

Forever Has Fallen

Season 1 Episode 3: Cruel Dove

Montage of war. Distant machine gun fire and explosions.

HAKON (REMINISCING)

"What were you doing when you were 5 years old? I have a few patchy memories. Eating a snail for one. Ha! There was the picking up chewing gum from the floor when shopping with my mother..."

HAKON MOTHER

"What? What is that you have in your mouth?"

HAKON (5 YEARS OLD)

"I found it, over there."

HAKON MOTHER

"Oh my god! Hakon, never do that again. That's disgusting!"

HAKON

"Ahh! Good times. But perhaps not so good for this 5 year old girl, but then again, Grozny in 1994 was not good for anything with a heart beat. Not the Chechens, nor the invading Russians made up mostly of conscripts, just a bunch of scared kids, coming against very angry, motivated and experienced militia, many who had a lot of experience from Afghanistan. Sure the Ruskis had a massive advantage with hardware, but these under trained conscripts were about to know why no other generator of far flung violence beyond its borders has the history of war, resistance, and terror as Chechnya.

SFX - Screaming artillery shell, then explosion

HAKON

"Whew! That was a close one - it almost got her, a young and brightly brilliant girl called Zakhira Kurbanova. I'm not sure if I'm saying that right. But Zakhira is a terrible freakish combination of a very disturbed mind with Mensa level horsepower. All this beautifully crafted by an invading force of

60,000 Russian troops and
overwhelming air superiority..."

SFX - over radio communication

MILITIA MAN #1 (RADIO)

"Fire teams North, Fire teams North,
eyes on Russian 133rd Tank Battalion,
bearing to Presidential Palace,
over."

SHAMIL

"Number of Russian T-80s and
infantry? over."

MILITIA MAN #1 (RADIO)

"Looks like you will have a hell of a
BBQ - 6 T-80s and 50 infantry - I
think have their pants already full
of shit, over."

SHAMIL

"So they should! Our little helper
Zakhira has been very busy, haven't
you my dear."

ZAKHIRA (5 YEARS OLD)

"Yes Shamil, I found good places
where steel mixes with concrete and I
put all the blue wires in. I think it
will be excellent for high velocity
explosions."

SHAMIL

"Good girl, very good girl. You make
us all proud. Now, wait I have a
special treat for you."

"Ok men, our little friend has put
out all the blast zones, being so
small she gets under the heavy
debris, and that means more boom. We
will use yesterdays bombing against
them. They think we are cowering, we
are hurt. That their tanks and armour
will make us tremble. They are coming
with boys, just fresh off their
mama's tit. We will wipe the milk off
their faces and bring tears to the
mothers of Russia." "You know what to
do, let them come in and show them we
never forget the Aardakh's, and may
they long despair we came back to our
homeland."

ZAKHIRA (5)

"Can I push the button?"

SHAMIL

"Yes Zakhira, you can push the button. But you wait for when I say so, yes?"

ZAKHIRA (5)

"Yes Shamil. And thank you Shamil."

HAKON

"Not what you would call your normal childhood playground. Then again, nothing about Zachira as she grew up can be described as normal. Something her biggest employer is very aware of. Which is why he wants her to join the hunt for Karl-Axel..."

MUSIC - fade in Russian marching music

SFX - muffled telephone reply

KIRIL

"You were there in Stockholm when he escaped and well you see, Karl-Axel has managed something remarkable and I wonder why you don't do the same? Perhaps it is a question of motivation? You know, I've seen rodents chew their own leg off to remove themselves from a trap. Remarkable things happen when motivation is there, yes?"

SFX - silence

KIRIL

"So let me think of your motivation to be remarkable, just like that sissy boy Karl-Axel. This is a man who has never really toiled. His hands are soft, like a baby, this says much of how much steel he has in his soul - yet he is more motivated than you. So do I need to tell you your motivation? Because it goes beyond Alfred Hitchcock's pay check. Paycheck is the least of your concern."

SFX - muffled telephone reply

KIRIL

"Excellent. I'm so pleased to hear your enthusiasm. It should not be long for me to embrace our Swedish friend again - and remember, we need him very healthy."

SFX - phone hangs up.

KIRIL

"Has she arrived?"

ASSISTANT

"Yes."

KIRIL

"(Sigh - gently grunt) You know, I never trust being with her. When she looks at you, it's like she is thinking of how to pull you apart like babushka's kotleti."

HAKON

"Interesting that it seems even Kiril does not like to speak Zakhira's name, and that's saying something. Kiril has committed but mostly ordered, some particularly nasty acts. If you want to get an idea, check out russianshadows.com for some delightful reading about Russian conspiracies, which he or very close friends of his have been behind.

ASSISTANT

"Kiril can see you now. Oh, and please, Zakhira, don't call him, you know, by that name, just please, not today."

ZAKHIRA

"You know, there is no universe in which I can imagine I even recognise your right to live, let alone to tell me what to do..."

ASSISTANT

"I mean with the greatest of respect..."

ZAKHIRA

"Ha! A Russian showing a Chechen respect? Let's go see the old man."

SFX - door opens.

ZAKHIRA

"Ahh! Mr. One Hundred! How are you tooooo-dayyyy!"

KIRIL

"(Clears throat) - Zakhira - a pleasure as always. You really know how much I hate that, that idiotic nickname the West gave me, yet, you, you are persistent."

ZAKHIRA

"No! Really? If only someone close to you, who really knows you, could have let me know. I'm very sorry, Kiril."

KIRIL

"Humm, no, I am not going to get angry at him. I'm sure he asked you politely to refrain from calling me Mr. One Hundred - you of course threatened him, he shit pants. You really do enjoy meanness, always."

SFX - Zahira giggles

KIRIL

"I think as two old friends, let's discuss business and not idiotic names."

ZAKHIRA

"Oh business! Yes please. I love business talk."

KIRIL

"So first, the ambassador. Was that really all necessary?"

ZAKHIRA

"Everything with me is always necessary, you know that silly."

KIRIL

"When will you understand, that in your line of work... it's like an artist. How you do it can mean a lot, says a lot to those who... observe. Think, how you can see the difference between Monet and Turner with their

scrumbling technique. So, when you cut the toes off someone while they are alive and make them suffocate on them - it says, far too much, than what you need to express to those who observe. Therefore, opposite of necessary."

ZAKHIRA

"(Laughing - snorts) Oh you! Please! Opposite of necessary!" It's the definition of necessary! Think about me, the artist. Would you ask Monet to take up pointillism? Noooo, you would not dream of this! Monet liked to exploit the way the brain perceives the world through the use of rough brushstrokes. You would not dream of asking Monet to be anything but. Monet..."

KIRIL

"Well, all I can say is, and this advice comes from an ancient bear. These brush strokes of yours create a lot of reaction from people, which I don't want, nor need and I don't like the surprises - I need to know what the outcome will be, and not be told by some panicked politician how not only is an ambassador dead, but the coroner had to pull toes from the fucking oesophagus."

ZAKHIRA

"(Sigh), Well what can I say!? This now feels all awkward. Almost like you are ashamed of me."

KIRIL

"Restraint. That is all. Now, you know about the situation in Stockholm?"

ZAKHIRA (WHIMSICALLY)

"Yes. There goes my dreams of being an Insta model - no one is on there anymore."

KIRIL

"Well, it's become more complex than needed. Our people there have somehow allowed Mr. Mattiasson to be very evasive. I keep saying, beyond remarkable how someone like that... I

cannot see him hiding in a dark sewer. All his apartments and haunts are covered. We have a very active collaboration with the local police and yet, despite dogs, helicopters, beat cops and nasty people like Chuck the Hammer...

ZAKHIRA

"Hammer time!"

KIRIL

"...this playboy is still not found. Remarkable."

ZAKHIRA

"(Blows a raspberry) psssst! Really? No, not remarkable at all."

KIRIL

"Oh, share your thoughts"

ZAKHIRA

"It's simple. He obviously expected to make like the wind. Common, think about it... He. Was. Prepared."

KIRIL

"Mmmmm. The police are operating on the assumption that the longer it takes, the further he has gone."

ZAKHIRA

"Has anyone checked under his desk?"

KIRIL

"So you think he is close by?"

ZAKHIRA

"Of course. Disappearing is not about distance or time, it's about not being seen. Now, you are a ruthless billionaire, a by any means kinda guy - what would you do?"

KIRIL

"I would use my resources to purchase the most valuable and attainable thing for that moment - the luxury of patience and space to move, when I want to move."

ZAKHIRA

"What other luxuries would the big bad billionaire want?"

KIRIL

"I would want connectivity, safety, total assurance of being undiscovered for a time period of my choosing - so, supplies and comfort, yes, comfort, especially if I could create the escape of my choosing."

ZAKHIRA

"So, again, has anyone bothered to look under his desk?"

KIRIL

"No they have not. I want you to get to Stockholm, right now. And look under his fucking desk."

SFX - Distant battle. Tanks approaching.

SHAMIL

"You feel the earth move Zakhira?"

ZAKHIRA (5)

"Yes Shamil, the T-80 tank is made in the Ukraine and weighs 46 tonnes. We need to target the autoloader, vulnerable with vertically placed, ready-to-use ammunition located there. The road wheel protection is a serious design flaw."

SHAMIL

"Good girl, you listen well."

ZAKHIRA (5)

"I think you learned very well in Afghanistan. They should not have taught you anything there. They are about to regret that."

SHAMIL (LAUGHS)

"I hope I don't have same regrets with you. Now pay attention. Big boom time soon."

SFX - Tanks approaching becomes more deafening (Like the scene from Saving Private Ryan).

SHAMIL (TENSE)

"Wait for it, wait for..."

SFX - Massive series of explosions (like from a mining site) Men screams.

ZAKHIRA (5)

"RPGs hit them. Roof tops and cellars!"

SFX - Total battle scene. RPGs wizz, heavy machine gun fire, explosions.

ZAKHIRA (5)

"Shamil, get that one there!"

SFX - RPG zooms off.

ZAKHIRA (5) (EXCITED)

"Out they come, looks like they are dancing!"

SHAMIL (TENSE)

"All fire teams North, keep going, keep going. Sentry one - any Mi-24s inbound? over."

MILITIA MAN #1 (RADIO)

"Negative. The skies are all clear of birds of prey, weather has been too poor. over"

SHAMIL (TENSE)

"My little one - why did you not wait?"

ZAKHIRA (5) (EXCITED)

"The first two had wire mesh on the hull, I had to make sure to get them, or else the rockets might not have worked."

SHAMIL (TENSE/LAUGHING)

"You're kidding right... Ha, well, this could of course be true. But remember, I am the commander."

ZAKHIRA (5) (DEADPAN)

"Sorry Shamil..."

SHAMIL (TENSE/LAUGHING)

"That's ok. Now let's enjoy watching them dance and burn."

SFX - Battle scene continues, screams of men burning increases and is mixed with an air hostess.

AIR HOSTESS

"Excuse me Miss, excuse me..."

SCENE: Onboard an airplane

SFX: Drone of jet engine. The odd bling.

ZAKHIRA

"Oh, sorry, yes, just having little nap."

AIR HOSTESS

"We are make the approach into Stockholm, if you can please put your chair back up... pity to wake you, by the smile on your face, it looked like it was such a nice dream, you looked positively blissful..."

ZAKHIRA

"It was (yawns) some fantastic childhood memories of home."

Scene change: Stockholm city - restaurant.

WAITRESS

"Excuse me Mr. Blixt, can I take your order?"

HAKON

"Love this new Indian restaurant for Stockholm. Can't wait to see what the crab is like, thanks."

SARA

"And I'll... umm, I'll take the same."

HAKON

"Copycat, dirty rat, sittin' on the butcher's hat."

SARA

"I'm more interested to talk all things KA than think of lunch. Since all of this, the book has been flying

off the shelves, and, goodie, goodie,
I have interviews stacked up to the
wazoo."

HAKON

"My little Miss 10%."

SARA

"My little money maker!"

HAKON

SARA

"Cheers!"

GYPSY

"Umm, scuse me. Dis is for you, I
think. TV man?"

SARA

"Ugh, excuse me, we are having lunch.
(under breath) It's bad enough they
are on every street corner..."

HAKON

"No money, please, no money."

GYPSY

"No. For you. I ask, no money. Here.
Man ask to give this to you."

SARA

"Oh my god, it could be a bomb!"

SFX: People in the restaurant stop talking, hushed
silence

HAKON

"It's not a bomb! Jesus Sara, you
almost gave me a heart attack. I
don't think a professional gypsy
beggar is your typical ISIS recruit,
yeah? God, please get a grip."
"Everyone, it's ok. Enjoy lunch."

SARA

"Who it is fr..."

SFX: Phone starts ringing

SARA (PANICS)

"Oh my, oh..."

HAKON (HISSING)

"Fuck! Jesus, will you relax... Heart attack deux. It's just a phone, I think I better answer. Will you please put your hands down, you're scaring people, plus, you look really, really unglamorous."

SARA (PANICS)

"What if it has one of those bombs in the ear piece, like the Israelis do?"

HAKON (LAUGHING)

"So the Mossad are coming for me, why?"

SFX: Beep

HAKON (LAUGHING)

"Hello?"

KARL-AXEL

"Thanks for answering, please, next time finish lunch, I got all the time in the world."

HAKON (UNCERTAIN)

"Oh, hi Sven, yeah, funny prank with the gypsy delivery person..."

KARL-AXEL

"That was number two. The first one took off with the fucking phone. Can you believe that? Offered 500 crowns for coming back, even told her I would be watching, unbelievable."

HAKON

"Yeah Sven, good help is hard to find nowadays, umm, what can I help you with? I'm just having lunch with a friend."

KARL-AXEL

"I can see that. She must be happy, book sales going well I guess. What's next, speaker circuit?"

HAKON

"Not a good time to discuss that my friend, how are you holding up? (Off the phone, His cat died.)"

SARA

"Oh, poor thing."

KARL-AXEL

"For a guy having seen everything he built and owned blow up in his face, pretty fucking awesome. Right now, I think it's rage that keeps the cockles of my heart warm. Look, can you go outside and ditch Sara, please, don't give her my best."

HAKON (HUSHED AWAY FROM PHONE)

"Sara sweetie, I have to take this. It's a bit weird I know, but Sven is an old friend from national service. He's gone a bit, you know, paranoid... Not a lot of friends to speak of... For obvious reasons."

SFX: Hakon goes onto city street

KARL-AXEL

"I think we should meet."

HAKON

"I come to..."

KARL-AXEL

"... me? Nah, no chance on that score. Don't take it personal, but right now I can't afford any chances. I already have a whole world of chaos out my control - something I'm not so used to. I don't need another loose end dangling out there for the lions to chew on."

HAKON

"You seriously think I might be in danger?"

KARL-AXEL

"Ha! Oh boy. Where do I start. This is a pissing competition where any splash back will take out all

spectators. You should be concerned that I don't know everything, but what I suspect would be enough to scare you into the foetal position. To be honest, I'm getting a bit of cabin fever, the situation is, well I can't say much more than, this is more, much more fucked than I ever expected. Aside from all that, it'll be nice to see that dazzling smile of yours again."

HAKON (VO)

"Fact is, while I didn't know the location, I could at least guess how he was holed up. You see, Stockholm is a city with a history built on D-Fence. The name Stockholm literally translates into Log Islet. Its thought that the city once used logs to block routes into the archipelago to prevent enemy ships from entering. Our defensive thinking extended to under the city where there are a lot of tunnels and hidden rooms, built throughout the centuries, and especially during the cold war. Thanks to aggressive modernisation, the whole network of tunnels and rooms were greatly disrupted with the massive subway system connecting the islands of Stockholm and various roads - there's no real reliable maps anymore. My guess, Karl-Axel managed to get an off the grid underground shelter. But somehow, not in a public record. Trust me, I checked and no doubt the police checked too. He was not kidding when he said he could turn ghost mode."

KARL-AXEL

"Recall the session we had, last summer. You spilt the ice cream? On those god awful tartan pants that no one in their right mind would wear in public."

HAKON

"Sure do."

KARL-AXEL

"See you there in 2 hours. I suggest you get going now."

HAKON

"But it's literally 10 minutes away."

KARL-AXEL

"Yeah - but to make sure you are not followed, you'll have to first, leave your phone behind... Only use this burner. I suggest drop your phone off at the office and lock it in your drawer. Get yourself through some department stores, change your appearance twice, and back track often, keep eyes up to see any familiar faces, especially those looking down, avoiding eye contact. And catch the underground, get on at the last minute, or get off."

HAKON

"This shit is real, isn't it."

KARL-AXEL

"It's about to go a whole new level."

HAKON (VO)

"So I wanted to say to myself, Hakon, you dumb shit, just walk away now, now mister! But, no, could I just walk away? In the words of Hetfield, Seduced by fame A moth into the flame. I mean, wow, just fuck wow, right!? You have direct access to a guy who is a combination of Jesus and Musk, what would you do? Well I did what I have always done, I got in deeper. I'm certainly no hero, but any fear I felt got squished by an overwhelming need to be the man, the one, and only for the biggest damn show on earth. You know it took Enron 24 days to destroy \$60 Billion in assets? Thanks to the Forever Engine being wiped, we sailed past Enron's shit-fest across the tech sector within 24 hours. Everyone is scared about a contagion. I mean if it can happen to The Forever Social, it can happen to other giants, like Google,

Facebook and Apple. The only winners are the Chinese run platforms, WeChat was seeing a surge in Western users. Humm, conspiracy theories abound..”

Scene: Open air park

SFX: Phone vibrates

KARL-AXEL

“Ok, I see you coming. Glad you’re not in tartan today.”

HAKON

“Ha, I did what you said, and actually decided beige was my colour. I’m really not feeling for standing out.”

KARL-AXEL

“Smart guy! Ok, just head up the stairs, look for the old man wistfully looking at the view near the Hasselbackens gazebo.”

HAKON (OUT OF BREATH)

“Hi, nice look, the big nose actually suits you.”

KARL-AXEL

“Just stand still. I want to check for any passengers.”

SFX: Gentle beeping

KARL-AXEL

“Good, you’re clean, no nasty bugs.”

HAKON (OUT OF BREATH)

“Where did you learn all this stuff?”

KARL-AXEL

“Oh, you would be surprised who I have got to know over the years. My technology has had a lot of different and very interesting parties have a look at it.”

HAKON (LESS OUT OF BREATH)

“Talking of which, it’s certainly not the cops who have you spooked, it’s

Kiril. Why the hell did you get involved with him?"

KARL-AXEL

"For the two best fucking reasons in the world - money and power."

HAKON

"You had plenty of both. And could easily access both, without him."

KARL-AXEL

"True, but there were other factors, time and access. Kiril could snap his fingers and the heavens opened up. He is not what you would call a risk adverse guy, because at the end of the day, you know with him, your feet are literally going to be held to the fire, so, you better be on your game. So, I needed money, a lot of money, and managed to get it without coughing up a lot of equity. Of course you get suspicious when a deal is looking good with a guy like that, but as I said, I needed the money, a lot of money and fast."

HAKON

"And the power?"

KARL-AXEL

"Well, he made it pretty clear, if not me, others would get his cash, competitors or those who could become competitors. So in one move, I could super juice myself and starve all contenders - just suck the oxygen out of their lungs. Plus, how do I put it... It helps to dance with a devil who can get creative."

HAKON

"Meaning...?"

KARL-AXEL

"Remember My-Life? Good tech, smart guys and nicely connected in Silicon valley - they had the inside running with Page, Brin, Zuckerberg, Bezos and most scary of all for me at that time was Masayoshi Son."

HAKON

"Who is Masayoshi?"

KARL-AXEL

"He goes by Son. Son is a guy with a \$100 Billion fund and a 300 year vision, mostly powered by AI. He was pretty interested in My-Life. I needed that to stop."

HAKON

"You got Jason Dearborn, the founder, arrested?"

KARL-AXEL

"You know, when Johnny meet the devil in Georgia, both Johnny and the devil was thinking small. Selling your soul is not really that big of a deal, when you can tap into real power. So I inspired my devil, by showing him, that I was prepared not just to play my fiddle hard, but to wrap the fucker around anyone who wanted what I wanted. Someone like Kiril, kinda respects that, wants that. So, yeah, together and hand in hand, poor Jason never saw that cocaine landing on top his head. Kiril moved in, Son joined the The Forever Social party, and I had my own private expressway into the hearts of all the big boys to connect everything."

HAKON

"Jesus. I, I don't know what to say..."

KARL-AXEL

"Nothing to be said. What is done, is done. Right now, our focus has to be on not being roadkill. Oh, believe me, Kiril is mighty fucked off, he sent me this text not soon after."

HAKON

"Forget the money. I'm going to slice off your face."

KARL-AXEL

"That's not one of those, I'm going to beat the shit out of you threats."

He means this in the literal sense.
And I'm pretty sure, I would be awake
for the whole thing."

HAKON

"Oh, I feel sick."

KARL-AXEL

"Well you are balls deep now."

HAKON

"How serious, were you, ummm, about
leaving my phone behind?"

KARL-AXEL

"As with everything I say when it
comes to staying alive, more serious
than getting caught by your bollocks
on barbed wire."

HAKON

"Oh, shit."

KARL-AXEL

"You want to elaborate on the oh
shit?"

HAKON

"I turned it off."

KARL-AXEL

"Oh, you dumb fuck, you didn't..."

HAKON

"I, I - I mean, after we spoke, I
turned it off, right away."

KARL-AXEL

"Unless you have had your phone
shoved up your ass 24/7 and have not
downloaded anything from the internet
or used it for emails, we have to
assume your phone is ripe for, The
Find technique."

HAKON

"What, what, do we do?"

KARL-AXEL

"Run you dumb fuck, run!"