LA FEMME NIKITA

Episode 6x08

“THE GHOSTS KNOW OUR NAMES”

Unofficial Fan-Fiction Teleplay

TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. UNKNOWN FACILITY – NIGHT

Darkness.

An old CRT monitor flickers to life.

Archival SECTION ONE footage plays.

NIKITA, years younger, walking through Communications.

MICHAEL following several paces behind.

OPERATIONS watches them from above.

Another screen activates.

Modern surveillance.

Nikita entering Section.

Michael beside her.

SHAYNE walking between them.

ERIK several steps behind.

The images have been deliberately synchronized.

Past.

Present.

Almost identical.

A MAN steps into the blue monitor light.

DAVID FANNING.

Older.

Harder.

Very much alive.

Behind him stands another man.

PERRY BAUER.

Calm. Methodical. Dangerous.

Bauer freezes the old footage.

Operations watches Michael and Nikita from the Perch.

Beside it, modern footage shows Michael watching Shayne and Erik.

BAUER

Look familiar?

Fanning studies both screens.

FANNING

Michael became exactly what he despised.

BAUER

And Nikita?

Fanning smiles.

FANNING

She's been Operations times 1,000.

Bauer changes the image.

Shayne fills the monitor.

BAUER

Their daughter complicates things.

FANNING

No.

He steps closer.

FANNING (CONT'D)

Their daughter makes it more fun.

Bauer opens a file.

SHAYNE SAMUELLE-JONES

Photographs.

Mission records.

Relationships.

Psychological evaluations.

ERIK SVEN.

ADAM.

MICHAEL.

NIKITA.

BAUER

They rebuilt Section around family.

FANNING

Then we'll dismantle it the same way.

Bauer turns.

BAUER

And if Michael and Nikita recognize the pattern?

Fanning looks toward the old footage.

FANNING

They will.

A beat.

FANNING (CONT'D)

That's the point.

The Collective symbol appears across every monitor.

CUT TO BLACK.

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

INT. SECTION ONE – OPERATIONS – MORNING

JASON sits at a terminal.

QUINN stands over his shoulder.

Files cascade across the screen.

QUINN

Run it again.

JASON

Already did.

QUINN

Again.

Jason sighs.

JASON

You really know how to make a bloke feel trusted.

He runs the facial-recognition analysis.

Two photographs appear.

DAVID FANNING.

PERRY BAUER.

Jason stops smiling.

JASON

Well...

that's unfortunate.

Quinn stares.

QUINN

Confirm identities.

JASON

Already confirmed.

Twice.

He leans backward.

JASON (CONT'D)

Fanning and Bauer are like cockroaches.

Quinn looks at him.

JASON (CONT'D)

You shut off the lights, poison the building, burn down the kitchen...

and the little bastards just won't die.

Quinn almost smiles.

Almost.

QUINN

I'm putting that exact wording in your report.

JASON

Please don't.

Nikita approaches.

Michael beside her.

NIKITA

What did you find?

Jason's humor disappears.

He turns the monitors.

Nikita sees Fanning.

Her expression freezes.

Michael sees Bauer.

Equally grim.

MICHAEL

Where?

QUINN

Vienna.

Then Budapest.

Then Prague.

JASON

They're deliberately bouncing communications across former Collective routes.

NIKITA

They're announcing themselves.

MICHAEL

Yes.

Nikita looks at him.

NIKITA

Why?

Michael studies the photographs.

MICHAEL

They want us watching.

INT. SECTION ONE – VAN ACCESS – LATER

The doors open.

Two OPERATIVES escort a woman inside.

ZOE BROWN.

Early thirties.

Athletic.

Observant.

She studies everything without appearing frightened.

Nikita waits with JASMINE.

Shayne stands farther back.

Still off mission rotation.

NIKITA

Zoe Brown.

Zoe looks at her.

ZOE

Apparently.

Nikita almost smiles.

NIKITA

I'm Nikita.

This is Jasmine.

She'll supervise your initial evaluation.

Zoe looks around.

ZOE

Where am I?

NIKITA

Section One.

Zoe exhales.

ZOE

That explains absolutely nothing.

SHAYNE

You'll get used to that.

Zoe turns.

Sees Shayne.

Something changes.

Small.

Immediate.

Shayne approaches.

SHAYNE

Shayne.

She offers her hand.

Zoe takes it.

ZOE

Zoe.

Their handshake lasts a fraction longer than necessary.

Shayne notices.

So does Jasmine.

DARWIN enters.

He looks Zoe over.

DARWIN

New recruit?

JASMINE

Yes.

Darwin approaches.

DARWIN

Darwin.

He offers his hand.

Zoe shakes it.

DARWIN (CONT'D)

I could show you around.

ZOE

Jasmine already volunteered.

DARWIN

I know Section better.

ZOE

I'm sure you do.

Darwin smiles.

DARWIN

Coffee after?

Zoe's expression becomes uncomfortable.

ZOE

No, thanks.

Darwin doesn't retreat.

DARWIN

Dinner?

Shayne's eyes narrow.

ZOE

No.

DARWIN

You haven't even gotten to know me.

SHAYNE

She doesn't have to.

Darwin turns.

DARWIN

Nobody asked you.

Shayne steps between them.

SHAYNE

She said no.

Conversation over.

Darwin looks toward Zoe.

DARWIN

I'm only being friendly.

ZOE

I'm a lesbian.

Silence.

Darwin looks surprised.

DARWIN

Right.

SHAYNE

And even if she wasn't...

"No" was still a complete answer.

Darwin's jaw tightens.

DARWIN

Always the hero.

SHAYNE

No.

Just listening.

Nikita has watched the entire exchange.

NIKITA

Darwin.

He turns.

NIKITA (CONT'D)

Training Bay.

Now.

Darwin walks away.

Zoe watches Shayne.

ZOE

Thanks.

SHAYNE

You didn't need rescuing.

Zoe smiles.

ZOE

I know.

A beat.

ZOE (CONT'D)

Still appreciated.

Zoe leaves with Jasmine.

Shayne watches them.

From across Communications...

ERIK has arrived just in time to see the end of the exchange.

His expression says:

Interesting.

INT. SECTION ONE – PERCH – LATER

Nikita closes the privacy glass.

Shayne stands opposite her.

SHAYNE

What's going on?

Nikita activates a display.

A new personnel file appears.

No photograph.

Only:

RÉMY

Shayne looks at it.

SHAYNE

Who's Rémy?

Nikita looks directly at her.

NIKITA

You are.

Shayne's amusement disappears.

SHAYNE

Come again?

NIKITA

Effective immediately, your operational communications identity is Rémy.

SHAYNE

Why?

Nikita brings up intercepted Collective files.

Shayne's name appears repeatedly.

Her photograph.

Her apartment.

Michael and Nikita's house.

Erik.

NIKITA

The Collective knows too much.

Fanning and Bauer have been compiling intelligence on our family.

Your real name is appearing across unsecured channels.

Shayne studies the screen.

NIKITA (CONT'D)

From now on, outside secure Section communications, you're Rémy.

Mission panels.

Field communications.

External intelligence.

Everything.

SHAYNE

Another identity.

Nikita hears something deeper in that sentence.

NIKITA

Not another identity.

Shayne looks at her.

Nikita steps closer.

NIKITA (CONT'D)

A shield.

Rémy doesn't replace Shayne.

Rémy protects her.

Shayne looks back toward the file.

SHAYNE

Why Rémy?

Nikita smiles faintly.

NIKITA

Because it doesn't belong to anyone else.

No history.

No expectations.

No assumptions about who you are.

A beat.

NIKITA (CONT'D)

You decide what it means.

Shayne absorbs that.

SHAYNE

Rémy.

She tries it aloud.

Nikita nods.

NIKITA

Communications will recognize it immediately.

Shayne looks at her mother.

SHAYNE

And at home?

Nikita reaches over.

Closes the Rémy file.

NIKITA

At home you're my daughter.

Shayne smiles.

Quietly moved.

SHAYNE

I can work with that.

ACT TWO

INT. SECTION ONE – TRAINING BAY – DAY

Zoe attacks a practice target.

Fast.

Efficient.

Jasmine watches.

Shayne observes from the railing.

Erik joins her.

ERIK

Rémy.

Shayne turns sharply.

SHAYNE

How do you know already?

ERIK

Communications update.

He smiles.

ERIK (CONT'D)

I like it.

SHAYNE

Don't get comfortable.

ERIK

I was getting comfortable with Shayne.

Shayne looks at him.

ERIK (CONT'D)

Rémy sounds mysterious.

SHAYNE

You're flirting with both of us now?

ERIK

I'm adaptable.

Below them, Zoe glances upward.

Sees Shayne laughing.

Her attention lingers.

Erik notices.

ERIK

Your new recruit seems interested in you.

SHAYNE

She's not my recruit.

ERIK

Didn't say she was.

Shayne catches his tone.

SHAYNE

Are you jealous?

ERIK

No.

Zoe looks up again.

Erik watches.

ERIK (CONT'D)

Maybe.

Shayne smiles.

SHAYNE

Interesting.

ERIK

Don't enjoy this.

SHAYNE

I'm absolutely enjoying this.

Zoe approaches the railing.

ZOE

Shayne?

SHAYNE

Yeah?

ZOE

Jasmine says you're off rotation.

SHAYNE

Temporarily.

ZOE

Would you mind showing me around later?

Erik looks toward Shayne.

Zoe notices him.

ZOE (CONT'D)

Unless you're busy.

SHAYNE

I'm not.

ZOE

Great.

Zoe returns to training.

Erik watches her go.

ERIK

She's definitely interested.

SHAYNE

She's new.

ERIK

She looked at you three times.

SHAYNE

You've counted?

ERIK

Four now.

Shayne laughs.

ERIK

This isn't funny.

SHAYNE

It is from here.

INT. SECTION ONE – OPERATIONS – SAME

Jason and Quinn work through Collective communications.

QUINN

Look at the timestamps.

Jason does.

His humor disappears.

JASON

Bloody hell.

Michael approaches.

MICHAEL

What?

Quinn overlays old Section mission logs.

Years earlier.

Operations-era missions involving Michael and Nikita.

Then the current Collective activity.

The patterns align.

QUINN

They're copying your old operations.

Michael stares.

JASON

Not exactly copying.

Reconstructing.

He opens another comparison.

An old Nikita infiltration.

A modern Collective operation.

Same city.

Same entry point.

Same extraction pattern.

MICHAEL

They're sending a message.

QUINN

What message?

Michael looks toward Nikita approaching behind them.

MICHAEL

That they know us.

INT. COLLECTIVE FACILITY – SAME

Fanning watches Michael's reaction through compromised surveillance.

Bauer stands beside him.

BAUER

He recognizes it.

FANNING

Of course.

Bauer changes screens.

Old footage of OPERATIONS addressing Michael.

OPERATIONS (RECORDING)

Personal attachments compromise judgment.

Another monitor shows Michael watching Shayne and Erik.

BAUER

Irony.

Fanning smiles.

FANNING

Michael spent his life fighting Operations.

Now he watches his daughter's relationships from the Perch.

Bauer switches to Nikita.

BAUER

And Nikita?

An archival clip shows Operations issuing a ruthless directive.

Modern footage shows Nikita briefing Section.

FANNING

She became what she replaced.

Bauer looks at him.

BAUER

Think they'll appreciate us pointing it out?

FANNING

No.

That's why we're doing it.

INT. MICHAEL AND NIKITA'S HOUSE – EVENING

Shayne enters.

Michael sits at the dining table.

He looks up.

MICHAEL

Where were you?

SHAYNE

Showing Zoe around.

MICHAEL

The new operative?

SHAYNE

Yes.

Michael returns to his file.

MICHAEL

Sven called.

Shayne stops.

SHAYNE

Why did Erik call you?

MICHAEL

He was looking for you.

SHAYNE

And?

MICHAEL

I told him you were with Zoe.

Shayne slowly puts down her bag.

SHAYNE

Did you enjoy that?

Michael looks up.

MICHAEL

A little.

Shayne laughs.

Nikita enters from the kitchen.

NIKITA

What did I miss?

SHAYNE

Dad's discovered revenge.

MICHAEL

I answered the phone.

SHAYNE

With enthusiasm.

Nikita sits.

NIKITA

Zoe likes you.

Shayne looks at her.

SHAYNE

Not you too.

NIKITA

I'm observant.

MICHAEL

She does.

Shayne stares at both parents.

SHAYNE

This family needs hobbies.

ACT THREE

INT. SECTION ONE – OPERATIONS – NIGHT

An alarm.

Jason's screen fills with corrupted data.

JASON

Quinn.

She rushes over.

QUINN

What happened?

JASON

Somebody's inside the personnel system.

Files begin opening automatically.

Michael.

Nikita.

Adam.

Shayne.

Then:

RÉMY.

JASON

They're accessing Rémy.

Nikita turns.

NIKITA

Kill the network.

QUINN

If we kill it, we lose the trace.

MICHAEL

Do it.

Quinn hesitates.

Nikita looks toward Michael.

NIKITA

Wait.

Michael turns.

NIKITA (CONT'D)

Let them think they have it.

Michael understands.

MICHAEL

Feed them false intelligence.

Jason smiles.

JASON

Now that's more like it.

Quinn begins constructing a false personnel trail.

QUINN

Rémy assigned to Geneva.

Jason adds travel records.

JASON

Hotel.

Flight.

Mission authorization.

NIKITA

Make it believable.

JASON

I specialize in believable lies.

Quinn looks at him.

JASON

Occupational hazard.

The Collective connection accepts the data.

QUINN

They took it.

Michael studies the trace.

MICHAEL

Where?

Jason follows it.

His face changes.

JASON

Inside Section.

Silence.

Nikita turns.

NIKITA

What?

JASON

The breach didn't originate outside.

Quinn confirms.

QUINN

He's right.

Someone inside Section gave The Collective access.

The room goes cold.

INT. SECTION ONE – CORRIDOR – LATER

Zoe walks beside Shayne.

ZOE

Can I ask you something personal?

SHAYNE

Depends how personal.

ZOE

Are you seeing Erik?

Shayne smiles.

SHAYNE

We're figuring that out.

Zoe nods.

Disappointed.

ZOE

Right.

Shayne notices.

SHAYNE

Zoe.

She stops.

ZOE

I'm sorry.

I shouldn't have asked.

SHAYNE

You can ask.

A beat.

ZOE

I like you.

There it is.

Shayne's expression softens.

ZOE (CONT'D)

And before you say anything, I know you're not obligated to feel the same way.

Shayne smiles.

SHAYNE

Thank you.

ZOE

For having a crush on you?

SHAYNE

For saying it without making it my responsibility.

Zoe smiles.

ZOE

Darwin set the bar pretty low.

Shayne laughs.

SHAYNE

You deserve better than that.

Zoe holds her gaze.

ZOE

That's part of why I like you.

Erik rounds the corner.

Stops.

Perfect timing.

Zoe sees him.

ZOE

I'll see you later.

She leaves.

Erik watches her pass.

Then looks at Shayne.

ERIK

Five.

SHAYNE

What?

ERIK

She looked at you five times yesterday.

I was right.

Shayne laughs.

ERIK

I'm glad you're enjoying my suffering.

SHAYNE

You're not suffering.

ERIK

I'm competing with a woman who shoots better than me.

SHAYNE

You aren't competing.

Erik becomes serious.

ERIK

Good.

He steps closer.

ERIK (CONT'D)

Because I don't want you choosing me because I beat somebody else.

Shayne studies him.

ERIK (CONT'D)

I want you choosing me because you want me.

That lands.

SHAYNE

That's probably the smartest thing you've said.

ERIK

Probably?

SHAYNE

Don't ruin it.

INT. COLLECTIVE FACILITY – NIGHT

Fanning receives the false Rémy intelligence.

He laughs.

FANNING

Nikita thinks we're chasing Shayne.

Bauer looks over.

BAUER

We're not?

Fanning closes the file.

FANNING

Shayne is leverage.

Our target is Section.

He activates a personnel schematic.

One name is hidden.

An INTERNAL SECTION OPERATIVE.

BAUER

When do we activate our asset?

FANNING

Not yet.

Bauer looks at archival footage of Michael and Nikita.

BAUER

Operations always believed emotional attachments were their weakness.

Fanning studies modern footage of the family.

FANNING

Operations was wrong.

He smiles.

FANNING (CONT'D)

They're the weakness of everyone around them.

ACT FOUR

INT. SECTION ONE – BRIEFING ROOM – DAY

Michael.

Nikita.

Jason.

Quinn.

Erik.

Darwin.

Claire.

Trent.

Zoe.

Shayne sits away from the mission table.

Still officially off rotation.

Jason activates the display.

JASON

The Collective has two confirmed leaders.

Fanning appears.

Then Bauer.

Zoe studies them.

ZOE

Why them?

Nikita answers.

NIKITA

History.

Michael takes over.

MICHAEL

They're reconstructing old Section missions deliberately.

Claire understands.

CLAIRE

Psychological warfare.

TRENT

Against you two.

MICHAEL

Yes.

Darwin looks toward Shayne.

DARWIN

Which makes Rémy a liability.

Shayne's expression hardens.

SHAYNE

Rémy is sitting right here.

DARWIN

Exactly.

ZOE

She isn't the liability.

Everyone looks toward Zoe.

New recruit.

No hesitation.

ZOE (CONT'D)

The person feeding The Collective intelligence is.

Darwin looks amused.

DARWIN

You've been here five minutes.

ZOE

Long enough to understand the difference between a target and a security breach.

Shayne hides a smile.

Erik notices.

DARWIN

Cute.

SHAYNE

Don't.

Darwin turns.

SHAYNE (CONT'D)

You've already been told how to speak to her.

DARWIN

She can defend herself.

SHAYNE

She just did.

Nikita looks toward Darwin.

NIKITA

Enough.

Quinn activates a list of internal access points.

QUINN

We have eleven possible sources.

Jason changes the display.

JASON

Nine now.

Michael looks at him.

JASON (CONT'D)

Two just eliminated themselves by being dead.

A beat.

JASON (CONT'D)

Not suspiciously dead.

Just regular Section dead.

Zoe looks at Shayne.

ZOE

Is he always like this?

SHAYNE

Pretty much.

INT. MICHAEL AND NIKITA'S HOUSE – NIGHT

Shayne sits alone on the couch.

A laptop open.

The screen displays:

RÉMY

She stares at it.

Nikita enters.

Sits beside her.

SHAYNE

I thought the name was supposed to protect me.

NIKITA

It will.

SHAYNE

They found it in hours.

NIKITA

Because someone inside Section handed it to them.

Shayne looks toward her.

SHAYNE

You really think we have a traitor?

NIKITA

I know we do.

Silence.

SHAYNE

When you were me...

Nikita looks over.

SHAYNE (CONT'D)

When Operations was upstairs watching everything you did...

how did you know who you were?

Nikita considers the question.

NIKITA

Sometimes I didn't.

Shayne wasn't expecting that.

NIKITA (CONT'D)

Section gave me identities.

Missions gave me identities.

Men gave me identities.

Enemies gave me identities.

She looks at Shayne.

NIKITA (CONT'D)

Eventually I realized none of them were mine unless I chose them.

Nikita touches the laptop.

NIKITA (CONT'D)

That's what Rémy means.

Not who Section says you are.

Not who Erik wants you to be.

Not who Zoe thinks you are.

Not who your father is afraid you'll become.

Shayne smiles faintly.

NIKITA (CONT'D)

You.

Whoever that turns out to be.

Shayne closes the laptop.

SHAYNE

Thanks, Mom.

Nikita smiles.

NIKITA

Anytime.

The front door opens.

Michael enters.

MICHAEL

We found something.

INT. SECTION ONE – OPERATIONS – LATER

The Section floor is nearly empty.

Michael activates a surveillance recording.

Everyone watches.

An unidentified operative enters a restricted terminal.

The face is obscured.

The operative inserts a device.

Downloads the Rémy file.

Shayne watches closely.

SHAYNE

Can you enhance it?

QUINN

Working on it.

Pixel by pixel.

The image sharpens.

A hand.

A Section ring.

Then a reflection in the terminal glass.

Almost a face.

Jason leans forward.

JASON

Come on...

The image resolves.

Everyone freezes.

Shayne's expression collapses.

SHAYNE

No.

Michael stares at the monitor.

Nikita steps closer.

The screen GLITCHES before the identity becomes completely visible.

Every terminal in Operations dies.

Darkness.

Emergency lights ignite.

RED.

JASON

That's not good.

A voice comes over Section's speakers.

DAVID FANNING.

FANNING (V.O.)

Hello, Nikita.

Nikita looks upward.

Perry Bauer's voice joins him.

BAUER (V.O.)

Hello, Michael.

Michael's jaw tightens.

FANNING (V.O.)

You've spent so much time trying not to become Operations...

Screens throughout Section suddenly activate.

Old footage of Operations fills them.

Then modern footage of Nikita.

FANNING (V.O.)

...you never noticed when you did.

Another screen.

Michael watching Shayne and Erik from the Perch.

BAUER (V.O.)

Surveillance.

Manipulation.

Interference in personal relationships.

Michael stares.

BAUER (V.O.)

Remarkable, isn't it?

A split screen appears.

OPERATIONS on one side.

MICHAEL on the other.

FANNING (V.O.)

History doesn't repeat.

The Collective symbol replaces both.

FANNING (V.O.)

People do.

The screens die.

Silence.

Then one terminal comes back online.

Shayne's.

One word appears.

RÉMY

Underneath:

WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

Erik immediately moves toward Shayne.

Michael does the same.

They stop when Shayne raises her hand.

She doesn't need either man shielding her.

Shayne approaches the terminal herself.

Looks at the message.

Then types.

NO. YOU KNOW WHO I WAS.

She presses ENTER.

Nikita watches her daughter.

A flicker of pride.

Michael looks toward Nikita.

Then at the old Perch above them.

For perhaps the first time...

Fanning's accusation has gotten under his skin.

CUT TO:

INT. COLLECTIVE FACILITY – SAME

Fanning reads Shayne's response.

He smiles.

Bauer doesn't.

BAUER

She's stronger than expected.

FANNING

She's Nikita's daughter.

Bauer looks toward another monitor.

A LIVE SECTION FEED.

Someone inside Section is still transmitting.

BAUER

And Michael's.

Fanning turns toward their hidden operative's feed.

FANNING

Which means eventually...

she'll have to choose which one she's willing to become.

CUT TO BLACK.

END ACT FOUR

END OF EPISODE

TO BE CONTINUED...