

## CRYPTO SHADOW

INT. BLACK LUXURY CAR - NIGHT

LANCE drives down a dark highway. Nobody is around, a lonely road. Beethoven plays on the radio.

He gets a text message saying:

VECTOR

Retrieve Cryptowallet  
Address: 5212 Mount Juniper Rd  
Kesling, WV 26303  
Transfer add: 1K2db2Bd12cYk9H

LANCE drives toward and away from the camera like a slingshot.

EXT. LARGE MANSION- DICK'S PLACE

LANCE pulls up the driveway and stops right in front. He opens the door and pumps the car horn 5 times.

Lights turn on in the home (it's about 5:30 AM)

INT. DICK'S FOYER

DICK walks wearily toward the front door, with a Glock hidden behind his back.

DICK opens the door a crack.

LANCE

Dick?

DICK

Yes?

LANCE kicks the door, which stubs DICK'S toes.

DICK screams and falls to the ground holding his foot.

DICK

You sonofabitch! Get out of my  
goddamn home!

LANCE picks up the Glock from the floor, takes out the mag  
and throws the gun in a vase.

LANCE

That's the plan. One quick question and I'm  
gone.

DICK whimpers slightly and holds his toes. He sighs.

DICK

Go ahead.

LANCE plays with the magazine, taking out bullets and  
putting them back in.

LANCE

It's my understanding you own a natural gas  
corporation.

DICK

Yeah that's right.

LANCE

Not exactly a renewable resource. But you do  
have a large supply of gas in reserve?

DICK

Yeah, what the hell is the question??

LANCE

Well... considering your fortunate financial  
position, I'd imagine you'd take no issue with giving me the  
private keys to the cryptocurrency you've been hoarding for  
the past 3 years.

DICK

You can go fu-

LANCE

I should clarify, although I phrased it as a question, the statement was rhetorical. You don't have a choice.

CECILY

Dad? Is everything O-

LANCE pulls out a gun and points it at Cecily.

LANCE

'Morning love. Come here, let me have a better look at you.

DICK

Stay there Cess!

LANCE

Whether I kill you now or later, I'm still eating my omelet for breakfast. The rest are minor details.

CECILY slowly walks up. She is beautiful, but LANCE stays firm.

LANCE

Cess, I've been driving for 8 hours, and my trigger finger is getting awfully tired. I fear if you don't get your dad's cryptowallet now I'll nod off and shoot him in the center of the skull. Go now.

DICK

Under the pillow, on my bed.

CECILY scampers off.

LANCE

Where are the private keys?

Dick pulls a laminated card the size of a driver's license out of his wallet. It is filled with words.

LANCE

Obliged.

CECILY scampers up to LANCE and DICK, and hands the USB wallet to LANCE. LANCE takes the wallet, grabs her by the wrist and pulls her outside.

DICK

Please let her go! I gave you everything I have!

LANCE

I'm just borrowing her. I know you won't do anything stupid.

DICK

Cecilyyy!

EXT. RURAL COUNTRY ROAD

LANCE drives recklessly fast, with CECILY in tow.

LANCE

Take this.

LANCE hands CECILY the laminated card he received from DICK.

LANCE

Listen carefully. I need you to read me each word on that card. In order. Start with the first key word.

CECILY

Do you have a drink? I'm so thirsty, I can barely talk.

LANCE

First word.

CECILY

Aspen.

LANCE

A-S-P-E-N?

Cecily

Yes.

LANCE types the word into his computer.

(Montage of talking/typing)

CECILY

Wait, I really can't talk.

CECILY takes a "mint" from a package in the cupholder.

Lance looks over, then at the road. He didn't see.

CECILY

That's it.

LANCE

That's only 24 key words. What's the last one??

Suddenly foam gushes from CECILY's mouth as she starts convulsing.

LANCE

I should have mentioned the death mints are for *after* dates.

Foam continues to stream down CECILY'S chest. Her eyes roll backwards.

CECILY'S arm flops over the cupholders, and LANCE fixates on a tattoo of a yellow butterfly.

CECILY keels over, and everything fades to BLACK.

LANCE laughs and slaps CECILY on the back. CECILY chokes up and screams. LANCE is startled but composes himself quickly.

LANCE

I admire women who swallow, but you took it a bit too far. Get out.

CECILY

Um, what? Are you fuckin' kidding me? No, I'm not going anywhere. Give me my dad's wallet.

LANCE

If I give you the wallet will you get out of my car?

CECILY nods. LANCE hands it over. The car screeches to a halt.

CECILY punches LANCE in the eye and jumps out of the car.

Lance lowers the window and gives a wry smile.

LANCE

You should know the wallet is empty.

CECILY

Ha! Liar! Nobody knows the whole private key!

LANCE

That's possible. But allow me to give you a piece of advice. Next time you have a password to 25 million dollars of cryptocurrency, don't deface your arm with the last codeword.

CECILY is on the verge of tears.

LANCE

I left 500 dollars in the account. That should be enough to get that graffiti off your arm.

LANCE drives off.

CECILY throws the USB wallet at the car as it drives off, uselessly.

END