

EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE
A SERIES

EPISODE 6: Underground

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. FOREST CANAL - NIGHT

John West lies on the bank of an irrigation canal barely conscious. His burning SUV flickers through the woods as police radios SQUAWK in the distance. Two Vigilantes stand over John's body.

VIGILANTE 2

Shoot him.

Vigilante 1 pumps his shot gun. John lashes out, grabs the barrel and wrests it from the man's hands. He sweeps the stock through the Vigilante's legs and the man falls. John rolls and sweeps the second man's legs and he falls. John jumps up, spins the shotgun and points it at the two men.

JOHN WEST

(intensely quiet)

Who do you work for?

The two men cower.

VIGILANTE 1

Don't shoot.

VIGILANTE 2

Don't shoot.

JOHN WEST (CONT'D)

Quiet!

John looks through the trees toward his burning SUV.

JOHN WEST (CONT'D)

How'd you know I was here?

VIGILANTE 2

The explosion was all over the police band.

VIGILANTE 1

You're that guy, right? You shot the Justice Blackburn?

VIGILANTE 2

We want to help.

JOHN WEST

Right? That's why you were going to shoot me.

VIGILANTE 2

We weren't serious.

Both Vigilantes look at each other.

VIGILANTE 1
We've got a place you can hide.

JOHN WEST
You gonna tell me who you work for?

VIGILANTE 2
Nobody, man. We're anarchists.

JOHN WEST
Get up.

The two men get up, cautiously.

JOHN WEST (CONT'D)
Where is this place of yours?

VIGILANTE 1
Not too far. This way.

JOHN WEST
You first.

They set off through the woods, John in back with the shotgun.

INT. CAMP DAVID MAIN LODGE DINING ROOM- NIGHT

Jennifer Jefferson is seated at a dining table. The President strides in and sits down. A male SERVANT appears with a coffee tray. The President takes a cup.

THE PRESIDENT
Are you hungry? Would you like something to drink?

JENNIFER
No.

The president sips his coffee.

THE PRESIDENT
Come now, Ms. Jefferson. No need to sacrifice your health.

JENNIFER
What do you want?

THE PRESIDENT

Your boyfriend. Plain and simple.
You help us bring him in, we'll let
you go.

JENNIFER

Why do you want him?

THE PRESIDENT

He shot the Chief Justice of the
United States Supreme Court.

JENNIFER

He didn't do it.

THE PRESIDENT

We have the evidence.

JENNIFER

You're a liar.

THE PRESIDENT

You must be a Republican.

JENNIFER

You must be desperate.

THE PRESIDENT

Sometimes, desperate people do
desperate things.

JENNIFER

You shouldn't have.

THE PRESIDENT

I was talking about Commander West.

JENNIFER

I wasn't.

The President's face turns red. He slams his hand on the
table.

THE PRESIDENT

Do you know how to contact him?

JENNIFER

No.

The President gains control of his anger.

THE PRESIDENT

Then you're of little use to us.

Will Kingman runs in.

WILL KINGMAN
They're running the story.

He clicks a remote and a flat panel TV on the wall lights up.

NEWS CAST

FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR with picture of Commander West over her left shoulder.

FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR
The White House has identified
Commander John West, Navy Seal, as
the shooter. The President promises
a news conference first thing in
the morning. Commander West should
be considered armed and extremely
dangerous. If anyone should see
him, please call the police.

INT. HUNTING LODGE - NIGHT

Both Vigilantes watch the newscast on an old TV in a rustic survivalist lodge. They're eating junk food. John comes in holding a first aid kit and a gun.

VIGILANTE 1
You got yerself in a heap a
trouble.

Vigilante 1 gets up and switches off the TV. Vigilante 2 opens an old refrigerator.

VIGILANTE 2
Want a beer?

JOHN WEST
No thanks.

John sits down and bandages his wounds. He is tired and battered.

VIGILANTE 1
What you gonna do?

JOHN WEST
Survive the night.

VIGILANTE 2
Right on.

VIGILANTE 1

Then what?

John smiles for the first time in a long time.

JOHN WEST

Save the girl.

(beat)

Pretty cheesy, huh.

The two men smile back.

VIGILANTE 2

How you gonna outsmart Uncle Sam?

JOHN WEST

Uncle Sam's not that smart.

John continues to bandaging his wounds.

VIGILANTE 1

You could use some rest.

JOHN WEST

I'll rest when I die.

VIGILANTE 1

Seriously man. Take the back
bedroom. We'll stand watch.

John looks at the men suspiciously, then decides.

JOHN WEST

Okay. Yeah. You're right.

John takes the gun and leaves the room. The two Vigilantes watch him go. Vigilante 1 gets up and turns on the TV. The Female Newscaster is still talking.

VIGILANTE 1

(quietly)

Call it in.

VIGILANTE 2

Who do you want me to call?

VIGILANTE 1

The President, stupid.

VIGILANTE 2

Are you serious?

VIGILANTE 1

No, Jackass. Call 9-1-1.

VIGILANTE 2
What about John?

VIGILANTE 1
What about him?

VIGILANTE 2
You said you'd help him.

VIGILANTE 1
Do you want to go to prison?

VIGILANTE 2
Fine, I'll do it.

Vigilante 2 pulls out his cell phone and presses a button.

INT. CAMP DAVID SITUATION ROOM - NIGHT

The President, Will Kingman, COLONEL GORDON, watch a monitor.
A rural cabin is visible on the monitor in night vision
green.

COLONEL GORDON
The drones are in place Mr.
President. We have confirmation,
The target's inside.

The President stares at the monitor.

WILL KINGMAN
This is your best chance, Mr.
President.

The President hesitates.

COLONEL GORDON
Sir?

The President slams his fist on the console.

THE PRESIDENT
Burn it down.

Colonel Gordon presses an ear piece.

COLONEL GORDON
That's a go. Light her up.

The monitor flashes and a white trail streaks toward the
cabin.