

THE PROTECTOR

Adapted from David Morrell's novel by Tony Mosher | 6.18.20

1. Opening scenes are TBD but will likely consist of: A). Soldier freak-out shoot 'em up in the swamp, B). Intro Duncan and Cavanaugh meeting so Duncan can give Cav the few details he has on the Prescott job (it's high dollar and relatively easy so worth at least looking into). They meet in a New York City that's positively vibrating with tension. Large crowds have formed at the usual hotspots, Wall St., Union Square, staging protests against the government. Things are peaceful for now, but the tension is palpable, setting our movie's tone. At the end of their meeting Cavanaugh lies to Duncan, saying he's going one place, but then instead going to meet C). Jamie, his long-time girlfriend. She's a former journalist and GPS client (their relationship is a secret from GPS) who may still be in some danger, hence Cavanaugh's overprotectiveness. They meet at a little out of the way restaurant and at one point she says something briefly to their waitress in Russian, getting a disapproving scowl from Cavanaugh. Their relationship is on the rocks. He tells her that he's taking another job and it threatens to undo them entirely.
2. Cavanaugh shows up for his interview with Prescott and finds a terrified overweight loner. Establish: *"I'm not a bodyguard,"* and that Prescott is incredibly fastidious and uses his entire name, *"Daniel. Not Dan."* During Cavanaugh's questioning of him the warehouse is raided by a mysterious group of heavily armed assailants. Cavanaugh gets Prescott out of the warehouse and into a...
3. High-speed chase where we meet KLINE'S MEN (though we don't know that's who they are yet). Establish here that Cavanaugh does not kill. Duncan will likely be involved as well, as in the book. Cav gets Prescott to freedom, barely, then to a GPS safehouse in the Catskills.
4. At the Catskills compound GPS does their job with increased urgency now believing what Prescott has told them; that he's wanted by a powerful cartel who are after the addiction cure he's created. GPS instructs Prescott on how to disappear and survive long term:

"So, you stick to your new persona. You avoid credit cards and cell phones, you stay off social media, stay away from all the old habits and haunts; the bar, the golf course, the bowling alley. You follow all the rules, but still they catch up to you. How? What is it that gets you in the end? ... It's the same thing every time. The habits are easy, the loved ones are hard. You have to see that special someone one last time." Hearing this Prescott breathes a sigh of relief...

"What, no ex-wives? Girlfriends, boyfriends-- No kids?"

"No."

"Friends? Close acquaintances? Someone you were particularly close to at work?"

Prescott hardens a bit, *"No."*

"Parents?"

"Dead." He says, distracting himself, looking at his watch.

"Siblings?"

Growing irritated, *"I'm an only child."*

"How about that friendly mail carrier, the librarian, grocery store clerk, the cam girl you were particularly fond of?"

Prescott looks at him like he's an idiot followed by a more emphatic: *"No."*

"Congratulations. You were made to disappear."

It doesn't lighten Prescott's mood any, still looking at that watch... *"Work was my life. There wasn't time for anything else."*

"You'll have to lose that, too, you know. The watch."

Prescott seems to snap out of his reverie, *"That's fine. This is... It's nothing."*

And eventually, over their time together, Cavanaugh & team come to bond somewhat with their eccentric new client just as...

5. (~p. 12 / 15) The Catskills compound is attacked by what appears to be a different group of highly trained, heavily armed assailants. Here we get our first glimpse of Grace as the sinister head of a CIA hunter / killer team, though again we don't know that's who this is yet. In a stunning turn in the middle of the melee, Prescott turns on GPS, killing team-members, gassing the compound, and firing on Cavanaugh. But...
6. Cavanaugh survives and flees, beginning to feel the start of something strange as he does.
7. Badly wounded and unsure how the second group managed to find them Cavanaugh decides he can't reach out to GPS-- not even to Duncan in case someone close to him is involved-- as they were the only ones who knew where he was taking Prescott. Having no one else he can completely trust, he reluctantly calls Jamie. As he recoup's with Jamie's help he becomes determined to find out if Prescott survived. *"And if he did?"* she asks, grave. Moved by his heavy silence and hard expression she reminds him, *"You're not a killer."* He contemplates just what Prescott's horrible actions might motivate him to do and it prompts him to talk her into going back to safety. She considers, but ultimately declines. *"There's a difference between hiding people for a living and finding them, you know,"* she

says. Before she had to drop out of her old life she'd made a career out of getting to difficult-to-get-to people. *"I'm going to help you do this. I'm going to help you find out if he's alive and if he is we're going to find him. Then you do whatever you think you have to... But I'm walking away. With or without you."* A beat and then he nods. (~p. 28 / 30)

ACT II

8. Cavanaugh and Jamie pursue Prescott to the GPS forger's house. Cav finds her (Karen) dead and is surprise-attacked by Prescott. They do furious battle with Cavanaugh now experiencing heavy effects of the toxin. Cavanaugh's throttled and Prescott gets away, but not before two important things happen: In the moment of Prescott's attack Cavanaugh catches a glimpse of the identification Karen created for him on her computer. Then, in the final stages of the fight, Cav scratches Prescott's face. In the moment it seems to be nothing more than an act of self-preservation, but once he's out and he and Jamie are safely on their way, Cavanaugh scrapes under his nails and bags Prescott's DNA. Still in the hallucinatory grips of the toxin here he finally reveals to Jamie that something is very very wrong with him, adding new urgency to catching up to Prescott. (~45)
9. Armed with Prescott's new name (and unbeknownst to Prescott that they have it) Cav and Jamie learn through an old journo contact of hers that his new alias boarded a flight to Buenos Aires the previous night. They rush to O'Hare giving chase on the first flight out they can. Cavanaugh gets the sense someone's tailing them, but when none of his detection methods reveals anyone he chalks it up to whatever the hell is going on in his head. On the flight they discuss their options: *"He won't feel like he's free yet. Not after that surprise in Albany. He's still running. Buenos Aires isn't the destination, it's a stop along the way."*

"What if he just catches a connecting flight?" Jamie asks.

"He might. And if he does it's probably over. But there were flights to other places leaving before the one he took. I think he meant to go there."

"Why?" She asks. Cavanaugh shakes his head, he doesn't know.

"Okay, so we get there, we have no idea what he's doing, where he went or why. What do we do, start calling hotels?"

"The name he's using will die with him the second he steps off the plane. We've only got one shot."

"What's that?"

"The drivers outside the airport. Prescott's a big American guy traveling with no luggage. He's injured and he's scared."

"So he's memorable. You've been to B.A.?" Jamie asks.

"Yeah. Couple times."

"So you know there are hundreds of drivers outside the airport at any given moment."

"You've been too, then?"

(grins) *"Yeah. Couple times."*

"What time did his flight land?"

"Two in the morning."

"That helps."

10. They land at night and after some questioning of the airport drivers manage to find the charismatic local who remembers picking Prescott up. They pay him to drive them, Cav instructing him to perform certain evasive maneuvers on the way, still feeling like he's catching glimpses of familiar faces behind them. Finally certain they're not being followed they have the driver drop them a couple of blocks from where he *thinks* he let Prescott out. Cavanaugh and Jamie approach, wondering how they're going to do this, *"Start pressing buzzers at three in the morning?"* she says skeptically when all of a sudden a figure steps out from the vestibule, face wrapped in surgical bandages.

And instantly it clicks: *"That's why he came..."*

The men lock eyes for a split second before Prescott runs. Cavanaugh gives chase while Jamie rushes into the building to see what she can find.

11. Jamie finds her way into what turns out to be an underground facial reconstruction clinic in the building's basement, occupied by a doctor who's every bit as cryptic and sinister as his surroundings warrant. Using skilled questioning (and some subtle threat) Jamie manages to get the Bitcoin account Prescott used to pay him. She thinks she's gotten all she can, when, almost as an aside, the doctor says: *"Is it because of those canisters? Is that why you're after him?"* She presses and he explains he had to turn Prescott away that morning when he showed up hours before his scheduled appointment.

He had two large stainless steel tanks with him.

12. Meanwhile, with the hallucinogenic toxin thundering away in his brain, Cavanaugh chases Prescott through shadowy Buenos Aires knowing full well that if he loses him here Prescott will only need to change identities once more and with his new face will have everything he needs to vanish forever. The pursuit takes them into the labyrinthian, spectral Recoleta Cemetery where the surroundings feed the toxin to a crescendo, crippling Cavanaugh and allowing Prescott to melt away into the inky darkness, possibly forever... (~55 mid-point)

13. They're leaving their hotel the next morning, devastated by their catastrophic loss, when Cavanaugh suddenly tells Jamie to wait for him there; he thinks he's spotted someone watching them. *"If there is someone watching us they've already seen me."* It's not about that, he explains. It's about keeping her safe. He moves off down the street, eventually ducking into a high-end retail store. He makes his way through the store to the men's room at the back. People mill around in the store. Time passes. Finally, from out of the crowd of shoppers, a MAN appears, fit and focused, checking his watch, anxious about how long Cavanaugh's been in there. He enters the men's room. Acting nonchalant he checks the stalls for feet, the empty urinals. Then he notices the window at the back above one of the stalls. Cursing himself, he rushes back out to the store where he runs right into a waiting Cavanaugh. Cavanaugh SLAMS him back into the restroom, throttling him across the sinks, onto the floor, throwing him into one of the stalls where he pins him in a brutal choke-hold. *"Who are you and who the fuck sent you?"* But he's so enraged the guy passes out before he can get an answer. Back out on the street, moving quickly but casually, Cavanaugh rifles the guy's wallet. Finding nothing he moves to his phone, dialing the last number called... In Spanish: *"Ignacio Blotta's office."* Cavanaugh, replying in English: *"I'm sorry I've just arrived in town and I missed a call from this number, can you remind me who this is?"*

"Ignacio Blotta's office, Global Protection Services."

Struck dumb by the revelation it takes a full beat for Cavanaugh to recover: *"Oh, right. And your location, is it here in Buenos Aires?"* *"Yes, of course sir..."*

14. Cavanaugh crosses the street approaching GPS's massive Buenos Aires headquarters, a glittering marble and glass behemoth in the Puerto Madero that he didn't even know existed. Inside the giant lobby he approaches the concierge, gestures at the directory board, *"I'm sorry, I'm supposed to meet Ignacio Blotta, but I can't remember what floor he's on."*

"Certainly, Weapons Division is the nineteenth floor--"

"Weapons Division?"

"Yes, sir. Just a moment while I let him know you're here..." Shock mounting by the second, Cavanaugh turns and leaves.

15. Grabbing Jamie and getting the hell out of Dodge. On the plane having caught her up on the details, but having no idea what it all means, they sit pondering in silence. Then Cavanaugh reminds her that she's delivered on her end of the deal. They know Prescott's alive and Cavanaugh had his chance to stop him. She can walk away. But she doesn't. Something inside her has rekindled. Part of it's the thrill of the hunt, like back when she was on the beat, the mystery they're trying to unravel like a good story coming together. Part of it's a renewed appreciation for who Cavanaugh is, what he does, and what this means for him: *"He murdered your team, your friends. A woman in a wheelchair, for God's sake."* But an increasing part of it is also their growing appreciation of what's at stake. The ominous mention of the steel canisters, GPS keeping tabs on them, and whatever the hell is afflicting Cavanaugh... They don't know what's going on, but it doesn't take a seasoned journalist to know that something is. So they get back to it, together. Cavanaugh muses, *"He lied about his physical condition. And he was good at it, I had no idea. What else did he lie about?"* Jamie sets to work, accessing something called skiptracker.com on her laptop, a subscription site used by bounty hunters, LEO's, and journalists. From the database she finds that everything else Prescott claimed appears to be true. *"...grew up on Long Island. An only child... Mom died when he was little, father just a few years ago. Spent time in Virginia, outside D.C..."* Cavanaugh leans over to see a small-town news photo of Prescott's dad's funeral, studying the dozen or so faces... *"No Prescott."* To which Jamie adds, *"No love lost and nothing more to go on."*
16. They reenter the U.S. and, as Jamie said, with seemingly nothing to go on, Cavanaugh reaches out to an old friend, FBI agent Rutherford in D.C. Rutherford informs them that it couldn't have been the cartel pursuing Prescott at the warehouse because that cartel leader's boss was recently killed throwing the organization into disarray. Rutherford also points out that Prescott's anti-addiction drug doesn't jibe either as it would've fallen under DEA jurisdiction and therefore he would've known about it. More details that don't add up. Cavanaugh asks him to see what he can find on Prescott and while he does Cavanaugh goes off and accesses a "rainy day" cache of weapons, hand-cuffs, and ID's that he's kept hidden for moments just like this. He calls Rutherford back to see what he's been able to find and Rutherford tells him to investigate Prescott's lab at Bailey's Ridge outside D.C. But Cav can tell from their verbal code that Rutherford's in danger. Cavanaugh and Jamie go to Rutherford's condo to help him. They cleverly gain entry and subdue the captors who Cav recognizes as men from the warehouse raid. They tell him that their boss, "Kline", and three others from their crew have set a trap for Cavanaugh at the site of Prescott's home lab. *"Better not keep them waiting then,"* Cav says, figuring Kline (if not the lab itself) might provide some clues as to Prescott's whereabouts. Rutherford protests, saying he needs to call it in, but before he can, an apologetic Jamie deftly cuffs him to the radiator. Cav reminds him as they leave that he can't take any chances-- a possible informant in the FBI's ranks is how these guys got to Rutherford in the first place. (~p.70)
17. Cav and Jamie head out to Bailey's Ridge figuring that if they know they're walking into a trap they'll be able to sneak up on Kline instead. With the effects of the toxin mounting in

Cavanaugh they sneak onto the property only to find it in ruins, the result of a fire some time ago. Amongst the piles of charred, water-logged debris Cavanaugh notices a framed picture of a slightly younger Prescott, arm in arm with an older man, presumably his father. Cavanaugh and Jamie take Kline and his men by surprise, quickly gaining the upper hand. Cavanaugh takes Klein's phone then forces information out of him, learning that Prescott was working in an experimental weapons division for the U.S. military. Kline's "employer" had an informant in the lab who told them what he'd created. They made an appeal to Prescott to buy his creation on the sly, but Prescott balked so Kline's "employer" decided to take it from him. Cav isn't able to get much out of Kline regarding his "employer" until Jamie picks up on Kline's nearly imperceptible hint of a Russian accent. She speaks to him in Russian, disarming him while explaining how it is she came to learn the language [simultaneously revealing why *she* had to be disappeared by GPS years earlier]. *"Did you offer him immunity?"* She asks. *"Did you say you'd make him a favorite son of Russia?"* Kline doesn't give them everything they want, but he does make it clear that his "employer" is an extremely dangerous entity with very deep pockets. *"This is my living and they've made it abundantly clear that if I want to keep living, I need to get my hands on what this guy has immediately."* *"You've got some competition. Someone else is after him too,"* Cav points out. Kline either doesn't know anything about them, or plays dumb, but Cavanaugh guesses that when Prescott's government handlers found out his project had been compromised and that he'd been approached by a foreign national, he had to be contained due to the risk he posed. It would explain the level of expertise witnessed at the Catskills compound. So Prescott went on the run pursued both by whoever's backing Kline AND by some faction of the U.S. government. Something else has become pretty clear too... *"This isn't about an addiction cure, is it."*

No, it isn't. Kline tells him what it is about and the truth causes the toxin to surge in Cavanaugh's brain and an all important question to form on his lips... *"Is there an antidote?"*

But Kline never gets the chance to answer because just as he's about to, a bullet rips through his head.

Grace and her team of operators roll in like death incarnate eliminating the rest of Kline's men and going after Cavanaugh and Jamie, who barely make it out alive. (~p. 80/85)

18. Cavanaugh and Jamie sell the car they've been driving for cash (using Cavanaugh's tactics from the book) and regroup. The toxin wreaking havoc with Cav's head reminds him that with every hour they fall further behind. And now they have a pretty good idea as to what Prescott was carrying in those canisters. Cavanaugh mentions the picture he saw at Prescott's lab, how it was unbroken and on top of the junk and fallen walls like someone had protected it during the fire. As if knowing they couldn't take it with them they'd left it behind.

"But he didn't even go to the funeral."

“Maybe he couldn’t. Because work was his life. Maybe he’ll pay his respects now.”

19. Cavanaugh and Jamie arrive on Long Island going directly to the cemetery where Prescott’s father was buried. *“We have to be very careful now. We taught him this is exactly the sort of thing that gets you caught.”* That night Cavanaugh sneaks onto the grounds. Searching his way through the dark he struggles to ignore the toxin whispering to him, to determine whether the figures forming in the gloom are corporeal or not, to block out Jamie’s warnings that Prescott could actually attempt the very same thing so as to not be seen visiting the site of his father’s grave. Prescott “died” in a cemetery in Buenos Aires, would he “rise again” in one on Long Island? It’s this solo journey into the heart of darkness where Cavanaugh makes his biggest strides against the effects of the toxin, essentially forcing himself to learn how, not to defeat it exactly, but to deal with it. Eventually Cavanaugh finds a simple marker, unadorned and slightly overgrown. Returning to Jamie, shaken but keeping it together, he reports with confidence that Prescott hasn’t been here. *“He’s too fastidious. If he cares enough to come here he’d never be able to leave the grave like that.”*

To keep him from doing exactly what he did, Cavanaugh calls in an anonymous complaint that kids have been sneaking onto the cemetery grounds. Then for the next few days they covertly watch the cemetery entrance. Just when they’re ready to hang it up, sure they’ve been wrong all along, a guy fitting the basic physical description of Prescott shows up. His gait is labored, aided by a cane. He has less hair and it’s hard to tell if he’s the right height given how hunched he is, but Cavanaugh has a feeling about him. They follow him from the cemetery grounds to his sizable oceanfront home, and then from afar for the next few days, but he does nothing to betray that he’s Prescott. Rutherford confirms the house was recently rented, but by someone with a well established history and no record.

Then Jamie gets an idea. Prescott’s never seen her, he doesn’t even know she exists. She’ll approach this guy and get something for a DNA comparison. In what represents the most significant test yet of his willingness to put her in the line of fire, Cavanaugh reluctantly agrees. He instructs her on how to capture something usable and eventually she’s able to make what appears to be organic contact with their suspect at the counter of a local cafe. In a tense exchange she engages him while simultaneously watching for an opportunity to grab something. But as the encounter wears on their target seems to grow suspicious, finally getting what he came for and heading for the door. Just when it looks like she’s failed, he suddenly stops and turns back.

Jamie hands him the cane he’d just walked off without, having had ample time to grab from it what she needs.

Knowing that if this really is Prescott she’s almost certainly spooked him, Jamie races the sample to Rutherford and a local FBI field agent for testing. We intercut with her as Cavanaugh covertly follows their subject back to his oceanside house. Cavanaugh waits, observing, when suddenly Kline’s phone dings in his pocket...

Prescott has just made contact with Kline's "employer."

"He's desperate," Cavanaugh urges, *"He's going to run again and we'll need back-up to stop him!"* But at the very same moment Jamie stands thunderstruck; Rutherford has just informed her that the DNA match is... negative.

20. On the verge of panic, with the vile effects of the toxin thrumming to life again inside his head, knowing that Prescott's about to disappear into the waiting arms of the Russians and that his horrible creation will go with him, knowing the FBI will now not be assisting in stopping it all from happening, Cavanaugh seeks solace in the one and only person he's been able to rely on through it all, his rock, Jamie.

He calls her... and Grace answers the phone.

"Bring me Prescott by eleven o'clock tomorrow, or your girlfriend dies."

ACT III

21. Mustering every iota of resolve and mental fortitude Cavanaugh does his best to beat back the effects of the toxin. Still certain he has the right guy, he watches Prescott's house until Prescott finally makes a move, driving into town. Cavanaugh follows, eventually losing him in a municipal parking garage where he realizes he's been made. Cavanaugh drives away watching his tail until he spots a car following him. He drives to a bluff in a public park and walks out to a bench where he waits. Finally, his bet pays off, Prescott approaches. *"You could've stormed the house. Pulled me over and shot me on the side of the road. This could all be over. Oh, right, you don't kill people..."*

And just when we think Cavanaugh may be planning to do just that, he makes his surprising appeal, promising he'll never look for Prescott again if he helps him get Jamie back. Wary, Prescott tentatively agrees and together they prepare to execute Cavanaugh's plan: to present Prescott to Grace as Cav's badly wounded prisoner allowing Prescott to surprise them at the last second and take Grace and her men out. *"Otherwise you can bet your life they'll never stop looking for you."*

"What if I can't handle them? You won't be any help if you're not willing to kill anyone."

"I'll make an exception for her."

Cavanaugh makes one final thing clear: Nobody else is to be involved. Prescott will need to call off any agreement he may have pending with the Russians. *"Whatever you do after I get Jamie back is your business, but you leave them out of it until then."*

22. Fighting every instinct in his toxin-ravaged brain because he knows he's about to jeopardize Jamie's life, Cavanaugh rolls the dice, informing Grace he has Prescott, but that she'll need to come to them to get him. *"I need to know you're not just going to kill him and take off without giving her to me. You want Prescott, you do it on my terms."* Grace agrees and at the prescribed time she and her men show up at Prescott's oceanside home. Cav presents a badly beaten Prescott for Grace to DNA test, but as they wait for the results, Prescott surprises them *all* by executing a plan of his own, deploying a concentrated cloud of toxin from a concealed atomizer. As mayhem breaks out the Russians appear suddenly, attempting to aid in Prescott's escape and claim their deadly prize. But Cavanaugh stops it, freeing Jamie and disrupting Prescott's flight.

But like a caged rat determined not to be taken alive, Prescott manages to slip away. He fires on Cavanaugh hitting Jamie in the process before fleeing with the two cases he had at the ready. Much to Cavanaugh's surprise, Rutherford has forced himself to do the unthinkable; trusting Cavanaugh's instincts in the end, he's gone against the book to show up at the scene without agency approval. He takes over with the wounded Jamie allowing Cavanaugh to go after Prescott.

"He'll create mayhem to cover his escape. He did it at his lab, he did it here, he'll do it again."

23. In a climactic final chase sequence, Cavanaugh races from the scene trying to catch up to Prescott. In a culmination of one of the film's primary themes, Prescott's fear and paranoia surge as he frantically tries to escape. Cavanaugh, on the other hand, has finally learned to conquer his fear (in part, because he's supplanted it with rage) and it's this hard-won calm that ultimately allows him to prevail. Finding the city teeming with protestors on the day of a massive gathering in Central Park, Prescott flees his car when he gets stuck in a traffic jam. Spotting the open door of Prescott's car Cavanaugh follows suit, going the rest of the way on foot, following the crowds diverting into Penn Station. Fearful Prescott will disappear onto a train Cav searches, head on a swivel. He starts to feel his hope slipping away when suddenly...

He spots the two cases just as they disappear back up the steps to the surface. Cavanaugh pursues, catching glimpses of the fast moving Prescott as he flees north through the tumultuous, crowded city. Prescott eventually leads him into the teeming hordes of Central Park where a million plus have gathered in a massive anti-government protest. Cav's heart sinks when he finds the two cases discarded near the park's edge; one full of clothes, the other empty, presumably having contained Prescott's fearsome creation. Cavanaugh runs through the massive crowd, searching, feeling his chances slipping away yet again. Shoulder to shoulder with oblivious, shouting protestors, the entire perimeter surrounded by stone-faced, battle ready riot police, sure to become weaponized killing machines upon contact with Prescott's devilish creation, Cavanaugh stops, giving up, done in...

And then, as a lone megaphoned voice calls out for momentary calm, a single hand thrusts

into the air not five feet from where Cavanaugh stands. There's something in this person's hand, but it's what's on their wrist that Cavanaugh immediately homes in on: a certain identifiable chronograph.

Cavanaugh lunges, diving, taking Prescott down a split-second before he can deploy.

24. Cavanaugh visits Jamie in her hospital room where he finds her in stable condition, her indomitable spirit on full display. The first word out of her drug-addled mouth; "Antidote?" Cavanaugh nods. Rutherford's guys found it at the house. They talk about all that's happened, eventually coming around to the only questions left... How were they found at the Catskills compound? How were they tailed when leaving BA? And who could have passed along to Grace that Jamie would be Cavanaugh's single point of vulnerability...

25. We see Duncan moving through midtown Manhattan, some days later. He checks his watch, heads into the subway. Standing amongst the people in the busy station he glances around, taking stock of his surroundings the way a seasoned professional does. The train pulls in, Duncan steps on, the doors close.

We know what's about to happen, we just don't know *how* it's going to happen so we should have some fun with this scene visually. We're scanning the people, all the faces around Duncan, immediately behind him, far behind him. We're looking for Cavanaugh. And as Duncan glances around, maybe he is too. It takes some time, the train makes a stop. People get on, people get off, people shift around.

And then, as the train pulls out again, someone moves and our focus goes to them, following the action as our eyes are wont to do. But then someone right in front of us leaves the pole they're hanging on, jockeying to get a spot near the doors, and as they do they reveal, just behind them, a guy in a ballcap reading a book. Standing right next to Duncan.

He looks up from his book and it's Cavanaugh.

It takes a moment, but then, as if feeling eyes on himself, Duncan looks up. And in the moment they lock eyes we--

SLAM TO BLACK

THE END