

Forever Has Fallen

Season 1 Episode 2: Priest of Hiroshima

Montage of news reports

"As social media networks go into global meltdown..."

"Tech stocks have been slammed..."

"... today the world is mourning the loss of 70 million digital lives..."

"... Mark Zuckerberg was caught avoiding the press, as Facebook shares crashed and his board summoned an emergency meeting, some say to fire him..."

SFX: Garbled voices of journalists clamoring for attention

MARK ZUCKERBERG (NOT VERY EMOTIONAL)

"Excuse me. Thank you, Yes, Hello and goodbye."

REPORTER 1

"Mr. Zuckerberg, do you have any comments regarding Karl-Axel Mattiasson and fall of The Forever Social?"

MARK ZUCKERBERG

"Hummm. No, not really."

REPORTER 2

"Why is there lack of transparency for the deal you struck with The Forever Social?"

MARK ZUCKERBERG

(Under breath - cocksucker)."

HOST 1

"Umm, ok, that was Mr. Mark Zuckerberg, umm, whew, can we cross to the weather please."

(MUSIC STING)

You're watching Today on NBC."

HOSTS X 3

"Snickering/Oh!/Clears throat."

HAKON

"Zuckerberg survived, but only just. It's hard for me to explain just how freaking crazy everything got when the Forever Engine went pop. But a good friend of mine, whose wife does not know how awesome he is at giving blow jobs (it's always the married ones you gotta watch!), summed it up really nicely..."

HOST 3

"Welcome back to CBS News Power Hour. To provide final editorial comment on this momentous day, as the world seeks to understand what happened, we turn to Todd Richards."

TODD RICHARDS

"Thanks Bob. We all live in this connected world, but more than that, we have the digitalisation of everything, including ourselves. The Forever Social meant so much, because it was connected with everything that matters to people today and tomorrow.

The pervasive power of AI, had people effectively automate their digital existence thanks to The Forever Social. Now that is gone, so too are unfathomable amounts of data, taking with them advertising revenues that dropped like stones. The clicks have stopped, algorithms are bumbling about and no-one really knows what will happen next.

And still questions remain over data sharing, data acquisition and deals between social media giants and The Forever Social.

The destruction of The Forever Social not only removed 70 million digital lives, it robbed people of an attainable dream of immortality, if only in 0's and 1's. Truly today we can say that... forever has fallen..."

SFX: Clapping by Hakon.

HAKON (VO)

"Yeah Todd, (clapping) nice words, good work. Love to the wife and kids... Yes indeed, forever has fallen. My apologies, I should introduce myself. I'm Hakon Blixt. If you are yet to guess, I'll be your guide throughout this, adventure. What qualifies me is that I know our friend Karl-Axel better than most because I tracked him, stalked him and finally got him to agree to let me write a book about him. I love being a celebrity journalist."

SFX: Running.

HAKON (VO)

"Ahh, speak of the devil. What do you do when you've fled the scene of a very yucky crime and your billion dollar fortune has evaporated in front of your sparkling eyes. You also happen to be one of best known faces around town."

KARL-AXEL (BREATHING)

"Ok stop, just stop."

SFX: Running slows down to stop.

KARL-AXEL (BREATHING)

"Ok, focus on the next 10 clicks. Make it and you are fucking gone. First, get yourself inside this thing."

SFX: Phone dials.

KARL-AXEL

"Answer you little bastard."

HAKON (ON PHONE (SHOUTING) LOUD
MUSIC)

"Hey, it's Hakon..."

HAKON (ON PHONE (SHOUTING) - LOUD
MUSIC)

"... who is it?..."

KARL-AXEL (CAUTIOUSLY)

"It's KA."

HAKON (ON PHONE (SHOUTING) - LOUD
MUSIC)

"... who? Who is it?..."

KARL-AXEL (SNARLING)

"It's KA."

HAKON (ON PHONE (SHOUTING) - LOUD
MUSIC)

"...what, huh?..."

KARL-AXEL (SNARLING)

"Turn the fucking music down you
idiot, it's KA."

HAKON (ON PHONE (SHOUTING) - LOUD
MUSIC)

"...I'll turn the music down..."

SFX: Music stops

HAKON (ON PHONE (SHOUTING) - LOUD
MUSIC)

"...and ha - gotcha - it's just a voice
recording!..."

SFX: Beep

KARL-AXEL (SNARLING)

"Fuck! What an asshole. Hakon, its
guess who, on a burner."

SFX: Hangs up

SFX: Vibrating noise of call.

KARL-AXEL (NORMAL)

"Well, that was quick."

HAKON (PHONE)

"Oh my... It's really you. What the
fuck man? I mean really."

KARL-AXEL (NORMAL)

"I was kinda going to ask you the same."

HAKON (PHONE)

"Every scanner in the god damn city is screaming your name. Where are you?"

KARL-AXEL (NORMAL)

"Are you in a position to have a chat?"

HAKON (PHONE)

"I'm closing my door now... Faaark..."

SFX: Door closes.

KARL-AXEL (NORMAL)

"Let's first get something off the table. I did not butcher Linda and certainly did not tear my own fucking kingdom down to the ground."

HAKON (NORMAL)

"KA. I don't know what to say. But the world is on fire. I have people from countries I've never heard of crawling all over me. I have an interview on TV in 30 minutes."

KARL-AXEL (PHONE)

"Yeah, that fucking book you really had to write. It's become a real door opener for you..."

HAKON (NORMAL)

"Listen. I believe you, of course. But why have you gone to ground?"

KARL-AXEL (PHONE)

"Looking for an exclusive?"

HAKON (NORMAL)

"No, no, not at all..."

KARL-AXEL (NORMAL)

"Hakon, let's get something clear. Right now, believe or not, you are the only person I can trust to have this conversation with."

HAKON (PHONE)

"Plus, I'm as you know, most likely to be at the centre of this..."

KARL-AXEL (NORMAL)

"Yeah, sure, that too. But that trust has zero fucking tolerance for any anomalies, you got it? If I even dream about you leaking or pissing on me in any shape or form, you lose me, this, forever. Are we as clear as an Eagles harmony in '77?"

HAKON (PHONE)

"(gulp) Absolutely."

HAKON (VO)

"Truth is of course, I was scheming like hell thinking of the pros and cons of, on one hand, do I keep the faith with KA? Or on the other, let the cops know? Or, oh run out of hands - ok, umm... third option, go public in 23 minutes right when this was hottest, and then work with the cops?"

KARL-AXEL (NORMAL)

"I know you are spinning those wheels, so let me help you gain a true north. Whoever did this has the resources to take me on - think of that, nation state level. They also have an iron stomach to actually go through with it. So where's the bigger fucking story? You can jump on this like an Estonian crack whore, tonight. Or, just maybe, hold your powder, because 1. I am fucking out of here, soon to be a ghost and right now you are the only person on the planet who has access to me, on an untraceable burner of course. 2. I plan on taking a wrecking ball to this. And trust me when I say it, while my shoulders might be close to the mat, I still have the firepower to unleash my own personal holy-fucking jihad on every fucking thing with a pulse who did this to me. So, now are we clear?"

HAKON

"(Takes a deep breath) I'm hearing Don, Glenn, Joe, Randy and the other Don backstage at the Capital Centre."

KARL-AXEL (NORMAL)

"That's clear enough for me. So I have a favour to ask. I don't know exactly what is going on, but I have a, let's call it, the makings of an idea about who is behind this. I'm more uncertain about why."

HAKON

"So, what's the favour. As you said, we are talking nation state level tour de force."

KARL-AXEL

"The favour my friend is to keep me updated every time my name is shouted or whispered. You are also going to have to publicly fuck me over. This is so you don't die and remain as useful as possible for me. Say anything you like, I cut the head off your cat and played catch with kindergarten kids, I really don't fucking care. But the more believable, the safer this will be."

HAKON

"Does that include, well when it comes to your guilt or innocence?"

KARL-AXEL

"You know, I spent hours and hours with Lewis Hamilton to teach me perfection with driving high octane fuck-off vehicles, I swear, I just about doubled his take home pay over the years. And while I'm grinding gears and smoking rubber, there was one time, an epic time, he made me pull over - on that holy ground that is Silverstone. He turned to me and said in that very polite calm English voice,

SFX: Powerful engine on idle.

LEWIS HAMILTON

"KA, you drive like a talented, yet drunken karaoke singer - good, but not a pro.

KARL-AXEL

"I was quite taken back, actually, enraged, but before I could say anything, he pointed down the track to Copse corner and said,"

LEWIS HAMILTON

"In an F1 car, I'm hitting 290 clicks. In this piece of shit, I'm doing 250. You are only at 210 because you won't commit. But what you fail to realise is...

KARL-AXEL (FINISHING OFF)

"... to be a real racing car driver, it has to be all on the line, all of the time, and to recognise that commitment to the inevitable is the only way to victory after victory."

I took that corner at 245...

SFX: Powerful car driving past.

The way I have been set up, I have to fully commit and so do you. So burn me at the fucking stake. No regrets."

SCENE: TV STATION

SFX: Bustling sounds of TV station. "Camera 5, in place please." Hey, intern person, coffee... "Make-up!"

DAVID BORG

"I can't believe I'm in this inane factory of frivolity - welcome to television, a true weapon of mass distraction."

HAKON (VO)

"Oh great, here comes the Lord's own personal knuckleduster."

DAVID BORG

"Officer, please tell me that our fellow citizens have far more

interesting, perhaps, fruitful things to amuse themselves with."

POLICEWOMAN 1

"You don't watch TV sir?"

DAVID BORG

"Umm, I am pleased to announce young lady, I have many things piled up on my to do list, which does not include watching the idiot we are here to see."

POLICEWOMAN 1

"Well, that's a bit ironic sir. One way or another, Hakon Blixt is in your life."

HAKON

"Meet David Borg, Stockholm detective and a very rare breed in Sweden where 18% of Swedes self-report as atheist and 55% as non religious. David has so much Jesus in him that he literally carries about 74% of the population."

DAVID BORG

"Hey, you. Ummmm, Blixt, just a minute."

HAKON

"I'm about to go on TV and be interviewed."

DAVID BORG

"I'm detective David Borg, and I don't care if you have a heart lung operation to get to, we are having this conversation, right now. Your dilly dally with fame will have to wait."

HAKON

"Oh, really? Ok, then, so what am I under arrest?"

PRODUCER

"1 minute Hakon..."

DAVID BORG

"No, unless you have something to confess?"

HAKON

"No detective. Nothing at all, but I am going onto this program, umm, dilly dally and all."

DAVID BORG

"How about I jam you up with a little obstruction?"

PRODUCER

"Hakon... for fucks sake, get out there..."

HAKON

"Go for it. I'm sure the world's press would love to see Stockholm's finest, at their finest, grabbling with little ol' me, you look like you would enjoy that."

DAVID BORG

"Huh. You think so? Come here you little..."

POLICEWOMAN 1

"Sir. Sir! Leave it."

PRODUCER

"And we are on in 10, 9, 8, 7, "

HAKON

"(Blows a kiss). Listen and learn."

PRODUCER

"...6, 5, 4... "

DAVID BORG

"As soon as he is done... "

PRODUCER

"Shhhh!"

DAVID BORG

"(Hushed) I want that... person, in a patrol car and at the station."

POLICEWOMAN 1

"yes... Sir."

HAKON

"So, you'll learn to love David. Under that hard exterior beats the heart of a cold blooded asshole who prays I go to hell, even though he

really believes it's all a done deal anyway. Waste of a good prayer if you ask me."

"So on I go, live television being picked up by a global audience. That book really did open up a lot of doors. Now I'm the Karl-Axel expert. And Karl-Axel, well he is now most certainly the most studied and dissected guy on the planet. So let me tell you, saying what I said, while I know he is running for his life did not come easy. But I took his words to be true, it was my lilly-white ass on the line too.

"As I sat there in the wonderful glow of fame playing Judas, I truly hoped he was somewhere safe. Knowing KA - he was taking up residence in the royal palace itself..."

SCENE: AT KARL-
AXEL'S HIDEOUT

SFX: Beeping and then a whoosh of a door with vacuum seals.

KARL-AXEL

"Made it. Ok Lotta, time to talk. We have heads to hit and it's gonna be like whack-em-mole."

SFX: Clicking on keyboard. Electric hum, some beeps of a system powering up.

KARL-AXEL

"Lotta. Lotta, eh, Lotta?" Fuck, Lotta, no games please, you know what just happened." Lotta? He, he, he. Ok, Lotta, stop fucking around. I've just walked across the whole city, and - umm, Linda... ummmm, is, well, dead... Umm, I need to talk to you, now, c'mon, please. This is silly."

SFX: A steady rhythmic beeping.

KARL-AXEL

"Lotta! You engage with me right the fuck now! Now! This is really beyond everything, Jesus, what... what, where?"

Umm, Jiminy open up the preferences,
Lotta. Ok, where are you?

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"Opening preferences.

SFX: Clicking on keyboard.

KARL-AXEL

"Lotta? Ehhh, Jiminy check last known
record of Lotta, ummm, check her last
fucking, quad activity, right from
the register."

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"Checking last fucking quad activity
for Lotta."

"Last quad activity for Lotta is, 5
days ago."

KARL-AXEL

"That's fucking bullshit. I spoke
with her today. Um, fuck me. Ok,
Quality of last quad activity, ummm,
from 5 days ago.. And don't fucking
repeat what I just asked, just
fucking do it, ok!"

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"Ok... ehh. Sorry..."

"Lotta's last registered quality of
quad activity from 5 days ago is 0.6"

KARL-AXEL

"Jiminy, you know that is impossible!
When did you last talk with her?"

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"This morning just like you. And once
again, this is very important. Please
change your password on The Forever
Social website secure login
'Lotta1618'. Nice tribute to.. "

KARL-AXEL

"Jiminy, become part of the solution,
because right now, you're in the
problem side of the ledger. Part of
your protocol is to keep a watch on
her vital signs - now you're telling
me she has been comatose for the past
5 days."

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"The data you requested is retrospective. My protocol is still in place and zero red flags raised. As per the system you designed, Lotta's health has been perfect, but now it seems she has - vanished. And before she did so, yes, there was very odd data on her health - which has only appeared now."

HAKON (VO)

"Karl-Axel has not be forthcoming with his ultimate aims regarding The Forever Engine. Yes, he loves the gushing flow of cash and fame, but he has been fuelling an ultimate dream, the complete: albeit digital, resurrection of his long-lost sister, Lotta Mattiasson, who slowly withered away because her biology freakishly achieved the near impossible task of giving her cancer, which riddled through-out her legs, pelvis and well, game over. Here's an audio session we had when I was putting his book together."

SFX: Click

HAKON

"So, you were close to your sister Lotta, she was about 2 years older than you?"

KARL-AXEL

"Sure, you can say close. But she, umm, there was for a time, she was, is everything I cared for or about."

HAKON

"She was only 27 when she died of a rare bone cancer."

KARL-AXEL (INTERRUPTS/DEADPAN)

"Ewing's sarcoma."

HAKON

How did that impact you?"

KARL-AXEL

"(Clears throat) For a celebrity journalist, you're asking some big questions."

KARL-AXEL

"Seeing we are here, her death had a profound impact on me - I can't recall a moment of happiness without her. The best of times was during summer, she was a prolific gardener, humm, she made those roses sing, I've still to this day never seen such depth in colour..."

HAKON

"Is it true that you never buy nor allow roses at the office?"

KARL-AXEL

"You're full of surprises today. Yes, it's true, I cannot buy roses, and it may seem odd, but, yeah roses are a no go at the office."

HAKON

"Why?"

KARL-AXEL

"Fuck... Well, melancholy is a mother fucker. And it sweeps through me with all the grace of a judo throw. I ummm, can't - won't have those reminders, especially where I work. Especially there."

SFX: Click

HAKON

"Now when I tell you, that at the moment Karl-Axel realises that Lotta has for all intents and purposes died, yet again, but this time in his eyes, has been murdered, he skipped ten and went to 11 on the enraged dial. The rage was further fuelled, and sorry, I'm going to have to go all Freudian on you, with the guilt he felt too. You see, Lotta was his ace up the sleeve. While The Forever Social burned and the Forever Engine had been pummelled - he avoided a

complete meltdown because he believed he still had his very own Muhammad Ali and his enemies were a 1965 Sonny Liston. The realisation that his tactical nuke was gone caused the rare feeling of panic, and he struggled with which he felt more the devastating personal grief, or his own selfish loss to spike the heads of those who tried to take him down."

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"KA, your heart rate is at 180, please breathe."

SFX: Smashing furniture

KARL-AXEL (ENRAGED YELLING)

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"Please, reduce your emotional loads."

KARL-AXEL

"Oh god, Jiminy, oh dear god, she is gone. She is gone, isn't she?"

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"I sadly, can't see any sign of her."

HAKON

"At this moment, picture a man looking like a priest of Hiroshima, just after Little Boy touched down. He can't quite understand that somehow, he is still standing, still breathing, even with all the glass and furniture bursting apart like confetti. But unlike the priest he believes his survival is no miracle, because miracles don't exist in his world."

KARL-AXEL

"Someone wants me to suffer. It has to be that Russian bastard Kiril or, that devil dodging Jacob Borg."

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"Jacob Borg has certainly been very active against you."

KARL-AXEL

"What a fucking hypocrite - the shit I know about him, and what he got up to with my father - uggh, that whole nest of old school industrialists, man, the Wallenbergs... (sigh). Yeah together, they could hurt some. Jacobs' son in a detective right?"

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"David Borg detective in the Stockholm precinct and I can see, is with the Interpol taskforce looking for you."

KARL-AXEL

"That answers the question about the cops coming so soon after I got there. But what, these pricks are into executions now? Or were they going to pray Jesus into me?"

JIMINY (AI VOICE)

"You certainly have a way with people."

KARL-AXEL

"Jiminy, get me what you can on David Borg. He will be the one they use. Those old men - fucking cowards, every single one. I believe I need to understand their talisman."

SCENE: STOCKHOLM.
DAVID BORG CAR

SFX mobile call. Bluetooth speaker

DAVID BORG

"Detective David Borg."

JACOB BORG

"Hello David, how's my favourite son."

DAVID BORG

"Have been better father. I'm hunting the godless Corinthian. He still evades the impending justice that truly will be delivered upon him."

JACOB BORG

"I was wondering why I heard nothing. Apparently, nothing to tell."

DAVID BORG

"We, I, have pulled in all the resources I can father. He has that swanky luck of a true boulevardier. And I've prayed my heart out, to make sure I, I am the one to snare him and deliver him, oh, for all those things he is."

JACOB BORG

"My dear boy, keep praying, but God did not throw the stone. It was all David, your very namesake. He and he alone summoned the courage to call out the greatest of the heathens and smash his skull. You too have to summon courage to face this evil man, who has been systematically deconstructing faith of millennia - the faith that cowered Vikings of old, and delivered them to the love of Christ."

DAVID BORG

"Trust me father. Believe me, I have not given up. Oh, I will catch him, I swear on all that is holy and with all my heart, I too, just as David did in ancient days, I will deliver Karl-Axel Mattiasson, and if God wills it, I'll cut his head-off so never more can he harm which is good, right and holy."

JACOB BORG

"Make it so. Where there is a will... And so you have this firmly impressed on you in everyday tonight after prayers, our Flagellantism will be twenty."

DAVID BORG

"Double?"

JACOB BORG

"You need the steel of Christ the warrior of Revelations, and the pain of Jesus at Calvary to get this son of a whore."