

Season 3

# YANA

**\*\*Please be prepared to do scene in BOTH English (with a Russian accent) AND in Russian\*\***

**NOTE: SCENE IS FOR AUDITION PURPOSES ONLY**

## SCENE 1 of 1

**START**

INT. REZIDENTURA, YANA'S OFFICE - DAY

Yana is on the phone at her desk.

YANA

(into phone)

...expect two cables on the subject. One this evening, eastern time, at 1800 hours; the next will arrive tomorrow morning at --

She's interrupted by a KNOCK at the door --

Boris is there. He motions -- "Should I come back?" Yana lifts a finger to indicate "just a moment," then curls it toward herself to direct Boris to the seat opposite her desk.

YANA (CONT'D)

(into phone)

Sorry. Yes. The second cable will arrive tomorrow morning at 0900 hours eastern time. Let's talk after you review. Thank you, sir.

She hangs up and sighs the sigh of a worker-bee dealing with someone half-as-smart (but twice-as-important) as herself.

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BORIS

(re: the phone call)

How are things in Moscow?

Yana rolls her eyes.

YANA

Oh, that wasn't Moscow. That was the New York consulate. They get sad when they aren't kept in the loop on what we're up to in the capital.

As Yana speaks, she gets up and moves to the opposite side of her desk to sit in the chair next to Boris. Boris looks at her. Yana looks at him.

This goes on a beat longer than is comfortable.

Boris gestures at the patriotic posters hanging on every wall.

BORIS

I like what you've done with the place.

YANA

My first weekend in Washington I went to a street fair. I bought a painting there. It's not a very good painting, it's actually rather ugly -- but quite fascinating.

Much like this country.

(then)

It reminds me of how far I've come, and I wanted to hang it here.

Yana smiles a little sadly, lowers her voice.

YANA (CONT'D)

But, alas, the walls seem to come pre-decorated.

BORIS raises an eyebrow.

BORIS

Did they not at your last posting?

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YANA

I've never had my own office. I didn't expect one here. All my other postings, they had me out in the bullpen with everyone else.

BORIS

But you're not like everyone else.  
Yana waves a dismissive -- but not unkind -- hand.

YANA

My position here is no higher than yours. It simply answers to people who are higher than the people you answer to.

BORIS

May I ask why you wanted to see me,  
Yana Ruslanova?

Yana makes a face.

YANA

I was just about to ask you the same thing.

Boris is confused:

BORIS

Excuse me?

YANA

I didn't ask to see you -- I thought you had something for me?

BORIS

Margarita told me you asked for me...

Yana nods -- she understands.

YANA

I asked after you. Because of your brother.

(then)

I heard the news from Afghanistan -- a terrible thing, the reports coming out of Laghman Valley.

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BORIS

Thank you for your concern -- but my brother is actually stationed in the north, near Fayzabad.

Yana reaches over, puts her hand over Boris's. He doesn't move his hand -- but he doesn't take hers in his, either.

YANA

Regardless, it must be scary. What your brother is doing is very brave. Everyone here and at home is grateful for his service.

BORIS

I appreciate the kind words, Yana Ruslanova. But he is only doing his duty -- as am I.

As if to illustrate this, Boris stands.

BORIS (CONT'D)

I should get back to work.

Boris waits as Yana gets up and returns to the other side of her desk. She sits down and settles in. Then she looks up at Boris and smiles.

YANA

Yes, you should.

**END**