

CSD  
(CITY-STATE-DARK)

Written by

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EXT. TRAIN DEPOT-NIGHT

We see cadre of men, all dressed in uniform. The uniforms are military in style, and they all have a white hand insignia on the left side of the outfit, right above the heart.

The men are all armed, although some work on securing connections to the train. We glide past the several train cars, which resemble oil carriers. They are silver, and also carry the white hand insignia.

Finally we get to two men standing at the lead train car, their backs are to us. We move around to see Major Marcus Jessup and Captain Paul Byrd. Jessup is 50 something, rigid posture. Byrd is 40 ish, and stands nervously, weapon in hand, scanning the darkness.

Jessup reaches into a pocket and pulls out two beaten up cigarettes. He hands one to Byrd.

JESSUP

You look like you could use this.

Byrd looks at the cigarette.

BYRD

Contraband? What would the Doge think of that?

JESSUP

At ease Captain, what happens outside the city-state, stays outside the city-state.

Byrd takes the cigarette, and raises it to his lips. Jessup lights him up, then his own. Both men inhale in ecstasy.

BYRD

Oh, that's good.

Jessup chuckles.

JESSUP

On occasion it pays, not to be so devout.

BYRD

What do you suppose the huge shipment is for?

JESSUP

The Doge is planning one of his mass baptisms of the dredges for the media.

BYRD

He sure does like a show...

Byrd suddenly drops his cigarette and raises his weapon. Jessup looks up, and sees a tall man dressed in a red hooded cloak, which also bears the white hand insignia, although the hand is encircled by a halo.

JESSUP

(to Byrd)

Easy now.

(To man)

The shipment is ready.

The mysterious man just stands there. Two uniformed men cross in front of him to board the train, and when they pass him, we see he is no longer there.

BYRD

Those guys creep me out! They're like fucking spectres!

JESSUP

Which is why they make the best men for covert ops....

(to train)

Let's move!

Jessup slaps the train, and it begins to move. We rise up above the train and watch it disappear into a tunnel. We follow the path of the tunnel and as we do we pass several fence lines made up of barbed wire and dried out moats. We pass the final fence line and move over what was once a large body of water. We tilt up and see...Manhattan.

EXT. ALLEY-NIGHT

We float slowly by an alley where we see another cadre of armed men. These; however, are not in any uniform. Instead, they wear tattered clothes, makeshift outfits that appear as if they have robbed the Salvation Army. They have managed to color coordinate, they all wear blue.

As we get closer to the men we see that they are also armed, some with weapons as simple as cross bows, although some carry guns. The most heavily armed man, Cortez, is late 30's early 40's. He is tall and rugged, with long, unkempt hair.

He wears a double holster, each holding a Black Desert Eagle. He also carries a silver shotgun.

Cortez, flanked by two hulking men carrying automatic weapons, looks down a man hole where the cadre of men work setting up a ladder. One man climbs up the ladder and addresses Cortez.

MAN  
We're five by five.

CORTEZ  
And the charges?

MAN  
Ready.

CORTEZ  
Good.

MAN  
You want the men to take up Alpha position?

CORTEZ  
Not yet.

The man nods, and clears away, and as he does we see the mysterious man in the red cloak standing at the entrance of the alley way. Cortez makes eye contact, and the hooded man uncovers his face.

Close in on Cortez

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL-NIGHT

We see Cortez dressed in doctor's greens. He is clean cut and clean shaven. We can't make out the name written on his lab coat; however, it is clearly longer than, "Cortez." He is signing clip board and hands it back to an attendant. He looks up and sees the same man who wears the cloak, except this time, he is dressed in a police officer's uniform. The cop nervously looks to Cortez. Cortez nods. Relief flushes over the cop's face.

JUMP CUT TO:

EXT. ALLEY-NIGHT

Close on Cortez. He stares forward.

We see the hooded man. He nods. People cross in front of us, and when they clear, the man is gone.

Back to Cortez.

CORTEZ  
Blow the track.

The two heavily armed men walk with Cortez to the man hole. We hear an loud explosion. Cortez crosses his arms and jumps in.

INT. SUBWAY TUNNEL

We see Cortez leading men though the haze of smoke from the explosion. The train we saw with the white hand insignia on it, is stopped on the tracks. The men approach and Cortez signals to open the door in the back of the train, as they do, Cortez draws both his handguns.

The men open the door, and Cortez bounds through.

INT. SUBWAY CAR

We pull back as and see Cortez enter the car guns blazing. His face screws up and he lowers his guns and as he does, we see that all the uniformed men who were guarding the train are sprawled on the floor, unmoving. Cortez kneels by the closest uniformed man, and checks for a pulse.

CORTEZ  
(confused)  
He's dead.

CUT TO TITLE  
SCREEN:

"CSD-City-State Dark," comes up in Blue.