

GRANT WILLIAMS

A high profile actor's day off takes a dangerous turn when a delusional fan approaches him.

INT. MUSEUM/DINOSAUR EXHIBIT - DAY

RICHARD, a tall handsome man in his prime, admires the fossil structures before him. He sits on a stone bench wearing sunglasses and a hoody. A YOUNG FAN notices him.

YOUNG FAN

Mr. Pollard? I am a huge fan of your films. Could I maybe get an...

RICHARD

Sorry kid. It's my day off, just trying to enjoy my time around the city. Maybe another time.

The fan leaves dejected. Richard sighs. He pulls out his phone and sees a barrage of notifications.

GLORIA, a woman wearing an oversized jacket, plops down on the bench.

GLORIA

Former navy seal Grant Williams. A true American hero.

Richard doesn't react; instead, he pretends to use his phone.

GLORIA (CONT'D)

But can he save everyone here?

RICHARD

Ma'am I don't know who you are, but Grant is just a character I play.

GLORIA

Well who will find where the bomb is?

RICHARD

That's not funny. I'm not going to role play some fucked up scenario.

Gloria opens one side of her jacket and pulls back what appears to be a false velcro front on the interior. The material slowly rips off. Inside crisscrosses hacky wiring.

Richard tenses up and falls silent.

GLORIA

Oh this. This isn't the "real" bomb. Just a smaller, um, insurance explosive. Probably has like a 5-foot radius or something.

Richard freaks out. His breathing becomes manual. His movements become twitchy. Gloria revels in his perplexation.

GLORIA (CONT'D)

Mr. Williams, you've got to keep a cool head.

RICHARD

Grant's a fucking movie character.

Gloria ignores that. She grabs Richard's phone. The gravity of the moment is still settling in on him.

GLORIA

I have a bigger explosive set up somewhere on the premises. Here are the rules: if you are to leave. Boom. If you are to notify anyone of what's going on. Boom. And finally, once 40 minutes has passed, starting... now. Boom. I'll be standing close by you.

She simultaneously sets a timer on her and Richard's phone. He has to react quickly.

RICHARD

This place is huge. Where, uh, am I even supposed to start?

GLORIA

I am not unreasonable; I have a hint for you. The bomb is inspired by an explosion from the Grant Williams series.

Gloria slaps the false cover of her jacket back on. Richard surveys the museum to try and make connections. Bewilderment and confusion fill his face. Then, the museum map catches his eye.

RICHARD

Grant Williams 1 starts off with a car bomb. The sequel starts off with a bomb on Air Force One...

He gets up and runs to the map of the museum. His finger glides across the glass until it falls on the Space Exhibit. Gloria follows from behind.

GLORIA

And the sequel ends with a bomb at the space center. Very good, Grant.

(MORE)

GLORIA (CONT'D)

Gotta say, I prefer the original to the sequel. That one kinda goes off the rails.

The friendly banter throws Richard off.

RICHARD

What's your goal here?

GLORIA

Simple. You find the bomb you win. You don't, I win. I'll have bested the great Grant Williams.

An older woman tugs on Richard's shirt. The young fan from earlier cowers behind her.

FAN'S MOTHER

Excuse me sir, but I think it was rather rude to shut down my son over a simple autograph.

RICHARD

I..I'm sorry ma'am. You are right!
(turning to the boy)
How about I give you that autograph as an apology.

Richard takes the pen and a museum pamphlet from the kid and signs the back of it, his hand trembling as he writes. He folds the sheet and hands it back to kid. He gives them an embarrassed smile.

RICHARD (CONT'D)

Sorry about earlier kid, but I have to run. You two have a good day.

Richard hurries toward the space exhibit, Gloria in tow.

INT. MUSEUM/SPACE EXHIBIT - DAY

The exhibit is massive. Planets hang from a jet black ceiling above the visitors. The walls are lined with informational white glowing text. It's packed.

In the center of the exhibit is a 5 story long shuttle replica.

Sweat beats down Richard's face as he enters.

RICHARD

This exhibit is huge. There is no way I can look through it all.

GLORIA
Use your years of navy seals
training to...

RICHARD
I don't have any damn navy
training!

Richard starts to feel the eyes in the room focus on him. Families trying to place his face, security guards doing double takes.

He peruses around the exhibit and examines every inch with a detective-like peer. Gloria hovers behind him in the crowds.

Nothing. He sees nothing obvious on the outside. Richard pulls out his phone and checks the timer. 32 minutes.

RICHARD (CONT'D)
I don't see anything.

GLORIA
Grant, did you think it would be
that obvious?

RICHARD
You can't expect me to look in all
these replicas?

GLORIA
Tick Tock.

Richard stares down the huge shuttle replica. There is a line leading into it. He begrudgingly takes off his glasses and hood. Smiling at everyone he cuts, Richard darts towards the front, hoping they won't mind.

Two girls behind him pull out their phones and take a selfie. Richard indulges them and strikes a pose while Gloria turns her face away from the pictures.

SHUTTLE WORKER
Next group.

INT. SHUTTLE REPLICAPAYLOAD BAY - DAY

The inside of the shuttle is to size and remarkably detailed. That detail begins to overwhelm Richard as the interior seems to have captured every compartment and cubby.

Richard begins opening every compartment that looks big enough. Nothing. His frustration grows.

RICHARD

What is the point of all this?
Tormenting me, endangering these
people here?

GLORIA

I watch you miraculously come out
on top in every mission. I realized
I could easily top "the best there
is." Now's my chance to prove it.

He opens even the small cubbies now. The rest of the group
moves to the next section.

SHUTTLE WORKER

Sir, please stay with your group.

RICHARD

I just need a few more moments.

SHUTTLE WORKER

We have to keep the guests moving.

Richard agrees and follows his group.

INT. SHUTTLE REPLIC/COCKPIT - DAY

The same level of detail is apparent here. Hundreds of
buttons and screens. Luckily, fewer compartments and a
smaller space.

Richard bumps people out of the way to open anything he can
find. Overhead bins, nothing. Side cabinets, nothing. Gloria
revels in Richard's growing frustration and failures.

Again the group has to move on. Richard looks at his phone.
15 minutes.

INT. MUSEUM/SPACE EXHIBIT - DAY

Upon leaving the cockpit and exiting back into the exhibit,
Richard notices the crowds have greatly dwindled. Gloria
notices too and peers her eyes towards the entrance of the
exhibit. People leave, but no one enters.

The tour ends with the group walking past the thrusters on
the back of the shuttle. The huge metallic cylinders could
fit 20 people inside them.

RICHARD

The explosion took out the
thrusters in the movie.

Gloria just raises her eyebrows at his comment. Richard searches for a way up and into the thrusters. He jumps and pulls himself into the left thruster. Nothing.

SECURITY GUARD

Sir, please get off the shuttle.

Gloria looks back towards the entrance. People keep walking out, but still no one walks in.

RICHARD

Yeah just one moment.

SECURITY GUARD

Sir, am I going to have to ask you to leave?

Fear strikes Richard, there are three more thrusters to check. He hops down. The security guard approaches.

SECURITY GUARD (CONT'D)

I hope that's the last time I have to ask. By the way, you got the time on you? My lunch break is at 4:00.

Richard turns on his phone. At the top the timer is displayed: 10 minutes. The security guard gives him a nod.

Gloria looks around the exhibit, it's about empty now. She slowly slides her phone out of her jacket.

GLORIA

Grant, what were the rules of our game?

RICHARD

What are you talking about?

Gloria lifts her phone up in the air. The security guard lowers his hand down to his gun. He yells to the people left in the exhibit to get out.

GLORIA

I don't know how you did it, but I'm very disappointed.

Gloria's finger slides up to a button on her phone.

RICHARD

Wait, don't!

She presses down. Richard and the guard drop to the ground.

"We Are the Champions" start blaring through the phone. Gloria erupts into laughter.

GLORIA

I beat the great Grant Williams!

The security guard composes himself and tackles Gloria to the ground, her phone slides across the ground. The guard calls in backup through a walkie talkie on his belt. He rips off Gloria's jacket and looks through it.

SECURITY GUARD

What? This is all fake.

The security guard starts pulling apart fake wires from the jacket. Richard lies paralyzed on the ground, shivering.

SWAT members run into the room; one picks Richard up off the ground, the others go towards Gloria.

GLORIA

How do you think I got passed the metal detectors? No metal!

Two SWAT members cuff Gloria. The other escorts Richard out of the museum. As he is rushed out, Gloria repeats the same sentence.

GLORIA (CONT'D)

I defeated Grant Williams!

EXT. MUSEUM PARKING LOT - DAY

Richard runs out of the museum, finally able to take a small breath. The parking lot has been fortified with barricades. Confused visitors try to make sense of what's going on.

Richard makes it to the barricade. The POLICE CAPTAIN in charge approaches him.

POLICE CAPTAIN

Smart little trick.

The captain has the autograph from earlier; a long message has three words underlined: she, has, bomb. Two SWAT members drag out Gloria in handcuffs. She laughs as they carry her out the entrance.

POLICE CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

I'll have someone go with you home.
We will send more officers for a statement later.

The POLICE ESCORT walks Richard to his car. They both enter.

I/E. RICHARD'S CAR - DAY

Richard sets his phone down. He keeps peering at the time. 40 seconds left. They both buckle in. Richard takes a breath.

He sticks the keys into the ignition, but hesitates before he turning them. Through the windshield he sees Gloria, slammed on top of a police car, smiling right at him.

Richard recalls his time with Gloria. His eyes dart back and forth as low whispers are heard as audible thoughts.

20 seconds. One thing she said reverbs louder in his head.

GLORIA (V.O.)
Gotta say, I prefer the original.

POLICE ESCORT
Hey man, let's go.

Gloria's voice goes silent. It clicks.

15 seconds. He takes his hand off his keys.

RICHARD
We need to get out of the car.

POLICE ESCORT
What?

10 seconds.

RICHARD
Out! Now!

The two men abruptly unbuckle, struggling bit. Doors are locked. Richard fumbles for the unlock button.

5 seconds.

They kick open the door. The timer hits zero.

BOOOOOOM. The car bursts into a ball of flames.

Gloria smiles as she watches multiple SWAT run towards the explosion with first aid kits. The smoke obscures the area around the car.

Gloria's smile fades as she notices two SWAT carrying Richard through the smoke; cut and bruised, but breathing.