

## GRENSELAND

Episode Five  
"The Lake"

Theme: *Stuck*

*\*note: this will be a character-driven episode, and will take place entirely at the lake*

### Teaser

- CLOSE ON: the toe of a boot, sinking ever so slightly in mud. We move up to see the boot, and the foot inside, belong to Nikolai. He's at the lake. It's only minutes from where we left off in episode four. He scrapes off the mud on nearby grass. Then turns, seeing -
- A crane releasing Lennart and Ahmed's car onto the wet ground. Nikolai moves towards it. Anniken hands him a pair of gloves. An initial inspection of the scene. Silence as they both take in the details. Then, Nikolai says, *they could have been drunk. Driven into the lake.* Anniken says nothing, but her furrowed brow tells us that his suggestion surprises her. He registers it, knows that theory won't play; she's too smart.
- Berg approaches, walking gingerly through the muck. Reports that Jan and his forensics team will be here soon. He's also called Riskriminalen (Swedish Kripas), because of the Swedish plates on the car. Nikolai asks, why is the lake was being used for fire department diving exercises? Berg laughs, says, *there was a ban using the lake for decades, because of mating habits of some random fish. But with global warming, they stopped mating all together, so the ban was lifted. And now, we find this. Funny, huh?* Nikolai forces a chuckle. *Yeah. Fucking hilarious.*

### Act one

- Anniken talking with the Fire Department divers. Them explaining their plan/route to comb the lake for evidence. They explain that bad weather is rolling in this afternoon, which makes it harder to see. They'll have to work fast. She says great - get to it.
- Nikolai with Lars and Bengt. Lars is incredulous, *you're telling me I'm going to jail over goddamn global warming?* Nikolai ignores him, says, *there's no way anyone's going to believe they drove into the lake. Even the highest cliff isn't high enough to cause this kind of impact damage. It's obvious they crashed somewhere else, which means, it's obvious someone drove the car here and dumped it. Which means, it's obviously a homicide. What did you do with the cell phones?* Bengt explains that they tossed them into the lake. Nikolai grits his teeth, says, *the divers will find the cell phones, and we'll coordinate the signals with the towers, and be able to narrow down where the car was. Which means, we'll eventually find the crash site. And we'll know the date the accident happened 'cause that's when the signals died.* A moment passes, then realization hits. Lars says, *and you'll figure it out that I drove past two drug couriers with a trunk full of*

- cocaine, with Tommy and Jonas, who are both now dead. Nikolai nods - yep. Doesn't take a rocket scientist to put it together.*
- Anniken and Berg, by the water. Watching the divers get started. Berg hangs up his phone, tells Anniken that a Swedish detective is on the way, and he doesn't want the bodies removed from the site until he gets a look. Anniken scoffs, *who the hell does he think he is?* Berg says, *I don't know, but he came highly recommended. And I know you just had a big win on the Dreyer case, but you're still brand new. Try to remember that.* Berg walks off, cursing at the mud on his expensive shoes. Anniken watches him leave, displeased.
  - Nikolai, alone, squatting by the car. Sinking more into the mud as the temperature warms and the ground softens. Lars approaches. Silence, then Nikolai says, *I don't have a play here. There's no explanation for this.* He stands. Eyes his brother. *You did something really stupid, but you didn't kill anybody. If you come forward now, we can spin it so it's not so bad.* But just then -
  - Jan's car pulls up. He makes snarky comments about the mud in this shit-town. Trudges towards the wrecked car, standing within earshot of Lars and Nikolai, so they cannot talk freely. Lars lowers his voice, says, *these guys were drug couriers. That means they have enemies in Oslo. Plant the seeds that this was someone from Oslo.* Nikolai says, *I have no evidence to back that up.* Lars says, *not yet, but I have a plan. Just don't let them haul the car off. Not 'til I get back.* Lars starts to walk away. Nikolai moves towards him. Grabs his arm. Pleads, *think about this.* Lars says, sadly, *look, Nik, if this all goes to shit, I'll leave your name out of it. I promise. But, there's no turning back now. I'm already in too deep.*

## Act two

- Bodies still in the car. Jan doing an initial examination. Nikolai and Anniken watching. Jan reaches into their pockets, but no wallets and no cell phones. Jan says, *I won't know more until I get them on the table, but I don't see any stab wounds, any gunshot wounds, or any signs of struggle. Could be a heart attack, maybe fell asleep or something, but then how'd they end up in the lake? Damage from the car isn't consistent with a water landing. Nah, someone dumped them here, for some reason.* Nikolai says, *these guys probably had some enemies, probably in Oslo, if that's where they were headed.* Both Anniken and Jan nod - sounds about right. Nikolai's planted the first seed. Just then, he sees a familiar car pull up. Kristel gets out. Lars is gone. But she's not looking for him. She goes straight to Bengt.
- Inside Bengt's cop car. He's furious - he specifically told her not to show up here, and she specifically ignored him, because she's seen the news, and she's freaking out. *Won't this whole clusterfuck unravel now?* Bengt calms himself down, says, *people like you and me, we weren't meant to be stuck in this town. And now I've got the opportunity to get out. Start over. Do you really think I'm going to let that slip through my fingers?* Kristel says, *but there's nothing you can do if someone figures it out, or if Lars rats you out.* Bengt says,

- I've taken precautions against that. From now on, you're going to need to trust me. And do whatever I say. Can you do that?*
- Back by the car. The bodies being pulled out. They're bloated. Mushy. It's gross, to put it mildly. Atle is nearby. Nikolai notices that he turns a little green - a young cop in a small town; he's not used to this kind of thing. Meanwhile, Berg takes pictures, texts them to someone. Then he gets on the phone, to make sure the pics went through. Anniken and Nikolai standing behind Jan, squatting over the bodies. Gloves on, he moves Lennart's head. Neck's snapped. He opens Lennart's mouth. Some water gurgles out. Jan chuckles - he's immune to the gore by now. But Atle turns, choking back vomit. Nikolai asks Anniken, *who's Berg talking to?* Anniken rolls her eyes, says, *the Swedish detective. Berg's wanted to get a transfer to Stockholm for like a decade now. He probably thinks this is his opportunity to get an in.* Nikolai nods. Anniken looks over her shoulder at Berg. Says, a little loudly (and very sarcastically), *ask him if we should order him lunch.* Berg shoots her a dirty look. Anniken turns back to Nikolai. Says, *I'll get something to pop the trunk. Wanna see what's in there.*
  - Nikolai approaches Atle. Before Nikolai can say anything, Atle says, *I don't know how you guys do this stuff.* Nikolai says, *you get used to it. After a while, it's just another day.* Atle asks, rhetorically, *is that a good thing?* Nikolai hesitates, absorbing those words. Then he says, *go back to the office. We don't need you here. Drive with the window down. Get some air.* Atle nods, grateful to be dismissed from the gore.
  - Anniken approaches the trunk with a crowbar. Jan there. They open it. Nothing inside, but Jans says, *forensics will have a look, see if there are traces of anything interesting.* Anniken hesitates, then says, *I'm sorry about saying you got debris in that cut on the Hagen case. I shouldn't have doubted you.* Jan says, (teasing), *you can make it up to me over dinner.* Anniken rolls her eyes. Starts walking away. Jan calls after her, *okay, fine, we can skip dinner, go straight back to your place.* She chuckles. Ammends made.
  - A tow truck arriving. There to haul the car off to Oslo forensics once Jan is finished. Nikolai getting nervous. He approaches Bengt. Says, *what exactly am I stalling for?* Bengt says, *Lars went back to the station. He's getting a tracking device to plant on the car, so everyone will think it was a double-cross from some Oslo buyer. Keep the car here a little while longer, help Lars get it on there.* Nikolai says, *that's your brilliant plan? Any buyer smart enough to ambush a delivery like that would get rid of the tracking device before dumping the car.* Bengt says, *yeah, unless they panicked, or forgot, or just fucked up. It's something.* Nikolai is pissed, but he bites his tongue. Says, *you really think everyone will buy the double-crossing buyer from Oslo story?* Bengt says, *if you sell it, yeah, I think they'll buy. You're a born liar.* Nikolai chuckles to keep himself from hitting Bengt. Says, *you know, sometimes, I actually tell the truth.* Bengt says, *really? When was the last time?*

### Act three

- Drizzling now. Misty, sticky air. Berg cursing under his breath, looking at his now-ruined shoes. Nikolai approaches. Says, *I know why you're here. You're looking into me for the Brekke thing.* Berg is caught off guard. Stays quiet. Nikolai says, *everything about that case, it's by the book. And Kristoffer Lund, he's telling the truth. All my files, all my notes - you can have it. I've got nothing to hide.* Berg looks at Nikolai, thinking. Then, a tiny nod. He believes him. Berg looks over at Anniken, by the car with Jan. Berg says, *she told you.* Nikolai shrugs; it wasn't a question, and he's not going to answer. Berg says, *fucking idiot.* Nikolai says, *she's not an idiot.* Berg says, *I was talking about myself.*
- Nikolai and Berg approach as Jan examines the car. Anniken there, too. Nikolai takes a deep breath, preparing for another layer of lies... says, *if these guys were couriers, then this might have been a double-cross. It could be that we have to look at buyers in Oslo. Maybe Sweden, too. Someone who knew where these guys would be, and what might be in their trunk.* Anniken and Berg absorb that. Again, it sounds right. Just then -
- A diver comes ashore. He's found a pre-paid mobile. Nikolai and Anniken make their way over, the mud now thick enough that it's hard to walk. She bags the phone for evidence. Says, *we can triangulate with the towers, figure out when the signal died which will tell us the date of the crash. We might even be able narrow down a search field, find the crash site.* Nikolai nods. He knew this was coming, but he still doesn't like it. He says, *yeah, but we can leave that to the locals. Our case is in Oslo.* Anniken looks at him like he's crazy. Says, *what the fuck are you talking about?* The rain picks up. They're getting soaked. Nikolai says, *we're looking for buyers. They're going to be in Oslo or Stockholm or something, not at the crash site.* Anniken says, *the crash site is our crime scene.* Nikolai says, *so?* Anniken says, *so killers are rarely at crime scenes, but last I checked, we still pay a visit.* Just then, the tow truck starts its engine. Someone attaches the chain to the car. They're getting ready to haul it away. Nikolai looks for Lars. He's just now pulling up. He's got to think fast.
- Nikolai approaching the car. Mud so thick it's nearly pulling his boots off his feet. His mind racing. Thinking of a stall tactic. But just then, a miracle: the tow truck slips in the mud. It's wheels spinning. Lars on the side of the road, seeing the chaos. He pops open his trunk. Pulls out some heavy-duty mud flaps. Approaches the scene like a savior. Lars and Nikolai, working together, get truck out of the mud, the tracking device on the car, and all of it done so smoothly no one notices a thing. They watch as the car is hauled away. Whew.
- A car pulls up. Out walks a tall, older man. Anniken turns to Berg. Says, *you're boyfriend's here.*

### Act four

- Our Rikskriminalen detective is GORAN. We meet him close-up as he unzips the body bags. He's handsome. Distinguished. Trimmed and tailored. Somehow he manages to stay clean, even in the mud. He identifies Lennart and Ahmed, confirming that they're drug couriers. He says, *we have reason to believe they worked for a much larger distributor. We've been trying to trace who, but so far, no luck.* Goran looks up at Anniken, Nikolai and Berg. His face open. Honest. Wet in the rain. Says, *if this investigation unveils a Norwegian buyer, I can work backwards and find a distributor in Sweden, and it'll be worth my time. I have resources to throw your way.* Goran stands. Approaches Anniken. Says, *and you don't even have to buy me lunch.*
- Rain beating down, hard. The kind of day where you just want to be inside. Jan and his forensics team heading out. Bodies loaded up, driven to the morgue. Divers heading in. Anniken signing off on some paperwork, trying to stay dry. Goran there. Asks what the next move is. She looks over her shoulder. Sees Nikolai talking with Berg. Then answers Goran, saying, *not sure yet. My partner wants to shift focus to Oslo.* Goran says, *what do you want?* Anniken says, *I think we need to find the crash site.* He says, *aren't you the one who just solved the Dreyer case? Pretty big one. Pretty impressive.* A moment passes. She asks, blankly, *are you flirting with me?* He shakes his head. Says, *no, not right now.*
- Nikolai in his car. Rain blurring the windshield. He turns the key. On the radio news, we hear that the Brekke case begins tomorrow morning. Nikolai's mind there for a moment. Then, we hear his phone chime. He looks at the caller ID. A text from Pia. In an instant, the events of last night flood his mind. shitshitshit.
- Anniken approaches Berg by his car. He's cleaning his shoes with newspapers from his back seat. She says, *Nikolai wants to go to Oslo. I think he's wrong. I think our case is in Elverum until we know more. I want to find that crash site.* Berg says, *Nikolai's done this a few times. Maybe you should listen to him.* Anniken says, *I'm your employee who you've had an affair with. Maybe you should start listening to me.* Berg looks at her like she's just slapped him in the face. Says, *Jesus Christ, what won't you do to get ahead?* Anniken hesitates; she's not 100% sure what the answer to that question is. And she also knows - she just came on a little too strong. A mistake.
- Anniken climbs into Nikolai's car. He shuts off the radio. Silence for a moment, then Anniken says, *we're staying in Elverum until we find the crash site. You can be pissed at me if you want, but it's the right next move and I'm not going to back down when I know I'm right.* Nikolai sighs. Shakes his head. Says, *you're not going to let anything be easy, are you?* She laughs, completely unaware of the subtext. She says, *well, it's too late now. You're stuck with me.* Just then, they see some commotion by the lake. Both get out of the car.
- The last Diver coming in for the day, but he's pulling something with him. It's a body. And from the looks of it, it's old. Really old. Nikolai, Anniken, Goran and Berg all coming towards the commotion. The mud so thick it sucks off Nikolai's boot. Before he can react, he plants his

socked-foot back in the ground. *Fuck*. Rain beating down on all four of them. All of them soaked. Dirty. Exhausted. A decades-old corpse in front of them. Finally, Anniken asks, *who the hell is this?* Nikolai's eyes are wide. Jaw unhinged. Mind racing. He answers, truthfully, *I have no idea*.

## GRENSELAND

### Episode Six “The Body”

Theme: *Betrayal*

#### Teaser

- Inside a courtroom. Kristoffer seated as the prosecutor begins his opening statement. He’s detailing the horrors committed by Kåre Brekke. The molestation, how it victimized both Kristoffer and his now-deceased brother Pål. The prosecutor points to Brekke, saying, *After all the damage that has been done, this man still denies any wrongdoing. But the evidence will show that his statements of innocence are nothing but lies.* Kåre and Kristoffer’s eyes meet. The look between them hints that these two know something we don’t.

#### Act one

- Morning. At the station. An explosive argument between Nikolai and Berg. Berg has assigned Nikolai to the John Doe found in the lake - leaving Anniken and Goran on the Lennart/Ahmed case. Nikolai furious. Berg says, *I don’t need three detectives on one case, and none on the other. Plus, you have to testify at the Brekke trial in a couple of days, so you’re booked up anyway.* Nikolai says, *the John Doe is a no-brainer - drunk fisherman. This is the kind of bullshit case you normally give to a newbie.* Berg isn’t budging. *We don’t always get to work the cases we want. Deal with it.*
- Hugo’s home. He’s watching the news coverage - seeing the police walk all over the shore of the lake. He’s shouting at the television that they’re destroying nature. Cawaale there, waiting. Finally, Hugo explains the situation - Oskar has a storage shed, away from his house. *You go straight there. Pick up the package. You never go to his house, never talk to him directly.* Cawaale asks about his fee. When Hugo answers, Cawaale is unhappy; it’s less than they agreed on. Hugo says, *look, times are tough. I’m doing what I can.* Then he turns back to the news. Shouts to the clumsy cops again - they’re stomping all over the place. Cawaale grits his teeth, pissed.
- Britta in Sweden. Like Hugo, she’s watching the news, now covering Jonas’ death. She sure doesn’t look sad. In fact, right now, her mind is churning. She calls out to her father, Oskar, shouting, *Dad?* No answer. She sighs with frustration. *DAD?!* Finally, a response from another room. She rolls her eyes; everything is such an effort when you’re a teenager. Says, *isn’t that guy coming today?!*
- Nikolai and Goran, in the kitchen at the station. Getting some of the (horrible) coffee. Nikolai explains that he’s been assigned to the John Doe. Says, *you and Anniken will work the Lennart/Ahmed case.* Goran nods, his face unreadable. Nikolai says, *I know it’s not my case anymore, but I’ll sit in on the forensics meeting if it’s cool by you.* He nods. They walk towards the hallway, where -
- Nikolai casually brings up what cases Goran has worked recently in Sweden. Something about his tone tells us this isn’t idle chitchat.

Goran is wary, but mostly answers Nikolai's questions. Nikolai then says, *I remember this one guy, ex-Yugoslavian named Zoran, but they called him Zoro, 'cause of this blank bandana he'd wear, real low on his face. Real character. You guys still got your eyes on him?* Goran looks at Nikolai. Impossible to tell what he's thinking. After a moment, he says, *no, not really.* Nikolai nods. They both turn, walking in towards -

- The office. Jan and Anniken both waiting. Forensics time. Jan presents his findings on the Lennart/Ahmed case, says, *time of death is hard to pinpoint when a body's been in water that long but we're probably looking at somewhere around the 14th, 15<sup>th</sup>, maybe 16<sup>th</sup> of the month. Lots of broken ribs, other injuries you'd associate with a car accident. Nothing in their blood streams - these guys were sober. No heart attacks, nothing like that. Likely a car accident but very unlikely that accident was in the lake.* Anniken says, *wait, so this was around the same night Tommy and Jonas were arrested?* Just then, the call comes in from the forensics guys examining the car. Tracking device was found. Traces of cocaine in the trunk. Nikolai says, *looks like our double-crossing dealer theory plays.*
- Oskar's storage shed. It's surprisingly small (more on that later). Britta there, waiting, when Cawaale shows up. She's got a rucksack full of the marijuana (or so she says). She says, *come on, my dad wants me to go with you to Oslo, since it's your first time working for him. I'll stay with friends once I'm there.* Cawaale opens his mouth to argue, but she's already in his car.

## Act two

- Nikolai at the morgue with Elvis. The John Doe on the metal slab. Elvis comments that he's barely even looked at the guy - *there's been quite the workload lately.* Nikolai asks, *you got a date of death on him yet?* Elvis says, *hard to tell exactly, but we'll know more soon. Probably about 20 years. You grew up here. You know anyone who went missing 20 years ago?*
- Cawaale driving Britta. That rucksack on the floor by her pedicured feet. These two getting to know each other. She lies about her age - claims to be 17. Cawaale is a young guy himself, and he's charmed by her. She tells him she has to do a quick thing in Elverum. Directs him towards a warehouse, (which we recognize from the pilot). Says, *wait here, I've just got to do one thing.* She takes her rucksack with her, and she's out of the car before he can ask a question.
- Rolf and Tina at lunch. She's flirty. He likes it, but he's also wary. Something about her seems a bit...off. Manic, maybe. But she doesn't sense his hesitation. She's too wound up. She says, *so the Høyre party nomination committee works with a list system, and that list is continually changing. Everyone picks their top three after all the major events, and the averages are calculated and then there's this master list. Anyway, a few weeks ago, I saw a copy. My mom was number one, but Josef was right under her. It's totally within his*

- reach. Rolf sighs, says, Shit. Tina says, what? He'll be happy, right? Rolf laughs, with being number two? No. No, he won't.*
- Britta comes back from the warehouse. Breathless. Says, *drive*. He does as he's told, but he's freaked out. *What the hell did you just do?*
  - Nikolai goes to the brewery. It's afternoon, and the place is nearly empty. He sees Pia. An awkward post-sex encounter. But he really tries to do right by her. Asks how her mom is doing. Pia's smile is ironic. She says, *ah, well, no emergency run to the hospital today, so it's a good day*. He says he's sorry, and he means it. She asks, *you here to see Josef?* He hesitates. She's disappointed but covers, saying, *he's in the kitchen*.
  - The brewery kitchen. Florescent lights. Thick, black mats on the floor. The smell of bleach. Josef washing dishes. Nikolai walks in. A moment of silence, then Nikolai says, *I'm on another case now*. Josef feigns casualness, asks, *the body in the lake?* Nikolai nods. Josef asks, *just how old is that gentlemen?* Nikolai hesitates. Says, *not sure. Maybe a decade*. Josef nods. If he knows Nikolai is lying, he's not obvious about it. Nikolai says, *But I'm off the main case, which means I don't have any control over where it goes*. Josef says, *well, then, it looks like both of us are quite the predicament. Because our little Swedish girlfriend's still in town. Saw her car outside this morning. Pretty sure she's coming after me, since you have that badge to hide behind*. Nikolai says, *we have to get the stuff out of Elverum*. Josef smiles. *I could not agree with you more. But who between the two of us do you suppose will be assigned that particular task?* Nikolai says, *Look, I didn't make this mess. You should be happy I'm helping at all*. Josef smiles and says, with thick sarcasm, *Oh Nikolai, I see that you are helping. In fact, your goodness, it brings to mind Matthew, chapter 5 verse 16, "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works..."* Nikolai rolls his eyes. He's sick of the bible shit. He leaves. Alone, Josef completes the quote, *"...and glorify your father who is in heaven."*

### Act three

- Afternoon. Goran and Anniken alone. Reviewing the reports. Complete silence. Both of them hard workers. Thinkers. Analyzers. Finally Anniken says, *why would anyone powerful and smart enough to know what these guys were transporting - Goran interrupts - be stupid enough to leave a tracking device on the car after an ambush?* A moment of silence. Anniken says, *maybe a low-level dealer working for someone bigger. Someone disgruntled who wanted to go solo. Knew where the shipment would be, was willing to risk going against his boss*. Goran thinks. Then says, *doesn't sit right with me*. Anniken says, *me neither*. Just then, Atle pops his head in the door - cell tower reports have come in.
- Josef in a meeting with the head of the Høyre party nomination committee, Bjørnar (we've met him briefly before). A one-sided conversation. Josef saying, *I have come to understand that I am not*

*#1 on your list. Now, perhaps you don't know me as well as I thought you did, but I do not like not being number two. So. What is it I need to do to fix that? We see Bjørnar look very uncomfortable, and we don't yet fully understand why.*

- Hugo outside of an office building. Calling Cawaale but no answer. He's surprised but shakes it off. Goes inside to a meeting with his accountant who tells him that he's recently made some poor investments, and his finances are worse off than he thought. Hugo says, *but those investments, I was told they were sure to give a return. I was told it would take up to 36 months but that a return was guaranteed.* The accountant says, *no one can guarantee a return. Whoever told you that, they were taking you for a ride.*
- At the courthouse. The trial breaks for the day. Kristoffer goes to the men's bathroom. Fredrik Brekke is there. No words are exchanged, but they're not needed. Kristoffer's hands are shaking. He's a mess. Fredrik is cool as a cucumber. Just watching him. Intimidation by silence. Kristoffer bolts.
- Nikolai back at the station. Working solo now. Keeping an eye on Goran and Anniken across the hallway - busy at work on something. He wishes like hell he was in there; he hates being out of control. Nikolai prints out some files. Missing persons reports. One of them makes him pause. Then, his phone rings. It's Kristoffer. He's still at the courthouse, having found a hidden spot for privacy. Kristoffer says, *I can't do this. I'm too fucking scared.* Nikolai is a comfort. Says all the right things. And it helps - Kristoffer's nerves dissipate. He takes some deep breaths. Gets a hold of himself again. Nikolai dances around saying something more serious - something that might sum up his actual feelings - but in the end, he doesn't. He's just not that kind of guy.
- Lars waiting outside of his kid's school to pick them up. Marta drives up. It's a small town; their kids go to school together. First time these two have spoken since Tommy's funeral. She tells him she needs the money sooner than she thought - bills are piling up. He explains that this thing is going to take time. Marta says, *did you know Tommy used to steal things when he got drunk? He'd come home with random stuff - someone else's lighter. Their keys.* (this was set up in the pilot - the box on the fireplace mantel). *He never had a memory of taking the stuff. Used to drive me nuts. But that night, the night of the accident, he did something smart. He stole those two Swedes' wallets.* Marta threatens, *if you don't start paying me soon, I'll tell Kripos I just found the wallets while cleaning out Tommy's things. Wonder who that would point a finger towards?*
- Rolf and Tina. The relationship has moved into the bedroom. Rolf is happy - it's not every day that he hooks up with a cute girl like her. But things turn dark when Tina's manic nature turns depressive (a confirmation of our suspicions - she's mentally unstable). This is when most guys would bolt, but Rolf stays put. Her appreciation is palpable, but we also see a flicker of concern cross her face. She's hiding something. And now, she feels guilty.

- Kristoffer leaving the courthouse. Now composed. His lawyer by his side. Escaping the media. Escaping the chaos.
- Kristoffer, finally alone. Headed into an apartment. We think it's his, but then he knocks. A wiry, young, handsome hipster, EMIL, opens the door. Unlike Nikolai, Emil is closer to Kristoffer's age. They're both just kids, really. Kristoffer comes in. Complains about his day. Starts wrapping a belt around him arm. Finding a vein. Emil leans down. Gives him a kiss. A real one. Then he pulls away. Kristoffer smiles, watching Emil, as he shoots up.

#### Act four

- Evening. Tina pacing the bedroom. Rolf sitting on the edge of the bed, confused. He says, *so wait, you never even saw a list?* Tina says, *no, no, I saw it, I just lied to you about where Josef was on it.* Rolf says, *but why?* Tina says, *I don't know, I just do these things sometimes. At first it was because it was just fun. Then it was because I wanted to do anything to fuck over my stupid fucking mother who wants to be stupid fucking mayor, but then I started to feel guilty. I don't want you in trouble because of me.* Rolf says, *where was Josef on the list?* Tina says, *I swear to God, I don't remember, but he wasn't at the top. I would have remembered if he was at the top.*
- Oskar in his storage shed. A package of marijuana at his feet. He calls Hugo, who is on his way out of his financial meeting. Oskar says, *wasn't your guy coming by today?* Hugo says, *yeah.* Oskar says, *then why is my stuff still here?*
- Lars comes home with the kids. Kristel there, cooking dinner. It's a rare, and odd, sight. To add to the confusion...she's being sweet and friendly. Everyone is surprised, but decides to enjoy it. In particular, we see that Lars really savors it. He's missed his wife. And after all these years, he still really loves her.
- Josef in Malmø. It takes some fancy footwork, but he eventually makes his way to the boss' office. Finally, we meet ZORO. His name might be funny, but he's not. We're a little scared of Zoro, even if he's a just medium-level guy. Josef lays it all on the line - tells him about the drugs, tells him the discounted price, tells him it's in Elverum, and tells him there's a crooked Kripos detective involved. Zoro thinks it over. Then says, *if it is a set up, it's the worst set up in history.*
- Josef getting back in his BMW outside of Zoro's. His phone rings. It's Rolf.
- Lars and the kids watching a movie. Kristel heading out to get cigarettes. Only, she's not buying cigarettes. She's headed to Bengt's house. They're having an affair.
- Anniken and Goran having dinner. A brightly lit restaurant - this is professional, not romantic. They've got maps in front of them, looking the cell tower reports and mapping out a search area for the crash site. Anniken says, *we'll get Bengt and Lars with us. Break into teams of two. I'm thinking, one or two days, tops, we should be able*

*to find something. Goran asks, how long have you been working with Nikolai? Anniken says, where did that come from? He doesn't offer an answer. She says, just over a week. Why are you interested in Nikolai? Goran says, no reason. A moment of silence. Then she asks, were you always with Rikskriminalen working murder? He shakes his head. No. I used to work Internal Affairs.*

- Josef making a pit stop on the way back from Malmö. Knocking on someone's door. After a moment, a very confused Bjørnar answers. Josef's barely keeping his cool. He says, *what number am I on the list?* Bjørnar hesitates. Josef says, *what number?!* Bjørnar says, *eight. You're number eight.* We see the hurt on Josef's face. He's a prideful guy, and he thought he was going to win. But it turns out, he was never even close.
- Nikolai at a bar. Some dive. The missing persons' file on the seat next to him. He wants to avoid looking, but he can't anymore. Picks it up. Opens it. We see various names and pictures. One stands out. Name: J. KOLBERG. Profession: Priest. Went missing: 1993.

**GRENSELAND**  
Episode seven  
“Caught Off Guard”  
Theme: *Soft spots*

**Teaser**

- Morning. Nikolai at the home of ØYVIND (30s). A neat freak, living and working at home. Nice enough guy, though easily spooked. Like a dog who’s been kicked too many times. Nikolai explains that he’s investigating a missing persons case from twenty years ago - Josef Kolberg’s father, Jens. Nikolai says, *Josef claims he was at your house the day his father went missing. That you two hung out after school. At the time, you backed up the alibi. But sometimes, as time passes, people change their minds about what really happened. So, I’m asking: was he really at your house that day?* Øyvind is genuinely surprised. He confirms: Josef was really there. The whole day. We believe him when he says, *if something bad happened to that priest, it wasn’t Josef who did it. I’d swear by it.* Nikolai nods. It’s the truth.
- Nikolai leaving Øyvind’s house. Øyvind relaxing a bit - soon he’ll retreat again into his home. Alone. Safe. As Nikolai climbs into his car, Øyvind asks, *you and Jenny still keep in touch?* Nikolai hesitates, just a flicker, then says, *yeah, we do.* Øyvind says, *I always thought it was so sweet, what you two did for each other. Pretending to be a couple. I think you saved her from being a total outcast. And she always kept your secret, far as I could tell. Never told a soul.* Nikolai’s frozen. He had no idea anyone knew. Øyvind looks away, shy. At this moment, it hits us: Øyvind is gay. He says, *high school can be hell. Trust me. I know.*

**Act one**

- Outside the station. Anniken, Goran, Lars and Bengt. She with a map spread over the hood of her car. Exposition about the search area, and what the plan is for today - they’ll break into teams of two, work through one major area, starting at the outskirts and moving in where they’ll meet in the middle. Lars and Bengt exchanging subtle glances; clearly, there’s one area they don’t want to search, and we all know why.
- Marta’s house. She’s making a late breakfast for her son, who’s home sick in the nearby living room. Hans Olav in the kitchen, reading the paper. We see a headline on the body from the lake. Something about Hans Olav’s expression tells us he’s bothered by it. We don’t yet know why. Marta turns to Hans Olav. Asks if he’ll maybe talk with her son - he hasn’t spoken since his father died, and she’s starting to get a little concerned. Hans Olav says, *yeah, yeah, sure.* But when he goes into the living room, he hesitates. Emotional stuff isn’t his strong suit. He sits down on the couch. Uncomfortable. Unable to say anything. Flips on the TV instead.
- Cawaale in his apartment, pacing, nervous. His phone ringing - it’s Hugo, but he’s ignoring the calls. Britta on the couch. In front of

them, three parcels of cocaine (from the warehouse). Cawaale freaking out - Hugo paid for marijuana that they never took, and instead, they stole cocaine from someone else. What the fuck was she thinking? Britta is calm. She says, *this guy I knew told me about the cocaine before he died. And there's a ton of it. No one else who knows about it would steal just three parcels - they'd steal all of it. But there's no point in us doing that, because we could never sell it all, and if we tried, they'd find us.* Cawaale's pacing slows. He says, *how'd you think of that?* Britta says, *it's how my dad went out on his own when he was young. He stole from his boss, but just a tiny bit at a time. He was never caught.* Cawaale says, *fuck, you're smart.* Britta smiles, says, *I grew up with The Hell's Angels. There wasn't much room for stupid.*

- Zoro arrives in town. Heads directly for the warehouse, as instructed. But once inside, we see him furrow his brow. Something doesn't seem right...
- Nikolai in his car. Outside of the morgue, yet again. He takes a moment by himself. Still shaken by the conversation with Øyvind. Then he puts his game face back on. Heads inside.
- Nikolai with Elvis. The body from the lake on the slab. Elvis has done a postmortem. He wants to send the body on to Kripos, because he now suspects murder. He shows Nikolai a crack in the skull - it's perfectly rectangular. And bits of skull have tiny grooves in them, like someone used some sort of studded mallet.
- Zoro shows up at the brewery. Tells Josef he won't come anywhere near this deal. Josef asks why. Zoro laughs, says, *I don't think you realize who you've stolen from, my friend.*

## Act two

- Goran and Bengt paired together, searching for the crash site (though Bengt, of course, isn't searching at all). Bengt says, *don't you think it makes more sense to take the investigation to Oslo? Look for dealers there? Stomping around looking for a crash site seems like a waste of time.* Goran takes a moment, then says, *you know what origami is, Bengt?* Bengt is caught off guard, but says, *yeah, the thing with folding paper.* Goran says, *right. It's Japanese. My wife was obsessed. She was pretty good at it, too. I'd find it all over the house. Paper towels folded into owls. Magazine pages looking like dragons. I loved it, to tell you the truth.* Goran smiles, then looks at the map. Points to where they should go next. We can tell Bengt is on edge; Goran is getting closer to the crash site. Then Goran continues, saying, *one day I'm at my partner's house for dinner. We were friends, all of us. And I see this dolphin folded out of the back label of a shampoo bottle. It was on the edge of their bathtub.* A silence. Goran trudges forward. Bengt says, *why are you telling me this?* Goran says, *the crash site has the details, Bengt. And it's the details that'll do us in. Every time.*
- Britta at Cubus. An average clothing store to the average person, but for a girl stuck in a small border town, it's a step up. Britta's mobile

at her ear, she's talking with Oskar. She claims to be a friend's house for a few days. Oskar buys the story, (he obviously doesn't enforce much discipline with her), but he also tells her that he misses her. He's so lonely these days. She has a pang of guilt, but then shakes it off.

- The streets of Oslo. The not-so-nice parts. Cawaale on the job, selling. It's just dime bags. Small amounts so as to not raise eyebrows. Very under the radar. But then we note another guy, MARIUS (20s), watching.
- Lars and Anniken, also searching for the crash site. Silence between them, until Lars says, *you wish you were working with Nikolai on this, don't you?* She shrugs, feigning indifference, but Lars knows better. He says, *it's okay. I know you like him. Everybody likes him. Or, well, maybe 'like' isn't the right word. Actually, he doesn't have any friends, at least that I know of. But people are...I don't know... drawn to him. They always have been.*
- Nikolai approaching the brewery. Pia's having a smoke outside. They talk, leaning up against the wall, (just like in the pilot). But the tone this time is very different. Pia is in a bad mood (we don't know why, specifically). Nikolai says something flirty, but Pia isn't in the mood. She says, *you're off the hook, okay? What we did, it was a one-time thing, and I get it: you're not interested in someone like me.*
- Nikolai coming inside the brewery, ruffled from the conversation with Pia. He finds Josef. Says, *the body we found, it's looking like it might be a bit older than we thought.* Josef nods - he knows what this means. Nikolai says, *I can take a DNA sample from you. Send it in to Oslo. And we can go from there.* Josef doesn't answer. Nikolai says, *what?* Josef says, *I'm afraid we have other problems. Zoro turned down the deal. He recognized the packages. Turns out our Swedish girlfriend isn't working solo.* Nikolai says, *I never figured she was.* Josef laughs, says, *yeah, neither did I, but I didn't realize who was backing her. She's not in town to scare me. She's in town to kill me.*

### Act three

- Nikolai returns to the station. DNA sample (in a package) in his hand. He tells Atle to mail it to Kripos, get it there by tomorrow. Atle nods. Then Nikolai sees Anniken, Goran, Lars and Bengt all coming back from the search.
- At the brewery. Pia shaken. Josef shaken, too. Through conversation, Pia reveals that she's researched treatment centers in the US for her mom. They're long shots, but what else is she supposed to do? Problem is, the cost. It's astronomical. Josef says, *I know you're not asking, but if you want to borrow money, you know where I keep some extra layin' around.* Pia opens her mouth to object, but Josef just smiles, says, *it's just sitting there. You know the combination.*
- Zoro, driving home from Elverum. He calls Oskar (surprise, these two know each other). Zoro says, *there's something going on in Elverum, and I just wanted to make sure you weren't mixed up in it, because the shit's about to hit the fan.* Oskar shakes his head, *nah, it's not*

*me. Zoro laughs, says, and those idiots are already skimming off the top. Like no one will notice there are only 17 parcels, when there should be 20. Zoro's still laughing, but something about that strikes Oskar as odd...*

- Cawaale comes home, beaten. Britta there. Tending to him as he gingerly sits in a plastic kitchen chair. He says, *guy jumped me. Wanted to know where I got the coke, because the streets have been dried up for weeks now. I freaked out. I didn't know what to do. I...I told him your dad's name.* Britta isn't happy, but she's focused. She says, *so what does this mean? Is this guy anything to worry about?* Cawaale says, *no, he's not. But the guy he works for....we need to worry about him for sure.*
- Nikolai in the police station's men's bathroom with Lars and Bengt. Bengt's mind is still reeling from his conversation with Goran, worried everything is going to unravel. He tells them that it's taking too long to sell this stuff, and the longer it takes, the longer they're all at risk. He looks at Nikolai, says, *you've got 24 hours to sell this stuff. If you can't do it, I'll come forward. I'd rather be the one to ruin this thing than be the one that goes down with a sinking ship.* Lars is caught off guard. But Nikolai just laughs, saying, *you'd never risk your own ass.* Bengt says, *you're forgetting, there's nothing tying me to any of this. No physical evidence. But there's loads tying both of you.* Nikolai about to rip his throat out, right when Goran walks in. Awkward silence.
- Britta pacing in the kitchen. Cawaale tending to his wounds. Her phone rings. It's Oskar. She says, *fuck.* She thinks it over, then picks it up. Oskar is almost crying - depression has hit him hard. He's realized it was her who took the 3 parcels (he'd know that kind of thievery anywhere - he's the one who told her how he did the exact same thing to his boss years ago), and so he knows she's taken off without him; gone out on her own. He wants to know why she left him. Why she lied to him. Doesn't she love him? Is he a bad father? It would be funny if the guy wasn't in such legitimate mental anguish. Britta deflates. Sits down at the table. Tells her father she loves him. Convinces him that everything will be okay. We, and Cawaale, are surprised to see this side of her...when she wants to, she can be kind of sweet.
- Nikolai and Goran are left in the bathroom together. Both washing their hands. Goran says, *this isn't your case, but I'm curious, how would you proceed? Would you put your energy into finding the crash site, looking for evidence? Or would you go straight to the bigger buyers?* Nikolai says, *why are you asking me?* Goran says, *well, your brother and his friend both seem to think we're barking up the wrong tree. Made that clear all day today. Just curious if you agree.* A moment of silence. It feels like a test. Then Nikolai says, *like you said, it's not my case.* Nikolai shuts off the faucet. Leaves the bathroom. Heads out towards -

- The station. Nikolai grabs the package from Atle's desk. Atle's surprised, *don't you want me to mail that to Oslo?* Nikolai says, *I'll deliver it in person.*

#### Act four

- Bengt in his car, leaving the station. Lars gets in, uninvited. And angry. He says, *what the fuck are you doing? You can't threaten Nikolai like that. We're supposed to be a team on this. Besides, if you turn him or me in, either one of us will say you were involved. You think we'd spare you after you fucked us over?* Bengt says, *no, you won't implicate me.* Lars says, *oh yeah? Why not?* Bengt says, *because your wife set Jonas up the day he was killed. They'd have to search payphone records to prove it, but I'm gonna bet they would. If you bring me down with you, I'll bring her down with all of us. It's one thing for your kids to grow up without a dad. It's another for them to grow up without parents. Is that what you want?* Lars goes pale. Threatening his kids - that's a low blow.
- Nikolai arriving in Oslo. Skies are dark. But the nightlife is kicking into high gear. We see drunk people on the streets. Partyers. Nikolai drives, heading in towards the Kripos labs. A few technicians still at work. He delivers the DNA sample. Asks for a rush.
- Cawaale and Britta. She's off the phone now with her dad. Back to pacing. He says, *Hugo's calling me non-stop. And if we don't do something about your dad somethin' really bad'll happen to him.* Britta says, *I know, I know. I'm thinking.* A moment, then something strikes her. She smiles. Says, *I've got it.*
- A therapist visiting Jenny at home. Evening hours. She says, *Jenny, I specifically tried to get you to take our appointment at my office, but you found several excuses why we had to meet here. Now, you've told me you're interested in getting pregnant, but I have some legitimate concerns about that.* Jenny insists, *I can leave the house. I just don't like to.* The Therapist presses, *You've told me that several times, but I have to ask, when was the last time you left the house?* Jenny averts her eyes. The therapist softens, saying, *you were tormented as a child when walking to school. The girls in your class were vicious. And the fears you developed are perfectly understandable. But if you cannot bring yourself to face them, even on a beginning level, I will urge you to reconsider the choices you're making today about potentially raising a child by yourself.*
- Goran and Anniken back at the station. Take-out dinner in the office as they comb through the investigation. Looking over the maps and what they've covered thus far. Goran fiddling with the receipt from their order as they talk. Anniken prints something out. Leaves to go get it from the copy room. Goran, alone, still fiddling with the receipt. We pan down. He's folded it into a dove.
- Nikolai back in his car. A serious moment of hesitation. Wherever he's headed next, he really doesn't want to go there. But he's got no choice. He throws the car into reverse. Drives.

- A brown pub in Grønland. Green curtains. Dingy floors. Pictures caked in dust adorning the walls. Nikolai finds his way to Fredrik Brekke. This is the brother of the man he's put on trial. Needless to say, Nikolai and Fredrik do not exactly like each other. But Fredrik is a major drug buyer (surprise) and Nikolai is desperate. He tells Fredrik the situation. Tells him he can have the drugs for, literally, nothing. But he needs some protection right now in Elverum, (for Josef), and someone to remove the drugs very discretely and quickly (so if Bengt comes forward, there's nothing to back up his story). Fredrik thinks. Then says...*no. I don't do business with liars.* Nikolai says, *I'm not lying.* Fredrik says, *no, but your boyfriend is. He's lying about Kåre. He's been lying this whole time.*

**GRENSELAND**  
Episode Eight  
“Desperate Measures”  
Theme: *Retaliation*

**Teaser**

- Morning. The Kripos offices in Oslo. Busy. Loud. But we move towards a back room where it's secluded. Inside, we see Nikolai, pouring over files. We look closer, and see: it's all his case notes on Kåre Brekke. We look at specific statements from Kristoffer, times of day, sequences of events, etc., and we intercut these images with...
- Kristoffer taking the stand in the courtroom. The answers he's giving, combined with the images of Nikolai's research tells us: Kristoffer was never molested by Kåre Brekke. Fredrik Brekke was right. Kristoffer is lying. Nonetheless, Kristoffer's eyes bore down on Kåre Brekke - he'll put him behind bars, if it's the last thing he does.

**Act one**

- Dark. Then, we hear the sound of a combination lock tick-tick-ticking. A door opens. We're inside Josef's safe. Pia looks in. We see the gun - just like before. Then the money. She hesitates, then takes the cash; after all, Josef said she could. Shuts the safe door. Dark again. Tick-tick-tick as the dial spins.
- Lars and Kristel and the kids in the morning. Kristel lazy about taking them to school (per usual). Turns out she can't keep up the nice-girl act for too long. Lars snapping, saying, *take them in, goddamnit. They're your kids*. The audience understands why he's upset, but Kristel doesn't. She's surprised, but grabs her keys, shuffles the kids towards the door.
- Hans Olav getting ready to run some morning errands. But something is wrong. The dementia is worsening, and this morning, it's obvious.
- Marta pulls up to the school. Dropping off her son. He's not sick anymore, but he's also still not talking. As she heads back towards her car, she sees Kristel, also dropping off her kids. Marta approaches, saying, *I know you're involved in this. But I don't know if your husband told you how serious I was. You might want to talk to him. Let him know I'm not joking*.
- Hans Olav at Rema 1000. The same grocery store where he's already made a spectacle of himself. And just like last time, he gets confused. Just a bit at first, but then, he recognizes employees - the ones present during his last outburst - and they're stealing glances at him. Shifting eyes. Whispers. *It's that guy from last time*. If it's really happening, or if it's all in his head, it's not entirely clear. But to Hans Olav, it quickly becomes overwhelming. Near the mayonnaise aisle, we see his blood start to boil...
- Nikolai, also with his blood boiling. Like father like son. He's waiting for Kristoffer outside of his apartment. A confrontation so heated there's violence in the air. Kristoffer admits he lied, but says, *it's okay to lie if it's for good reason. My brother is dead, and it's*

*because that piece of shit molested him. He might never have touched me but no one would listen to me unless I had first-hand experience. So I made up a few things, so what? It's all for a good reason - to put that sonofabitch behind bars. Nikolai says, your brother had a relationship with Kåre. He was 17 years old. It was sick shit, yes, but it's also not a completely black and white situation. Kristoffer asks, are you telling me you don't think that guy deserves to go to prison? Is that what you really believe? Nikolai avoids answering, says, I have to testify in a couple of days. It's usually just routine stuff but now I don't know what the fuck I'm supposed to do. If I don't tell the truth, I'm lying under oath. Kristoffer says, let me make your decision easier for you: if you say I lied, if you let that fucker go free, I'll expose our relationship. It'll ruin your career. And everyone will know you're a fag.*

### Act two

- Anniken and Goran. At the station. We understand that they're down to the last main road of searching. Bengt shows up, saying Lars is busy with his dad who was just arrested. Anniken says, *The three of us will get it done. Let's go.*
- Nikolai coming out of the Kripos labs. He's got the DNA results in an envelope. Gets into his car. Opens the envelope. Looks. His face unreadable. Tosses it on the passenger seat. Throws the car into reverse.
- Nikolai on the road - calls Josef, says *I can't offer you protection. I tried. I really did.* We intercut this with:
- Josef on his mobile in the brewery kitchen. A small, high-level window affords him a view of across the street. That white Beetle, just sitting there. Nikolai says (through the phone), *just don't do anything stupid.* Josef eyes the Beetle, says, *you know, the bible has a lot of quotes about nonviolence.* Nikolai says, *you gonna make me listen to one now?* A beat. Then Josef says, *no. I'm not.*
- Jenny's house. We see the front door open. Slowly. She's still technically inside her house but the wind on her face - that's new. A foot inches out onto her front steps. The other foot follows. She's outside. Her eyes land the fence surrounding her house, the mailbox attached to it. A goal.
- Lars fuming in the front seat of his police car. Hans Olav in the back, covered in mayonnaise, glass, and bits of blood. Silence. Then an argument erupts. Hans Olav only wants to deal with Nikolai, but Lars keeps saying, *Kripos doesn't handle local arrests, dad.* But Hans Olav insists. He's confused, scared, and he wants someone he can trust. Lars really loses it - *why is it you prefer him? I'm the one who's here right now. I'm the one who stayed in Elverum. I'm the one who helps you when you need it! Why him and not me?* Hans Olav loses it, saying, *because you're weak. Like your mother. And you look like her. Your faces, they're fucking identical. And the older you get the more and more...he trails off. We hope he'll turn sentimental. But then, the more and more I see you're no fucking replacement.*

- Josef at the brewery. If we are watching carefully, we might notice him coming out of his back office, where we've established the safe is located. Rolf is there. Josef asks how he learned about the list. Rolf tells him about Tina. Josef asks, you like this girl? Rolf says, *yeah*. Josef asks, you love her? Rolf says, *I don't know. Not yet. Maybe*. Josef nods. Then says, *go be with her. In fact, leave town. Now.*

### Act three

- Nikolai arriving back in Elverum. His phone rings - it's Jan. He's done an examination of the body from the lake. Says, *Elvis is a small town guy, and I can see how this might have given him a hard on, but sorry, I only get a semi. The bone fragments aren't as conclusive as he'd like. Bottom line, a blow to the head killed this guy. And whatever it was that hit him, it had some indentations in it, for sure. But whether that was a weapon, or just an oddly-shaped rock, it's impossible to say. Sorry to leave things up in the air. I know you guys hate that shit.* Nikolai says, *you're just doing your job.* Jan says, *and fuckin' brilliantly.*
- Afternoon. Pia at home, with her mom. Explaining that she's got them a spot in a treatment program. They can book tickets for next week. Pia's mom smiles at her daughter - touched. Then says, *I don't want to go to the US for treatment. I'm tired. I'm ready to die.* Pia pleads - they can't just give up. Mom says, *with all due respect honey, you never asked me what I wanted. This is what I want.*
- Josef in his car. Driving. Looking out his rearview mirror. The white Beetle following him. He doesn't look surprised in the least.
- Bengt, Anniken and Goran working together to cover the last bit of ground within the search area. The audience knows that this is the actual road where the crash occurred. It's within meters...Bengt's playing it cool but inside his heart is racing.
- Josef turning down a side street. The white Beetle following. His eyes, focused. His hands, steady.
- Bengt steers Anniken and Goran away from where the crash site is. It's a close call, but he manages. The second day, and it's a bust. Anniken frustrated. Goran smart enough to give her space.
- We come in halfway through the phone call between Cawaale and Hugo. Cawaale says, *this is how I'm making it right.* Hugo says, *you do realize that if I do what you tell me to do, and you're lying, then I'm a dead man.* Cawaale says, *I have no reason to lie. Plus, you're broke as shit. You got no choice. Just go there tomorrow. Before noon. Take it all. That's the most important thing - take it all.*
- Anniken back to the station just as Nikolai pulls up. Goran and Bengt go inside. Anniken and Nikolai having a moment alone. If either of them smoked, this would be the time. As is, they're stuck just sucking in the only bit of daylight these autumn days offer. Both of their cases are currently at an inconclusive point, and they both quickly agree: *bad news is a million times better than no news.* It's not in either of their blood to accept a non-answer. And it's killing them both. Maybe because they're on different cases, or maybe it's

because they're stuck in this small town, but Nikolai and Anniken finally share a laugh. A real one. And we feel, for the first time, that they're partners.

- Black again. And again, we hear the tick-tick-ticking of a safe lock. It opens. Light. Pia puts the money back in. But then we all notice: the gun is gone. Pia stares. Then she shuts the safe door again. Back to black.

#### Act four

- Evening. Hans Olav is released from the police station. He's had time to calm down. He makes an apology to Lars. It's fumbled, but sincere. Unfortunately, it's too little, too late. Lars says, *if you're looking to make amends, look elsewhere. I'm not interested in starting over.*
- Pia working the brewery. Rolf gone. Josef gone. And it's packed. But she's so upset right now, she appreciates the distraction.
- At another bar. A local place. Nikolai, Josef, Lars and Bengt. Actually the first time these four have been together. Nikolai says, *it's over. No one's gonna buy this stuff, and anyone who might at this point, they'd be too much of a risk. The good news is, they never found the crash site, so there's nothing to link this to you guys. They'll start looking into Oslo and they'll likely run into dead ends. Either way, the focus is off of Elverum.* Bengt says, *so what the hell do you think we should do?* Nikolai says, *burn it. Burn all of it. Pretend it never happened. This is your last chance. Get out while you still can.*
- Anniken about to leave the station. Going over logistics with Goran about how they'll shift the focus of the investigation to Oslo and buyers. How they'll leave Elverum tomorrow. Anniken about to send in a report on the crash site search, but it's just eating at her. She stands. Grabs her keys.
- Josef headed to his car. Bengt approaches. Says, *you can't seriously be going along with this, right? You need the money, too, don't you?* Josef says, *Bengt, face it: you're a dumb local cop. And you're never going to be anything more than a dumb local cop. Whatever you thought that money was going to do for you, it won't.* (we should pick up on the subtext here - Josef is really upset that his own mayoral aspirations didn't pan out). As Josef's getting into his car, he turns, says, *and by the way, I know it was you who took those three parcels. You're lucky I never said anything to Nikolai. He'd had killed you. Just do us all a favor - burn them along with the rest of it.* As Josef drives away, we see Bengt's confusion - he didn't take any parcels.
- Anniken driving. Fast. Going back to that one area of the search where Bengt steered her away. She's got to check. Got to be sure.
- Kristina, in her cabin in Sweden. She's calling her daughter. No answer. She hangs up. Through her expression, we can tell that she knows something isn't right.
- Nikolai pulls Lars aside, in the parking lot outside the bar. Says, *I'll go to the bank by Friday. Get what I can as a loan. Probably a couple*

*hundred thousand. It'll be enough to tie you over for a while, right?* From Lars' expression, we can tell that it won't - in fact, it's not even close. But he covers. Says, *yeah, yeah. That's great. Thanks, man. Thanks a lot.*

- Josef returning to the brewery. Late at night. Pia closing up. Heading home. Josef says, I'll drive you. Maybe because he's a gentlemen. Or maybe because he just doesn't want to be alone. She accepts. Maybe because, she doesn't want to be alone, either.
- Inside Josef's car. A moment of talking - Josef makes an offhand comment about Pia in high school. Something sweet; something other than that horrible memory that plagues her. She smiles. Then, she makes a move. He hesitates. Just a fraction of a second. Embarrassment flashes across her face. Then, he kisses her.
- Anniken pulls over. Walks along the edge of the road. Partly on concrete, partly in the forest. Flashlight shining. Eyes like lasers. Determined. And then...she finds the tire marks. She shines the light into the woods. Overturned shrubs. Half of a tree taken out by something large - a car. Bingo. The crash site.
- Back in the BMW. Things get heated quickly; the chemistry between them palpable. Pia unbuttons his shirt. Sees something on his chest. Asks, half-joking, half-serious, *is that dirt, or blood?* He smiles, says, *might be a bit of both*. She freezes. She's always suspected what kind of guy Josef was. But now, she knows. We wonder what she'll do. Maybe she does, too. Then, she kisses him. Hard.

## GRENSELAND

### Episode Nine "Doomed"

Theme: *The beginning of the end*

#### Teaser

- Very early morning. Anniken and Goran at the station. Doubtful if either of these two have slept. A logistics discussion. They put some basics together: Lars, Tommy and Jonas all drove past the car accident that night. Drugs from the car are missing. Four people are dead. Basically, they're putting together the events from episodes 1 - 4 (except for Nikolai and Bengt's involvement). The coincidences are too strong to ignore; their case is a good one. Anniken says, *Lars is our guy. I know it.* Goran wonders out loud, *you think he acted alone?* Anniken freezes, unsure.

#### Act one

- Nikolai coming into the station. Passing Anniken and Goran in their office. He wants to know where they are with the case, but obviously cannot ask. He goes to his desk. Starts researching the circumstances behind the priest's death, but all the files are old. Most of these people are dead by now. But he comes across one guy - STIG BIRKELAND. A Swedish priest. Took over for Josef's father's congregation after he disappeared. Look like he's still alive. Retired, living just outside of Elverum.
- Lars visits his bookie, a polish guy named KRYSTIAN. Through conversation, we learn that Lars is significantly deeper in debt that he's let on. Lars says, *one final bet. If I win, I'll be out of the hole.* Lars names the game/odds. Game is tonight. Krystian laughs. But agrees. Says, *it's your funeral.*
- Kristina at her kitchen table. Drinking her tea. Her phone on the table in front of her. Waiting for a call back, and it isn't coming. From her expression, we can tell, this isn't normal; she knows something's happened to Ciarissa.
- Hugo in his bathrobe. Looking at the clock. Thinking. He takes a hit off a bowl. Then grabs his keys. Out the door.
- Jenny, now on the road outside of her house. Major progress. She eyes the nearby school. Another mental goal. Nothing stopping her now.
- Anniken and Goran, deep in research. Goran says, we have to question Lars, at the least. Anniken hesitates. Says, *I need something else to go on. Something a little more substantial. He's Nikolai's brother. If I'm gonna pull him in for questioning, I need to be so rock solid that he's never released.* They go over timelines. The time border patrol called the station about Jonas being pulled over, the time Lars showed up, and the time he would have likely left, all combined with when the signals on Lennart and Ahmed's cell phones died, how long it would have taken to get their car to the lake, etc. The bottom line is there's maybe a 30-minute window in there. 30

minutes wherein Lars might have driven past the accident, or he might have driven past the area just before the accident. Timeline can put them in the same area on the same night, but not at exactly the same time. They're hitting a wall.

- Nikolai pays a visit to Stig Birkeland. Now an old man, long retired and living on the outskirts of Elverum. Nikolai asking questions about the priest. Stig surprisingly lucid for his age. And he makes no secret of it: Jens Kolberg had affairs with teenage boys - he mentions the names of a few of them. Says, *back then, it was something people didn't talk about. But it happened. We all knew it. And did nothing. Jens Kolberg had enemies. Maybe one of them had enough - maybe that's how he died. Wouldn't surprise me.* Throughout the series, we have continually hinted, but now we confirm beyond a shadow of a doubt (through behavior and subtext): Nikolai and Josef's father had a romantic/sexual relationship of some nature when Nikolai was a young teenager. Nikolai wasn't expecting to face this when he knocked on this man's door, but there's no escaping now. Stig shakes his head. Says, *it was a shame. All of it. None of those boys, none of them turned out normal. You experience something like that, when you're young, and there's no recovering. You're damaged. For life.*

## Act two

- Bengt at Kristel's house. Kids and Lars are gone. Bengt relates what Nikolai said last night, about how they should just burn the drugs. He also says what Josef told him - about someone stealing some parcels, about how he's a dumb local nobody. Bengt angry. Feeling like he's in a corner. Kristel slides over towards him. Wraps her arms around him. Says, *you were the one who Lars called that day, because you're the guy who knows what to do. Not Nik. Not Josef. You. And someone's stealing off the top because they've forgotten that. Maybe they need a wake up call. Maybe it's time you took matters into your own hands.*
- Hugo parking a van near the side of the road. Then trudging through forest. Headed somewhere.
- Pia, getting into her car, outside the hospice center. It's obvious she just dropped her mom off. She's now alone. Fighting tears. She gets a text. It's from Josef. Just a little thinking-of-you thing. A tiny gesture, but right now, it means a lot.
- We see Bengt get into his car. Only, he's not headed for the station. He hits the highway.
- Hans Olav at Dr. Wahl's (family doctor - we met him in episode four). Per Nikolai's instructions (again, episode four), Dr. Wahl has been prepped to push Hans Olav to get help. And it's a good thing Nikolai prepped the doc, because Hans Olav is elusive about his dementia. Claims it's not so bad. Dr. Wahl tries another route - starts naming symptoms, asking if they feel familiar? From Hans Olav's silent expression, we can tell, yeah, they're familiar. Dr. Wahl sighs. Tells Hans Olav the brutal truth: things are going to get worse, rapidly. There are medications, but they're just to manage the symptoms;

there is no cure. *The moments of clarity, you'll have fewer and fewer of them. Most patients want to make the most of them, while they still can.*

- Nikolai back at his desk. Stig's words still ringing in his ears. He opens up the Kripos database. Types in some of the names that were mentioned - the other boys who were involved with the priest. We just see bits and pieces of the files that pop up, but certain words and phrases from various reports stand out: "simple assault," "sentenced to six months," "sexual addition," "cognitive therapy ineffective," "habitual violence," "high dose anti-depressants," "unemployed," "uncontrollable rage," "divorce," "larceny," "sentenced to three years," "deceased." Nikolai sits back. Body still. Breathing shallow.
- Anniken in the station kitchen. Pouring herself some of that terrible station coffee. Atle there, at the kitchen table, also drinking coffee. She takes a sip. Winces. But she's exhausted from lack of sleep - desperate for the caffeine. Atle smiles. Says, *come on. Follow me*. He stands. Walks out of the room. She's confused, but follows.
- Inside the station's evidence room. Lots of boxes, labeled with dates and names. Atle shows Anniken his secret thermos, hidden behind the boxes, filled with gourmet coffee he brews at home. Pours her a cup. She cracks a smile - charmed. They sip their (good) coffee. Talk. For just a moment, Anniken relaxing. Attention turns to the evidence boxes. Atle shows her some of the gadgets they have tucked away, including tracking devices from one of Lars' investigations a few years ago. Anniken's body goes on high alert. She looks at the pieces. Says, *one of them is just a receiver. Where's the tracker?* Atle shrugs his shoulders. Says, *I don't know*.

### Act three

- Anniken and Goran on a speaker call to the Kripos team who examined the car. Sure enough, the tracker/receiver match up - same model. They hang up. Anniken looks over at Goran. Says, *we've got what we need*. Usually she'd look excited. This time, she looks...sad.
- Hugo finds Oskar's storage shed. He's gotten instructions from Cawaale, and he knows it's got a trap door leading underground (set up from episode 5). Down below, he finds about 50 large marijuana plants, all under special lamps. His eyes go wide. It's a pothead's wet dream, not to mention the answer to his financial troubles. He looks at his watch - he's got to hurry.
- Bengt arriving in Oslo, in a wealthy neighborhood. He parks outside of an upscale apartment complex.
- Hans Olav showing up at the brewery. It's early in the day - no customers yet. Josef looks up. Surprised. *What the hell are you doing here?* Hans Olav says, there's something I need to tell you. Something I did.
- Bengt inside ESPEN'S apartment. A young-ish guy from the East side of Oslo who now clearly has a bit of money. We see Marius in the background, (the guy who beat up Cawaale - the guy Cawaale gave

Oskar Skarin's name to) and through conversation understand that Espen is a major cocaine distributor in Oslo. Bengt is out of his league, but too stupid to be humble. He tells him, he's come across some cocaine. He'll sell it at a lowered price, as long as the transaction stays between the two of them. Espen smiles. We can tell, whatever he's thinking, he's not taking Bengt seriously at all. Espen says, *I'll come to Elverum tomorrow. Check it out*. When he's gone, Marius asks, *we still going to Sweden for Skarin?* Espen shakes his head. *Hold off on that for now*.

- Hugo loading the last of the marijuana plants. Oskar's storage shed is now completely empty of marijuana. Hugo drives off, delighted.
- Cawaale and Britta look at the clock - it's noon. It's time. Britta picks up her mobile. Calls the Swedish police. Reports her father.
- Outside the elementary school. Jenny's made it to the bench - a massive accomplishment, and her face shows her satisfaction. In the nearby playground, Erik's friends start whispering and pointing at Jenny; she's unusually large, and most kids his age can't resist. We see Jenny's face turn a bit red. The bell rings - kids rush inside. But Erik lingers by the gate. Walks over closer to Jenny. Says, *I wasn't saying anything*. She says, *it's okay. I'm used to it*. Erik says, *sorry, though. I get made fun of sometimes, too. It sucks*. Jenny smiles, says, *we can handle the sucky stuff, though. We're tougher than we think, right?* He smiles. Nods. Runs in to class.
- Lars, inside. The big game on - the one Lars bet on. He's watching at home. On the edge of his couch. His life dependent on the outcome.
- Nikolai comes to Josef at the brewery. We notice that Josef seems shaken after his conversation with Hans Olay. Nikolai tells him the DNA evidence is 99.9% certain that it was his father. But the forensic evidence is inconclusive. It could have been a homicide, or your father could have fallen. Struck his head on a rock. Drowned. Nikolai tells him, *I'll find out what happened. I promise*. Josef hesitates, then says, *don't. My dad, he used to tell me that he went to the lake to fish, but I know he went down there to drink. Couldn't be a drunk priest, right? So he hid it. He fell, Nikolai. He fell and hit his head. I'm sure of it, because the day he died, in the morning, he was already buzzed when I left for school. I remember. Close the case. There's nothing more to find*. Nikolai furrows his brow, says, *why isn't that in our reports? Why didn't you tell the police at the time he went missing?* Josef says, *pride, I guess. The old man wouldn't have wanted anyone to know. If we're paying attention, we might notice that it seems like Josef is lying. We don't yet understand why*.

#### Act four

- Anniken and Goran on a late-night call with Berg. He's reviewed their evidence - there's no arguing with what they've found. He says, *you're about to arrest a sheriff, and that sheriff happens to be the brother of one of our most respected detectives. Nikolai will leave tomorrow morning to testify in Oslo. Wait until he's out of town. I'll bring another detective up to speed tonight, send him down there in*

*the morning. I want you guys to have numbers, and you can't use anyone on the force there 'cause they all work for Lars and we'll need to question them, so wait for backup to arrive before you make a move. Okay?* They look at each other, then agree to the plan. *Okay.*

- Nikolai at the station. He's staring at his report on the unidentified body from the lake. His report gives the identity, but lists the cause of death as accidental. Something about him hesitates, but then he submits it electronically. Grabs his coat. Heads out into the hallway.
- In the hallway. Nikolai passes Anniken. He asks how the case is going. She says, *fine. Good.* But something about her answer seems unnatural. Nikolai nods, pretending not to notice. But by the time he walks away, we see on his expression: he knows.
- Kristoffer, in Oslo. Partying with Emil. Drugs. Booze. Music. His testimony is over. The need for a tension-release is palpable. We get the bad feeling that the partying is, this time, maybe a bit too extreme.
- Police storm Oskar Skarin's house and storage shed simultaneously. Inside the house, there's tiny bits and pieces of marijuana - not much. The surprise? The storage shed is empty. The police are confused. They arrest him anyway - with his priors, even small amounts are enough to take him in - but it's a disappointment; they were hoping for a big bust. In the back seat of the police car, we see something odd on Oskar's face: relief. He's a tiny bit happy to be headed back to prison. It's home.
- Cawaale and Britta in his apartment. Him on the couch, nervous. Her standing, looking out the window. She turns to him. Tells him it was the right thing. Her father was depressed, and he's happier in prison. Plus, he'll be safe from Espen behind bars. And Hugo cleaned him out so he won't be back there for long. Everybody wins. *We did the right thing.* She walks over to him. Slowly straddles him on the couch. *You and I, we're a good team.*
- Josef comes home. Still shaken from today, and we still do not understand why. But Pia is there, waiting for him. He puts his arms around her. Kisses her. Looks like whatever happened between them, it's turning into a regular thing. And make no mistake about it: they both look happy.
- Anniken and Goran. She's back from the hallway, back from her encounter with Nikolai. Her mind still on that conversation. Goran says, seemingly out of nowhere - *you know, your partner is a dirty detective.* She snaps out of it. Says, *what?* Goran says, *I know them when I see them.* Anniken says, *you're wrong.* Goran says, *I'm not. And one day, you'll see that. The question is, what will you do about it?*
- Back in Lars' living room. Against all odds, his team wins. Alone, he literally jumps onto the coffee table with joy. But it's interrupted by a knock on the door. Still smiling, Lars answers. It's Nikolai. His expression severe. He says *it's over. She's working on an arrest. I don't think there's anything more I can do about it.* A moment. The

wind sucked out of Lars' lungs. He says, *I meant what I said. I won't drag you down with me.*

## GRENSELAND

### Episode Ten

#### "The Truth"

Theme: *What would you do?*

#### Teaser

- Morning. At the local coffee shop. We see again Nikolai's mom's art on the wall - that cool, pounded metal sculpture. Nikolai buying Josef a cup of coffee. Them leaning against their respective cars in the parking lot. A lingering goodbye. They aren't friends exactly, but they're something. Nikolai tells Josef he's pretty sure Anniken will make an arrest today, but he's guessing that Berg is sending in another detective for backup - he won't have her do it solo. Lars has said he won't implicate anyone, but it's risky. Josef asks, *so you're skipping town, just when things get interesting?* Nikolai explains that he's got to testify in Oslo. Josef jokes about having another asshole detective in town. Nikolai cracks a smile, says, and he drives a Tesla. Josef literally recoils in disgust. They both chuckle. Then, an awkward silence. Nikolai opens the driver's side door. Getting ready to leave. Josef says, *I gotta ask. Let's say, just hypothetically, your brother implicates you but not me. Police knocking down your door. Would you bring me down, too? To help yourself? Or would you protect me?* Nikolai hesitates. Josef eyes him, *what would you do?* Nikolai says, *you've been walking the line a long time now, Josef. Sooner or later, it'll catch up with you. If it's me who does it, then it's me.* Nikolai gets in his car. Drives off. Josef watches him leave.

#### Act one

- Outside the Kripos offices in Oslo. We see Karlsen climb in his Tesla. Start the (weak, electric) engine. Back out onto the road.
- Espen and Kristina in a parked car outside of the warehouse. Obviously, they've now found the drugs. Espen is finally getting his shipment. Kristina says something about it being uncommon to have such a hiccup in her business transactions. Espen comes back with a snotty comment about how things are done in Oslo. He says, and I know, I own Oslo. It's just patronizing enough to rub her the wrong way, but she keeps her mouth shut. He asks her if she'll be leaving town soon. She says, *no, I have a few things to take care of first.* He nods. *Me, too.*
- Breakfast with Lars and his family. His mind elsewhere - hard to ignore the pending doom. Kristel in a rush. The kids fighting over cereal. He excuses himself. Goes to the bathroom. In the medicine cabinet, we see sleeping pills. He eyes them. We know what he's thinking.
- Anniken and Goran at the station. A phone call between Berg and Anniken. Berg explaining that Karlsen has already left for Elverum. He'll be there soon. Berg is about to hang up, when he says, *I'm putting in for a transfer to another office. Probably it's for the best,*

*don't you think?* It's an opportunity for her to take him back, and she knows it. She hesitates. Then says, (kindly), *yeah, I think that's for the best.*

- Nikolai with Hans Olav in the kitchen of their home. A goodbye. Hans Olav trying his best these days to be more upfront about his feelings. He tells Nikolai wants him to visit again. Two years, it's too long. Nikolai nods. Hans Olav says, *I know this place doesn't mean anything to you. But you mean something to the people here. Just, keep that in mind.* Nikolai nods, absorbing the words.
- We see Nikolai packing up his bag. Last few things. Goes down to the laundry room, getting his t-shirts. We see the laundry room is next to his mom's old art room...
- Josef in his house. Coming home with the coffee Nikolai bought him. He walks downstairs, where Kristina is waiting. Josef isn't at all surprised to see her. He says, *I assume you found your drugs?* She nods. He says, *for whatever it's worth, I wasn't the one who took them.* She says nothing. It's obvious she doesn't care. He says, *I know you've probably already decided to kill me. But if you give me the chance, I might be able to change your mind.*
- Nikolai with his laundry in his hands. He walks right past some of his mom's art supplies, without even glancing. But we take a closer look. And we see some of the tools she used for pounding leather/metal. We notice a mallet. A perfectly rectangular one, with little studded grooves on it.
  - with all the prior clues we've planted, starting in episodes 1 - 4, we should be able to put the pieces together: Hans Olav killed Jens Kolberg decades ago because he found out about the relationship with with Nikolai, and Hans Olav confessed this to Josef in the brewery in the previous episode.
    - We admit it will be tricky to make this plot reveal clear but not *too* clear, but we're pretty confident we can do it within the nuances of the writing. And of course, we can always make it more obvious, if we feel it's too obtuse.
- Back with Josef and Kristina. Josef says, *I know the Kripas detective who killed your daughter. And I've got a beef with him, too. I'll get revenge for you both. I'll kill him.*

## Act two

- Lars driving Erik and Milla to school. Them bickering, like siblings do. His mind is clearly someplace very dark. In the midst of the bickering, Erik glances up. Notes the scowl on his dad's face.
- Nikolai stopping by Jenny's place. Explains he's leaving town. Tells her he's testifying. He doesn't offer up the details, but he does admit he doesn't know what to do. He might not be saying it directly, but he's looking for advice. She's his moral barometer, and he needs her right now. She says, *you'll do the right thing. You always do.* He laughs, *trust me, you don't know what you're talking about.* She says, *I do. I know you. You might have a weird way of going about it,*

*but you do the right thing in the end, Nikolai. It's just who you are. He hesitates, then says, the baby thing...if you still want to do it, if it's what you really want, then I'm here for you.*

- Nikolai, in his car, outside Jenny's house. A flicker of fear crosses his face - what did he just do? Then he throws the car into reverse. Gets on the road. Headed towards Oslo.
- Josef in the warehouse - now cleaned out of drugs. But he pokes around, looking for something else, hidden away in another room. And then, he finds it - a Barrett M82 sniper rifle.
- Josef loads the rifle in his car. Backs out of the warehouse. Also gets on the road. Also headed towards Oslo.
- Lars dropping his kids off at school. They're about to rush off, but he stops them. Doesn't want to say goodbye, and we all know why. Milla kisses her dad, heads off to join her friends. Erik lingers for a moment. Says, *you can handle whatever's sucky, dad.* Lars looks at his son, confused. Erik says, *you're tougher than you think.* Lars can't help it - he laughs. Erik smiles, pleased with himself. Rushes off towards the building. Lars watches him leave.
- Inside Lars' car. Alone now. Mind swirling. Decisions being made.
- Anniken and Goran in their office. Both growing impatient - Karlsen should be here, and they're ready to go. Goran says, *pretty soon, the pace is going to pick up. We'll make this arrest, and we'll both be flooded with work. With any luck, we learn something from Lars that I can tie this back into Sweden, and I'll be on my way back home. So, before any of that happens, I wanted to tell you something. I don't like most people. But I like you.*
- Bengt at a restaurant. Waiting. Espen shows up. Sits down. Bengt thinking they're going to talk about a drug sale, but Espen's got something else on his mind. He says, *look, you're just a small-town idiot, so a big part of me wants to let you off the hook for the fact that you tried to sell me the drugs that you stole from me, but I thought it over, and I just can't. It'd bother me too much if I did. So, here's the best I can offer you: I let you live. And in exchange, I use your town, and all your police resources, to do whatever the hell I want. Elverum will be my personal transit center, and you'll provide me with police protection.* Bengt is struck silent. Scared Espen smiles. Says, *the choice is simple. Either you're my bitch for a very long time, or, you're my bitch for a very short time.*

### Act three

- Nikolai driving. A lot on his mind. His mobile on the passenger car seat. He looks at it. Thinking.
- Karlsen driving. His eyes barely on the road. Mostly checking his own reflection in the review mirror.
- Josef driving. His eyes scanning everything. On the lookout. We've seen that intense look before; he's up to something.
- Nikolai grabs his mobile on hands-free. Dials Kristoffer. No answer. Voicemail picks up. He almost hangs up. Hesitates at the last second.

- Someone moving into Karlsen's lane, getting in his way. A major eye roll. *Come on come on come on...*
- Nikolai leaving a message. Says, *look, I want to know if you meant it. What you said. If you'd really do that. Because, I can't have that. I can't...just, call me.* He hangs up. Curses under his breath.
- Josef noting a car headed in the other direction. His snaps to attention. Pulls over. Gets back on the road in the other direction. Speeds up. Gunning the engine.
- Karlsen fiddling with the radio. With his eyes down, we hear a car speed past him. He looks up, but it's already gone. *Asshole.*
- Nikolai pulls over into a gas station. Shuts off the engine. Mind still going.
- Josef pulls over on a virtually-abandoned side road. Up a gravel hill. Behind trees. A hidden spot with a good vantage point. He gets out of his car. Pops the trunk.
- Nikolai inside the gas station. Looking at the food. Stale bread rolls. Three-day-old sandwiches. Rejects it all. Goes towards the coffee machine.
- Josef hidden, low on the ground. Sniper rifle in place. One eye squinting. Finger on the trigger.
- Karlsen pulling up to an intersection. Stuck behind a light. Like everything else on the road, it makes him roll his eyes with annoyance.
- Nikolai coming out of the gas station. Coffee in hand.
- Josef tensing up - his target in sight.
- Nikolai reaching his car.
- Josef zeroing in.
- Nikolai unlocking his car.
- Josef squeezing the trigger.
- BANG. Karlsen's head explodes. His pretty little environmentally-sound car splattered red.
- Nikolai gets in his passenger seat. Starts the engine.
- Josef scrambles to his feet. Loads the gun in his trunk. Backs out of the scene.

#### Act four

- Hugo in his accountant's office. In his bathrobe, carrying a suitcase. Slams it on the table. Pops the lock. Dumps cash out in a pile. Says, *this should pay off my debts. And I want to invest in a bus for my tourism business. A double decker. The most expensive one there is.* Hugo heads for the door. The accountant's eyes are wide, *wait, where are you going?* Hugo says, *fishing.*
- Anniken and Goran in the interrogation room with Lars. She starts with questions but Lars quickly interrupts her. Confesses: he, Tommy and Jonas came across the accident. Decided to take the drugs. Tried to sell them on their own, but things between them went south. A lot of logistics questions and follow-up, but eventually Anniken says, *did Jonas plant debris in Tomas Hagen's forehead to make it look like he fell on the way home from the brewery that night?* Lars hesitates -

*just a flicker* - before he says, *yeah, yeah, he did. He cut him a bit before he killed him. It was an accident. They were fighting. Afterward, Jonas panicked that Kripos would think it was a homicide. But he worked at the morgue, so it was easy an easy fix.* Anniken eyes Lars. Something about the answer seems too smooth. Too practiced. Lars tries to shift the conversation. Says, *look, I'm here to cooperate, and I'll do it while supervised if you want, but I need to make a few calls.*

- Nikolai pulling into Oslo, parking near the courthouse. He reaches into his glove compartment. Pulls out a spare tie.
- Kristel at Bengt's place. She's just gotten the call from Lars. She's freaking out. What the fuck is going on? Bengt says, *it's over. All of it. The drugs are gone. Tommy's dead. Jonas is dead. Lars is going to prison for a long goddamn time and now I have to spend my life working for some dickhead in Oslo while I rot away here in Elverum.* Kristel says, *wait, what happened to us getting out of this town?* Bengt says, *are you fucking stupid? It's over.*
- Hans Olav at Marta's. Her son playing with his Legos. Hans Olav hesitates, then sits next to the kid. Asks him what he's building. The kid doesn't answer, but hey, *it's a start.* Marta looks on, smiling. Hans Olav's phone rings. On the caller ID, we see Lars. We know the news they're about to get.
- Court already in session. Nikolai sneaks in quietly, takes a seat in the back row. It seems like no one has noticed his late arrival, but then Kåre Brekke turns. Looks Nikolai right in the eye.
- Anniken and Goran in their office. Looking at each other though not speaking a word - they're on the same wavelength now, and they both think Lars' statements were off, and neither needs to say it out loud to the other. Finally, Anniken says, *there's one place I can double-check.*
- Nikolai takes the stand. The questioning begins as routine - *How long have you been a detective with Kripos? What kind of training do you have? How many murder cases have you been involved in? When did you begin working on this case? What brought you to look at Kåre Brekke as a potential suspect?* These are the easy questions. But Nikolai knows what's coming.
- Josef coming back to the brewery. Kristina parked behind back. He says, *it's done. It'll hit the news soon.* She says, *I want to take control of Oslo. I need someone I can trust. You interested in relocating?*
- Anniken outside of the Elverum morgue. Hesitating before she goes inside.
- Anniken with Elvis. Looking over the sign-in sheet for the morgue visitors. She says, *I'm trying to confirm that no one but you and your employees had access to Tomas Hagen's body while he was under your care. Now, I don't see any visitors coming in here, besides me. No wife. No mom. Nothing. That sound right to you?* He laughs, *visitors? No. That guy wasn't popular. Just cops.* She looks at him like he's crazy, says, *but you make everyone sign in, right? Even cops?*

Elvis says, *no, I mean, no, not cops*. Anniken's about to lose it. She tries to keep her cool. Says, *did any cops or detectives come in to see Tomas Hagen's body, besides me, during the days he was under your care?* Elvis is backed into a corner. Says, *well, yeah...* Anniken says, who?

- Back to Nikolai on the stand. The prosecutor continues, *during the course of your investigation, did you uncover evidence that Kåre Brekke molested Pål Lund?* Nikolai says, *yes*. Nikolai hesitates. It's now or never. Then he says, *but I have now come to understand that the information with which I was presented was false*.
  - This is Nikolai's character arc for the season - amongst all the lies he's told, all the lines he's walked, he's now told the complete truth. And as a result, he'll lose the conviction. It'll damage his reputation. And Kristoffer will likely come forward with their secret. But Nikolai is tired of lying. He can't do it anymore. He's willing to sacrifice it all just to recognize himself in the mirror again. He's our protagonist, and he's done the right thing. We're rooting for him. Unfortunately...
- Anniken slams her car door. Her body frozen in the seat. Face pale. Eyes unblinking. It's not hard to figure out which name she just heard from Elvis. The question is: what will she do?