

Crystal Resonance Draft 1

By

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1 EXT. BRIDGE PARK - DAY 1

CHARLES, 30ish, sporting a scarf and artsy hat, is standing with a 5 well dressed AGENTS by a freshly planted white memorial cross. A 1940s era steel bridge spans a mostly frozen river behind them.

JIM, 30ish, steps out of his black sedan, in a dark olive trench coat.

CHARLES
Terrorism, like every business
needs suppliers.

They don't notice JIM SHERMAN stalking towards them.

JIM
(to a transmitter)
Supply him on my signal.

CUT TO:

2 EXT. OVERLOOK - CONTINUOUS 2

THEODORE, 60, wearing an earpiece, and a face mask, is in the backyard of a vacant house on a bluff, overlooking the park. He takes his finger off his earpiece, and puts it on the trigger of a .50 cal rifle aimed at Charles.

INTERCUT WITH:

3 EXT. BRIDGE PARK - DAY - CONTINUOUS 3

Jim walks closer. Charles spots him, and his expression changes.

JIM
I gave my life for you, now it's
your turn.

Charles opens his mouth but doesn't say anything.

JIM
Watch this.

Jim gestures as if he's pulling Charles soul out.

Charles agent looks up toward the bluff.

Theodore pulls the trigger.

SUPER TITLE: CRYSTAL RESONANCE

(CONTINUED)

CUT TO:

4 INT. ANTIQUE BOOKSTORE - NIGHT

4

Jim, overdressed in warm winter clothes, is browsing a architectural forum with many pictures of sky scrapers. RICHARD JONES has posted slightly edited pictures of buildings at night with their windows lit and dark in binary code sequences.

Jim drags a new picture into a folder on his computer with about 20 other such photos. He opens it on one half of his screen and notepad on the other side. His finger traces across the windows as his other hand taps in their sequence.

Jim calls THEODORE on a handset which is plugged into his computer for encrypted transmission a voip overlay pops up to let him know his call has been masked as ftp traffic to his secure server.

JIM

I just got another image from Charles.

THEODORE

Look, I'm still pretty sure that's not possible.

JIM

He's using TOR. There is no way he could be on a different continent each day he posts.

Jim copies the code into a code translator

THEODORE

Unless he's a world traveling architect who's posting in Morse code hoping some random fellow will follow this story he's making up.

The code spells out "hit jims bookstore 8pm." Jim looks up. His clock hits 8:02.

JIM

Gotta go.

Jim force powers his laptop off, pulls out the hard drive, and slides in another one that was sitting on his desk. He powers up the computer, sets the first hard drive a behind some books.

5 EXT. ANTIQUE BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 5

The bookstore looks like an old church, because it is one.

A white utility van pulls up outside the bookstore, and three agents jump out, AGENT ALPHA, AGENT DELTA, AGENT BETA. Agent Alpha and Agent Delta enter the front door and Agent Beta moves toward the side door.

6 INT. ANTIQUE BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 6

Jim grabs a large backpack and climbs a spiral staircase to the main 2nd floor.

Agent Alpha stalks up the stairs to a second upper level, disconnected from the main second floor.

Agent Delta glides cautiously toward the back, old books are everywhere in strangely aligned shelves. He opens the side door for Agent Beta.

Jim walks through a curtain covered doorway into the upper level in the front of the shop.

Agent Alpha looks across, and spots a frozen silhouette in the stain glass window across from him.

AGENT ALPHA
(into headset)
South second floor.

Agent Delta and Beta pull pistols out of their coats, moving up the spiral stair case. The front door opens.

JIM
Police. Drop your weapons.

The lights go out.

7 EXT. ANTIQUE BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 7

Jim runs as fast as quietly possible, stopping only to stick a GPS tracker under the back bumper of the van.

8 INT. ANTIQUE BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 8

Agents Delta and Beta arrive at the window to find a cardboard cutout of an author with the book "Dead Live Again" on it.

9 EXT. TOWN - NIGHT 9

Jim glides silently through alleys and streets, down the hillside toward the river.

He stops by a occupied sleeping bag, under an warm air vent, and slips all the cash in his wallet with a business card under it - easily over \$300

He continues towards a old steel bridge.

10 INT. CHARLES' MANSION - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 10

Charles, casually yet tastefully dressed, is surfing the web on a couch in his large living room. His cell phone rings.

11 INT. ANTIQUE BOOKSTORE - NIGHT 11

Agent Delta is on the phone with Charles. He has an actual computer management event log open.

AGENT DELTA

His computer powered on by timer
when we got here.

CHARLES (O.S.)

Where is he?

The screen saver turns on, scrolling "I'm coming for you" in red. Its webcam light blinks on.

12 INT. CHARLES' MANSION - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 12

Three wireless home phones with three different name tags, Marcus, Kent and Richard Jones, are arranged in a open lamp table drawer by Charles' couch.

The phone labeled Marcus rings.

CHARLES

I'll call you back.

Charles hangs up, and picks it up the other phone.

CHARLES

This is Marcus.

JIM (O.S.)

Kent, please hold.

Jim hangs up. The Kent line rings. Charles picks it up.

(CONTINUED)

JIM (O.S.)
Charles, I'm done with people like
you.

Jim hangs up. His cell phone rings. Charles picks it up.

JIM (O.S.)
Look, Charles. I believe in change,
so I'll give you a second chance.

CHARLES
We already found the rockets.
You're dead.

FADE TO:

13 INT. ANTIQUE BOOKSTORE - A YEAR AGO

13

MONTAGE:

1) Jim is sitting on a chair in the bookstore, reading an old book.

JIM (V.O.)
You're bluffing, but it's over. You
know I ran weapons, but you have no
idea.

2) Jim flips through the pages of an ancient text, heat distortions rippling off their pages.

JIM (V.O.)
(continuing)
I run books hidden by powerful
organizations who control the world
through the power they contain.

3) An OLD MAN sets a stack of books on the bookstore counter, and opens one to reveal a small old leather bound inside. He nods. JIM smiles, opens, snaps shut, and passes him a briefcase full of \$100 bills.

14 EXT. TOWN - NEAR 11TH STREET BRIDGE - NIGHT

14

Jim, still on his phone, is walking toward the Bridge.

JIM
(continuing)
I have one about ghosting. If I
happen to die after jumping off
this bridge,

(CONTINUED)

Jim walks out onto the bridge, scanning for Charles agents. It's completely empty.

JIM (V.O.)
 (continuing)
 but save enough people's lives,
 I'll return to life. Also, I have a
 book about how to kill people as a
 ghost. If you choose to change your
 ways, I will honor that.

Jim spots a hole in the ice near the middle of the bridge, and hangs up. He stops by the hole, and looks down. He looks up.

MIKE, tall, muscular, 30. Dark jacket and winter boots, is standing next to Jim.

MIKE
 Just drop the phone in river. It's
 cold.

Jim holds his phone out over the edge of the bridge.

JIM
 I'm not sure I've met you before.

MIKE
 No, Jim Sherman, but if you want to
 stop Charles, I have a much better
 solution for you.

JIM
 See that car behind you?

Mike turns around, a car is pulling onto the bridge.

There's a splash.

He turns back, and Jim is gone. A strange mist is rising from the hole in the ice.

PULL OUT OF A NEWS STYLE SHOT TO

15 INT. CHARLES' MANSION - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

15

Charles is watching TV the 10:00pm news is showing footage of the smoking hole in the ice.

NEWS HOST
 Witnesses say that mist started
 rising after local book store
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

NEWS HOST (cont'd)
owner, Jim Sherman jumped off the
bridge. Currents and ice continue
to make it unsafe for divers to
investigate.

Something scratches at Charles' front door. Charles gets up
to see what it is.

NEWS HOST
(continuing)
Jim Sherman is still missing.

16 EXT. CHARLES' MANSION - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT 16

Jim is standing on right the side of Charles front porch,
aiming a Tommy gun at the door.

Charles opens the door, and sees nothing. He steps out, and
looks left and right. Nothing is there. There are no tracks
in the snow. He checks one more time to make sure before
stepping back inside.

17 INT. CHARLES' MANSION - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 17

Charles walks back to his couch, and picks up his laptop,
and types "Can ghosts reincarnate?" into an internet search
box.

18 EXT. BRIDGE PARK - DAY 18

Mike is pounding a small memorial cross into the frozen
ground by the bridge with a heavy hammer.

Theodore, fighting the cold with a big coat, fuzzy hat,
scarf, leather gloves and a cross necklace walks up to him.

THEODORE
You saw that guy fall into the
river last night?

MIKE
I saw him on the bridge.

THEODORE
Exactly, but crosses can't keep you
safe. Not from him.

Mike steps back, puzzled.

DISSOLVE TO:

19 EXT. STAIRS - EARLIER

19

Theodore is walking down a long cold stairway above the river town. He pauses as he sees an odd assortment of animal bones on the ground. A cold draft blows through the bones, and they start rolling away from him, across the stairs, like leaves.

Bark from the trees, and dirt on the ground flows magnetically into the form of Jim Sherman.

Theodore is paralyzed with fear. The form reaches through a tree, and when its limb breaks through the surface of the bark, it appears as human flesh. The bark of the tree melts off its hand and conforms to the tree.

Jim glares at Theodore. Theodore stares straight into Jim's eyes. Jim steps toward Theodore, extending his hand, as if to reach into Theodore's mind.

Theodore reaches into his pocket, and pulls out a CRYSTAL RESONANCE DEVICE. He activates it. It charges, and then sends an electromagnetic shock wave through himself and Jim. Jim flickers, and all the ghostly phenomenon cease.

DISSOLVE TO:

20 EXT. BRIDGE PARK - CONTINUOUS

20

In telling the story, Theodore has stepped far away from Mike. He pulls out his crystal resonance device.

THEODORE

This is a crystal resonance device.
It can cancel out even the most
powerful ghost's waveform.

INTERCUT WITH:

21 EXT. OVERLOOK - CONTINUOUS

21

Jim Sherman, wearing a SWAT jacket, is on a bluff above the town. He opens up his .50cal rifle case, and loads a shell. Jim sets up the rifle, and adjusts the scope. He can see Theodore and Mike clearly.

THEODORE (O.S.)

They have electromagnetic
frequencies to alter with minds and
matter. This device catches the
frequency spread, and cancels it.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

THEODORE (O.S.) (cont'd)
Just click it and the ghost
disappears.

MIKE
He's right up there now with a gun.
(ducks behind a wall)
Get down.

Theodore crouches behind a concrete piling across the walkway. A church bell begins tolling the time.

THEODORE
I see you still believe in him.
That gives him power. Come take
this.

Theodore holds out his crystal resonance device, but doesn't come toward Mike. Mike hesitates.

Jim is watching closely.

THEODORE
It's fragile.

Mike, smiles, and stands up. He walks across the path toward Theodore, takes the device.

Jim is about to fire.

Mike clicks the device.

A wind clears a ring snow around from where he was standing like a shock wave. The ice on the river nearest to him cracks. Mike vanishes. The crystal resonance device drops and shatters on the concrete.

Theodore is terrified.

Jim stands up, stunned.

FADE TO:

22 EXT./INT. ANTIQUE BOOKSTORE - DAY

22

Theodore walks up to the closed bookstore, glancing back. A few leaves are blowing down the street. He opens the front door, and he steps inside. A draft of air causes dust to circle off a bookshelf. He closes the door behind him, and the draft subsides as he walks in.

Jim stands up from the stairs near the door.

(CONTINUED)

Theodore looks angrily at Jim.

Jim glares back.

The floor in the back of the store creaks. Jim and Theodore creep behind a bookshelf.

JIM
(whispering)
My guns are back there.

Theodore pulls out a P38

JIM
Tell me exactly what happened.

THEODORE
You look like you've seen a ghost.

JIM
Ghosts aren't real. We made this
entire plan up from stupid stories.

THEODORE
Then why are they hunting you?

They glare at each other.

JIM
Go.

They stalk to the back of the bookstore.

Halfway to the back, they pause and listen. Nothing makes a sound. They move to the back room. Nobody is there. Jim grabs an AR-15, from its hiding place.

JIM
What would a ghost want with me?

The backdoor creaks in the wind, and Jim shuts it.

THEODORE
The dead never forgive, and you
know the lives you're responsible
for.

A wind blows by the lights, and they flicker. Theodore checks his watch.

JIM
I changed. Do you think what I'm
doing might help?

THEODORE

Death is a hard thing to forgive.

Jim looks up at a cross on a wall.

THEODORE

We should see if that cross is real. I hear ghosts can't carry crosses.

Jim tries to breath away the nightmare.

JIM

Theo, you take the 50 to the lookout, and I'll check the cross. Keep me covered. I'll be there in 6.

THEODORE

(smiling)

My name is Theodore.

Theodore shuts the .50cal case, and picks up a dark green face mask. Jim smiles.

THEODORE

Look in "Spirit Journeyer" in the tower 1920s section before you leave.

Jim walks upstairs, past a cross, and toward the section.

The ink on a painting melts behind Jim. Dust springs into the air in footstep like shapes up the stairs behind him.

Theo slams a door shut as he leaves

Letters start flowing out of books, and swirling like snowflakes towards an approaching vortex. Letters that spill to the floor turn to blood, and are carried by an unseen force to the vortex.

Looks back. Nothing has changed.

JIM

I know you're here.

Jim reaches the 1920s section. Mike's silhouette passes across of the windows. Jim spots the book out of reach above a window. He knocks it down with his AR-15. He catches it, and it falls open revealing a crystal resonance device hidden inside.

(CONTINUED)

This one has two switches. Jim sets his AR-15 down, picks it up the device, and sees Mike.

MIKE

For the amount of books about God
you've got here, you seem don't
have much faith, does anyone?

Jim clicks the top switch.

Nothing happens

Jim clicks the bottom switch.

Nothing happens.

Jim opens his mouth to speak, but stops.

MIKE

I'm not a ghost, so would you like
to help Charles yet?

JIM

Not a chance.

Jim grabs his AR-15, and shoots Mike.

Shells fall to the floor. Jim freezes.

Mike is unhurt and unhit. He walks off behind a bookshelf,
but doesn't appear on the other side, but the footsteps
continue for a few steps.

Jim is frozen.

CUT TO:

23

EXT. BRIDGE PARK - DAY

23

Charles, sporting a scarf and artsy hat, is standing with a
5 WELL DRESSED AGENTS by the cross Mike planted in the
bridge park.

Jim steps out of his black sedan, in a nearby parking lot,
wearing a dark olive trench coat.

CHARLES

Terrorism, like every business
needs suppliers.

They don't notice Jim stalking towards them.

CUT TO:

24 EXT. OVERLOOK - CONTINUOUS 24

Agent Delta, wearing an earpiece, and a face mask, is in the backyard of a vacant house on a bluff, overlooking the park. He takes his finger off his earpiece, and puts it on the trigger of a .50 cal rifle aimed at the group by the bridge.

CUT TO:

25 EXT. BRIDGE PARK - CONTINUOUS 25

Jim walks closer. Charles spots him.

Charles nods, and an agent back was facing Jim turns around. It's Theo. Jim is stunned.

Jim attempts to regain his cool.

THEODORE

Good day, Jim. I'm sure you're ready to give us rockets.

JIM

Quite the ruse.

CHARLES

Thank you.

JIM

I'm curious how did you get that guy to vanish here this afternoon?

Charles looks quizzical, and looks at Theodore.

THEODORE

Well,

CHARLES

Let me guess. Smoke grenade, right?

FLASH CUT TO:

26 EXT. BRIDGE PARK - FLASHBACK 26

Mike pulls a smoke grenade, and jumps down to the ice, apparently vanishing.

FLASH CUT TO:

27 EXT. BRIDGE PARK - CONTINUOUS

27

Charles look back to Jim.

Jim is unfazed.

JIM

He straight vanished, and I just
shot him minutes ago, and he
vanished.

THEODORE

I'm afraid we have a problem.

CHARLES

I thought you made up all this
ghost stuff up.

Mike appears walking toward them.

A shockwave rips down the river, shattering the ice,
covering the river with waves and foam.

Theodore backs up, clicking a crystal resonance device.

Charles and the agents pull out guns, which turn to ice and
shatter.

Mike stops.

MIKE

There are books controlled by
governments trying stop the spread
of power, and where they are not
stopped, they are purposefully
misinterpreted.

CHARLES

You have my attention.

MIKE

Would you be interested in knowing
what the bible really says?
Anything is possible for him who
believes.

CUT TO BLACK