

INT. COLONEL MCCALLISTER'S OFFICE
McCallister sits behind his desk, going through paperwork.
A knock at the door.

MCCALLISTER
Come.

JENNIFER
Sir? Do you have a minute?

McCallister looks up to see JENNIFER, smiles warmly --

MCCALLISTER
Yes, ma'am, I do. Have a seat.

She smiles back as she takes a seat -- even though we detect a NERVOUSNESS scratching just below the surface. McCallister is casual, barely looking up from his work --

MCCALLISTER (CONT'D)
How was Pakistan?

JENNIFER
Hot and loud.

MCCALLISTER
I'm happy to reassign you someplace colder and quieter.

JENNIFER
That wouldn't be fair, sir.

MCCALLISTER
Why not?

JENNIFER
Because it would further alienate me from the officers in my unit.

McCallister stops working, looks up at her --

MCCALLISTER
And how far are you "alienated" exactly?

JENNIFER
I can take care of myself. Don't worry about it, sir.

MCCALLISTER
I'll worry as much as I want to, Jenny.

She bristles -- This plays FAST, the two of them talking over each other -- a familiar DANCE --

JENNIFER

Please don't call me that.

MCCALLISTER

I let you call me "sir."

JENNIFER

You're my commanding officer --

MCCALLISTER

-- I'm your father --

JENNIFER

-- which has no bearing as long as I'm wearing this uniform and sitting in this office.

(a beat; measured)

Sir.

McCallister's eyes flash for a moment. Then, the smile returns. CHARM is one of his greatest weapons...

MCCALLISTER

Well then let's get out of here, grab some lunch and call each other whatever we want.

... and she KNOWS that charm is one of his greatest weapons.

JENNIFER

I found something in Pakistan.

(then; pointed)

Do you know what I'm talking about?

ON MCCALLISTER. Smart enough to know he's now in a Poker Game with his own daughter. Stays COOL.

MCCALLISTER

Well, sweetheart, if I say yes then that would indicate there's something going on in Pakistan that I don't want you to know about.

JENNIFER

Then say no.

MCCALLISTER

All right. No.

Jennifer reaches into her bag, removes a folder. Drops it onto his desk.

JENNIFER

I ordered an unannounced inspection of one of our Mobile Medical Units just outside Azad Kashmir --

MCCALLISTER

-- Why the hell would you --?

JENNIFER

-- as a training exercise, just to keep the unit on their toes. Imagine my surprise when our equipment detected trace amounts of tritium, deuterium and lithium deuteride. If you're unfamiliar, these are the fissionable materials required to make an improvised device. Found in one of our MMUs. So I'd like to ask you one more time, sir...

(beat)

Were you aware that we're using fake hospitals as fronts to make nuclear weapons inside of an active combat zone?

McCallister just sits there. Doesn't lower his eyes. A nice, long, SILENT beat. And now we see the genuine ANGER... and yes BETRAYAL on Jennifer's face as she quietly asks --

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

Still want to have lunch?