The Captains Secrets

Inspired by Real Events

Drama

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US Air Force prodigy, Henrik, worked hard to escape the stigma of his Nazi roots only to be the target of West Point grad, Donnie, a sexually aggressive woman who turns into a pantomime villain as she seeks advancement during Desert Storm. Henrik struggles with her sexual onslaught until his wife exploits Donnie’s twisted past.

Captain Donavan “Donnie” Prescott (antagonist) is the primary antagonist but she's a two dimensional one. She is an accomplished West Point Graduate with an aviation career in the Army but the problem is that she's a sexually aggressive woman turning into a bit of a pantomime villain as she seeks advancement. Donnie has a history of aggressive sexual onslaught towards married men of higher rank even though she herself is married; yet no one has done anything to stop her. Donnie’s behavior is driven from a life-long secret she hides behind.

Captain (Major-Select) Henrik Neugebauer (protagonist) is an Air Force prodigy and an honorable guy known for always doing the right thing. He’s a German immigrant determined to escape the stigma of his Nazi roots. Henrik instantly becomes the target of Donnie’s obsession during a deployment for Desert Storm. At the start of their working relationship, Donnie makes a very clear sexual advancement towards Henrik which he ignores to the nth degree setting off an explosion of raw emotions in Donnie. Having learned that Henrik is blissfully in love with his wife Madison, makes him even more desirable to Donnie.

Madison Neugebauer (protagonist) a smart, delightful, devoted and trusting military spouse to Henrik, quickly catches on to Donnie’s plight once she finally meets her. Donnie thinks this sweet, perfect little Officer’s wife is no challenge to her but Madison surprises everyone when her emblematical sociable personality quietly changes to an arsenic infused Kool-Aid type when it comes to anyone presenting a threat to her husband and their marriage.

Inge Neugebauer-Wayne (antagonist) is Henrik’s mother who is a controlling and stern German mother. Henrik blames her childhood poverty and family separation during World War 2 for this behavior. Clout, status and accomplishment are extremely important to Inge. Inge has a calculated relationship with Madison. For all outward appearances, Inge is endearing and supports Madison, yet she insists Madison still address her as Mrs. Neugebauer even though Madison calls her father-in-law by his first name, Doug.

**Opening Image:**

We are introduced to Lieutenant Donovan “Donnie” Prescott at her promotion ceremony where her husband, Captain Will Vaughan, pins on her new rank outside on the parade grounds at the Army Base in Arizona. She has a flashback of her bad childhood from her white lower income neighborhood where she was bullied in San Diego to her graduation from West Point Military Academy and the Aviation Program. She tries to remember good things but she has a chip on her shoulder. Donnie is driven to prove she’s somebody important now.

Scene switches to a honky-tonk bar in Tempe, Arizona where Lieutenant Henrik Neugebauer makes a smug comment as Madison and her girlfriend pass by them. Madison ignores the stupid comment and keeps walking. Her dipsy girlfriend stops and engages with Henrik and his comrade. Henrik decides to “take one for the team” and let his friend go dance with the “nice one” as he sacrifices to keep the unfriendlier Madison occupied. After back and forth banter between Henrik and Madison, they begin to warm up to each other and find themselves smitten with one another. Henrik tells Madison that he was German immigrant and worked hard to get accepted to the US Air Force Academy. He was awarded a pilot slot at Williams Air Force base in nearby Chandler.

Fast forward 4 years. Henrik and Madison marry in an elaborate military wedding. They start an idyllic life together. Madison is the perfect Officer’s wife and compliments Henrik nicely during his fast rise through the ranks. Henrik is a role model; he has a reputation for always doing the right thing.

**Theme Stated:**  Desert Shield is activated and the Neugebauer’s have been assigned to Henrik’s native Germany, to a NATO Air Base. Madison has given up her nursing career in order to support Henrik. She gladly puts Henrik and his career first and is actively involved in the military life. During a deployment mission in Italy for Desert Shield, Captain Henrik Neugebauer, now a Major Select, meets Captain Donnie Prescott for the first time. Prescott is an Army Officer out of Yuma, Arizona temporarily assigned to NATO with the Army/Air Force Joint Task Force called JSTARS.

Captain Donovan Prescott has been briefed that her Flight Commander is none other than Henrik Neugebauer. And so begins the sexually charged cat and mouse game throughout the perilous war.

Donnie calls a former married lover stationed at the Pentagon and asks him to get information on Henrik. The former philanderer is not happy she has contacted him. He sternly says this will be the last time he does anything for her.

**Set Up:** In a hangar on a the military base, Donnie unzips her flight suit exposing her lacy pushup bra. She confidently walks over to Henrik as he briefs a group of flight crew. She doesn’t care about the uniform regulations. Henrik shows no reaction when she approaches him. He undividedly ignores her. Henrik’s lack of response annoys her.

A group of crew members gossip about Donnie’s voice. It’s very deep and masculine remarkably missing any resemblance of femininity.

Yeah, I turned around to see who the guy was talking because I didn’t recognize his voice and about fell over when I saw it was a female, Major Booton says. Has anyone checked for an Adam’s Apple because nowadays you never know if she is a she or a dude. Donnie overhears this discussion and remembers that kids always made fun of her deep voice. She huffs and stomps off.

The deployment eventually ends and the Army crew is sent back to the States. Donnie has gotten nowhere romantically with Henrik.

A year later, Desert Shield turns into Desert Storm. The Neugebauer’s are now living in Melbourne, Florida. Henrik gets orders to deploy with JSTARS for Desert Storm to Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany. The “Conflict” status has been upgraded to “War” status. The reality of Henrik being activated for real life war hits Madison hard. For the very first time, she is awakened by the thought of losing Henrik in combat. Donnie is thrilled at the news of another joint war deployment. This gives her a unique opportunity to prevail in seducing Henrik knowing Madison will not be around. It infuriates Donnie that Madison and Henrik have such a close bond.

Scene: Intense war scene. Air Force fighter jets and radar planes interacting with Army helicopters and ground troops to deploy missals during night missions in support of Desert Storm.

**Catalyst:** One night after a tedious but successful mission, Donnie pulls out all of the stops in seducing Henrik during a celebration with the crew at the Officers Club. She challenges the flight crew targeting Henrik to shots of alcohol. One by one, the crew retire back to their quarters, leaving Donnie alone with Henrik in the club. Donnie sees the opportunity to force herself on Henrik until Henrik, in a mixture of suppressed sexual desire and missing his wife, succumbs to her advancement.

In the early hours of the morning, Henrik awakens confused in an alcohol induced fog. Donnie is naked lying next to him. He realizes he is in her quarters. Henrik jumps up out of bed and grabs his clothes. Donnie sits up. Henrik panics and tells her that this was a huge mistake. They could both lose their careers and be prosecuted if anyone finds out and most importantly, he loves Madison, he will never leave her. This enrages Donnie inside, but she keeps cool. Donnie talks about the exhilarating sexual night they had but promises to keep their secret just between them. Henrik remember I’m like one of the guys. What happens on deployments, stays between us as a code of silence. No one will ever find out about us.

Henrik’s squadron and the JSTARS support crews returns back to Florida after an 8 month deployment. Henrik remains silent about his brief affair with Donnie. He really loves Madison and it kills him inside that he cheated. The affair is unbefitting of Henrik’s devout moral compass. He takes extra measures to show Madison how much he missed her and how devoted he is to her.

The weight on Henrik’s shoulders about his short lived affair weigh heavy on him. He decides to share his mistake with his mother, Inge, and ask for guidance. I met this Captain, a West Point grad and helicopter pilot while on deployment. I had a weak moment and we had an abrupt affair. Well Henrik I hate to say it but here I go again to clean up your messes. I should never have told you. Never mind, I’ll handle it. Forget I ever mentioned it to you! Henrik snaps back and hangs up.

**Debate:** The plot now concerns the protagonist (Henrik) and his struggle to keep his wife from finding out about his affair and repress Donnie into keeping quiet. He contemplates perhaps he should come clean and tell Madison the truth. Completely out of character for Henrik, he chooses to keep it a secret.

The threat of exposure heightens when the Base Commander organizes a “Welcome Home Troops” gala for the Air Force and Army Veterans who participated in the JSTARS deployment. Henrik is approached by the Army Liaison Officer insisting he and Madison host Captain Prescott who will be attending from out of state for the event. Henrik quickly responds, absolutely not! The Liaison Officer quietly tells Henrik that there are issues with the Army wives, and no one wants her in their home knowing of her rumored indiscretions, besides, Donnie specifically requested Henrik and Madison. Henrik develops a nervous sweat as his mind scrambles for a solution to keep his secret hidden while having his ex-seducer in the same house with his unsuspecting wife. He decides its best to keep your enemies close.

Henrik returns back to his house hoping Madison handles the request with her usual unwavering support and tells Madison about the request from the Army Liaison Officer. Madison’s heard the rumors about Donnie but she’s also heard that Donnie acts like “just one of the guys”. She agrees to host Donnie. She has complete trust in Henrik and besides, her in-laws will also be with them for the weekend celebrations. Madison hopes perhaps with Donnie there the strain she feels between Inge and her will diminish a bit. Henrik’s mother, Inge, by all outward appearances, seems loving towards Madison but behind closed doors, she keeps a distance. She hasn’t given Madison permission to call her Inge, it’s still Mrs. Neugebauer to her. This bothers Madison. Madison thinks they’re close and doesn’t understand.

**Break Into Two:** Unfortunately, the scheming Donnie is only just getting started. Donnie calls for Henrik at the base. “Is Captain Neugebauer there? This is Captain Prescott.” “No Sir, he’s in a meeting at the hangar. May I take a message Sir?” Frustrated, Donnie hangs up. Donnie shows up at the JSTARS hangar and waits for Henrik to take her to his house. Henrik gives a stern warning to Donnie that their brief affair was a mistake and he will never leave Madison. He reminds her he is completely devoted to his wife.

Henrik and Donnie walk through the front door and are greeted by their rottweiler dogs. Donnie reaches to pet them and they both growl at her. Madison hears the growling and rushes over to get the dogs. I’m sorry about that, they usually are very good with strangers. Donnie extends her hand to Madison and comments to Henrik how pretty she is. Henrik responds how blessed and in love he is with his wife. Madison blushes.

Henrik introduces his parents, Inge and Doug, to Donnie. Inge appears to be quite impressed with Donnie and offers a warm greeting. Please call me Inge she says to Donnie. Madison looks at Henrik stunned. Perplexed himself, Henrik whispers to ignore his mother. He will have a talk with her. This has been an elephant in the room for way too many years he whispers to Madison. Donnie overhears the conversation and urgently sets her talons on Inge. Donnie’s just witnessed the influence Inge has on Henrik.

Donnie pushes the boundaries and grabs Henrik’s ass behind Madison’s back. He grows increasingly uncomfortable. Madison picks up on his nervousness.

As soon as Madison and Henrik retire to their bedroom for the evening, Madison confronts Henrik regarding his apparent uneasiness with Donnie. He insists he’s fine, nothing to worry about. Well your mother seems quite smitten with her. She makes me still call her Mrs. Neugebauer and I’m her daughter in law.

The games begin when Henrik and Madison wake to noise in the kitchen early the next morning. They find Donnie in the kitchen deep in conversation with Inge. Donnie instantly turns in Henrik’s direction. She is dressed only in a negligee and provocatively leans over the counter towards Henrik almost exposing her breasts. Good morning Henrik, would you like coffee she says with a devilish smirk on her face. Henrik feels the blood rush to his face in anger. Madison doesn’t skip a beat, grabs Henrik’s hand and says no thank you, we don’t drink coffee and offers Donnie a robe. Donnie declines and says she’s going to go shower. Inge great chatting with you this morning. Oh, the same here dear. I thoroughly enjoyed our conversation.

Inge turns to Henrik and Madison. I think it’s refreshing Donnie is so confident and comfortable in her own skin. Henrik sits his coffee down and abruptly says he is going to go for a run. Mother I’ll speak with you when I return! Madison is by no means oblivious to what is transpiring in front of her. She catches on to the game Donnie is playing. Game on Madison thinks.

Donnie appears at the front door in running gear. Not wanting to raise suspicion flags, Henrik politely asks Madison to please join them. Henrik isn’t going to let Donnie get away with the shit she is trying to pull but unfortunately, Madison declines. Henrik insists she goes with them. Madison says she’ll see them soon. Once outside, Henrik loses his temper with Donnie and tells her to knock the shit off. He will kick her out of the house if necessary. Donnie smirks and starts to run. She turns and looks back. They’ll wonder why you aren’t running with me Henrik, come on. Keep up appearances!

Henrik returns from the run with Donnie a few steps behind him. Henrik slams the door shutting Donnie out. Madison could feel a change in Henrik. He was distant towards Donnie. This is not like Henrik to be rude to a guest. Madison talks to Henrik while he is showering. Henrik gets out of the shower and sits Madison down on the tub. Madison, she tried to kiss me on the run, and I told her to back the F off, she’s out of line! I don’t want her here. Madison calmly responds that she appreciates that they have the kind of relationship where they can tell each other everything. She’s just jealous of our relationship Madison says. Henrik looks at Madison and says, it’s like she has some sort of agenda. I don’t know but I don’t trust her. Madison replies, she may think I’m naïve but she’ll have a rude awakening if she thinks she can come between us Henrik. I don’t give a shit who she is. Henrik this is our home! Henrik reassures Madison that if she continues to act like this, he will demand she leaves.

**B Story:** Later that night, they arrive for the military gala at the Officer’s Club. Donnie is feeling the chill from Henrik and heads straight-over to the Army Officers tables where she receives a less than enthusiastic greeting from her colleagues and spouses. Awards and speeches were given and the band begins to play. Madison is purposely sitting on Henrik’s lap knowing Donnie has one eye on her. Henrik is genuinely beaming with pride over Madison. He asks her to dance with him. Donnie sees how Henrik looks at Madison. She wants him to look in her eyes that way.

The song ends, and they return to the table. Donnie sees Henrik and excuses herself from Inge. She walks around the table to Henrik and asks Madison if she could have this dance with Henrik. Madison wants Donnie to know she is no threat to their marriage and simply says, sure, he’s a great dancer. Henrik doesn’t want anything to do with her at this point but knows he can’t make Donnie mad. Donnie extends her hand to Henrik. He clearly ignores it, walks past her and waits on the dance floor. Donnie follows him. One of the wives makes a comment to Madison. Beware, Donnie’s a viper. Madison replies don’t you worry, I’ve got her figured out. Her shenanigans stop with us!

Donnie softly says to Henrik, you know I think of our nights almost every moment of the day. We are made for each other Henrik. He pushes her back abruptly to put space between them. Listen Donnie, that was a one-time huge mistake. I’m never leaving my wife and if you continue to play these games, I’ll take matters on my own. We are done! Henrik reminds her that her career is just as much at stake as his should she decide to retaliate. Henrik walks away leaving Donnie alone on the dance floor.

Donnie takes a walk outside to get a breath of fresh air. She smiles and thinks how fantastic she looks. The various plastic surgeries to enhance her physique were worth every penny. She’s a sexual goddess and she’s determined to be powerful or famous. The wonderful emotion quickly diminishes as the bright moon becomes overshadowed by clouds and darkness looms over the ocean. Donnie feels the emptiness of the dark as her mind frantically replaces the high she’s on with memories of that horrible day when she was just 14. The surgery was so painful, and the conditions of the operating room were less than third world in Tijuana, but it was necessary for her future. She hates living with her secret but knows that she would not have made it into West Point nor into the military had she not had it. She still suffers from the scars. The daily doses of medication are often too much for her to handle but she has come too far to turn back now.

Later that night back at the house, Donnie calls it a night. She gives Madison a hug and tells her what a wonderful host she has been. She smiles at Inge and Doug and gushes about how great of parents they have been to Henrik. Henrik sees the conniving and the evil behind her smile. He notices that Inge has a certain fascination with Donnie. It concerns him. Madison notices as well. Henrik excuses himself and goes to bed. Madison takes her nightly bubble bath.

Once done, she feels her way in the dark to the master closet. She closes the door and flips on the light. She sees Henrik’s aviation headset on the floor and puts it back in his flight bag. She sees a pair of women’s nylons in the bag. Suddenly all of the conversations from the wives’ pop into her head. She has never felt insecure or jealous before. She has flashbacks to all of the inappropriate things Donnie has done over the past few days.

Immediately she wakes Henrik and shows him the nylons. He grabs her and hugs her telling her how much he loves her, and he would never cheat. He explains that’s an old Air Force Academy trick to polish your shoes, ask any cadet. He tells Madison that Donnie’s sexual advancements worry him a bit. What if she were to accuse me of something… Madison interrupts and says, it’s her word against yours. She has a tarnished one and yours is stellar. No one would believe her. She kisses him and says Henrik we are in this together. I can handle Donnie if need be! Madison knows she needs to pry into Donnie’s past allegations. Whatever she uncovers, she’ll keep it for a rainy day if Donnie continues to harass Henrik.

**Fun and Games:** Months go by and Henrik’s ceremony to Major is performed. It’s a glorious and proud moment when Madison is asked by Henrik to pin him during the ceremony. Along with the promotion comes acceptance into Air War College in Montgomery, Alabama at Maxwell AFB.

Henrik and Madison decide she will commute back and forth between Florida and Alabama to see each other since the program is only a year long. They have fun searching for an apartment to rent and exploring the new city. They are spending a lot of quality time together. War seems a distant memory and the lunacy with Donnie has died down. Things are great and his affair, at best, is a fogged remembrance.

**Midpoint:** Air War College is going fantastic and Henrik and Madison continue to enjoy a normal life together. Henrik constantly tells Madison that he will never take her for granted and he is lucky to have her as his wife. It kills him inside to think he could have lost her. What the hell was he thinking in that weak moment. He will never let that happen again.

Meanwhile Donnie is trying to figure out where Henrik has moved to. He’s not answering her calls and her letters are getting returned. Donnie once again calls upon the former lover at the Pentagon but this time he refuses to take her call. She sends him an “Urgent” email threatening to expose him to his wife if he doesn’t help her. She gets the information on Henrik’s new military assignment. She then demands to be reassigned from her base in Arizona to Fort Rucker just 90 miles away from Maxwell AFB. Her current superior is another one of her duped, married, sexual pawns. She knows it will get approved.

**Bad Guys Close In:** It’s a Thursday late afternoon and there’s a knock on Henrik’s apartment door. It’s Donnie dressed only in a trench coat. He’s shocked and angry. He panics and tells her to immediately get her ass inside before anyone sees her. He knows she’ll cause a scene if he rejects her. What the hell are you doing here? He asks. She opens her trench coat and drops it revealing her naked body. Henrik grabs her coat and tries to cover her up. We are DONE Donnie! I’ll call Will and tell him everything. She immediately snaps and threatens him that if he does anything to ruin her career, she will take him down and harm Madison if need be. She reminds him who she has in her pocket.

Henrik sees a demonic look in her eyes and knows that she is serious. He knows he must play nice and talks sweet to her, kill her with kindness he thinks. Donnie begins to cry and tells him how much they are destined to be together. She reaches for him and kisses him. He pulls back and says, maybe, perhaps in another life but for now we need to play it cool. Henrik becomes afraid knowing the kind of revenge she is capable of. He convinces her to leave. The panic of knowing she’s only 90 miles away sends shock waves down his spine. His secret is closing in on him.

Henrik calls his mother, Inge, and tells her what Donnie has done. He stresses he’s worried of what Donnie will do. I’m going to tell Madison the truth and pray she forgives me. Together we can defeat Donnie. Inge staunchly tells Henrik to keep his secret to himself and let her speak to Donnie. Confused, Henrik asks, are you in contact with Donnie? Yes Henrik. I thought it a good idea she keep me in her good graces. It’s for your safety Henrik. Look I’ll handle Donnie. Leave it be! Inge barks back. Completely against his conscious, Henrik agrees and hangs up.

**All is Lost:** It’s late on a Monday evening when Madison hears her doorbell ring. Who would be knocking at 10:30 at night? It’s Major Jerry Withers from JSTARS command. He’s a close friend of both Madison and Henrik. Maddy, this letter came for Henrik and it’s from Donnie. Oh, ok Madison says. Jerry has a weird nervous look on his face, but Madison doesn’t question it. Madison don’t you think it is weird that she’s sending him personal mail to this office. She knows he’s not stationed here anymore. Jerry, nothing Donnie does surprises me. Jerry hesitates for a moment but leaves.

She continues paying bills and separating Henrik’s mail. She remembers all of the love letters Henrik had written to her while he was deployed. She loved getting mail. There must be an explanation.

 Something keeps making her look at that letter. She has never opened up his personal mail in the 15 years of their relationship and she isn’t going to start now. She gets up and checks the front door to make sure it is locked. She walks over to the kitchen table where she was paying bills and reaches for the letter. She holds it for a few minutes and something in her gut tells her to open the letter. She suddenly feels a chill pass through her body.

She opens the letter, reads it. It’s a hand-written letter from Donnie to Henrik. She sits on the kitchen floor and re reads the letter. She is frozen for a moment. Her mind rushes with questions and disbelief. Could this remotely be true?

Morning comes. She flies to Montgomery. She waits in Henrik’s apartment all afternoon. Finally, she hears the key being put into the front door lock and can hear the turning of the key. Henrik walks through the front door and is pleasantly surprised to see Madison sitting on the couch. Wow! What an awesome surprise. She stops him mid kiss and hands him the letter in the envelope. He stares at the front of the envelope and loses all color from his face. In an icy tone she says, read it. He drops his head and his stoic stature diminishes as he reads the letter. I will do anything Madison. It meant nothing to me, I swear. He makes a full confession. I wanted to tell you but I didn’t know how. I thought I could make her go away but she’s threatened harm to you and to end my career. That’s not going to happen Madison sharply replies. Call her immediately and put her on speaker! You tell her it’s over. Tell her I know everything and you want zero contact with her. Henrik calls Donnie without blinking an eye.

Oh my gosh, you called me. How are you? Donnie says cheerful. You sent a letter to Madison! Henrik sternly says. No, I did not. Donnie says. You sent the letter knowing a colleague would give it to Madison to bring to me. He snaps back. Stop it Donnie! Madison knows everything. I told her the truth; Henrik says. Madison grabs the phone and hangs up.

During the flight back to Florida a woman taps Madison on the shoulder. Excuse me but is your name Madison Neugebauer? We met at the Officers Club after Desert Storm; my husband is in the Army. The woman confesses that Donnie had an affair with her husband and she knows several others. Be careful. Captain Prescott knows none of us will turn her in because we are subject to the same punishment as she would be, so we chose to just put it in our past and move on. She’ll never be stopped. Thank you for your bravery but I’ve had enough of Captain Prescott. I’ll handle her! Madison’s outwardly sweet demeanor secretly changes to revenge inside.

**Break Into Three:** Donnie continues to try and lure Henrik. The final straw has been drawn. Madison and Henrik have a heart to heart discussion and agree that Madison will take the lead regarding Donnie. She flies to see Donnie’s Commander at Fort Rucker. She shows him the letter from Donnie to Henrik. She divulges a significant detail that Henrik told her in confidence. The Commander shakes his head and tells her he can’t make any promises. I have an obligation to investigate but I’ll see what I can do considering the circumstances.

Madison contacts Will, Donnie’s husband. He tells her that he filed for divorce over 6 months ago. He says that Donnie’s purpose has never been to break up a marriage. Her M.O. as a sexual deviant is just to manipulate them. Blackmail is her thing. Married Officers or politicians are easy prey because they won’t turn her in. Too much for them to lose. Someone is giving her the idea to pursue Henrik. She would never put herself in a position of being exposed and subjected to a court-martial. If I was a betting man, I’d guess he’s being groomed for a 4 star and she knows it.

Madison talks to Henrik and tells him she told Donnie’s Commander exactly as they previously discussed. It’s the only way Henrik will avoid a court-martial himself. Henrik tells Madison great but he forgot one detail and there may be a slight problem. He divulges that he told his mother way back about the affair but he assures her she is the only one besides Donnie and Madison that knows about the affair. Madison is furious. How could Henrik not have told him that his mother knew about the affair. Madison is suddenly hit with a keen intuition. Madison what is it? Henrik asks. Do you trust me Henrik?

**Finale:** A few weeks pass and Henrik calls Donnie. He tells her that Madison has left him. The affair was too much for her. He was served with divorce papers last week. Donnie tells Henrik how happy she is and that they can finally be together. Their secret will no longer have to remain hidden. The next call Henrik makes is to his mother and his adopted father. Doug is shocked. Inge reveals that she never thought that Madison was good enough for Henrik and is relieved.

Four months later, Donnie is arrested at Fort Rucker. It stuns everyone. Inge immediately turns blame on Madison for ruining Henrik’s career if he gets court-martialed as well. Inge expresses she is happy Madison divorced Henrik. It’s all about Inge’s image.

The Court-Martial Trial begins for Captain Donovan Prescott. Many Officers from the Army and the Air Force are subpoenaed to testify against Donnie. It is an incredibly embarrassing time for all members of the Armed Forces, and it becomes International news because it involves a female military aviator in a role reversal of sexual harassment and blackmail. The Prosecutor grills each person that has fallen prey to Donnie portraying her to be a cold, vicious, calculated, predator who only thinks of herself and how to quickly advance her career. The Defense argues a strong point that these men were willing participants.

It’s now day five of the trial and Henrik and his parents sit on the opposite side of where Madison is sitting. She confronts Henrik and his parents during a break about the type of woman Henrik got involved with, a conniving slut. Henrik says nothing while his mother starts berating Madison. Henrik stares into Madison’s eyes with shame on his face. You can tell he still loves Madison. Madison avoids eye contact with Henrik.

The break ends and the prosecution resumes calling another witness. The witness is Will. The Prosecutor asks Will about their marriage? Will states it was a marriage of convenience for her. She baited and blackmailed Congressman Bradley to secure a Letter of Recommendation into West Point and... Donnie’s defense attorney jumps up and screams I object, your Honor this is absurd and out of line. No further questions.

Madison glances over to the jury box and chuckles to herself noticing the looks on the juror’s faces. Donnie is arguing with her attorney when she suddenly loses control of herself and lashes out. The Judge slams down his gavel and orders Donnie to silence herself. We will take a ten minute recess.

Henrik glances over to Madison. Madison gets up and leaves the courtroom. Henrik excuses himself from his parents and runs after her. Henrik tries to grab her hand, but Madison pulls away when she sees Inge walk out looking for Henrik. Inge firmly instructs Henrik to return back to the courtroom with her. They sit down next to Doug.

Donnie peaks over to Henrik, Inge and Doug. Henrik notices Inge winking at Donnie and Donnie has a grin on her face. Donnie winks back at her. Henrik is perplexed and confronts Inge about the exchange of looks between Donnie and her. Inge informs Henrik that she has spoken with Donnie and Donnie’s attorney. After closing arguments, they’ll ask to approach the bench. The defense will get the case thrown out or dismissed and Donnie will be free. Donnie will be back to full military duty and free for Henrik to marry.

Overcome with rage, Henrik raises his voice questioning Inge. Why are you getting involved with Donnie and her attorney? Doug quickly insists that they all go out of the courtroom to continue this discussion. They leave and stop in a corner outside the courtroom in the hallway. What the hell are you talking about Mutti? Henrik says. What have you done Inge? Doug intensely shouts. I just helped a bad situation get better that’s all. It’s what Henrik deserves. You better start talking and I mean you better not leave a single detail out Inge or Henrik and I will walk out of your life! Doug screams in her face.

**Twist:** Listen, when Henrik confessed to his affair, I knew that was the sign that he knew he had made a mistake in marrying Madison. Look Henrik, she was perfect in the wife role until you became a Major then you needed bigger things and Donnie being a West Point grad and aviator, well that was perfect timing, so I helped Donnie get what you both deserve. We had a profound discussion at the Gala after you returned from Desert storm. We stayed in contact and put a plan into motion so you two could be together. You are welcome Henrik! I always have to take the lead in your life and clean up your messes. Inge says.

You were behind the letter to Madison? Henrik snaps back with fury. Yes, I knew you were too weak and wouldn’t do anything to leave Madison. And I am thoroughly disgusted at Madison for making Donnie go through all of this embarrassing court-martial scheisse (German for shit). So, she had a few indiscretions before she found you, she’s assertive in advancing her career. I applaud her, it’s all going to work out for you two. I’m excited Henrik. Inge says. Henrik shakes his head. Henrik turns his back and heads back into the courtroom. Doug scours and returns back to the courtroom with Inge following behind him. This time Henrik is sitting a row behind Inge and Doug but directly across the aisle from Madison.

**Twist:** Madison’s cell phone rings and it’s an unidentified woman speaking very softly and quickly. Madison look into hospital recordings back in 1979, a Dr. Carlos Ramirez. He practices in San Diego now but back then, he had a small clinic in Tijuana, Mexico, ask about Prescott. The person hangs up.

Confused but curious as to how this anonymous call relates to the trial she races down to the law library. She gets the phone number to a Dr. Carlos Ramirez in San Diego. She calls the office and asks if this was the same doctor who used to practice back in 1979 in Tijuana. The receptionists says yes, but he has been here for over 20 years. May I speak with Dr. Ramirez? It’s quite urgent! He’s out of town at a conference. Madison explains.

Dr. Ramirez calls her back. Miraculously he is in Atlanta. They have a 15 minute conversation. She feels like she is hyperventilating. She rushes and finds the Prosecutor.

The Judge and Jury return.

Judge may I approach the bench. The JAG discloses the latest discovery to the Judge. Immediately, the defense yells to dismiss the witness. How long does Dr. Ramirez need before he can get here? He can be here in 2 hours Sir. I am going to allow this only because it will not prolong this trial and I feel it can be vital to the case.

The Judge announces we will take a long lunch and reconvene at 3:00pm.

Once again the Judge and Jury return.

Call your witness the Judge orders. In walks Dr. Carlos Ramirez. He is sworn in and proceeds with his testimony. Back in 1979 I was presented with a then 14-year-old biological male for gender reassignment surgery. That patient was Donovan Prescott.

The courtroom instantly becomes alive and all you hear are gasps. The Defense screams to strike the statement from the record. This has nothing to do with this trial, he yells. The Judge denies it and orders the courtroom to be silenced. Dr. Ramirez please continue.

Donovan Prescott was genetically born a male but experienced gender dysphoria and gender identity. I started him on MTF, male to female HRT, hormone replacement therapy then eventually performed the genitalia reassignment surgery.

The Prosecutor interrupts, so you are saying Captain Donovan Prescott was genetically born a male? Yes, that is correct. The procedure was not yet completely accepted in the United States at the time or it was extremely difficult to find a surgeon to perform this type of surgery, so they came to my facility in Tijuana.

So this woman, excuse me, this genetically born man, has been lying to the US government, the United States Armed Forces, West Point, to everyone in her entire path in life since 1979? Listen I want to be perfectly clear, it’s not about her being transgender. She could have paved the way for so many, been that inspiration, been the hero to others yet she chose to be deceptive and continued to lie. That’s what frustrates me the most and I’m sure the Jury would agree, the JAG officer responds.

Not exactly, you see persons with gender dysphoria feel emotionally and psychologically identifying with the opposite biological sex. Donovan was born a male but emotionally and psychologically felt female. It’s a medical condition. She should have been open about her condition. Dr. Ramirez says.

True but she knows right from wrong and lying is wrong under Conduct Unbecoming. I’m finished with this witness. The JAG Officer says.

Counsel are you both good to continue or do you need a moment to absorb the latest discovery? The Judge asks. Both counsels agree to keep going.

**Twist:** Next we call Major Henrik Neugebauer to the stand. Inge gulps and chokes. Henrik you will not go up there she says. Henrik tells his mother don’t you worry about me; I’ll clean up my own mess.

The Prosecutor begins. Major Neugebauer, I know you must be in shock considering the latest testimony. I have no words Sir. I have no words. Are you ok to continue? The Prosecutor asks. Yes Sir.

Major Neugebauer, tell me about the alleged affair….Henrik interrupts the Prosecutor and says I did NOT have an affair with Captain Prescott! What? Major Neugebauer please explain. She drugged me, that’s rape. Donnie loses it and screams, that’s not true, Henrik why are you saying this? The Judge warns the defense to control her. Counsel get up to this bench now!

What the hell is going on in this courtroom? I am about to call this whole thing a mistrial. The Prosecutor vehemently denies he has any prior knowledge and we should allow Major Neugebauer to continue. The Defense begs to declare a mistrial. The Judge says, you got 10 minutes to see where this is going. Do you understand! Yes Sir.

Go on Major Neugebauer. Yes Sir. I have no recollection of the sexual encounters she claims we had, as a matter of fact, I contacted my wife who is a nurse, the moment I woke up one morning telling her I felt weird and had no recollection of the night after doing shots Captain Prescott bought for all of us. She said you were drugged but conferenced called a physician and he agreed the probability of having been drugged was consistent with my symptoms. The physician is willing to testify …. OBJECT!

Overruled, I’ll allow!

I think it’s obvious that she since she has gone to extremes to lie about her gender well that should be enough for you all to believe that Captain Prescott will lie about anything to get what she wants. I have a list of Officers who witnessed her aggressive advances towards me on several occasions. I ignored her every time during the deployments. She kept buying shots and insisting we toast to a mission well done and this is when I believe she drugged me. She continued the sexual harassment even in front of my wife and my parents while she was a guest in our home.

So Major Neugebauer you are saying this is now a rape case?

Yes, and I could also add sexual assault, drug use and possession, harassment, intimidation, and I could go on, Henrik says convincingly.

Donnie stands up and starts screaming. Henrik why are you saying this? He’s lying! She unexpectedly and suddenly finds herself on the defensive for incompetence. It never crossed her mind that her secret would be revealed, let alone that Henrik might go rogue.

The Judge bangs his gavel and says Order….. Order in this court! Counsel approach the bench now! No better yet, in my chambers. Bailiff, please take the Jury to the Jury room.

The Judge slams the door to his chamber and orders the attorneys to sit. Besides being the biggest cluster fuck full of unbelievable testimony, what the hell are you trying to say out there? You didn’t know Major Neugebauer was allegedly drugged. No! says the Prosecutor, it’s obvious Captain Donovan has harassed, intimidated, and blackmailed him just like all of the others. Perhaps with the safety of this courtroom, he felt he finally could come clean. We’ve established she’s a liar and master manipulator, he’s squeaky clean. He has no reason to lie.

I’m going to rule this a mistrial. You need to take a look at the new accusations to determine charges, the Judge says.

This whole thing is horse shit, the Defense says. I wasn’t prepared to represent discovery of this magnitude and it’s clear Neugebauer is just trying to save his ass and his marriage.

He’s divorced from what I’ve heard. He has no reason to lie. He’s a decorated war hero with a stellar reputation who was preyed upon by a manipulative person. Even you can’t deny this, the Prosecutor snaps back.

Any chances of a plea you both might agree on or I’ll be forced to claim it a mistrial and we start over with new charges, the Judge says.

Okay Okay. Let’s compromise. Major Neugebauer gets to walk but only if Captain Prescott just gets a dishonorable discharge. No time, the Defense says.

Oh hell no! Prescott gets busted down to the lowest rank and we will agree to reduce her time in Leavenworth. Neugebauer walks. That’s the deal or we start this trial all over to include rape/sexual assault, drug use/possession, harassment, intimidation, and conduct unbecoming and whatever else I can throw in there after the news she entered the military under false pretenses.

Fine! The Defense says. Let’s get this bullshit over.

See if your client agrees then we will announce the plea, the Judge says.

The Judge and JAG Officers return back to the courtroom. The Judge announces a 15 minute recess for Counsel to meet with his client. The Defense urges Donnie to take the plea. I’m sure they’ll recommend time to be served in the Unites States Penitentiary, Leavenworth with forfeiture of all pay and allowances, dismissal as a commissioned officer of the U.S. Military and maximum confinement to the full extent the law allows. Captain Prescott, I’d take the deal. Donnie barks back at him saying it’s a lie though. Can’t you see Henrik is lying. Captain you never disclosed you had gender reassignment surgery. Forget about what happened between you and Neugebauer, it’s a moot point after Dr. Ramirez’s testimony. Face the truth and own up to it.

The Defense Attorney leans into her and whispers Donnie, listen, your credibility is shit. Let’s be honest, we both know this. You don’t present as a moral individual after all of the discovery. I’m certain the jury does not believe you and Henrik seems to have gained the pity of the jury. I’m telling you it’s too risky. You will lose everything. Take the plea and go on with your life. Donnie screams this is fucking crap and you know it.

The Judge orders for Donnie to gain composure or he will remove her immediately from the courtroom.

Inge asks Henrik what is happening. Henrik ignores her. Henrik help her, do something she insists but he continues to ignore her. Donnie sits motionless appearing to be in shock. She glances over to Inge and mouths the words “you promised!” Inge sits back in the pew and is ghost white. Donnie throws an evil glance at Henrik who immediately dismisses her with a mute “bye bye” and grins.

The Judge once again, orders the counselors to approach the bench. They return back to their podiums. The Judge declares the Plea and announces the terms. Captain Donovan Prescott will relinquish her commission as an Officer of the United States Army, with forfeiture of all pay and allowances. She will serve a 3 year period in Leavenworth followed by 5 years probationary. If any probation violation occurs, meaning you ignore, avoid, refuse, or otherwise break the terms or conditions of your probation at any time during the probation period, you will serve the rest of the time in Unites States Penitentiary, Leavenworth. Court is dismissed! The Judge slams down the gavel.

Doug grabs his jacket and tells Inge; I’m done with you. This was the last straw for me!

Madison quickly makes her way out to the hall anxiously waiting for everyone to exit the courtroom. Henrik spots her and runs to her. Picks her up, twirls her around and kisses her. He whispers in her ear, we did it baby. Madison replies back, I know how hard it was for you to lie but Donnie would have never been exposed if you hadn’t come up with the idea of saying you were drugged. Henrik looks at her and says I made a terrible mistake and I will spend a lifetime making it up to you but in my heart, this is what I needed to do to stop that villain from ruining others. I made the mistake of getting involved with someone other than my wife. I am to blame.

**Final Image:** Moments later, Doug and Inge walk out and are shocked to see Madison in Henrik’s arms. They scurry over to Madison and Henrik confused. Inge screams at Henrik. What are you doing? Remember she divorced you. This is all her fault! You know you were NEVER good enough for him Madison! Madison keeps her composure, stands tall and simply says; I’m sorry you feel that way Inge. Madison is overcome with relief that she finally called her “Inge”. It frees her somehow.

Henrik steps forward extremely close; almost nose to nose with Inge and says; I love Madison and always will. She was right about you all along and I defended you. I will NEVER make that mistake again! He steps back; Madison never divorced me, in fact she asked me to trust her. I‘m so happy I did. We made a plan together to defeat Donnie and you! She figured you out Mutti and now you and Donnie have what you both deserve, no one, you have no one. Doug reaches out to Henrik and pulls him close. I’m proud of you son and I’m sorry what your mother has done to you. He pulls Madison in for a hug. Madison, please forgive me. I had no idea. Inge stands steadfast and dumbfounded.

Madison turns and leaves the courthouse with bitter-sweet feelings. Madison, Maddy, wait up, Henrik yells. Madison stops. Henrik tells her, you were so right about my mother interfering. I’m so sorry I didn’t believe you for so long. Can you ever forgive me?

Madison looks deep into Henrik’s eyes and says; Henrik I forgave you a long time ago. I’m thankful you finally get to see Inge’s hold on us but Henrik, I hate that I became so revengeful and spiteful through all of this. I would love to blame your mother but a side of me came out that I’m not exactly proud of and I need to figure that out. I love you Henrik and we have been blessed with a love that very few experience in a lifetime but I need to work on me. You are the love of my life, please know this. I must go. Henrik begs her to stay but she insists she needs to discover who she really is. Henrik watches her walk away. He will sacrifice everything. He loves her that much to let her walk away if it means happiness for her.

……A year later Madison is at a stop light alongside an outdoor café. Her phone pings. It’s a text from Henrik. Hey, it’s me, I hope you’re doing well. You came across my mind just now as I passed by our favorite Blanco café and was wondering if you would like to meet for dinner sometime? Madison looks in the rearview mirror. The light turns green. She passes the Blanco café and smiles.