

NATURAL ASSASSIN

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LOGLINE

A self-hating naturally born virtuoso pianist in 2063 is recruited by an organization that follows the teachings of Friedrich Nietzsche to further the growing popularity of Eugenics at the expense of hostile discrimination against his own kind, but he must choose which legacy to leave behind when he's asked to carry out an assassination that could change the course of history.

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OVER BLACK.

LUCINDA (O.C.)
Initiate program.

A METALLIC CRUNCH into a

INT. A WHITE VOID - UNDETERMINED

INSIDE VIRTUAL REALITY

Wearing a blue jumpsuit and virtual reality glasses is LUCINDA (25), a crisp natural beauty.

She performs a martial arts kata; striking out in all directions against opponents that are invisible to us.

Lucinda simultaneously fights off several HOLOGRAM ATTACKERS from different directions. She attacks like a master black belt with a combination of karate, jujitsu, judo, etc.

She takes some hits but always comes back stronger.

Lucinda suddenly stops. She barely blinks at a fist that SLICES right through her.

LUCINDA
Stop.

The Attackers disappear.

OUTSIDE VIRTUAL REALITY

INT. VIRTUAL REALITY TRAINING ROOM - NIGHT

A spacious room with dimmed track lighting high above.

A large mirror covers one wall. Green Screen devours the other three.

Lucinda removes the V-R glasses, scrutinizes her reflection in the mirror, and then steps toward it.

LUCINDA
In here. Now.
(to mirror)
Mirror off.

The mirror instantly turns transparent.

A pale-skinned DAMIEN HARPER BAY (25), appears in the dark viewing room, his slight build cowering through the clear glass.

Their eyes lock for a moment.

Lucinda walks back to the center of the room.

Bay steps through the doorway.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)
Why'd you follow me in here?

Bay grins sheepishly.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)
(grinning)
You wouldn't be the first.

Lucinda turns her back on him and flips a switch on a console as the room floods with intense white light.

Bay squints.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)
So, think you're a true
Nietzschian?

BAY
I am.

LUCINDA
You sure about that?

Bay slowly approaches her.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)
Ever been strapped to a V-R console
before?

BAY
Portable headset.

Lucinda quickly turns back around and DARTS A QUICK JAB to Bay's face knocking him backward.

BAY (CONT'D)
(holding his mouth)
Ow!

LUCINDA
That's for spying on me.

BAY

Sorry.

LUCINDA

You wanna learn how to dodge that punch and counter with a take-down?

BAY

Okay, I guess.

LUCINDA

(mocking him)

Okay, I guess.

From the wall, Lucinda grabs another pair of V-R glasses like hers and tosses it at Bay, which is awkwardly catches.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)

Or you could just go around getting beat up.

Bay grins nervously.

BAY

I can shoot a gun.

LUCINDA

Not good enough.

MOMENTS LATER

Both wearing the glasses, Lucinda and Bay square off.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)

Initiate program.

INSIDE VIRTUAL REALITY

INT. THE WHITE VOID

Lucinda turns back and immediately swings at Bay with an uppercut knocking him back.

She continues using a smooth arsenal of body power. Bay reacts: dodging, getting hit, dodging, throwing his body around, but he's not feeling the blows.

Lucinda throws a punch to Bay's face. Wincing, he's woozy from excessive exertion.

LUCINDA

Your ever wonder why you're lonely?
Why you don't fit in anywhere, even
with your own kind?

Lucinda surprises Bay with a smooth Judo move that makes him
fall back to the floor.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)

Why you're a virtuoso pianist who
can't understand why no one
respects you for it?

Lucinda in Akiba stance towers over Bay.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)

Why you're a Natural Born, hated by
most of the Gen-Mod members here;
yet you want to be a part of us?
Now why *is* that, Damien Harper Bay?

Bay rises to his feet, holding back tears.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)

Whatcha gonna do?

Bay wildly flails his arms, thrashing about and pummeling
Lucinda who's nonplussed by it all.

BAY

Because my own kind can't see the b-
big picture!

LUCINDA

You want to be one of us? You gotta
stay cool at all times, be tough,
and know how to keep secrets.

BAY

I can.

Bay finally stops, tapped out.

LUCINDA

You can't let feelings get you
riled up and cloud your judgment.

Red-faced mad, and chest heaving, Bay wheezes while holding a
weak and wobbly fighting stance.

BAY

Let's go.

LUCINDA
 (laughing)
 That all you got?
 (beat)
 Stop.

They remove their glasses.

OUTSIDE VIRTUAL REALITY

INT. VIRTUAL REALITY TRAINING ROOM - NIGHT

Lucinda faces Bay. This time, Lucinda slams a hard PUNCH.

A real one.

Bay falls flat on his back again. Out cold.

CLOSE ON BAY: He BLINKS.

Lucinda leans over Bay, now on her knees. She extends her hand, which Bay grabs, helping him sit up.

LUCINDA
 Ready for a little assignment?

Bay nods.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)
 Would you do something that would
 save the lives of your kind, even
 if it meant you had to take out one
 of your own to do it?

BAY
 I'm a nobody. How would I do that?

As Bay wheezes with chest heaving, a GAME CHIP falls into his open hand.

Lucinda closes it for him.

LUCINDA
 It's a new game I wrote up just for
 you, Damien Harper Bay. Play it.
 Every single day. It's an early
 prototype that I'm still working
 on. Do not share it with anyone.

BAY
 (to the doorway)
 Do they know--

LUCINDA
With *no one*. Understand?

Bay nods slowly. He gets it(*he thinks*).

BAY
I love you, Lucinda.

LUCINDA
(lovingly)
Oh, that's so sweet.
(strict)
Now get out.

Bay looks aghast at Lucinda, then backs away before leaving.

Lucinda twists a black WRISTBAND on her left wrist, and then a back-lit cellphone display appears on her lower forearm. She speed dials a number, and then the line CLICKS on.

LUCINDA (CONT'D)
Madam Vice President?
(beat)
...Yeah. This time I found our guy.
The President will never know what
hit him.

CUT TO BLACK.