeatedly mix up their setting and almost bump into one another as they move around the table and say 'sorry' - for nothing. Good Canadians.

(bump. - Sorry)' in text might indicate a near miss and/or nod of apology.

Ethan sits, texting and whatever on his cell phone, working his laptop which is wired to a game console. he wears an ear piece and seems to be getting messages from somewhere - a very 'wired' geek. He works furiously, and rarely looks up, not even when he speaks.

Deb Of course, I love him, he's my uncle, but that doesn't mean I like him. I haven't seen him for, like, years.

(they bump) Sorry.

All I'm saying is - why would he bring her *here and, like, now?* Hasn't she been against Dad all week at that conference in Ottawa? Shouldn't she go back to Washington?

Dorothy All I know is that your grandfather phoned and he said he met up with your Uncle Henry *outside* the Conference as he leaving – Henry was leaving and your grandfather was doing what he does outside Conferences - and she was with him. Of course, he invited Henry to the cottage.

(bump Sorry)

He couldn't not invite Colonel Stroud. So she's coming with him. That's what I know.

Deb Like, how ...was she 'with' him? Know what I mean, Gran?

Dorothy Well, if I hear anything, you'll be the first one I tell.
Sorry.
All I do know is that she's very important.

Deb It's a good thing Nadia isn't here this weekend.

Dorothy Nadia is very, very nice. Even if she was here I'm sure she wouldn't say anything political.

Ethan *(mostly to himself. Triumphant)* Got it! Got it! Dad is totally, totally off the grid. If I can't find him nobody can find him.

To Deb and Dorothy It's highly unlikely Colonel Paula Stroud personally bombed Nadia's village.

Deb How do you know?

Ethan Basic math.

Deb What math.

(They bump Sorry)

Ethan Nadia seventeen. You got her in Greece when she was four. She doesn't even where she came from. She just *thinks* it was Syria. Colonel Stroud did drone targeting in the South Andes Protectorate. Seems pretty unlikely she bombed Nadia village.

Dorothy Ethan, I think you missed your sister's point.
(Ethan is absorbed)
 Ethan!
 Do you listen to anything I say?

Ethan *(still focused on his laptop)* Gran, I get simultaneous transcription.
(he parrots)
 ... Well, if I hear anything, you'll be the first one I tell.
 All I do know is that she's very important.
 ... It's a good thing Nadia isn't here this weekend.
 ... Nadia is very, very nice. Even if she was here I'm sure she wouldn't say anything political.

Dorothy Your sister's point is that you wouldn't want a guest to feel unwelcome.

Ethan Gran, that's *your* point. I got it.

Dorothy Your grandfather should be here with them any time. They were at the Marina twenty minutes ago.

Deb Well, if Nadia was here, just suppose, what would Uncle Hank think?

Ethan He'd say she was a Security risk.

Deb We could tell him she's a good Arab.

Ethan Sister Pea Brain, he's in the U.S. Army. Good and bad aren't categories they've ever heard of.

Dorothy He's a very nice man.
Very successful at what he does.

Deb Which is?

Ethan Point-to-point drone bombing ... of ... weddings and hospitals.

(bump Sorry)

Dorothy He works in Washington and has security clearance, which is very good for a Canadian.

Henry wouldn't bomb anyone! Unless he was told to.

Deb and Ethan shrug to each other behind Dorothy's back.

Nadia is family. He will like her.

Deb Does Uncle Hank even know she's *family*? That you *adopted* a Syrian?

Dorothy She might be Iraqi!
It was the only way to get her into the country.
Besides, we just took one. Other people at the church took whole families.

Ethan So he doesn't know.

Dorothy Listen ... children ... children ... This isn't a good time ...
We won't talk about this in front of Colonel Stroud. Who knows what she thinks.

(bump - Sorry)

Ethan *(zoning back to his laptop)* It says here ... the terrorists extracted from Kenora and Winnipeg and the Red River last week are going to ... to ... to ... Boston Detention! That's weird. I thought it was only for guys from the Eastern Protectorate.

Dorothy Well, Boston is very nice.
Let's not talk about ... have a nice supper when they get here and get acquainted. Your grandfather gets all upset about ... extractions.

Deb Was Poppy 'extracted'?

Gran Heavens, no!
 In those days they were glad to get rid of the one who wouldn't fight.

Ethan *(excited, alarmed, reading from his laptop)* Oh boy! Here we go!
 The Seals are landing in Tofino.

Dorothy There have always been seals in Tofino, Ethan! They live there.

Ethan Not these kind.

Deb 'Seals' are Navy Commandos, Gran.

Dorothy Well, they're after the Mexicans. They migrate up the coast.

Deb Gran! Those are humpback whales!

Dorothy Not *all* of them are drug dealers. *Some* of them. Not all. Just *some*!

Ethan *(taunting)* Mexicans are very dangerous. They work for half price.

Dorothy I am much more dangerous than any terrorist! Be on guard, nerd boy.
 And mind yourselves around your Uncle Henry and this Colonel
 Stroud. She's from the State Department.
 We will not mention that we adopted an Arab ... person. It might make
 her uncomfortable.

Deb Well, what does she do? She's not on Twitter. How did Uncle Hank
 ever get hooked up with her? He never tells me anything.

Ethan Because *you're* a security risk.

Dorothy Don't say 'hooked up'. What would the neighbours think?
 And ... No, your sister is not a security risk!

Deb Why not!
 Yes, I am!

Ethan Tell us something secret.

Deb No. *You* don't have clearance.

Ethan *(reading from his Pad)* Lt-Colonel Paula Stroud ran Advanced
 Drone Recon for South America from 2003 to 2006 ... in case you want
 to know.

Dorothy Where did Henry work then? Does it say?

Ethan He was training in Drone Targeting. Probably where they met.

Dorothy (*indignant, sighs*) He was in 'shock and awe'.

Ethan You said joining the army would make a man out of him. Otherwise he'd become a faggot.

Dorothy Ethan! I did not!

Ethan It's in your 2003 Diary, page 76.

Dorothy Ethan! That *very* private!

Ethan How do you think I feel! I perfected his trigger finger on my Play-Station ... which you gave me ... don't forget. I'm probably complicit in War Crimes. At age eight!

Deb You don't even know what that means.

Dorothy I hear the boat. They're here.
Try to be nice. Try. Please.

Ethan Nice! Nice! Why does everyone in the fuckin' country want to be nice!
Look what *nice* got us.

Dorothy Well ... we've got a nice cottage. And a nice house in Palm Beach. And your father is the Governor of the Bank of Canada, a very important person. And he didn't get there being rude. Don't you forget it!

Ethan 'Nice' got him in shit up to his eyeballs.

Dorothy Maybe this is his lady love. It's never too late. Don't spoil it by your sarcasm, young man! Or I'll send you to live in Ottawa!

Deb Do it!

Ethan (*suddenly alarmed by his laptop*) Uh, oh! Uh, oh!
Seals are landing in Halifax as we speak, Gran! Three destroyers.
(*He is texting furiously*) Both coasts, Gran! Both coasts!

Dorothy Just forget about all that.
It'll be weeks before they meet up.
We'll have a nice weekend and get to know ... Colonel Stroud.
We could have the ceremony right here. Wouldn't that be nice!

Ethan Uncle Hank is marrying the Drone Queen of the Andes. Cool.

Deb I hear the boat.

Ethan How did I ever get born into this family! How!
(suddenly – hearing or reading something from his Pad)
 Oh shit ... Shit, shit ... Dad, back on! Uh oh!
(cagey) When did you say Dad was coming?

Don *(off stage - distant)* Hello! Hello. Guess who I've got with me?

Dorothy *(to Ethan)* He was supposed to be yesterday. Now the story is he's coming the day after tomorrow.

Ethan *(He discovers something)* Not going to happen. Governor Dad is 180 clicks north of Great Slave on a canoe trip, where there's no river.

Ethan works furiously on his phone and laptop.

Dorothy *(goes Stage Right to look - shouting down to the dock)*
 We're in the living room, darling.
 I'm not coming down. Too chilly.
(to Ethan) Be normal!
(calling off stage) Do you have my darling Hank!

Deb Which normal? Nerd normal or jerk normal?

Dorothy And for God's sake ... don't talk about ... al...go...metrics.
 You're too young!

Hank and Paula and Don enter Stage Right. He is in full dress military uniform. Looks military-smashing. Paula is smartly dressed business attire with some small military insignia.

Well, look at you ! Look at you!

*Dorothy hugs and admires Henry – wildly.
 Ethan jumps up, blown away by Uncle Hank in snappy uniform.*

Ethan Wow! Wow! You look like a Power Ranger!

Henry Hey, little buddy. You have grown! Wow to you!
(introducing Paula)
 Everybody, this Paula Stroud. She and I were in Ottawa together.

Dorothy We heard about that on the CBC. Was it nice? The Conference ... not the CBC.

Ethan *(aside to Henry)* What rank is she?

Paula Just call me Paula.
Mrs. Simpson, so nice to meet you. Your husband has been so kind. I hope we're not imposing. I just love your country!

Dorothy I'm Dorothy. Or ... 'When's supper?'

Henry *(aside to Ethan)* Full Colonel.

Don collapses in his chair, ignored

Paula I was with your son Peter in Ottawa last week at the Continental Conference. Is he here? A very, very impressive man. You must be so proud. We want him in Washington, I can't tell you how much! I've heard so much about you all.

Henry Deb! Look at you! Look at you! You're beautiful. Fabulous. I have been away too long.

Lights

Scene Two

Don, Henry Ethan and Deb are sitting around after dinner, with coffees etc. The table is a happy mess.

Don is bit drunk.

Ethan again off by himself, on his laptop and game console, seemingly engaged in some shooting war.

Dorothy and Paula enter.

Dorothy Well, Paula's in the Green Room. And Henry is in his old room. Peter and Beth can stay in the cabin when they get here.

Don, did you know Paula is helping Peter with our banks. That's why she was in Ottawa. Meeting with Peter and the Prime Minister.

Don *(guarded)* I heard something like that. I didn't know they needed any help. Highest capitalization rate in the G20.

Paula Professor Anderson, I was trying to explain to your wife, that three of the four Reserve asset classes held by Peter's bank are denominated in old US currency units and part of then new NAFTA requires some complicated exchange arrangements. Treasury Bills, and thing like that. I'm supposed to be helping him with the transfer mechanisms.

Don *(politely sarcastic)* How'd that go for you?

Paula *(tough undertone)* You know what I mean, Don.
Dorothy, it's technicalities. Peter and I will work it out.

Don *(to Dorothy)* You'll be able to exchange twenty Canadian dollars for one of the new US IOUs. How do you like that?

Dorothy That seems very high.

Paula Your son Peter is a gem! I've spoken to the President. We're going to bring him to Washington.

Ethan Dad!?

Paula Yes, *your* Dad!
I was hoping he'd be here so we could talk some more.
We need him to sign a few things.

Ethan I wonder where he is?

Dorothy He told me himself he'd be here the day after tomorrow. Did you meet Beth. She's a lovely person. Does yoga.

Don And lung transplants. In her spare time.
I don't know what's happened to him. We were expecting him, yesterday.

Dorothy They get so busy in Ottawa. It's not fair.
He missed his time at the cottage with his children.

Paula And his mother! Mothers are the best.

Dorothy Oh, stop that!

Dorothy *(pretend aside to Henry)* She's very nice.

Henry Shall I pin the flag on her?

He gets out a Canadian flag pin and goes to pin it on Paula. Stops and looks to Dorothy for approval. She gestures 'yes.'

Henry Actually, she got this in Ottawa last week. From the Prime Minister.
Before he left for the new Cabinet offices in Maryland.
(he pins her – impression of engagement)

Paula I'm more honoured now than I was then.
Canada is so lovely.

Don *(sour, a bit drunk)* That's quite a mess you've got going on with the Chinese. Imagine them wanting you to pay off the bonds they bought in real dollars!

Dorothy Well, if you're going to talk politics I'm going to do the dishes.
I don't know anything about banks.
Dorothy gets up, starts gathering dishes from table.

Debra.
Paula gets up and help clearing. Debra doesn't.
Dorothy disapproves.

Don Ha!

Paula I'll dry. I love to dry.
It's true.
In my family we had servants and we weren't allowed to touch the dishes.

Dorothy You are just the nicest person. You are welcome here anytime.
You *could* help too, Deb!

Deb I'm taking Economics next year. I want to hear about banks.

Paula and Dorothy exit

Henry Are you still teaching International Monetary Theory, Pop?

Don Only one more time, then I'll be fully retired.

Henry That'll be great.
And Deb, I hear you're going to Stanford in September?
Great campus. I know people there.

Deb Really!

Henry Who's teaching your Economics Course?

Deb I think it's ...

Ethan (*reading from his laptop*) Cranston G. Peterson.

Henry Poppy will know him.

Ethan (*from his laptop*) Three books on Mercantilism and Currency Trading.

Don (*aside to Henry*) He doesn't need to go to University. It's a problem.

Deb I don't think he *should* go to University. *He should go to jail!*

Deb exits

Henry (*goes to Ethan, gesturing to the laptop and game console*) Are you still the great jet fighter ace?
Pop, he could beat me hollow!

Ethan looks up excited, catches Poppy disapproving glance

Ethan Your targeting sucked. Still does.

Henry Not the targeting, dude. It's the intel.

Don You got that right. In 1972 they bombed the wrong f-g country!

Henry Give it up, Pop. That was fifty years ago.

Cambodia was ... extremely close.
 Anyhow, we got quality bad guys compared to the old days and you
 know it.

Don Right.

Henry It's all in the intel.
 How are you on intel, Ethan?
 What was the maximum combat strength of the 182nd Airborne in the
 First Gulf War?

Ethan (*slightest pause*) 67,000.

Henry That's right!
 What's the displacement of a class three carrier?

Ethan 12,000 tons.

Henry The range of F35-3X?

Ethan Loaded or not.

Henry Loaded.

Ethan Total 3000 miles, if it unloads at 1500.

Henry If you're targeting a FR6 Drone Striker and you get a 616 Error,
 What do you do?

Ethan Tell the Captain to turn off his cell phone.

Henry (*startled*) How did you know that?

Ethan Says right here!

Don Jesus!

Henry tries to look at the screen but Ethan snaps it shut)

Ethan Classified.

Henry Fuckin' right, it's 'classified'!

Ethan This is just a prototype. It's actually hasn't launch anything yet.

Henry Where'd you get it?

Ethan I ... I ... did ... I ... reversed engineered the old programs and adapted for the FR6.

Don gets up, shaking his head, leaves the room.

Henry Pop is old school. He still thinks we're fighting the Vietnam War.

Ethan Your targeting is still pretty crappy.

Henry Way better than it was.
You're pretty good at it.
Could you find your dad?
We need to talk to him.

Ethan Sure. I could target him with a FR6 – Precision Adapter.
Unless he's had his fillings removed.
But I won't.

Henry Hey! Don't be like that, dude. We just need his signature on the Protocol and a bunch of bonds.

Ethan Actually, all the bonds.

Henry And ... we'd like to take him to Washington to meet the President.
You could be in the Air Force Academy if you play your cards right.

Ethan Too many push-ups.

Henry Don't be like that.

Dorothy, Paula and Deb re-enter. Dorothy is distressed as Deb blabbers about Nadia to Paula.

Deb Nadia is so cool. She's my best friend. Like family. She speaks five languages. And writes poetry in Cree.

Paula Is she Shia or Sunni.

Deb She's Anglican.
And sooo many FaceBook friends, all over the world.
She can't come to the cottage this week because she's at Physics Camp.

Paula Hank, my phone is dead. Can I use yours for a moment. Please and thank you.

He hands it to her.

Debra, I'd really, really like to meet her. You're very lucky to have a friend like that. Maybe I can help her.

Deb Absolutely. But she doesn't need any money. Mom and me give her lots.

Henry and Paula exchange glances.

You could adopt her brother. She just found her brother after ten years. He needs a sponsor to get into the United States. He's in Yemen.

Paula tests the phone

Dorothy Won't that be nice. All the money from both countries – being looked after in one family. But I don't like that Peter has to move to Washington.

Paula It will just make it easier to keep track ... of things.

Henry Mom, it'll be great. You can talk to him on the phone.

Paula *(to Henry)* Yours isn't working either.

Henry looks daggers at Ethan. He doesn't even look up from his Pad. Then Don's phone buzzes. It is sitting on the table. He's not in the room.

Dorothy *(calling)* Donnie, that's your text ding.

Donnie doesn't respond. Dorothy picks up and reads.

Dorothy It's from Peter. He'll be here the day after tomorrow.

Paula Is there a land line on the island?

Dorothy No. Only at the marina.

Paula I need talk to my boss.

Don I can run you over.

Henry I'll do it.

Dorothy hands him the key to the boat.

Dorothy Remember let it idle a full minute when it's cold.

Henry I do remember that.

Paula and Henry exit. Don wanders back as they leave.

Dorothy *(checking to be sure they've gone)*
Don't be telling her about Nadia's brother *in Yemen!*

Don Good advice!

They hear the launch turning over, whining then conking out.

Dorothy Don, what exactly is going on?

Don She's the new Cross-Appointed Inter-Departmental Supervisory of Banking Transfers.

Dorothy Which means?
 They're merging each one of our banks into different of the New York big six.
 We're 'unfair competition'.
 And then they're pledging our dollar reserves to China in exchange for Chinese property bonds which will be held in the new Bank of Canada vault in Baltimore. And giving us the new IOUs, at twenty to one.
 All they need is Petey's John-Henry.

Ethan Dad won't sign that. You think dad will sign?

Don *(knowing aside to Ethan)* Strange time to go on a canoe trip in Prince Rupert.

Dorothy Yellowknife.

Deb Cape Breton.

Ethan They have to start the transfers to Beijing on Monday.
 She has to get the first ones signed tomorrow. And get the authorization signed to get into the vault in Ottawa.

Dorothy She said she had some things for him to sign in her briefcase. That must be it.

They hear the launch turning over, whining then conking out.

Deb The briefcase in her room?

Dorothy I didn't see any papers in her briefcase.

Ethan I didn't see any papers in her briefcase.

Dorothy But couldn't she get another copy from Washington.
They could fax it to the marina.

They hear the launch turning over, whining then conking out.

Henry *(off stage)* Fuck! Fuck! Fuck!

Lights

Scene Three

*Don is sleeping in his chair off to one side. Light on him is dim.
(The scene is his dream, as becomes clear at the end)
Others are at the breakfast table.
Ethan is working on his game console.*

Deb *(to Paula)* Have some of Gran's black current jam. It's possibly the very best thing about Canada. Dad loves it.

Dorothy It's true. He loves it! I think it's the only reason he keeps me on as the Mother.
Oh, Paula, relax about the boat. They'll have a repair man here before lunch. Usually it's Randy Perkins. He can fix anything.

Ethan When he's sober.

Paula How will they know?

Dorothy Don's phone was working and he left a message. They usually pick up the same day.

Paula *(worried, to Deb)* Could I try your phone to send a message.

Slightest gesture by Ethan – ok.

Deb Absolutely.
Hands her the phone
Here's a channel for you. It's working.

Paula I need to set up a secure connect. Do you mind?

Deb Be my guest.

*Paula exits, fiddling with the phone.
Henry watches over Ethan shoulder.*

Henry That's a game I've never heard off. U.N. Peace Drones.

Ethan It's Canadian. The drones fly over and drops Laura Secord gummy bears.

Henry Ha Ha. Perfect for Canada.

Dorothy *(laughing till she pits out her tea.)* Sometimes he is so funny!
Even if he is rude.

Henry Was that rude or funny?

Ethan Same thing.

Paula re-enters

(to Paula) Are you getting through, dear?

Paula Yes. I'm getting text.
HQ says they've located the Bank Governor and they'll pick him very soon. All is well.

Dorothy That's nice.

Paula We'll have a crew here to pick him up as soon as he arrives.
Apparently he's stranded somewhere called Peterburgh. With car troubles.

Henry (*looking on at the war game Ethan is playing*)
What happens when you give *those* guys blue helmets.

Ethan Which guys? Those?

Henry Those.

Ethan They're Blackwater mercenaries from Kentucky. Not a good idea.

Henry They look like Canadians.

Ethan Do not.

Henry How can you tell?

Ethan *They've got guns!*
These are Canadians! In the bunny costumes.

Henry (*he looks and splits a gut laughing*)
And thisis very cool. A blizzard buries Buffalo! You did that! I'm impressed.

Ethan Mom's idea.
Look at this one.

Henry looks over his shoulder as Ethan shows a few clips. Henry goes ballistic.

Paula is trying to focus on Deb. Gives her back her phone.

Henry Holy fuck! What the ...
 Look at this, Paula.
 Washington just sunk into the sea!

Ethan Nine Richters.

Henry Jesus!!!!

Deb Personally I don't do games. Too nerdy. But that's a great one!

Henry Paula. Paula!

Deb I play it with Nadia's brother in Yemen.
 And her other brother in Bierut. They're both excellent. Really, really nice guys.

Ethan Here's fourteen Richters. Just five time more on the R scale but you get 10 times the tidal wave. Awesome!

Henry Jesus H

Ethan Cool, eh! Oops! I mean, Cool ... huh!

Deb *(to Paula)* One time the cousin in Yemen sent me six hundred pounds of Turkish toffee.

Paula *(suspicious)* Was it good?

Deb Gross. Inedible! But I didn't want to say anything.

Henry Where'd you get this game?

Ethan Nadia cousin, In Iran. He's a geophysicist.

Paula What did you do with ... the toffee?

Deb Gave it to Nadia.

Henry What did she do with it?

Ethan You can stick it anywhere. Like chewing gum. Under a chair. Or a bed. But Nadia gave it to her friends.

Dorothy Not under my bed! Children. And, please, not in the green Room.

Paula Her friends?

Deb Her FaceBook friends.

Henry Do you have any of it still?

Ethan There's tiny bit under your bed.

Deb The rest is in Poppy's car, at the marina.

Distant explosion.

Henry What was that?

Ethan Sounds like it came from the marina.

Dorothy I wouldn't worry about it. It's a pretty old car.

*Now, a series of similar distant explosions.
Henry goes nuts.*

Deb Do you think, maybe, Poppy parked it too close to the gas pump!

Dorothy *(looking over at him asleep)* The old fool!
This is not good.
How will Peter get over to the island when he arrives?

Deb We can go and pick him up.
Our boat is here, in the boathouse, Gran. Not at the marina. We can leave any time.

Very loud explosion from Stage Left

Ethan Not any more.

*Paula rushes off stage.
Henry now nervous, upset, checks his shoulder holster for his gun. It's gone. He freaks, turning to Deb.*

Henry ^ Where is my gun? Whadda you do with my gun. You little ... !

Deb The Glock or the Berretta?

Henry Which one! Which one!

Dorothy No rude talk at the cottage. Always be nice.

Deb I've never seen either of them.

Dorothy They're just teasing you, Henry. They're very clever like that. You'll find them when the water goes down.

Paula re-enters

Paula What do you mean, 'when the water goes down'?

Henry Mom, what do you mean, 'when the water goes down'?

Dorothy Well ... you tell him, Debra.

Deb You're idea, Gran.

Dorothy Well, as part of NAFTA. America *needs* fresh water ... for your cities.

Deb Because of the pipes.

Dorothy Instead of giving you *our* Reserves and the Chinese taking our water, we thought ... we'll keep our money and give you the water. It's just sitting there. In Lake Superior.

Deb We'll flush away Chicago for you.

Dorothy And St Louis.
It'll just take a day.

Ethan Actually, it'll take three days.
Ethan wiggles his trigger finger

Deb *(to Paula)* Chicago votes Democrat. This will be good for you in so many ways.

Paula and Henry are in hysterics looking at Ethan's screen.

Ethan There goes St. Louis. New Orleans coming up in ten.

Light fade on all but Don, who is smiling and sort of laughing in his sleep
Henry approaches him

Henry Dad, dad, ... have you been sleeping here all night! Wake up. Looks like you've been having a pretty good dream.

Don What ... what ...
 Oh ... yes .. actually ... pretty good ...
 (sniffing) What time is it? Did I miss the bacon?

Henry No, there's lots left.
 We need to have a talk about Ethan.

Don Great kid. Great kid. Future of the country is in his hands.

Don wiggles his fingers menacingly

Lights

Scene Four

Paula and Dorothy are sitting on deck chairs soaking up the sun.

Paula This is such a nice place. So peaceful.

Dorothy My grandfather built it.
Three Prime Ministers have sleep in your bed.

Paula Really.

Dorothy And one Prince.

Paula I won't ask which.

Dorothy Good. Because I can't remember which. It was before my time.

Paula Your family must have been quite wealthy back in the day.

Dorothy I remember when I was a very little girl I was sitting right there and my grandfather said he going to give one of his banks to my uncle. But then he died. The uncle. And I got that bank. And my sister got the other. And then she died. And I ended up with both. They were small banks compared to yours.

Paula *My grandfather owned a bank. Still does, well his trust owns it. I work there, part time.*

Dorothy I love Trusts. Mine in Leichtenstein.
I thought you worked for the State Department.

Paula I do both. Strategic Coordination on Monday to Wednesday. And Thursday to Saturday I'm at the bank doing Policy Analysis. It's really all the same.

Dorothy That makes sense. No point in the State Department having a foreign policy when your bank has it covered.

Paula Exactly.

Dorothy Where did you met your husband?

Paula We were both at South Sector, Reconnaissance and Remote Flight Control.

Dorothy Oh ... drone targeting.
Does work as well they say?

Paula Absolutely. Nobody gets hurt.

Dorothy After 9/11 he wanted to go fight for America.

Paula He told me.
Not a very Canadian thing to do.

Dorothy No, it's not ... but ... ever since he saw Lone Ranger's silver bullets, ...
he's had a higher calling.

Paula He told me that.

Dorothy And he got some of the bank shares, First Preference, Participating,
when he was twenty one.
He knows which side the butter is on. Not like his father.

Paula You *understand*.

Dorothy Of course, I 'understand', sweetheart. I'll bet our grandfathers were
friends. Did yours ever come fishing in Canada?

Paula Not that I know of.
So how did you meet Henry's father?

Dorothy I was doing the afternoon shift for the Anti-Draft Committee at the
Toronto Bus Terminal in 1969. He turned up. Very good looking,
seemed smart, but a politically a fruitcake.

Paula Yale does that.

Dorothy Horny.

Dorothy Between us - I 'took advantage'.

Paula I had a sense.
Nice children.

Dorothy His father was a General.

Paula Henry told me. He knows him.
But it doesn't seem like Don has changed his politics much.

Dorothy He's got the university to keep him busy. Mind you, I had to build one for him to work at. I let him think what he wants at work as long as he doesn't bring it home.

Paula Would you mind ... if I 'took advantage' of your son Henry?

Dorothy It's very old fashioned of you to ask.
(*ironic voice*) Will you be able to look after him in the manner to which he has become ... what I mean is Oh, what the hell! Your bank is bigger than mine!

Paula Is that a yes?

A little squeeze of the hand between chaises

Dorothy Do you think you can - how shall I put it - breed him?

Paula (*laughs*) I think so.

Dorothy Good. We need someone more stable than ...
Settled.
So, how do you like being you? I'm so glad I'm not your age. People would have thought I should work! Like you! What a waste of a woman's life. Working. I mean, back then.

Paula (*laughs*) Times change. It's fun.

pause

You like it here, don't you?

Dorothy Of course. My great, great father cut down all the trees ... so could buy the second bank. And here we are.

Paula Ethan doesn't seem like his father. Of course I was only with your other son in our formal meetings. But Peter was very smooth. Ethan is a bit ...

Dorothy Yes, he's very funny.

Paula I'm looking forward to spending some time with Peter. You think he'll be here tomorrow?

Dorothy Not tomorrow, I don't think. The next day. Maybe. Well, between you and me, who knows when. He's not that reliable.

Paula I was hoping we'd get along.

Dorothy You will, sweetheart. I'll tell him we're getting First Preference shares in National City Capital ... that's your bank, right. If I'm happy, he's happy.

Paula Did I say that? 'First' Preference?

Dorothy Yes, darling, you did.

[Until now, you thought Dorothy was a ditz]

Henry enters

Henry, I'm going to refresh my drink. Can I get you something, Colonel Stroud?

Paula I'm fine for now.

Dorothy exits.

Henry sits.

Henry and Paula are quiet for a few moments until they are sure Dorothy is out of range.

Then they both get out their cell phones and dial furiously, listen, desperate, uncertain if they are working. It seems they are getting through somewhere and waiting for pick up.

They check their shoulder holsters. Guns are there.

As they are doing this they are jabbering back and forth.

Paula These Canadians are smarter than I thought. Bad intel, Captain.

Henry We got the deal! Don't sweat the details.

Paula The Treasury Bill are not a detail!

Henry We got the trees, the oil, the water ... for what?

Two NFL Franchises. Bargain!

We get ten hotels and six golf courses and their RR system.

We unloaded PBS. They get all Pre-Existing Conditions north of Pennsylvania. What's not to like.

Paula Ya, so! I have to marry you and give your Mum six billion in bank stocks.

Henry Which she can only cash at ten cents on the dollar. You don't have to marry me.

Paula I'm going to put you on a Pre-Nup and lock you in the bedroom.
 You're f-g brother needs to sign off on bank transfer. And give us
 the Password to the vault. Or there'll be shit to pay with the Chinese.

Henry Got me there. He's gone rogue.

Paula *(to phone)*
 Hello, Hello! Fletcher, is that you? Thank God!
 We've been off com! Ya, some problems here.
 ... Third party Interference.
 You sound strange. Fletcher? Fletcher. I was losing you.
 No, he hasn't shown up. ... Did not sign. Not ... Nothing signed.
 I think Henry's been played.

....
 You have! Good. Where?

....
 Yellow – what? ... where?

Henry is eagerly listening. Hears 'Yellow' and gasps.

How'd he get there?

(Paula listens and turns Henry and repeats)

The Governor of the Bank of Canada and his wife flew Tourist Class on
 something called West Jet to Sault St Marie ... then via Winnipeg,
 Lakehead, and Saskatoon To where? Lethbridge, Calgary,
 Kamloops, Victoria Ya Ya Queen Charlotte City, Vancouver,
 Edmonton, Prince Rupert ... and Yellow What?

....
 Can you believe it! Yellow Fork.

Henry nods and laughs

They really are very clever!

Listening to the phone) Really, really
(to Henry) They had to wait for their luggage two days in Kamloops.

Henry breaks up laughing

(to the phone) Yes, sir, Yes Sir, I know it's a crisis.

....
 Well, why didn't you say! I was worried all along.

(aside to Henry) They've got his coordinates. Our intel is better than we thought. There's an Extraction unit on the way.

He'll be in Washington the day after tomorrow.

Thank God!

(back to phone) What do you mean, the password's been changed!

Impossible.

(Paula and Henry exchange a knowing glance and nod)

Not impossible. Leave that to us, Sir.

....
All good to go, except, one thing. I've got the original docs he has to sign. The Chinese are very fussy about originals.

Here. With me. On me! *(she pats her vest)*

You need to get me to Washington.

....
Just pick me up, damn it! We got 85 Extraction helicopters on an aircraft carrier in Toronto Harbour! How hard can they be? Forty minutes max.

....
Yes, I am on an island but it is not Newfoundland!

Not! Newfoundland is not in Hudson's Bay!

It can't possibly say that's where I am.

I phoned in my co-ordinates.

...
Hello Hello!

....

(to Henry)

It's not funny!

If your fucking nephew doesn't give us the password for the Canadian Reserves the Chinese'll dump our Bonds and we're in duck soup!

Paula

They storm off - lights

Scene Five

*Lights up on Don and Henry
(The following rapidly escalates in a furious argument.)*

Henry You think, maybe, Pete is avoiding us, me?

Don (*long pause*) Probably.
I don't think he wants to sign off on the bank reserves.

Henry Pop, it's the only way. There's been some fundamental unfairness between the two countries.

Don What unfairness?

Henry You've got all the water. Most of the trees. Now you've got all tech brains who won't live in the U.S.

Don Because you won't let them.

Henry Half a point for you. But it can't be helped.
Your banks didn't crash in '08 so they've got huge unearned surplus.
And with the climate shifting the temperate weather north, your country is twice as big as once was in terms of arable land. Florida is drowning.

Don You forgot ... we got more beavers than you.

Henry Right. More beavers.

Don You can have as many as you want.

Henry Your army a third the size it should be.

Don We got nothing to defend.

Henry Wanta bet! What are you going to do when you get invaded?

Don We're working on a plan!

Henry You're totally over-regulated.
Guns! Look at your gun laws! Ridiculous.
It's dangerous for the people ... not having guns.

Don Especially in the kindergartens.

Henry Don't be sarcastic. It's a restriction of the free market.

Don What's happened to you. I raised a nice little socialist, send you away to Harvard and you turn into a killer.

Henry I don't do the killing. I organize other guys who ... let's not go into it. Your dad – who I know better than you, now – raised you to be a patriot and you run away and turn into a communist professor.

Don My dad ... my dad, the Marine Major-General! Natural born killer.

Henry The alpha gene skipped a generation.

Don Fuck you!
I'm a Canadian now. I don't want to kill people.

Henry America doesn't *want* to kill innocent people. They just get in the way!
pause
I'm not stupid. America has done some bad shit.
But, now, we've got some really bad guys to shoot. Worse than the Nazis. You liked that war!

Don America likes *every* war.

Henry That's not fair.

Don Let's not have this conversation.
Look around you. What do you see?

Henry Mosquitos. Black flies. Third growth wed trees.

Don Beautiful, beautiful lakes ... peaceful ... clean. And ... you want to build a Burger King.
I love mosquitos. They are the foundation stone of the Canadian soul.
Constant suffering.

Henry Ha, ha.
That's right! You get to suffer. We get to die.
Why should we protect you from ISIS and you do nothing?

Don I sent you to summer camp. You went on canoe trips. You can play hockey! What happened to you?

Henry 9/11 happened to me.

Don So you became a drone bomber! Killing defenseless ...

Henry Some targeting mistakes! It's war!
Look, those 9/11 planes weren't a mistake! That was deliberate.
Those guys will chop off your fucking head, Pop!

Don Have a fair trial and put them in jail.

Henry goes nuts

Henry Fair fucking trial! I'll shoot them up the nose!
This country is fucked up! You won't fight!

Don And exactly when did your Yanks come to fight Hitler, righteous one?
Three years too late!

Henry And who beat him! Not you and your candy-ass King of England!

Don Who beat him? The Russians did. The Russians!

Don This country is so fucked! No one of you would die for your flag. Not one!

Henry And that's the way we like it!

*The two pause in their furious quarrel to catch their breath.
Ethan enters with strange head gear. It's 'artificial reality' gear
with some added flags.
Don looks delighted. He sits immediately like a puppy. Ethan puts
in on him.*

*Ethan controls the unit from his laptop. He wears a headset
speaker so he can talk to 'Poppy'. Henry looks on over Ethan
shoulder. Points at certain things on the screen occasionally.
Poppy is singing 'This land is your land', wrong
lyrics, out of tune.*

Henry What's this?

Don *This land is my band, this band is my hand, this hand is my land ...*

Ethan Poppy, describe what you see.

Don *... From Bonnycastle to Prince Tedward Appendix ...*

Ethan *(shouting)* Poppy, POPPY ... WHAT DO YOU SEE? TELL UNCLE HENRY WHAT YOU SEE.

Don *(shouting)* WHAT?

ETHAN *(shouting)* WHAT DO YOU SEE? TELL UNCLE HENRY WHAT YOU SEE.
DON'T SHOUT. WE CAN HEAR YOU!

Don *Corn fields blowing ... the dust bags growling ...*
Poppy momentarily lifts the device off his head
 How can you hear me! I'm in Saskatoon!
 Henry, this is fabulous. The kid is a genius.
 I want to see the polar bears again.
He puts the device back on.
Ethan adjust the programme on his laptop.

Don *(Poppy sings again)*
God save our land, our true and patriot land ... O Canada ... our true and wholesome place ...
Henry gestures – 'stop him – too loud'
Ethan adjusts the programme again.
Don goes quiet.

Henry What did you do?

Ethan Loons.

Henry Loons?
Ethan fiddles the programme again on his laptop. We hear the call of loons at sunset.
Ethan then turns the loons down.
Poppy is singing quietly in his chair.

Oh. Those kinds of loons.
 This is quite something. Did you put it together by yourself? Very advanced.

Ethan Poppy helped.

Henry *(looking on the screen)* Is this what he's seeing now?

Ethan Yup.

Henry People lined up in a Tim Horton's!

Ethan No.
 They're lined up at the Immigration office to adopt Syrian refugees
 Demand exceeds supply.
 Oh ... and he loves these guys. UN Peace Keepers. Don't kill anybody!
 Weird, eh, Huh!
 And

*Ethan changes the programme. Henry looks on the screen.
 Poppy swoons and seems to fall asleep.*

Henry Ice bergs!
(Henry marvels at Ethan and the device)

Ethan He loves icebergs.

Henry This is f**g brilliant! It's better than FaceBook!
 What else you got in there!

Ethan General Wolfe dying after the battle.
pause
 Lester Pearson making a speech at the United Nations.
Pause
 Terry Fox limping across the country.
pause
 The Tragically Hip singing their last song.
pause
 The hanging of Louis Riel
pause

Don You got this country figured out.

Ethan He won't give you any trouble when he wakes up. It lasts about
 a day. Unless, of course ...

*Ethan adjusts the programme on his laptop. Poppy suddenly jumps up and starts firing an imaginary assault machine gun as if he were VanDame in a commando movie. Kung foo jumps, etc.
 Henry jumps out of the way and stands back in shock.
 Ethan adjusts the programme again. We hear the loons.
 Henry helps his dad back into the chair where he goes to sleep.*

Don What was that all about?

Ethan The Canadians lost the Stanley Cup.

*Then they wheel him off stage. And return.
Ethan sits back down and goes back on his laptop. Henry walks around him in a circle several time, studying him.*

Henry That's pretty impressive how you mind fucked your own grandfather.
Think we could get that on your dad?
Save everybody a lot of trouble.
I know people in Pacification who'd hire you in a flash. You've got a real feel for the ... what should we call it ... 'local sentiment'.

Ethan Wanna try on the one I did for Scotland?

Henry *(laughing)* Definitely not.

Henry How would you like a job at Marvel Comics?

Ethan Working sucks.

Henry What's wrong with working?

Ethan I want a percent of gross, not some piss off share, net after a lot of producer fees.

Henry Right.
Understood.
Can I get a demo copy of that? ... Whadda you call it? I know people who would be interested.

Ethan It's called the Canada App.
I've got an Italian App. Finland. Australia.

Henry The problem, I suppose, is getting people to put the gear on.

Ethan Only the first time.
My guys in Uzbek are testing a new prototype. Looks and feels exactly like very cool sunglasses.
Want me to rig up the Cowboy App for you and give it a go? Fantastic.
I guarantee you'll never get off the horse.

Henry Is it for sale?

Ethan Sold.

Henry To whom!

Ethan

Can't say.

Ethan pulls the Canada Ap memory stick from his laptop and dangles it.

Canada is great. It my favorite country.

It isn't cheap.

Lights

Scene Six

Dorothy, Don, Deb and Ethan are gathered behind around Ethan's laptop on Skype with Peter and Beth. We hear incomprehensible mumbling / static of voices in response.

STATIC

Don We got 'em trapped here, Petey. But no guarantees how long. You should go to New Zealand.

Ethan They've got Chopper Ex-Tract Teams ready to go as soon as they find you! But don't worry. They think you're in the Newfoundland.

Dorothy It's your mother, darling. Five cents on the dollar, old to new dollars ... is that the best you could do? Really! I'd rather have Bit-coins.

STATIC

I can't hear you. It doesn't matter. I made a deal with her to takes Preference shares in her bank.

STATIC

Dorothy Well, a house in Washington could be very nice.

STATIC

Dorothy 'House arrest' is a bit harsh!
She was very complimentary. She said she really needed you in Washington. Maybe it's a nice house.

Don The Prime Minister said on the news last night he's taken a place in Georgetown for five years to help finalize the Treaty. You're the last one left, my boy. The last one.

Ethan We got to go. They're coming.

Deb *(suddenly jumping in so her great news won't be missed)*
She's gonna get me screen test. Maybe Princess Leia. Bye!

Ethan quickly clicks to a different channel and they change body posture and apparent mood, still intensely focused on the screen.

Henry and Paula enter

Don Hey, come and watch. It's archival footage.
Lumber rafts in the Moon River.

Dorothy Your great-grandfather's lumber company.

Henry looks

Deb Show them Lester Pearson at the U.N. in 1954. He was so cool.

Henry and Paula – quizzical.

Ethan Just a second. Oh, here's MacKenzie King talking to the ghost of his mother.

They all watch

Deb Isn't that fantastic!

End Scene

Scene Seven

Everyone, including Henry and Paula is gathered around coffee table playing a board game. Very jovial, until it's not.

Dorothy Your roll, Deborah. Go for it kiddo!

Deb roles, groans,

Ethan You lose, meatball! Back two!
Pick a card!

Deb picks – groans – Ethan grabs and reads

Rendition!
Rendered to Salamungo. Bye bye!

Don *(Don picks up a card and reads)* Someone you love just failed their screen test!

Deb Noooo!.

Dorothy rolls.

Dorothy Six!

She advances
Henry's turn. He rolls. Advances. Takes a card – Reads -

Henry Sorry, mum. 'Rising ocean drowns Palm Beach.'

Dorothy That's not fair! Discrimination against the rich!

Paula I'm with you, Dorothy. We'll build a dyke. I'll lend you money for your share. How much do you want?

Dorothy Old or new dollars?

Paula Ethan, can I buy Tomahawk Missiles with old dollars?

Ethan If Poppy, will sell me PEI for old dollars?

Don *(thinking)* Henry, if I give you Prince Edward Island, will you give me West Virginia?

Henry I could do that ... if ... if ... Mum, can you get the Prime Minister to let us dump the Love Canal sludge in Toronto Harbour?

Dorothy *(thinking)* I can do that!

Henry Done!

Don Done.

Ethan Done.

Paula Done

Dorothy Done

Debra What about me!

Dorothy Oh Dear. We forgot about you. I don't even know where they took you!
Sala ... something.

Debra Well, I don't know! And I'm there!

Ethan Everyone put in some Bit coins.

(They toss in a few make-believe coins)

Paula Oh dear, not enough.
Why don't you send some brave Canuck soldiers to the rescue?

Henry The ones with the gummy bears.

Don This is my darling, Sweetie. We need real soldiers.
Can we borrow some of yours?

Henry I thought you'd eventually come around.
You want Regular or Black Op, Non-Com? Seals? Rangers? 101 Airborne?
It'll cost you, Pop!

Don Enough! Enough!

*Don storms off. Game ends. Dorothy gets up.
Ethan pulls out his laptop, phone and ear piece.*

Dorothy Paula, what can I get you?

Paula A phone that works!
Scotch, triple, lots of ice.

Dorothy exits. Paula then Debra follow.

Henry *(approaches Ethan, tries to get his attention)* Yo? Earth to Ethan. Earth to Ethan. *(no response)* Do I need a password?

Ethan Not less than 15 characters, and no more than 30 ... and one you haven't used before.

Henry AirForceAcademyScholarship.

Ethan You've used that one before.

Henry NASA-Data-Drive-Bank-Code.

Ethan And ... it has to have at least eight digits.

Henry Five,

Ethan Eight.

Henry Eight ... zero, zero, zero ... zero, zero, zero, ...

Ethan That's only seven, One more.

Henry That's pretty steep. ... *(giving in)* ... zero.

Ethan You're in!
(in voice of an automaton) This is O-mar. How can he help you?

Henry Omar, do you know a guy named Ethan?

Ethan *(automaton)* E-than can ac-cess.

Henry Can you get into his hard drive?

Ethan *(automaton)* I am his hard drive.

Henry *(grabbing him by shirt, lifting him)* O.K. you ... you little fuck!
Gimme that rinky-dink little country of yours.

Henry puts him down. Ethan hands over the Canada Ap. Henry checks and pockets it.

Henry takes his 'other' cell phone out of inner pocket
You're good. But not that good!

Henry flips open the phone

(to phone) Alpha ... yo ... yo ... come in ... You read me?
... Copy that ... Triple boathouse... silver green roof ... Check ... green deck Copy ... that's the one ...
Rendition, zero-minus ten. ... over ...
... Hey, Silver Bird ... your guys got the BankGov? ... Good! ... Tell 'em, Good work, from me. Over ...

He takes out the USB stick, - the Canada App-hold it up and puts it back in his pocket

I got the fuckin country in my pocket.

He pulls his gun and points at Ethan,
Over

... Gotta him here, Bro ... the Nerd Turd

... *(aside to Ethan)* That's you. ...

... Right ... right ...

He'll be in a large zippered, body bag, colour green, check, on the boat house deck, ready for pick up in eight, counting, ... ready to render ...
(to Ethan) Alright, you little fuck, ... you're goin' where the sun don't shine ... and the BankGov is on his way to Washington with the rest of the Tiny Turd Government.

And don't you give me shit talk. You just got hacked, wacked and sacked by the Big Boys. It's over!

Ethan Don't you want the Governor of the Bank of Canada's password for transferring Reserve assets.
You'll need it.
I have it – right here. *(gesturing his laptop)*

Henry My guys got it covered.
Get up. Move it! I got to get you packaged for shipment.

Ethan Okay.
Just one thing. *(as he puts down his laptop on the table)* Don't press Control back slash Return.

Henry Don't give me any more SHIT.
Move.
Ethan get up and they exit, Ethan with his hands up

End scene

Scene Eight

Don is sitting downstage wearing the AR headset. Totally blissed out.

Deb and Paula enter

Deb is reading and texting on her cell phone as she walks.

They examine Don. He is totally disconnected. They pass him by..

Paula All I mean to say is that your father sometimes isn't as realistic as he could be

Debra Tell me about it!

Paula My government has had to take some steps ...

Debra *(reading)* Randy will be here at noon to fix the boat.

Paula No rush ... I mean for us.
We've got some guys coming to pick us up.

Debra Guys!? The ones with short hair! Cool!
(she notices his laptop)
Where's Ethan?
He never leaves his laptop unguarded. Like, never.

Paula I think he's down on the dock with his Uncle Henry.
(she picks it up)
This looks like a different game. You know the password?

Debra Control, Back Slash, Return.

Deb wanders off reading her phone.

Paula looks at the laptop. She clicks on (obviously) Control Back Slash Return and watches.

Do you know where Gran is?

Paula ignores her.

Paula We've got your test booked for next Thursday.

Debra *(shouting to Poppy)* Do you know where Gran is?

Paula You were asleep. Some of my guys picked her up. They're taking her to Washington.
Your dad needs her.

Do you know what this programme is that's running?
Is it from one of his games?

Debra comes and looks

Debra Oh, ya, sure.
That's the one where the Chinese sell their U.S. Treasury Notes and the dollar crashes. And the New York banks all shut down at the same time. It's cool. But I never played right to the end.
(*looking, reading her phone*) Hey, I've got the same thing right here. On Bloomberg. ... 'Chinese dumping Treasury Notes'. Ethan is so cool.
Now we got the ... !

Paula grabs her phone and looks

Paula How do you stop this programme?
Debra Now, for that! ... You need Ethan's other password.
Paula Quickly. Do you have it? What is it?
Debra Who me? You gotta be kidding.

Paula is frantic.

Paula You should go and get packed. They'll be here soon to pick us up.
Debra O.K.

Debra turns to leave. Paula takes out a kerchief, grabs Deb, puts the drugged cloth over her mouth and nose. In a few moments Deb passes out. Paula ties her hands and feet and gags her and drags her off stage. Then returns. Paula goes stage left and bellows.

Paula Hank. Hank!
Henry (*off stage*) Yo?
Paula Bring the little fuck back up here. We got a problem.
Paula (*to Henry off stage*) I'm gonna rip his face off and bash his brains in.

Exit

Scene Nine

Ethan is suspended centre stage in an army duffel bag. His head sticks out the top end. Just barely of the floor. He is gagged. He struggles slightly but is secured by belts around him in the bag. Henry is in combat fatigues.

Don is still in his chair with AR head gear, grinning, bobbing silently to the music in his head.

Henry goes centre stage, sits and looks at laptop. He can't figure out how to stop the programme.

Paula paces, angry. Her phone rings. She answers.

Paula Hello Where the fuck are you? Quebec City! Quebec City! ... That is not where ... I did not! ... I know ... what ... (to Ethan) you little ... *back to the phone* ... well send some one else!

(to Henry) What's with the sell-off?

(to the phone) Shut the fuck up!

Henry (shrugs) Can't stop it. Dollar is down to 55c Canadian.

Paula Where's the BankGov? Tell him we'll kill his f-g kids if he doesn't ...

....
What do you mean You got to be kidding me. How can be off the grid. You guys picked him up in ... in ... fucking Yellow Fork! ... Spoon!

....
What! What! You said ... you said ...

(to Henry) They got the wrong guy! The wrong ... How many Peter Simpson's can there be is this dipshit country!

....
(to the phone) Who asked you! Who asked you!

Four hundred and three!

So where is he?

....
Gander, Newfoundland!

He's not in Gander, Newfoundland! I am in Gander, Newfoundland!
Joking. Joking.

I am not in the middle of forest fire! Not! Not!

Sargent, someone is fucking with your com system. And I know who!

(Paul snaps shut her phone)

Don starts singing his crazy songs – 'This land is my land, this land is my land' ... etc.

Paula goes to look on with Henry at the laptop.

Henry Dollar's at 43c to the reminbi.

Paula takes out her other phone. Checks it.

Paula My bank is down to 5.13. I just lost two billion dollars!

Gran enters, dragging Deb who is still tied.

Dorothy Oh, Henry, you look nice in the green camo. Goes better with our forest.
I've never been in a helicopter. This will be exciting.
What did you put in my tea, darling. It made me very groggy.

Henry Mom, do you know where Peter is?

Dorothy He was supposed to coming here the day after tomorrow. Or the next day.
You know what I think. I think he's avoiding you.

Henry You think!

Dorothy *(wistful)* My boys never really got along. It's too bad.
Anyhow, he'll be working with your Paula. So you can get to know each other all over again.

Henry What about this Nadia?

Dorothy She is so nice, Henry. I'm really sorry you couldn't meet her.
She loves her new country more than we do.

Gran picks up Paula phone, does a few clicks ...

Paula, do you know your bank is off six dollars. It's a good thing we didn't sign anything.

Paula fumes. She rips off Ethan gag.

Paula *(to Ethan)* Do you know anything, anything about a forest fire?

Ethan That's burning so fierce all around us that Extraction Teams could never see through the smoke or survive the extreme heat so you can't be rescued?

Paula Ya. That's the one!

Ethan Nooo.

Dorothy Ethan, why did you tie up your sister?

Dorothy unties Debra

And how did you ever get yourself into that bag?

Dorothy undoes the straps and unzips the bag and Ethan steps out. He gestures to take the gag out and Henry does.

Ethan Thanks, dude. That was fun.

Dorothy takes Paula's phone and hands it to Debra.

Dorothy Be a dear, and call my broker ... and tell him to buy (*she checks the phone*) ... 4.02, Paula !!! ... three billion, voting, of National City Capital.

Debra exits left, talking on Paula's phone. On the way out she hands Ethan her phone and he dials.

Ethan *(to phone)* Pop? Pop! We got her! We got her!

....
(handing the phone to Paula)
My dad wants to talk to you.

Paula *(Takes the phone – does a volt face –now friendly as can be)*
Peter, Peter ... We missed you in Ottawa ... We're here at your cottage.
We got her before you! How could that happen! Everyone's expecting you. ...

Your mother is such a sweetheart. ... I'm thrilled ... thrilled ... I'll be working for her. I have a lot to learn!

....
I was just saying to the President, who needs the Canadian reserves?
Right now. ... Ever ... We'll deal with the Chinese ... exactly, exactly. ... I have to call her back tomorrow. ... I'll tell Ivanka you said hello.

Paula hangs up.

Dorothy What can I get everybody? Wine? Scotch?

Don sings some more.

Paula and Hank follow Dorothy into the kitchen.

Debra and Ethan dance and bob to Don's singing

Lights fade

The End