

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. ADELINA BAY - SUNRISE

The sun is just starting to break over the water of the bay. Two boats moored together bob up and down; one boat a small speedboat and the other a larger trawler. Men move large bundles of cocaine from the larger boat onto the speedboat.

We PAN to see the city crowding around the bay. This is Adelina, jewel of the small Central American country of the same name. The city has recently become a war zone and the country is in the midst of a civil war.

Large plumes of smoke rise from various parts of the skyline. A military helicopter circles above part of the city and then flies away.

INT. PRISON BLOCK - PRISON CELL - DAY

Looking through the bars of a tiny prison window we see HECTOR HIDALGO, 40s. He's a large man, who has only been shrunken by his situation. He looks tired--a decade in prison kind of tired.

LUIS (O.S.)

Hidalgo! Hidalgo!

HECTOR

Yea?

LUIS (O.S.)

Think the guards will be back?

HECTOR

Maybe.

LESTER (O.S.)

I hope so. I'm hungry, man! It's been two days!

LUIS (O.S.)  
Hidalgo, you think the shooting is  
over?

HECTOR  
For today? Or forever?

INT. PRISON BLOCK - CORRIDOR - DAY

A prison guard, who looks worse for wear, is pushed into the corridor of the cellblock. Two rebel soldiers follow.

One of the rebel leaders, RAMON CAREERRA, steps into the hallway behind them. He looks like a grad student told to dress as a revolutionary and it doesn't quite suit him. He holds a clipboard in his hand.

RAMON  
This is the last block.

Ramon walks up to a cell door and reads from a list on the clipboard. Some names on the list are already checked off.

RAMON (CONT'D)  
Lester Molina?

LESTER (O.S.)  
Yea? What do you want?

Ramon nods to one of the soldiers. The soldier fires into the cell. Any last words from the prisoner inside are drowned out by the gunfire. Hector stands and faces his cell door. There is only one more cell between him and the soldiers.

LUIS (O.S.)  
Help! Help!

The soldiers push the guard down to the next cell.

RAMON  
Luis Varga?

LUIS  
No. No, I'm not him.

Ramon turns to the guard.

RAMON  
Is this Luis Varga?

The poor guard nods his head. Ramon gestures to the soldier.

LUIS  
No, he lies!

RAMON  
Shut up!

The soldier again fires into the cell.

Ramon steps in front of Hector's cell. He seems to size Hector up. Hector, for his part, does the same. He is ready to accept his fate. Ramon doesn't even have to consult the clipboard.

RAMON (CONT'D)  
Hector Hidalgo.

HECTOR  
That's my name.

Ramon gestures for the guard to unlock the cell door. Ramon takes something out of his pocket.

RAMON  
Congratulations Inspector Hidalgo,  
you've been promoted.

He hands Hector a badge that read "Chief of Police"

END TEASER

ACT ONE

EXT. PRISON - DAY

Ramon leads Hector outside of the prison gate. Hector wears a loose fitting suit. An SUV being guarded by two more rebel soldiers waits.

RAMON

This has to feel good doesn't it?  
Never thought you'd step outside  
those walls again.

HECTOR

Mr. Carerra, prisoners only spread  
rumors and the guards never said  
anything. I'm still shocked that  
there was a revolution.

RAMON

Is a revolution, Hector. We just  
haven't won yet, but we will. The  
President is on his way out. His  
government is crumbling. More and  
more soldiers flee his side every  
day. And now he's lost his capitol.

Hector looks at the badge in his hand. It's heavier than it  
looks.

HECTOR

But what is this all about?

RAMON

This is still a city and it needs a  
police force and it needs a chief.  
There hasn't been much law or order  
during the last few months.

They climb into the SUV and start to drive.

HECTOR

I've been in a prison cell for over a decade, I don't know how much good I can do.

RAMON

I know the good you can do, even if you don't know it, yet. You're the one. You will exemplify the ideals and goals of this uprising.

HECTOR

Is one of those ideals shooting men down in their cells?

RAMON

There's no place for men like that in the new Adelina. Do you know what your blockmates did? Lester Molina was a murderer. Luis Varga--

HECTOR

I know what Luis Varga did. I put him in that cell.

RAMON

That's right. Inspector Hector Hidalgo was the only honest cop in the city. That's what my uncle said the day you were convicted. Was he right or was he wrong?

HECTOR

(hesitating)

I was more honest than most.

RAMON

You're being modest.

HECTOR

Can I ask about my family?

RAMON

Your wife is dead. That much is true.

(MORE)

RAMON (CONT'D)

Your children--that's a bit of a puzzle. Records have been lost, names changed, you understand.

Hector stares out of the window at the street.

HECTOR

I see.

RAMON

Don't dwell.

HECTOR

Are you a father, Mr. Carrera? I need to find my children.

RAMON

We're working on it. Trust us.

HECTOR

Where are we going?

RAMON

People forget that governments, even revolutionary ones, still run on bureaucracy. We have some paperwork for you to sign.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

The SUV drives through the streets of the city. It passes the occasional burnt out building and makeshift roadblock. They pass a group of rebel soldiers and a group of young men. A shoving match ensues as the SUV continues on.

INT. CAPITOL BUILDING - CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - DAY

Ramon and Hector walk into the large and elegant council chambers. The room is crowded with people. Some look like business professionals and some look like they've been sleeping in the jungle for months. Everyone hurries around in a whirlwind of organized, righteous chaos.

An older professional woman, ANTONIA HERRERA has a bevy of young people surrounding her looking for input. She notes Ramon's and Hector's entrance.

HECTOR

Is everyone here on the new ruling council?

RAMON

No, not everyone. We'll pare it down to a council of twelve once things settle down.

(to the rest of the room)

Everyone, this is the new Chief of Police, Hector Hidalgo.

The room pauses for a moment. TOUSSAINT ALCINE, the defacto propaganda minister for the revolution, works on his laptop. He looks up only briefly. A young man, GEORGES, picks up a clipboard and looks over various stacks of paper before picking up a few selected sheets and approaching Hector.

GEORGES

Can you sign these, sir?

TOUSSAINT

What was he before? A bus driver? A school teacher?

HECTOR

Convict.

Georges looks Hector up and down before handing him the papers.

RAMON

But before that he was a policeman, a good policeman. So good the corrupt state threw him in jail.

TOUSSAINT

He may have to make a statement coming out strongly against torture and corruption and indiscriminate killing. Is that a problem?

ANTONIA

Of course it's a problem. He's a policeman. They're all covered in blood.

This is clearly personal for her, but not for Hector.

HECTOR

Any blood on me is long dried, ma'am.

Hector hands the signed paperwork back to Georges. Antonia goes back to her business and the rest of the room slowly follows suit.

TOUSSAINT

I'll write up a press release. Colonel Ruiz hasn't decided whether or not to let the foreign press into the city.

RAMON

We need the press. They need to see that we've won the city.

TOUSSAINT

Take that up with the Colonel, not me. You want to cancel the rally? I'll send out a tweet.

RAMON

No, the people want to celebrate. Have Juan Pena speak to the crowd. He's from here right? It will be a homecoming.

HECTOR

(clearing his throat) Perhaps, I can be taken somewhere I can shower and get a sandwich?

RAMON

Yes, as soon as we have a moment. We need to get you over to police headquarters.



HECTOR

I'm going to be a stranger or at worse a cautionary tale to anyone on the police force. I don't know how effective I'll be.

RAMON

Hector, you have the full faith and power of the new Adelinan government behind you. If they don't fall in line...Well, you understand my meaning. Come! I'm sure they are anxious to meet their new chief.

INT. MIRANDA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

MIRANDA MURILLO, early 20s and best described as "stiff" stands in front of her bedroom mirror. She tears the plastic wrapping off of her new patrolman hat and places it on her head. It matches the rest of her impeccable uniform.

INT. MIRANDA'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Miranda walks through the kitchen passing her mother, BERNICE. Bernice looks a nervous wreck. Miranda tries to exude confidence. Bernice turns away.

BERNICE

All over this city, there are policemen burying their uniforms in the dirt, and my daughter goes strolling out the front door like it's her first day of school.

MIRANDA

It is my first day. Even if they hadn't ordered me there, I'd have gone. There is a job to do, mother. I'm going to do it. What would father say?

BERNICE

Before or after he got shot in the head, Miranda? Before or after?

MIRANDA

Before.

Miranda doesn't want to get into it and starts for the door.