

Matryoshka Heist – One Pager

Title: *Matryoshka Heist* – by David. A. Bradley

Genre: Drama/Crime/Heist

Logline: When a secure vault robbery goes too well, a world of criminality opens up to reveal how deep corruption can run.

Synopsis: The pilot of *Matryoshka Heist* begins in the aftermath of a daring robbery. Aboard a fleeing HGV, tensions rise among the crew: volatile MAD DOG, seasoned strategist THE COLONEL, calm driver COLD HAND LUKE, and younger members CATO and M16. The Colonel, distrustful of their Serbian contact DRAGAN, overrides the original escape plan, infuriating Mad Dog.

Meanwhile, Detective Sergeant JANET BOND and DC LINFORD ADEYOLE arrive at the Swiss Sec, a high-security depot near Heathrow. Though the guards are shaken from the use of petrol to extract the passcodes, the main vault is untouched. Bond suspects an inside job, which is soon confirmed when guard JUSTIN WHITE gives inconsistent testimony and his colleague, “LOVEACE” reveals the robbers knew his private nickname - DEEPTHROAT.

At Matthew Johnstone Bank, lawyer CARLA NOVAKOVIC scrambles to manage Qatari clients and protect her son, MILAN. Executive HARVEY ARMSTRONG blames the disaster on the security liaison, NIGEL LANG, whom Carla later fires. The crew hides out at a warehouse owned by The Colonel’s ally, PELE SINGH. There they find themselves stunned to discover the haul isn’t £30 million as they suspected, but £500 million in gold. The Colonel asserts control, ordering the stash divided and moved, cutting Dragan out of the deal due to the scale of the haul and the suspiciously missing jewels.

DC Adeyole links Mad Dog to Lovelace via social media, proving the inside connection. At the bank, Harvey is promoted to CEO and meets OLIVIA LUND, a sharp insurance investigator sent to probe the claim.

Mad Dog carelessly flashes money in Hatton Garden, trying to buy a smelter. Meanwhile, The Colonel uses his own contact, BEN ‘GOLDFINGER’ GROVES, to melt his team’s share. However, Goldfinger discovers the bars are tungsten fakes, only gold-plated. They’ve been played.

Believing Dragan set them up and Mad Dog complicit, The Colonel confronts and kills the latter with a gold bar. He then visits Mad Dog’s farm, where he finds Cold Hand Luke in bed with Mad Dog’s girlfriend, and reveals his gruesome murder of Mad dog – showing Cold Hand Luke the severed head and feeding the remains to pigs.

Terrified, Luke, reveals what he learned from the Serbs. The real prize was specific jewels linked to a covert op called “Operation Jackknife,” with ties to the US government.

The episode ends with Carla receiving a call from a furious Dragan; DS Bond targets Justin White; and The Colonel, now holding critical intel, forges a deadly pact with Cold Hand Luke as they realise that they have been used to take the big risks as part of a much greater crime.

Themes: Betrayal, corruption, loyalty, ambition, and ethical ambiguity.

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