

*"The more I see, the less I know for sure" John Lennon*

## **PASSENGER LIST**

a mystery fiction podcast series

from PRX's Radiotopia

Episode 1.01 – "Traffic"

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1.1 HEATHROW AIRPORT. DEPARTURE LOUNGE – EVENING 1.1

A BUSTLING atmosphere. ANNOUNCEMENTS etc.

CUT TO:

1.2 AUDIO FROM A TAPED PHONE CALL 1.2

We hear the conversation as if RECORDED DOWN THE LINE by a third party.

GATE ATTENDANT

Oh, hi. Hello. We've got a...  
(garbled)  
... a child here. Gate 27. He seems  
lost.

AIRPORT SECURITY

A what?

GATE ATTENDANT

A child. A boy of about... 6?  
(to child)  
How old are you?

No response.

GATE ATTENDANT (CONT'D)

I'd say... 5? He was found  
wandering through the terminal with  
a carton of juice and a backpack.

Silence. We hear the airport security worker take a deep  
breath.

AIRPORT SECURITY

Does he have a passport?

GATE ATTENDANT

Um, no.

AIRPORT SECURITY

Did you put out a call for his  
parents?

GATE ATTENDANT

Yep. Uh, several.

AIRPORT SECURITY

OK – what's his name?

GATE ATTENDANT

Excuse me... Excuse me – hi! What's your name? What's your name...?

BRATVA

(in background – thick eastern European accent)

Bratva.

GATE ATTENDANT

Bratva! Bratva. Where's your mummy and daddy?

No response.

GATE ATTENDANT (CONT'D)

(trying very hard)

Mum-ma... Pup-pa...?

BRATVA

Bratva.

AIRPORT SECURITY

Bratva? Is that his surname?

GATE ATTENDANT

Is that your LAST name? Is that your last name, Bratva?

No response.

GATE ATTENDANT (CONT'D)

He didn't – I don't think he speaks much English.

AIRPORT SECURITY

Where are you?

GATE ATTENDANT

Uh, Gate 27.

The airport security worker sighs. This is the last thing she needs today.

AIRPORT SECURITY

OK... bring him to security. I'll see you there.

GATE ATTENDANT

OK. Bye.

The recording ends abruptly.

CUT TO:

1.3 INT. HEATHROW AIRPORT. OFFICE – EVENING

1.3

EVELYN

(into recorder)

So, this is Heathrow Airport  
Passenger Welfare Officer Evelyn  
Davis. Today's date is April 12,  
2018. It is currently... 8:36 p.m.  
This is... Bratva... Do you want  
something to drink, Bratva?

An INTERPRETER is present, who perhaps is just an airport  
employee with an Eastern European background who has been  
asked to assist.

Bratva SHUFFLES in his chair, mumbles something.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

What did he say?

INTERPRETER

He want his mother.

EVELYN

What's your mum's name Bratva?

The Interpreter asks. Bratva mumbles.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

Where did you come from, Bratva? Do  
you know?

The Interpreter asks. Bratva mumbles.

INTERPRETER

He says he came on a plane.

EVELYN

Do you know where you live?

There's a KNOCK on the door.

COLLEAGUE

Hi, um, I checked the incoming  
passenger lists for a Bratva – only  
one hit, so we're in luck. It looks  
like he flew in from New York today  
with his mother, Maria Elian.

EVELYN

Is that your mum's name, Bratva?  
Maria...?

The Interpreter asks in Bulgarian.

EVELYN (CONT'D)

I think that was a nod! Let's get the page out for Maria -

COLLEAGUE

Yeah, well, see, that's the thing. They were booked on a flight to Sofia, Bulgaria.

EVELYN

Even better - so can we get Bratva over to -

COLLEAGUE

No, no - hold on. Their flight already left - and Maria wasn't on it.

EVELYN

So she's still in the airport then?

COLLEAGUE

No - she's on a flight back to New York. Atlantic Airlines Flight 702. She should be landing at JFK at 11 p.m. New York time.

Evelyn sighs.

EVELYN

OK, um, we need to, um...  
(dialing phone)

Hello, um, can you connect me with security at Atlantic Airlines, JFK?... Yes, I'll hold... It's JFK... Uh, yes...

(to Bratva)

Bratva, don't worry sweetie, we're going to find your mummy.

Dialogue cuts out as music swells...

1.4 TITLE SEQUENCE NEWS MONTAGE

1.4

A montage of mostly news clips, suggesting a passing of time.

NEWSCASTER 1

Breaking news this hour. A plane has crashed...

NEWSCASTER 2

... Atlantic Flight 702, from London Heathrow, was expected in New York at...

NEWSCASTER 3

... reports radar contact with the plane was lost...

NEWSCASTER 4

... crashing into the sea. All people onboard now appear dead...

REPORTER 1

(outside JFK)

... but I think, uh, everyone here is bracing themselves for the worst...

OFFICIAL 1

(under pressure)

... At this point it really is still a mystery...

NEWSCASTER 4

... whether the disappearance is due to mechanical problems, pilot error or even terrorism is yet to be determined...

COMMENTATOR 1

... this is very rare, for an airplane to disappear, uh, is not normal. I think we have every reason to expect, at this hour, that this is not going to be a good outcome...

REPORTER 2

(crowds bustling and shouting)

... tempers are fraying. Some relatives of missing passengers were forcefully removed from a news conference...

NEWSCASTER 1

Newly released satellite images show the plane changing course dramatically...

NEWSCASTER 2

... altered course before  
descending rapidly to 20,000  
feet...

OFFICIAL 2

The aircraft made a turn toward the  
west...

OFFICIAL 3

(Press conference, cameras  
clicking)  
Birdstrike. It happened, we know  
that, as the plane was climbing..

REPORTER 1

By a suspected birdstrike...

NEWSCASTER 2

Birdstrike...

REPORTER 2

Birdstrike is the most likely  
reason...

OFFICIAL 4

... the plane, moving to 33,000  
feet, we know that the left wing  
engine struck a flock of geese. The  
pilot...

MAYOR OF NEW YORK

(Press conference -  
clicking cameras)  
... We have to move on. Life is a  
fragile thing. Maybe this is a time  
for all of us... to pause and turn  
to those we love and hold them  
close... because life... well life  
is... fragile...

The voices and music fades to silence...

**TITLE: "PASSENGER LIST - EPISODE 1 - TRAFFIC"**

1.5 PHONE CALL

1.5

We hear a BEEP, then a DIAL TONE followed by a CLICK. This  
conversation is recorded from Kaitlin's POV.

KAITLIN  
C'mon, pick up, pick up, pick up...

MAN  
Hello?

KAITLIN  
Hi - I'm trying to reach Greg Ford?

GREG  
That's me.

KAITLIN  
My name's Kaitlin - Le. I messaged you on Facebook - about the flight?

GREG  
Right! Can... you just hang on one second?

KAITLIN  
Yeah.

GREG  
(off the phone, to others)  
Hey guys... (garbled)

GREG (CONT'D)  
Sorry, I just have to find, like, a quiet spot to talk. Hold on... So, yeah! Uh, the woman with that kid.

KAITLIN  
Yeah, you said you were on an incoming flight with her, right? You sat next to her and her son?

GREG  
... What is this for?

KAITLIN  
My brother, Conor, was on 702.

GREG  
(pause)  
Oh god - I'm so sorry.

KAITLIN  
Yeah, it's not... um. It's... Thank you.  
(beat)  
I'm just trying to piece all this together, so... If there's anything you could tell me... Um...

GREG

Yeah, totally. Like I said in my post, I just happened to be sitting next to the woman with the kid on the flight into London – you know, before she got right back on board the other one and, um... Yeah.

KAITLIN

Right. Um... But, you said she got a phone call?

GREG

Yeah. I wouldn't have thought anything of it, if it weren't for all the things going on and the situation. But I hope you're not calling because you're offended by all the speculation.

KAITLIN

No, not at all. I'm just... I'm actually – it's actually comforting to see that other people have questions, so... Sorry. Anyway, back to this woman?

GREG

Right. So, it's not like we talked much during the flight. I just asked her about her son, and if he'd started swimming yet. Uh, I'm a swim coach.

(laughs)

Yeah, I was just trying to be polite, and... she didn't really speak much English. And... as soon as we landed at Heathrow, and everyone's turning their phones on and everything, she gets this phone call. And I remember she just froze, I mean...

KAITLIN

So she was scared? Could you hear what she was talking about?

GREG

No, I mean, she was talking in... I don't know, whatever she was speaking in –

KAITLIN

Bulgarian?

GREG

But definitely, yeah, she was scared. I'd - terrified, I'd say. And she took that kid in her arms and was just whispering in his ear. And all around us, people were unbuckling seatbelts, and opening the bins and pulling down suitcases and all that - and she's just sitting there, staring straight ahead with the kid in her arms. And her face was, like, ghost-white.

KAITLIN

(to herself)

God...

(to Greg)

What happened when she got into the terminal?

GREG

I don't know, I didn't follow her. But when I was in the line for the immigration line - it was this big, big line, and a lot flights had come in all at the same time... and I noticed her standing there all alone. And I remember thinking, "Where's the kid?" I mean, I wouldn't have even remembered it if it weren't for all this talk about... you know, not a conspiracy exactly, but... something weird going on... But, yeah. Does that help at all?

KAITLIN

I think so. Yes. Thank you.

GREG

You don't believe this thing about the flock of geese?

KAITLIN

I don't know what I believe.

GREG

Yeah, it must have been really hard for your family.

KAITLIN

Yeah... it still is.

GREG

(awkwardly)

So... So, what, she just turned right around and checked back into a flight to New York, right?

KAITLIN

I - I don't know. I guess.

GREG

Without the kid? I mean, what kind of mother would do that, right? You think she had something to do with, you know, what brought the plane down...?

KAITLIN

(frustrated)

You know, I think that there's a lot that we don't know.

A pause. Greg realizes he's dealing with an over-emotional conspiracy theorist.

GREG

Right, right... Yeah, what do any of us know, right?

1.6 ANOTHER PHONE CALL

1.6

A DIAL TONE down a phone line... CLICK.

ANA

(on phone - she has a thick eastern European accent)

Hello?

KAITLIN

Hi, is this Ana Dragov?

ANA

Who is this?

KAITLIN

I'm sorry - you don't know me. My name is Kaitlin Le. My brother was on 702.

Beat

ANA

Yes?

KAITLIN

Your sister was on the plane as well, correct? I was hoping that we could -

ANA

I can't help you.

She hangs up. OFF-HOOK TONE.

1.7 INT. TAXI - DAY

1.7

Kaitlin sits in the back of a MOVING taxi looking out the window.

KAITLIN

Should be just up here on the right - 193 Salerno Ave. Yep, yep, that's it. I can jump out here.

TAXI DRIVER

Here you go.

KAITLIN

Thanks!

She GETS OUT.

1.8 EXT. ANA'S HOUSE - DAY

1.8

KAITLIN WALKS quickly up the steps in a peaceful-sounding neighborhood. She opens a SCREEN DOOR and KNOCKS. The door OPENS.

ANA

Who are you?

KAITLIN

I'm... Kaitlin Le - I called you earlier today?

ANA

Get out of here. I have nothing to say.

She tries to CLOSE the door.

KAITLIN

Ana, please! Just - just wait a second.

The door SLAMS shut. Kaitlin calls through the door.

KAITLIN (CONT'D)

Look, I lost my brother. And you lost your sister. And there's no – what the authorities are saying, it doesn't add up. All of us, we're... we're in the same boat. We all want answers – and I – I think we can help each other. Just give me 15 minutes. Please...

No response. Kaitlin knocks, and reluctantly changes tactic.

KAITLIN (CONT'D)

Ana, listen... Bratva – he's your nephew, right? Bratva? I know where they took him.

The door OPENS.

ANA

Where they take him?

KAITLIN

Can I come in?

Beat.

ANA

We can't talk here – my parents... they get upset. There is Starbucks on 188th. We meet there.

She SHUTS the door.

1.9 INT. STARBUCKS CAFE – DAY

1.9

A BEEP. Sounds of feet WALKING.

KAITLIN

Can I get you a coffee or...?

ANA

Where is Bratva? Address. You give to me now.

Beat.

ANA (CONT'D)

Well?

KAITLIN

I need to ask you about your sister first.

ANA

I cannot. I'm leaving.

KAITLIN

Ana – Ana. I promise, you can trust me, OK? I'm not a reporter or anything. I'm just – I'm trying to put all the pieces together.

ANA

I don't believe you.

Kaitlin PULLS OUT her wallet to show Ana her ID.

KAITLIN

Look, this is my ID – see? Kaitlin Le. My brother is Conor Le. He's a computer scientist, one of the best and he –

(getting carried away)

– he lives with his boyfriend, Thomas, and cat named Tova. We used to sneak out just so we could drive around and listen to Willie Nelson. He'd stay up late to teach me how to program in JavaScript. He's my favorite person in the entire world, and I want him back more than anything.

Beat.

ANA

I'm sorry for your brother.

KAITLIN

Thanks.

ANA

Where are you from?

KAITLIN

Kansas.

ANA

That's a long way.

KAITLIN

I'm a student here, actually. Just outside the city.

ANA

You said you had information about my nephew.

KAITLIN

I do... The thing is, I've been doing a some research. And the FAA's official explanation - the birdstrike... It just doesn't make sense. First of all, there's no physical evidence that the plane even crashed. There's no wreckage from the flight, no black box, the final transmissions all seemed normal...

ANA

Spaceship.

KAITLIN

What?

ANA

Spaceship came and took them away.

KAITLIN

That's not -

ANA

Or it was Russians or North Korea... or, lost world of Atlantis... or, or, oh, I don't care. Tell me about my nephew...

KAITLIN

OK. At the moment, the case is still in the hands of the British social services. And I imagine they let you know that already, being next of kin and everything?

ANA

Yes, but we only get official letters. They want us to provide so much information. And my husband is away so... it's difficult for me.

KAITLIN

(interested, like she knows something she's not letting on)  
Where's your husband?

ANA

Away.

KAITLIN

Away where?

ANA

Business.

KAITLIN

And what does he do?

ANA

He does... business.

KAITLIN

What kind of business?

ANA

You ask too many questions and you still haven't told me -

KAITLIN

OK... Bratva's... he's been taken to a home in Oxfordshire, about 90 minutes northwest of London. The court has appointed an official guardian -

ANA

I know all of this.

KAITLIN

Yes, but I've got the address.

ANA

You give to me.

Beat.

ANA (CONT'D)

I was like his mother. He stayed with us. Maria was never there. I was with him all the time. If he woke up crying in the night - it was me -

KAITLIN

Where was Maria?

ANA

Parties, rich men, I don't know. And then she came one day and just took him away.

KAITLIN

Look, Maria got a phone call as her plane was landing in London.

ANA

So?

KAITLIN

Do you have any idea who it was?

ANA

Why would I?

KAITLIN

I spoke to one of the passengers sitting near her. Maria was upset by that call. It sounded serious.

ANA

I don't know.

KAITLIN

Why would a mother leave her son at the airport and get on a plane unless there was -

ANA

Unless she was going to blow a plane up?

KAITLIN

No, I'm not saying that, I just... But maybe she knew something was going to happen, and so she -

ANA

Look, you tell me nothing, I tell you nothing. I have to go.

KAITLIN

No! Listen - I have the address. The house where they're keeping Bratva. I have it.

ANA

So give it to me.

KAITLIN

... I don't have it with me.

ANA

This is fucking joke. Goodbye.

KAITLIN

Ana, please! Please. I need you. We need each other. Come on, I'm just trying to put all of this together, and find the facts! No one's telling us anything. If we help each other we can figure out -

ANA

Figure what? Listen - in Kansas you have tornadoes, yes? You have big wind and storm. It comes down from sky and SMACK

She POUNDS the table, hard - patrons in the background quiet down abruptly.

ANA (CONT'D)

Your house - gone. Your whole life - ruined. What is reason?

KAITLIN

I... it's...

ANA

Exactly. You don't know. And you will never know. It just... happens. No reason. Just like plane. Plane is gone. My sister - gone. Your brother. What is reason? I go on Facebook - I join "support group." Everybody want to say they know secret - they know what happened. But they don't! No one does. No one will ever know.

(Beat)

You love your brother?

KAITLIN

Yes - yeah.

ANA

You remember that. Forget the rest.

(Beat)

I go now.

She gets up and WALKS away. Recording ends with a BEEP.

1.10 INT. VASSAR CAMPUS. KAITLIN'S LODGINGS - EVENING 1.10

Kaitlin's phone RINGS. She picks up a call. (Note: the phone call is a mix of English and <Vietnamese>)

KAITLIN

*Chào Mẹ. Mẹ làm cái gì vậy. <Hi mom, what's up?>*

MAI

*Con mua vé máy bay chưa? <Did you buy the plane ticket yet?>*

KAITLIN

I can't make it.

MAI

Kaitlin, it's your brother's funeral. This isn't optional.

KAITLIN

I've got classes. And if I miss them, then –

MAI

Conor would have come if it had been your funeral.

KAITLIN

You have no idea what Conor would have done. Look, I know you think Conor could never do anything wrong, but that doesn't mean that –  
(she swallows what she was going to say)  
Conor's not even going to be there. Just because some official issued a death certificate, doesn't actually mean that he's –

MAI

We've waited six months for this, Kaitlin. To finally be able to say goodbye.

KAITLIN

You and dad can do what you want –

MAI

*Chúng mình phải cần làm cái này chung với nhau. <We have to do this together.>*

KAITLIN

We can't bury Conor until we have answers.

MAI

We do have answers, Kaitlin. If you don't come, what will people say? You are now our only child -

KAITLIN

Don't put that all on me -

MAI

This... this *thing*... destroyed your brother's life. It can't destroy yours too.

(she's beginning to slur a bit)

*Con phải trải qua chuyện này. Về đi con...*  
<You need to move on. Please come home...>

KAITLIN

*Mẹ... <Mom...>*

MAI

*Về cho bố con đi con. <If only for your father's sake, come home.>* You must.

1.11 EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

1.11

Recording begins with a BEEP. Kaitlin sits on a park bench next to VALARIE, a journalist.

VALARIE

You mind if I vape?

KAITLIN

Not at all, uh -

VALARIE

I mean some people do, you know. Even though -

KAITLIN

It's fine. You mind if I record?

VALARIE

Um...

KAITLIN

You're a journalist, after all. You know how important it is to kind of keep a record...

VALARIE

Yeah. Sure. Why not.

KAITLIN

So this piece you're writing about... What's his name again?

VALARIE

Dimo Dragov.

KAITLIN

That's really his name?

VALARIE

Sometimes super-villains actually do have super-villain names.

KAITLIN

And you think he has something to do with Flight 702?

VALARIE

Well, none of this has been proven beyond all doubt but... do you know what Dragov does?

KAITLIN

"Business," according to his wife.

VALARIE

Trafficking – young women, mostly, from Bulgaria. He brings them over on tourist visas with the promise of work or marriage – and then, when they get here... they just "disappear."

KAITLIN

Wait, they...?

VALARIE

They get drugged, forced into prostitution, then passed around his network of "businesses associates." D.C. mainly.

KAITLIN

Jesus.

VALARIE

Yeah. But I'm going to nail him. I'm pretty close now.

(MORE)

VALARIE (CONT'D)

I've got quotes from his top lieutenants, and women who told me he interviewed them for jobs as quote-unquote "personal secretaries." Just a few more pieces of the puzzle and I will have -

KAITLIN

(hustling Valarie along)  
Yeah, I hope you get him, I really do. But... what does this have to do with 702?

VALARIE

Dragov's wife, Ana - the one you met at the Starbucks? I've been hounding her for months. But she won't talk to anyone - except, apparently, to you.

KAITLIN

(sheepish)  
Oh, well... I guess that's because I kind of blackmailed her? I told her I knew where her nephew is.

VALARIE

(a little impressed)  
Wow, wish I'd thought of that. Did she tell you where her husband was?

KAITLIN

(dryly)  
Away. On business.

VALARIE

He's disappeared. Most likely to Europe. He's probably in Bulgaria now spreading his own particular brand of misery there.

KAITLIN

OK, I'm still not seeing the connection between him and 702.

VALARIE

No? How do you think I found out about this whole Bulgarian sex trafficking operation in the first place?

KAITLIN

Beats me – I mean, how does anyone find out about something like that?

VALARIE

You don't, unless you're a customer. Or... unless someone rats them out.

Beat.

KAITLIN

Maria.

VALARIE

You're a sharp cookie.

KAITLIN

Oh, this all just got really...

VALARIE

Gnarly? That's how you know you're onto something.

KAITLIN

So... you think Dragov had something to do with the plane going down?

VALARIE

That I don't know. But you said Maria was scared before she got on 702. And she left her kid behind. I mean, that doesn't sound like someone who feels completely safe to me. My theory? Dragov found out Maria betrayed the family and sent someone after her to take care of it in the way these people take care of snitches. I leave you to speculate what that has to do with the flight.

KAITLIN

Well, um, thanks for the info.

(beat)

How'd you find me, anyway?

VALARIE

A mutual friend.

KAITLIN

We have one of those?

VALARIE

Well, "friend" is a strong word.  
How do you think you're getting  
your contacts?

KAITLIN

I don't know what you mean.

VALARIE

Like who gave you the sister's  
phone number and address? These  
crime families take their privacy  
very seriously.

KAITLIN

I got an email pointing me in the  
right direction.

VALARIE

So who gave you the tip?

KAITLIN

Honestly? I don't know. I've got an  
email set up for anonymous tips and  
it was, well, anonymous.

VALARIE

You've got someone on the inside  
helping you out.

KAITLIN

On the inside?

VALARIE

Someone with access to... stuff.

KAITLIN

Who?

Valarie TAKES SOMETHING out of her bag and looks at it.

VALARIE

He calls himself Dylan.

KAITLIN

I don't know a Dylan.

VALARIE

Well, I can guarantee that's not  
his real name. He left this at the  
front desk of my employer this  
morning.

(beat)

(MORE)

VALARIE (CONT'D)

For you... That's why I contacted you.

She passes over an ENVELOPE.

KAITLIN

What is it?

VALARIE

See for yourself. I wasn't sure if I was allowed to look, but I am damn curious.

Kaitlin OPENS the envelope.

KAITLIN

That's - that's Maria and Bratva getting off the plane in London. It looks like it's from a security camera. Who would have access to that?

VALARIE

Like I said, Dylan seems to have access to things.

Kaitlin LOOKS THROUGH a series of photographs.

KAITLIN

Walking through the terminal... Now she's kneeling down beside him... kissing him... And now she's alone... Now she's talking to...

VALARIE

Oh my god, that's Dimo Dragov.

1.12 INT. STARBUCKS CAFE - DAY

1.12

The same one from earlier.

KAITLIN

Ana, please - can you just sit down for a minute?

ANA

I come for address - you have with you?

KAITLIN

I know - about Dimo's business.

ANA

I don't know what you're talking about.

KAITLIN

I met with Valarie Vennix – from New York Magazine. She told me some interesting stories.

A tense moment.

ANA

So what?

KAITLIN

Where's your husband?

ANA

It's none of your business.

KAITLIN

He was on Flight 702 with Maria, wasn't he? He was waiting for Maria in London so he could take her right back to New York.

ANA

I don't know what you talk about.

KAITLIN

Sure you do. I got a handle on Maria's phone records and you know who called her just as she landed? It was you.

Ana stares Kaitlin down.

KAITLIN (CONT'D)

Why? Was it to warn her?

(beat)

What exactly was Dimo's plan for Maria when he got her back to New York? Was he going to "punish" her for betraying him?

ANA

(quietly resigned)

You seem to have all the information – why don't you tell me?

KAITLIN

Maria didn't abandon her son, she was trying to escape with him, wasn't she? To give him a better life. Away from Dimo, away from all this. And then -

ANA

Listen, stupid girl -

KAITLIN

No, OK. You listen! She left Bratva in the airport terminal because she knew he would have a better chance at a good life than if he stayed with her and faced whatever Dimo was going to do to them.

ANA

You have no idea what you are talking about. My husband was a good man. He took care of his family. My sister was... a disgrace. She think everyone in America have it easy - she think she is judge. Look at her - betraying her own family.

KAITLIN

Don't you care? About what your husband does? That he was going to hurt your own sister?

When Ana doesn't respond, Kaitlin GETS UP to go.

KAITLIN (CONT'D)

You know what? I'm... I'm finished here.

ANA

Give me the fucking address.

KAITLIN

I don't think that's a good idea.

ANA

That's not your decision.

KAITLIN

No. But it was Maria's.

ANA

You will regret this, Kaitlin Le.

KAITLIN  
 (to herself)  
 Yeah... that does seem possible.

Recording ends with a BEEP.

1.13 INT. VASSAR CAMPUS. KAITLIN'S LODGINGS – EVENING 1.13

Down the line. A RING-TONE followed by a CLICK.

DYLAN  
 Hello?

Dylan's voice is slightly DISTORTED, like it's being filtered through some sort of voice concealing app.

KAITLIN  
 Hi, I'm trying to reach... uh...  
 Dylan?

DYLAN  
 Didn't you read the note? You have to download – shit. Look, I'll call you back. Click on the link I send you.

KAITLIN  
 Wait, I –

CLICK. He's hung up.

Kaitlin sighs. Suddenly her phone starts RINGING. She picks up.

KAITLIN (CONT'D)  
 Hello?

KRISTY  
 Kaitlin Le?

KAITLIN  
 Yes.

KRISTY  
 Hi. This is Kristy from the dean's office. Um, I'm just calling because we've noticed that you haven't attended classes for a while. And I just wanted to check everything was OK with you.

KAITLIN  
 Yeah, I'm fine.

KRISTY

You know, Kaitlin, there's a waiting list for your course. If the students don't attend, then we're kind of forced -

KAITLIN

Look, I actually... I actually have to go.

KRISTY

Would you like a counseling session?

KAITLIN

Counseling? Why?

KRISTY

It would be an opportunity to talk through... you know. Look, Kaitlin, we can only imagine what you have been going through and we don't want to put you under any pressure, but -

Another device begins RINGING in Kaitlin's room.

KAITLIN

Look, I'm sorry - I'm really going to have to get off the phone right now.

KRISTY

There's also the question of your tuition fees -

KAITLIN

I've gotta - I've got to go.

Kaitlin hangs up. She picks up the RINGING device.

KAITLIN (CONT'D)

Dylan?

DYLAN

Don't call me again unless it's through the app. It's only safe if we both use it.

KAITLIN

Right. Um...

DYLAN

So what do you want?

KAITLIN

I just wanted to thank you for the photos, and the phone records –

DYLAN

There's no need. I hope you find the answers you're looking for.

KAITLIN

Thanks...

DYLAN

Is that it?

KAITLIN

What?

DYLAN

Was there anything else?

KAITLIN

Who are you?

(when he doesn't answer)

Why are you helping me?

DYLAN

I'm just someone who wants to find out what really happened. I saw your post on the Facebook group and I wanted to help.

KAITLIN

Right. Did you have someone on Flight 702?

DYLAN

Look, you don't believe the birdstrike theory, right? Well, neither do I.

KAITLIN

(suspicious)

OK... So... how did you get those images?

DYLAN

No.

KAITLIN

What?

DYLAN

No, you can't ask me that stuff.

KAITLIN

OK, but – why wasn't Dimo Dragov on the passenger list?

DYLAN

He was traveling on a fake passport.

KAITLIN

And wouldn't the FAA have some sort of –

DYLAN

Lots of people travel on fake passports, for lots of reasons. He's not your guy.

KAITLIN

Well then why would...?

DYLAN

I thought it might have something to do with him, but... I've got another lead –

KAITLIN

Wait. You're saying all of this – the trafficking, Dragov's crime empire – had nothing to do with the plane going down? I mean that –

DYLAN

Correct. Trust me. And you're wasting your time with Ana.

KAITLIN

How do I know that you're not part of this? A member of Dragov's crime family trying to throw me off the scent?

She waits for him to continue and when he doesn't:

KAITLIN (CONT'D)

(dryly)

Wow, thanks for the reassurance.

DYLAN

Listen, Kaitlin, I don't have time to reassure you. You can either trust my intel or not.

KAITLIN

You have more?

DYLAN

Yeah. The person you should really  
be looking into is...

There's TALKING in the background.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

Shit. I've got to go. I'll be in  
touch.

KAITLIN

No! But I -

CLICK.

The phone rings again. She picks up and hears... A WEIRD  
DISQUIETING JUMBLE OF SOUNDS.

KAITLIN (CONT'D)

Dylan...? Dylan, is that you?

The sound coming down the line is difficult to fathom... Is  
it shouting, people screaming...?

KAITLIN (CONT'D)

Hello? Hello?

It cuts out.

MUSIC.

**End of Episode 1.**