

BAR KARMA

CHARLIE: Oh, God. I'm sorry. I thought this was the men's room. Sorry.

DAYNA: Eh, it's okay. We've been waiting for you.

CHARLIE: Where am I?

JAMES: You're just in time.

NEWSREADER (on TV) So far, the emergency services unit has not found any survivors. It's estimated the deadly strike has killed over 800 visitors. Along with Liberty, herself. The governor has declared a state of emergency. And, all the police precincts, fire ...

JAMES: Welcome to Bar Karma. You got a name?

CHARLIE: It's Charlie. What show were you watching?

DOUG : It wasn't exactly a show.

DAYNA: I'm Dayna. And, that's James ... and Doug. We're here to help you.

CHARLIE: Is this an intervention? Smoking once a month doesn't make me a drug addict.

JAMES: It'd be pretty hypocritical of us to lecture you about mind altering substances in a bar.

CHARLIE: This isn't a reality show is it?

DOUG- No. It's a bar.

CHARLIE: I thought I walked into a men's room.

JAMES: It's a bar for anyone who may be heading down the wrong path. What'll it be?

CHARLIE: What do you mean the wrong path?

JAMES: Have a drink first.

CHARLIE: What's that?

JAMES: Coffee liqueur.

CHARLIE: Regular coffee is fine.

JAMES: I think this will work better.

CHARLIE: Sure. Whatever. What path?

DOUGH: - Look, ... there's a connection between you and that news story.

CHARLIE: - About the Statue of Liberty? You realize, this is insane. She's standing right there.

DOUGH: She's standing ... now. But, she won't be later. You need to trust us on this.

DAYNA: That report happened sometime in the future.

CHARLIE : The future? Come on, where did you really get that footage?

DOUG: Got me?

CHARLIE: What happens to the Statue of Liberty there?

JAMES: We're not sure.

CHARLIE: Then, put it on again. I mean, rewind it.

JAMES: I'm afraid it doesn't work like that.

CHARLIE: You're trying to rip off my idea.

DOUG: Since when is mass murder an original idea?

CHARLIE: Wow, where are you guys from?

JAMES: A little bit of everywhere.

CHARLIE: I don't have time for this.

DOUG: Rookie.

CHARLIE: What the hell's going on?

DOUG: So, tell us what were you doing at the statue today?

CHARLIE: Research

DOUG: Research or recon.

DAYNA: Doug.

CHARLIE: Research. Research for a book. I'm a writer.

DAYNA: Oh, is that the book in your hand?

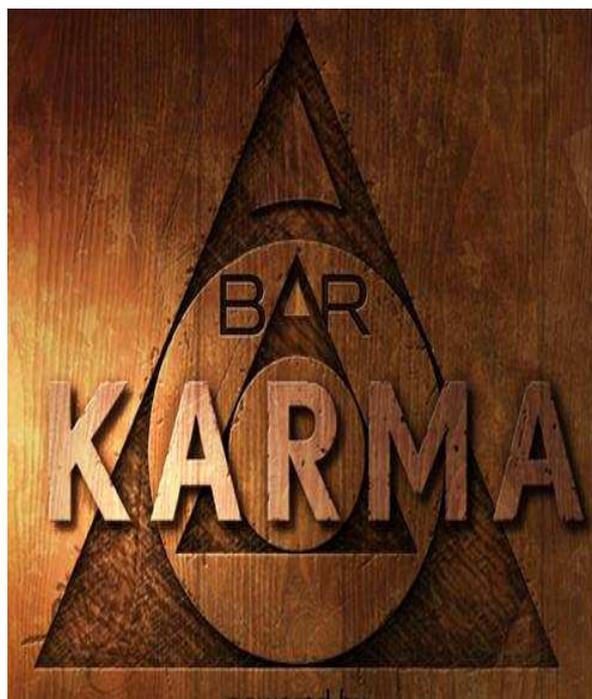
CHARLIE: No. I mean, not yet. It's still just a manuscript.

DAYNA: Can I see it?

CHARLIE: It's not ready.

JAMES: We're not the Pulitzer Prize Committee, Charlie. All we're asking for is a little peek.

CHARLIE: I can't. Sorry.



DOUG: What are you hiding?

CHARLIE: Get away from me.

DOUG: Give me the book, Charlie.

CHARLIE: Leave me alone.

DAYNA: You really need to work on your bedside manner.

DOUG: Ok, you go to the jukebox, call him back.

DAYNA: It's not a magnet, Doug.

DOUG: Well, how did he wind up here in the first place?

DAYNA: If you're going to catch up with him, you have to leave now.

DOUG: Hey, Charlie! Can't get rid of me that easy.

CHARLIE: Why don't you leave me alone?

DOUG: Cuz, you're special.

CHARLIE: Why?

DOUG: You got me. So, seriously, what's up with the Statue of Liberty in your book?

CHARLIE: I can't talk about it. I signed a non-disclosure agreement. I breach that and it gets out, I'll have to give back my advance money. I've already spent it.

DOUG: The Mazda?

CHARLIE: First nice thing I've ever owned. I mean, you're asking me to give that up for some fairy tale?

DOUG: Look, why don't we just come back inside? I'm sure we can figure out what's going on here. Find us a solution that works for everybody.

CHARLIE: I really have to get home and finish this. It, it could change my whole life. Can you get out of my car now! Are you kidding me?

(BACK IN THE BAR)

DAYNA: Couldn't bring him back?

DOUG: No. He'll be in a minute.

DAYNA: You are that confident in your powers of persuasion?

DOUG: Well, yes. But, I'm also confident in the power of these.

DAYNA : Ha.

DOUG: Where's James?

DAYNA: In his office.

(JAMES'S OFFICE)

DOUG: Whoa.

JAMES: Didn't I tell you was the first rule of this office?

DOUG: Don't expose it to sunlight?. Don't feed it after midnight?

JAMES: Use your inside voice.

DOUG: (whispering) Like this?

JAMES: Better. The branches are very sensitive to noises.

DOUG: It makes a lot of sense, this being a bar and all.

JAMES: Are you going to keep talking? .. (sighs)

DOUG: Well?

JAMES: I can't seem to find Charlie's book in any of the timelines. It's, being elusive.

DOUG: Which means?

JAMES: It means it doesn't exist. Charlie's book was never published.

DAYNA: If Charlie's book was never published, why did he show up in the bar?

DOUG: Maybe, Charlie was lying.

DAYNA : About what?

JAMES: About the papers in his hands. He said it was a manuscript and we took him at his word.

DAYNA: - So, there could be anything in that portfolio.

DOUG: Like, blueprints, government secrets, arms sales records ...

JAMES: Let's not get carried away, just yet.

CHARLIE: What is wrong with you? Give me back my keys so I can get out of here.

DOUG: Not til we see what's really in your portfolio. Hand it over.
CHARLIE: How about if I call the cops?
JAMES: And where exactly would you tell them to go?
DAYNA: Charlie, ... you're not in any danger. We want to help you.
CHARLIE: Anyone tell him that!
DAYNA: - Hey, will ... will you sit with me? Just talk. (To James and Doug) (sighs) Pour me two shots and stay here. Both of you. (back to Charlie) So, how long have you been working on it.
CHARLIE: Too long. Years.
DAYNA: (sighs) I bet it's really good.
CHARLIE: I don't know. It's all right.
DAYNA: When I was a kid, I escaped into books. All the time. But, I don't get to read as much as I used to.
CHARLIE: What were you escaping from?
DAYNA: Let's just say, I haven't always had the best of luck.
CHARLIE: Could I have one of those?
DAYNA: Only if I can have the other.
CHARLIE: (coughs) Why is everyone obsessed with my book?
DAYNA: Because we believe it's connected to the destruction we saw in the television earlier. Look, all we're asking for is a look. To try to piece together this puzzle.
CHARLIE: These are the originals. The only copies.
DAYNA: I'll take good care of them. You'll get them back. I promise. Thank you, Charlie. I know that took a lot. (to Doug) Be nice.
DOUG: It's a children's book.
DAYNA: Apparently so.
JAMES: Oh, there's our destruction. A man in tights destroying the Statue of Liberty, with a lightening bolt.
DAYNA: Looks like this character, Monument Man, saves the day, though.
DOUG: Well, that's never going to happen. Right?
JAMES: I don't know, but Happy Hour doesn't last forever.
DAYNA: We're running out of time.