

EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE
A SERIES

EPISODE 2: Deception

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. CAMP DAVID SECURITY COMMAND CENTER - DAY

Agent Smithson aims a gun at Commander John West. Two dead soldiers slump against the security console behind John West. Agent Norris leans against a cabinet, breathing hard. His face is bloody.

JOHN WEST
What the hell is going on?

AGENT SMITHSON
Hands behind your head.

John complies. Agent Norris puts handcuffs on him.

AGENT SMITHSON (CONT'D)
This way.

Agent Smithson backs out of the command center while aiming his gun at John. John scowls at Norris then follows Smithson.

INT. CAMP DAVID HALLWAY - DAY

Agent Smithson aims his gun as John steps out of the command center with Norris behind him. Smithson waves his gun.

AGENT SMITHSON
Walk.

They walk past a picture of "Washington kneeling in prayer at Valley Forge". The hallway is country elegant.

JOHN WEST
Where are we going?

No response. Smithson and Norris walk on both sides of John.

JOHN WEST (CONT'D)
Why'd you do it?

No response. They come to the library door. Smithson knocks.

INT. CAMP DAVID STUDY - DAY

A SECRET SERVICE AGENT opens the study door and motions the trio in. The President stares out the window. The body of Justice Blackburn is not there. No sign of the shooting exists.

AGENT SMITHSON
Here he is, Mr. President. Camp
David's secure.

THE PRESIDENT
Justice Blackburn?

AGENT SMITHSON
Dead, Sir.

The President turns from the window toward a dark corner of
the room.

THE PRESIDENT
Call a press conference, Will.
Let's get this out in the open.

WILL KINGMAN, Chief of Staff, slides out of the shadows.

WILL KINGMAN
The press will want to know how
this happened.

THE PRESIDENT
We'll show them.

Kingman nods and slips out a shadowed door. The President
turns toward Commander West.

THE PRESIDENT (CONT'D)
Sit down, Commander.

JOHN WEST
I'd rather stand, Sir.

Agent Norris sucker punches John in the stomach. John gasps
and bends but doesn't fall. Agent Norris forces John to sit.

The President moves closer.

THE PRESIDENT
Who are you working for?

John is bewildered.

JOHN WEST
Me? You know who I work for.

THE PRESIDENT
John, your record is impressive.
Iraq, Afghanistan. Special Ops. It
seems there's nothing you can't do.

JOHN WEST
What's this all about?

Norris, hits John in the face.

THE PRESIDENT
Why'd you do it?

JOHN WEST
Do what?

Norris hits John again.

AGENT NORRIS
Answer the President.

THE PRESIDENT
Why did you murder Justice
Blackburn?

JOHN WEST
What are you talking about?

THE PRESIDENT
We have the evidence, Commander.

Norris steps up to hit John again. The President holds up his hand to stop him.

THE PRESIDENT (CONT'D)
Roll the footage.

Norris steps up to a console behind John and presses a button. Cabinet doors open revealing a large flat panel display.

THE PRESIDENT (CONT'D)
Turn him around.

Agent Smithson turns John to face the screens. The President nods to Norris. Norris presses another button. The screen light up.

ON the Monitors:
In the main hall, Justice Blackburn hands his cane to a Marine Guard. The Marine Guard escorts him into the study and closes the door behind him. In the study, the back door opens and Commander West enters the study. He approaches Justice Blackburn, aims his service weapon and fires. Justice Blackburn crumples to the floor. Commander West fires another shot, then exits through the rear door.

John watches with rapt attention. The screen goes blank.

Norris presses a button. The cabinet closes. Smithson turns John around to face the President. The President stares at John.

THE PRESIDENT (CONT'D)

Well?

JOHN WEST

Nice effects.

Norris hits John. He groans.

JOHN WEST (CONT'D)

That's not what happened. Norris,
you know that's not what happened.

THE PRESIDENT

Your confession will be helpful,
but it isn't necessary.

JOHN WEST

Seriously.

The President and John lock stare at each other. The President looks away first.

THE PRESIDENT

(to Norris)

You know what to do.

Agent Norris yanks John to his feet.

JOHN WEST

You'll never get away with it.

The President smiles.

THE PRESIDENT

Of course I will, John. Executive
Privilege.

JOHN WEST

Bad Decision, Mr. President.

Agents Norris and Smithson drag John out the back door.

FADE TO: BLACK