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MAGNUM, P.I.

GYPSY'S CURSE

Written

by

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#57613

MAGNUM, P.I.

GYPSY'S CURSE

CAST

THOMAS MAGNUM  
HIGGINS  
RICK  
TC

PRINCESS SARI KOVACS  
JOZSEF KOVACS  
PISTA  
JOSKA  
ARANYKA  
GYPSY #1  
THUG #1  
RALPH SPINNEY  
JEANIE SPINNEY

EXTRAS:

KING KAMEHAMEHA CLUB  
PATRONS  
20 GYPSIES  
10 DANCING GIRLS  
OLD MAN/GYPSY SINGER  
THUG #2

ANIMALS:

APOLLO  
ZEUS  
GOATS  
SHEEP  
CHICKENS  
DUCKS

SETS

INTERIORS:

ROBIN'S NEST  
HIGGINS' DEN  
GUEST HOUSE  
MAGNUM'S BEDROOM  
BATHROOM  
KING KAMEHAMEHA CLUB BAR AREA  
PRINCESS SARI'S FORTUNE-  
TELLING PARLOR  
FRONT ROOM  
BACK ROOM  
SIDE ROOM

EXTERIORS:

ROBIN MASTER'S ESTATE  
TIDAL POOL  
BEACH  
DRIVEWAY  
FRONT GATE  
FRONT LAWN  
SECLUDED AREA  
KING KAMEHAMEHA CLUB  
FRONT ENTRANCE  
TERRACE  
FERRARI  
PRINCESS SARI'S FORTUNE-  
TELLING STOREFRONT  
VACANT LOT  
BUDAPEST STOREFRONT  
(STOCK)

MAGNUM, P.I.

GYPSY'S CURSE

ACT ONE

FADE IN

1 EXT. STOREFRONT - NIGHT 1

A super tells us...BUDAPEST, SOMETIME LAST FALL. Painted on the storefront window is a picture of a gypsy fortune teller looking into a crystal ball. Under the picture is some Hungarian writing. A fog hangs on the sidewalk and exotic gypsy music can be heard. It comes from....

2 INT. GYPSY FORTUNE TELLING PARLOR 2

The music is louder, but still low. The room is slightly faded but gaudily decorated. Tattered pictures of saints, roughly hewn crucifixes and colorful tapestries adorn the walls. The parlor has a front door and a side door, presumably leading to another room. Seated on cushions in the center of the parlor around a low, round table, complete with glowing crystal ball, are Ralph and Jeanie Spinney, a middle-aged couple from Omaha, Nebraska, and Princess Sari Kovacs, a beautiful Hungarian gypsy. Ralph is uncomfortable sitting on the cushion. He focuses his camera on Sari as she closes her eyes in deep thought. He shoots his camera, the flash goes off. Sari opens one eye, annoyed.

SARI

Please, you break the spell.

JEANIE

Ralph, put that thing away.

RALPH

Sorry, just wanted to show the folks back home.

Sari closes her eyes again and goes into her trance again.

SARI

I see a house...a white house...it is your home.

RALPH

Nope, our home's a number forty-two blue. Had it aluminum-sided last spring.

CONTINUED

2 CONTINUED

2

JEANIE

Shut up, Ralph. It looks white when  
the sun's out.

SARI

I see someone...a family member,  
someone close to you, in grave  
danger.

Jeanie gasps, Ralph looks concerned as we....

CUT TO

3 INT. BACK ROOM OF PARLOR

3

We can still hear the gypsy music from the front room but it  
seems very out of place here. There is video equipment and  
a young man, Jozsef Kovacs, Sari's brother, playing Donkey  
Kong. Jozsef keeps one eye on the video game and one eye  
on a National Geographic magazine he has open on his lap.  
It is old and he laughs at the page it is turned to.

4 INSERT - MAGAZINE PAGE

4

There is a picture of gypsies, some doing acrobatics, some  
dancing, some watching. There is a headline that reads,  
"Life With the Hungarian Gypsies." Jozsef turns the page  
and we almost see the next one. It is the picture of the  
King but we do not get a good look at it until....

5 ANGLE - VIDEO GAME

5

The donkey has grabbed the princess and is making his way  
up the building with her.

6 WIDER

6

as Jozsef jumps into action and starts manipulating the  
action with his joystick.

7 BACK TO PARLOR

7

Sari is in a deep trance, Ralph and Jeanie stare at her  
with their mouths open.

SARI

Without your help, this loved one  
will die....

CONTINUED

7

CONTINUED

RALPH

(like an owl)

Who? Who?

SARI

It's coming to me...I can almost see it....

Jeanie is almost in tears....

JEANIE

My God....

SARI

It's...It's....

Suddenly, there's a crash, and everyone gasps. Then we see that the crash comes from two gypsy thugs who have burst through the front door and into the room. They appear to be looking for someone. Jeanie and Ralph are frightened. Ralph clutches his wallet.

RALPH

Thank God, I got traveler's checks.

THUG #1

(thug-like)

Hol ven o?

SARI

(fierce)

Ki innen! Get out!

Thug #2 pushes Sari aside, knocking her down. Jeanie and Ralph gasp, this is more vacation than they counted on.

8

INT. BACK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jozsef is engrossed in his game, he watches as a barrel suddenly hits his little man, toppling him over, just as he is about to rescue the princess. The two thugs enter the room. Jozsef sees them.

JOZSEF

(in Hungarian)

What do you want?

The two thugs try to grab him but Jozsef does a beautiful acrobatic move that temporarily frees him. Jozsef rushes for the door that leads to the parlor.

9

PARLOR - CONTINUOUS

Just as Jozsef enters the parlor the thugs are on him. A fight ensues in which the thugs are all over Jozsef and

CONTINUED

9

CONTINUED

9

Sari jumps in to help. She is quickly thrown aside, leaving Jozsef to fight the two thugs alone. Jeanie and Ralph watch from ringside seats. The thugs prove too much for Jozsef and he is apprehended and the thugs begin to drag him out. Ralph snaps a photograph. It'll make quite a souvenir. One of the thugs walks over and takes Ralph's camera. He offers no resistance as he watches the thug smash it on the floor.

THUG #1  
(in Hungarian)  
Stupid Gaje.

They start to drag Jozsef out the door. Sari rises from the floor and grabs the crystal ball.

SARI  
(to thugs, in  
Hungarian)  
You lousy pigs! You'll pay for  
this, you'll pay!

She throws the crystal ball and screams as she hurls it at the thugs. She misses and it....

10

CRYSTAL BALL

10

smashes.

MATCH CUT TO

11

BROKEN GLASS

11

as a broom begins to sweep it up. The camera pans up and we see that we are at....

12

EXT. KING KAMEHAMEHA BAR AREA - DAY

12

A bus boy sweeps up the glass and goes past the table where Rick and TC sit going over the sports page. He spots a score and smiles.

RICK  
(elated)  
Yes! Eight to three Yanks over the  
Indians. Just like she said.

TC  
Just dumb luck.

CONTINUED

12

CONTINUED

12

RICK

Once, maybe twice, is dumb luck, but five straight is magic.

TC

I still don't believe it.

RICK

Believe it or not. She's on her way over with tomorrow's predictions.

TC

How about tonight's game?

RICK

Magnum's sacred Tigers are gonna eat it.

Magnum walks into the frame.

MAGNUM

Who says?

TC

Madame Hocus-pocus.

TC laughs.

MAGNUM

Madame who?

RICK

Her name is Princess Sari!

Magnum laughs.

MAGNUM

Princess Sorry?

RICK

Sari, Sari.

TC

There ain't nothing to be Sari about, Rick.

TC and Magnum laugh again.

RICK

(mad)

You guys better cool it and be nice, she's gonna be here any minute.

CONTINUED

12 CONTINUED - 2

12

MAGNUM

Uhhh, I kinda gotta go, Rick.

TC

Stick around, TM, this could be quite a show.

RICK

I'm very serious about this. This time...I think...I'm in love.

MAGNUM

(false  
surprise)

Really?

TC

That's only the fifth time this month.

RICK

Come on, guys, this time is different. This is for real.

CUT TO

13 EXT. KING KAMEHAMEHA CLUB - FRONT ENTRANCE - DAY

13

A valet helps Princess Sari out of a lavender Lincoln Continental. It has red upholstery, and fringe with little red balls hanging from above the windows...we're talking gaudy. She is dressed slightly nomadic, but stylish.

RICK'S VOICE

Sari is really something special.

We see her walk toward the club entrance. A few extras' heads turn.

14 BACK TO BAR AREA

14

RICK

(uncomforably)

Uh, Thomas...there's something I should tell you about her before you meet her....

Rick looks as if he doesn't want to continue as TC and Magnum wait, eyeing him curiously.

RICK

Uh...remember that troupe of Hungarian acrobats we chased....

CONTINUED



TC

Don't tell me she's hooked up with that bunch.

RICK

Not exactly, but remember Jozsef?

MAGNUM

The one who picked up tables with his teeth and kept claiming he was some kind of a prince?

RICK

He was a prince...of the gypsies, next in line to the throne...and well...he and Sari are sorta...related.

MAGNUM

Just how sorta, Rick?

RICK

(sheepishly)

Her brother. But it turned out their father, Laszlo, really was ---

TC

King of the Gypsies? Didn't I just read something about him dying?

RICK

Last month. Shh...here she comes.

Sari has entered the room. She is a bit dramatic as she shouts....

SARI

Darling!

And rushes to Rick, hugs and kisses him.

SARI

Are you feeling better...yes? Is your leg still bothering you from last night?

Rick looks a little uncomfortable.

RICK

It's okay.

TC

What did you do to your leg?

CONTINUED

RICK

Never mind.

Magnum and TC exchange looks.

SARI

Why do you not tell them? A man like you should be proud.

RICK

Sari...I'd like you to meet my friends -- Thomas Magnum and TC.

SARI

How do you do?

Sari extends her hand. Magnum shakes it.

MAGNUM

I never knew Jozsef had a sister. How's he doing anyway? I heard he started a snail farm in Salinas.

Magnum and TC laugh, Sari becomes very serious.

SARI

Jozsef is dead.

Magnum and TC stop laughing.

MAGNUM

I'm sorry, I didn't know.

SARI

Enemies of our family who did not want Jozsef to become king, kidnapped him a year ago. We presume, after all this time, that he is dead.

TC

(false  
respect)

That's terrible...he was a great man.

RICK

Now that your father has passed on, too, who's the new king?

SARI

The rightful and fitting King has yet to be found. For now, our tribe is without a leader.

CONTINUED

14

CONTINUED - 3

14

None of the guys know how to respond. A black shroud has come over the conversation. Sari notices this, and pulls herself together...she changes the subject.

SARI

Oh, Rick, here are the predictions you wanted.

Sari hands Rick a sheet of paper.

MAGNUM

What kind of predictions?

RICK

Baseball scores. She hit five out of five yesterday.

SARI

I want my Rick to be a rich man.

Rick smiles and hugs her. Magnum scowls.

MAGNUM

You really believe she can predict the future?

SARI

You are a skeptic?

MAGNUM

Come on, you don't believe it either. It's just for show.

SARI

I most certainly do believe in my powers. And I can prove to you that it is real.

MAGNUM

No thanks.

RICK

Come on, Magnum, give her a chance.

SARI

Yes, you can come to my parlor tonight.

Magnum smiles and shakes his head no, still the skeptic.

SARI

Unless you do not have the courage to see into the unknown.

DISSOLVE TO

15 EXT. FERRARI - NIGHT

15

as it goes down the road.

MAGNUM'S VOICE OVER

The last time I went to a fortune teller was when I was eight years old. I skipped school and went to the Tidewater County Fair. The fortune teller there was named Madame Magda and for a dime she led me into her tent and sat me down at a low table. The tent was dark and spooky, and Madame Magda looked like something out of Hansel and Gretel. I wished I was back in school.

The Ferrari turns into a parking lot.

MAGNUM'S VOICE OVER

She told me that someone I loved would leave this Earth. I cried. But, once I left the tent and hit the light of day...what with the rides and the cotton candy, I forgot all about her prediction. Two weeks later my dog Joey got hit by a truck. It had to be a coincidence, at least I hoped it was.

16 ANGLE - STOREFRONT

16

The Ferrari has stopped in front of a small storefront. A sign reads "Princess Sari's, Ltd., Spiritual Consultants." A light is seen inside, and we can hear incongruous sounds of a computer feeding a readout.

17 INT. PARLOR - NIGHT

17

Rick, Magnum, TC and Sari stand next to a sophisticated computer doing its thing.

SARI

Ah, here it comes.

TC

No foolin'...Hey, this is something, huh, TM?

Magnum looks unenthused. Sari takes the print-out from the machine, glances at it, then hands it to TC. He looks at it.

CONTINUED

17 CONTINUED

17

TC

Look here! It says I should become a corporate executive...What've I been telling you guys?!

Magnum smiles, he still isn't convinced.

SARI

Now, it is your turn, Mr. Magnum.

MAGNUM

With the computer? That's not fortune telling. You don't have to be a gypsy to feed information into a machine.

RICK

Come on, Thomas, lighten up.

SARI

No, no, Rick, he is quite right. The computers are merely gimmicks to entice tourists. They can merely give projections, not predict the future.

MAGNUM

Like a crystal ball can.

SARI

Yes.

MAGNUM

Give me a break. No one can see into the future.

SARI

Are you prepared for the real truth, Mr. Magnum? The crystal ball evokes very strong powers.

MAGNUM

I think I can handle it.

SARI

Then come with me.

Sari leads them into another room.

18 INT. SIDE ROOM

18

This is decorated the old-fashioned way...gaudy. Just like the parlor we saw in Budapest. Sari leads them all inside

CONTINUED

and gestures for them to sit on cushions set around the low round table. On the middle of the table is the crystal ball. Sari sits and stares into the crystal ball. She starts to hum as we begin to hear gypsy music come up softly. Magnum stifles a giggle.

SARI

I see a house that you live in, yet do not own. You live with a parent who constantly criticizes everything you do.

Rick laughs, as does TC, Magnum smirks.

TC

That's no parent, that's Higgie.

MAGNUM

Come on guys, you told her.

RICK

No way, Thomas.

SARI

I see a woman...blonde...she is very beautiful.

Magnum starts to squirm.

SARI

A Swedish model.

TC

What Swedish model?

SARI

I see many nights together on a remote island.

MAGNUM

It wasn't many nights, it was four days!

RICK

Was that the time you were supposedly on Molokai working on a case?

MAGNUM

It was kind of a case.

TC

Sure....

MAGNUM

Look, she lost a ring on the beach  
and she asked me to help her find it.

TC

For four days?

Rick and TC look at him for a beat, then crack up.

MAGNUM

The tide could have taken it any-  
where.

RICK

TC and I didn't know about that, so  
how did Sari?

MAGNUM

(to Sari,  
aggravated)

I thought that ball saw into the  
future, not the past.

SARI

The ball sees all things. I think  
you would believe after what  
happened to Joey.

Magnum looks stunned.

MAGNUM

How did you know about Joey?

SARI

I didn't...the ball does.

Rick and TC look over at Magnum. Magnum's self-satisfied  
grin has disappeared and he sits forward on his cushion,  
listening to every word.

SARI

I see a man, a tall man like your-  
self, in grave danger.

Magnum laughs.

SARI

You should not laugh. This is  
serious.

Magnum laughs.

CONTINUED

18 CONTINUED - 3

18

MAGNUM

This is ridiculous.

RICK

You better listen, Magnum.

MAGNUM

Give me a break.....

SARI

Wait! It is you, who is in danger.

TC

Uh-oh.

SARI

The danger stands in the way of a great day for you.

MAGNUM

Just my luck.

SARI

All your life has been meant for this and only this moment.

Music, gypsy music, begins to play.

SARI

Many of my people gather round you.

(beat)

They shout something!

MAGNUM

Yeah, like hand over your wallet.

SARI

Shhhh!

The music grows more intense.

SARI

This is impossible!

MAGNUM

You can say that again.

TC

(in to it)

Shut up, TM.

SARI

Tomorrow many will come!

CONTINUED



18 CONTINUED - 4

18

The music becomes very dramatic here. Sari begins to sob.

MAGNUM

Hey, look, let's forget this whole thing.

SARI

They are chanting, singing, playing music to you, Magnum, to you. Tomorrow you meet your destiny!

The music becomes intense and swells to an unbearable level as we....

DISSOLVE TO

19 INT. GUEST HOUSE - MAGNUM'S BEDROOM - MORNING

19

The gypsy music has faded with the dissolve, but we can still hear it softly in the b.g. Magnum awakens in bed, rubbing his head.

MAGNUM'S VOICE OVER

Last night's little fortune telling experience was more intense than I thought. I could still hear the music.

He reaches over and looks at his alarm clock, which reads 6:15, and then turns back over while....

MAGNUM'S VOICE OVER

With any luck I could turn over, snuggle up under the covers, and go back to sleep. I mean I like the early morning as much as the next guy but only a fool would get up at 6:15 on a Sunday.

Someone begins pounding at Magnum's front door. At first he buries his head with his pillow, but when the pounding grows louder and more insistent, he groans and wobbles out of bed, pulling some pants on.

MAGNUM

(shouting)

Whoever you are, you're a fool.

20 MOVE WITH MAGNUM

20

as he makes his way through the guest house, up the steps to the front door. He fixes his pants as he goes. The music grows slightly louder, the pounding continues.

CONTINUED

20 CONTINUED

20

Magnum hurls open the front door to reveal a startled and rather wan Higgins, now pounding thin air. The gypsy music is heard clearly now.

MAGNUM

Higgins, why are you playing the stereo at this hour?

HIGGINS

(quietly,  
upset)

Magnum, would you come out here for a moment please?

Magnum shrugs, sighs, and then follows Higgins out.

21 EXT. ROBIN'S NEST - EARLY MORNING

21

Magnum and Higgins walk down the driveway toward the front gate, the music growing louder.

MAGNUM

Higgins, where are we going?

Higgins just points his finger at the....

22 FRONT GATE

22

Outside the locked front gate a tribe of gypsies stand. There are about twenty or thirty of them of all ages, sizes and of both sexes. Some carry instruments, guitars, zithers, cymbalons, violins. Some are dressed in traditional gypsy dress, some are dressed normally. Some carry chickens, or lead goats and sheep. They look like they have just arrived from the old country, carrying their belongings with them. Upon seeing Magnum the band stops playing and a shout goes up.

GYPSY #1

Rom Baro...Rom Baro!

Soon many more gypsies join in and shout Rom Baro! The band breaks into the gypsy equivalent of "Hail to the Chief."

23 ON HIGGINS AND MAGNUM

23

both in shock. Magnum turns to Higgins.

CONTINUED

CONTINUED

MAGNUM

What the hell does 'Rom Baro' mean?

HIGGINS

It's a statement of great respect.  
Roughly translated it means...you are  
their king.

Off Magnum's expression....

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

24 EXT. ROBIN'S NEST - DAY

24

The same scene we left at the end of act one. The gypsies are crowding around the gate to get a better look at their Rom Baro. The band still plays. Gypsies offer Magnum their goats. Higgins is livid.

HIGGINS

Magnum, do something!

MAGNUM

What?!

HIGGINS

Evict them from the premises immediately or I'll be forced to call in the authorities.

(beat)

My God, what the neighbors must think!

MAGNUM

There are no neighbors, Higgins.

Higgins just fumes, Magnum steps up to the gate.

MAGNUM

(shouting)

Hello...Hello! Can I please speak?

An older man in the crowd, Pista, responds.

PISTA

Rom Baro wishes to speak.

The crowd cheers, the band reaches their zenith and then Pista runs his finger across his throat, indicating "cut" and everyone immediately grows silent. Magnum looks back at Higgins and smiles. We have complete silence now except for the bleating of a goat.

MAGNUM

There's been a mistake...I'm not your 'Rom Baro.'

At the mention of the words "Rom Baro" the gypsies begin yelling all over again and the band strikes up "Hail to the Chief."

CONTINUED

24 CONTINUED

24

HIGGINS

Magnum! You could at least attempt to enquire as to why they have accorded you this honor...and get on with it!

MAGNUM

Okay, okay.  
(to crowd)  
Please, be quiet!

PISTA

Rom Baro wants quiet!

The gypsies instantly become silent. Again only the bleat of a goat can be heard, maybe a duck.

MAGNUM

What makes you think I'm your Rom Baro?

He says the magic word and all hell breaks loose again. The band strikes up "Hail to the Chief," a couple of acrobats do back flips, women cry, and many shout "Rom Baro."

25 HIGGINS

25

It's time he takes charge. He steps up to the gate, waves Magnum off to the side and waves his hand.

HIGGINS

Stop this outlandish behavior this instant!

26 GYPSIES

26

They look at Higgins oddly, and slowly die down. The acrobats stop in midflip, the band trails off, and the shouts for Rom Baro, cease.

HIGGINS

Thank you. Now, who's in charge here?

Pista steps forward.

PISTA

I am Pista...marksman, bear trainer and poet...

(beat)

Only the Rom Baro is in charge.

CONTINUED

One zither player starts the anthem again, Pista turns to him and shoots him an aggravated look. The player stops.

PISTA

I am but his humble servant.

Pista bows to Magnum, the crowd of gypsies follow his lead.

HIGGINS

What makes you think he...

(looks at

Magnum)

...is your Rom....

At the mention of the word, the band get their instruments ready. Higgins sees this and is smart enough not to continue.

HIGGINS

Why Magnum? He's not even a gypsy.

PISTA

Though his ways are not of the gypsies, his late father...

(bows head)

May his feet never be nailed to the soil.

The gypsies all bow their head and mumble the same phrase.

PISTA

(continuing)

His father was the great great grandson of a full-blooded gypsy descended from the last, exalted line of Romany gypsy kings, fathered by the celebrated King Vilmos Kovacs...

(bows head)

May his exalted feet never be nailed to the soil....

Again the other gypsies follow his lead and mumble the words as he does. This is interrupted by....

JOSKA

Stop!

The crowd of gypsies part and through the middle of them comes Joska, a handsome gypsy man, about twenty-one, who seems angry about something. He walks up to the gate and faces Magnum.

CONTINUED

JOSKA

So you think you are king!

(beat)

Can you do this?

Joska does three beautifully executed back flips, he lands on his feet and spreads his arms out for applause. He doesn't get it. He turns to Magnum.

JOSKA

Well? Can you?

MAGNUM

No, I can't.

Joska turns to the crowd.

JOSKA

See? He is weak. It is I who should be your king.

MAGNUM

That's fine with me...go ahead.

PISTA

Pay no attention to him, you are the real Rom Baro.

The band begins again. The gypsies dance. Higgins shakes his head.

HIGGINS

It never ceases to amaze me the situations you get yourself into, Magnum.

JOSKA

Catch this, king!

Joska pulls a dagger and throws it expertly so that it just misses Magnum and sticks in a tree next to him. Magnum reacts, the crowd grows quiet. Joska turns to the crowd.

JOSKA

(pleading)

See...See...he cannot even catch the knife! This is no king!

MAGNUM

For God's sake, will you let him be the king!

CONTINUED

26 CONTINUED - 3

26

PISTA

Joska, go away, you are acting like fool. You give the gypsy a bad name.

Joska puts his head down in shame.

PISTA

There are more important things to discuss.

(calling)

Aranyka!

The crowd oohs and ahhs as the lovely Aranyka steps out of the crowd. She is fifteen, beautiful and the essence of hot-blooded gypsy femininity. She joins Pista's side.

HIGGINS

Now what?

PISTA

This is the lovely, the beautiful Aranyka...niece of my third dead wife's brother's daughter...

(beat)

She is not magnificent?

Magnum smiles weakly.

MAGNUM

She is very pretty, yes.

PISTA

Then, it is set...

(beat)

You will be married!

The crowd of gypsies go wild. They dance, play music and cheer.

MAGNUM

Wait a minute! Wait a minute!

JOSKA

Stop!

Pista signals for everyone to stop. Again, a goat bleat.

JOSKA

He cannot marry Aranyka...she is mine!

MAGNUM

For once I agree with the kid.

CONTINUED



PISTA

I do not. Gypsy women are promised at birth. Aranyka is promised to king. That is you. See how simple?

MAGNUM

No! I'm not your king.

PISTA

Your father is a descendant of the Kovacs. And since the sixth decade of the Eighteenth Century in the year of the water boar...when the celebrated King Vilmos Kovacs saved our tribe from pestilence and famine, it has been decreed that his closest living relative shall rule. This is your birthright.

MAGNUM

I'm not a gypsy! My father's ancestors were English.

PISTA

Gypsies come from everywhere.

MAGNUM

But, what about Jozsef Kovacs? He's the rightful heir.

PISTA

He is missing and presumed dead.

(bows his  
head)

May his feet never be nailed to the ground.

Again the gypsies mumble along with him.

MAGNUM

Well, I don't want to be king...Why don't you do it?

PISTA

Me? Pista? I am but a humble poet and performer in the game of life. I ask for no more.

HIGGINS

Enough of this, Magnum. If they think you're king, order them away this instant. The goats are starting to eat through the gate.

CONTINUED

26 CONTINUED - 5

26

Magnum shakes his head, he just can't handle anymore. He steps up to the gate. His admirers are giving him their complete attention.

MAGNUM

I'm sorry, but you all have to leave.

27 PAN GYPSIES

27

Their faces fill with sadness, like children thrown out of their home.

28 WIDER

28

PISTA

You heard your Rom Baro...he says to leave.

Now, instead of the entire band, one lone zither player plays a sorrowful rendition of "Hail to the Chief" as the sad gypsies slowly disperse. It is a sad scene, as small gypsy children look painfully back at their Rom Baro. Higgins looks on and shakes his head. Joska hangs back for one last word.

JOSKA

Look what you've done to your people. I spit on your name.

Joska spits on the ground and follows his group.

29 INT. HIGGINS' STUDY - DAY

29

Higgins is going through some books on his desk. Magnum is pacing nearby.

MAGNUM

This is crazy.

HIGGINS

I must say, I am starting to find all this rather amusing. You a gypsy king.

Higgins starts to laugh to himself.

MAGNUM

Higgins, this is serious.

CONTINUED

HIGGINS

Well, then I hope you take it as such. You're their 'Rom Baro' they came to you for leadership. It was bloody awful of you sending them away like that.

MAGNUM

(exploding)

You told me to send them away!

HIGGINS

With hopes that you would go with them, of course.

MAGNUM

Very funny.

HIGGINS

I didn't mean it to be. There are those of us who, under similar circumstances, would take our responsibilities less frivolously. I remember back in '44 when I had occasion to be in the Urals where I ran across a caravan of vagabond gypsies who seemingly had lost their usually good sense of direction and were heading directly into a treacherous Nazi spy trap, the agents of which were disguised as a group of carpet weavers. Naturally, I couldn't let the poor chaps be used for medical experiments, so I ---

MAGNUM

(overriding)

Higgins! I am not a gypsy!

HIGGINS

I'm not so sure. The light eyes and dark hair. The cheekbones and the cut of your jaw. You know, I've always rather questioned the appropriateness of your bloodline. Of course, the only real way to authenticate your genealogy is with the proper papers.

SARI'S VOICE

Gypsies have no papers. We have blood!

30 ANGLE - DOORWAY

30

Sari stands in it holding some papers. She walks towards Magnum and Higgins, the lads trailing loyally by her side.

31 WIDER

31

Higgins stands as she approaches him.

HIGGINS

How did you get in here?

SARI

(shrugs)

I am gypsy.

MAGNUM

Higgins, this is Princess Sari. Her father used to be king.

HIGGINS

How do you do.

SARI

Very fine, thank you, considering my father died recently, as well as my brother...but we gypsies don't complain.

HIGGINS

Do you really believe Magnum is your new Rom Baro?

SARI

Gypsies do not travel thousands of miles to spend day on beach.

HIGGINS

But there is no evidence...or proof.

Sari grabs Magnum's face and squeezes his cheeks.

SARI

This is my evidence....

Sari then clutches her heart.

SARI

Here lies my proof.

(beat)

Now that that is settled, your people need you...come.

CONTINUED

31 CONTINUED

31

MAGNUM

I'm not your king!

SARI

Yes, you are, my darling.

MAGNUM

Higgins, what am I going to do?

HIGGINS

I suggest you accept the honor graciously and lead your people to their new home...I hear Budapest is beautiful this time of year.

MAGNUM

Well, I refuse the honor. Hold a new election or something, I don't care.

SARI

(very serious)

One is not elected king. It is your birthright. You are king until you die!

On Magnum's reaction:

32 EXT. FERRARI - DAY

32

as it goes down the road.

MAGNUM'S VOICE OVER

I kept telling everyone that I couldn't be king of the gypsies but no one seemed to be listening. Sari said that Pista had to see me right away and that if I had any soul I would go. Well, how could I turn down a marksman, bear trainer...and poet.

33 EXT. VACANT LOT - DAY

33

Magnum stands in front of our group of gypsies. They all stand in a vacant lot. A couple of kids are climbing a palm tree trying to fetch some coconuts. Others just stand around in a depressed state. Low, mournful zither music can be heard in the b.g.

CONTINUED

PISTA

Can you stand to see your people like this?

MAGNUM

But they're not my responsibility!

PISTA

They know only to follow their king. Is it their fault their Rom Baro lives in a paradise such as this where the rent is so high?

MAGNUM

But I don't want to be their Rom Baro.

PISTA

Look at those small children climbing tree. It is to get coconut milk for the hungry babies.

MAGNUM

Come on, that's not fair.

PISTA

It is all right. Leave, get in that bright red motor car and go back to your palace. The police will come soon to arrest us all.

MAGNUM

The police?

PISTA

That is why I called you. The police came by and said they would arrest us for vagrancy if we were not gone by sundown.

Magnum shakes his head as guilt sets in.

PISTA

Do you know what happens when a freedom-loving gypsy is locked in cage? He dies.

MAGNUM

Dies?

We see Magnum start to muse over this.

HIGGINS' VOICE

Oh...my...God!

CUT TO

34

EXT. ROBIN'S NEST - NIGHT - ON FRONT LAWN

34

A group of tents adorn the lawn of the estate and campfires blaze as the gypsies cook their supper. There is a tambourine, a fiddle player, and this time a few acrobats performing. Joska throws daggers at a target. A juggler juggles glass balls in the air. Pista shoots them out of the sky with a pump twenty-two.

HIGGINS

I leave the estate for a few hours, only to come back and find you have single-handedly transformed it into a three-ring circus.

They pass the tennis court. A gypsy is tightrope walking across the net.

MAGNUM

You're the one who said I should help them.

HIGGINS

But not here...not on Mr. Masters' front lawn.

MAGNUM

It will only be for a few days.

HIGGINS

Few days? Few days? Do you realize what could happen to the lawn in three days with people and farm animals trampling all over it?

MAGNUM

Turn yellow?

HIGGINS

Not to mention that these people have no conception of proper sanitation facilities.

MAGNUM

I'll talk to them, Higgins, I promise. They think I'm their king, they'll listen to me.

HIGGINS

See that they do.

Higgins turns and walks off abruptly. Magnum starts walking towards the tidal pool.

35 ON WAY TO TIDAL POOL

35

No gypsies. Just the fresh smell of ocean breezes and a shoreline void of all people. Magnum walks towards it. He sees his surf ski propped up against a tree.

MAGNUM'S VOICE OVER

Sometimes, when things really start to build, and I feel like I'm going to explode, I just have to be alone. And there's no better place to be alone than out in the middle of the blue Pacific.

36 ANGLE - TREE

36

as Magnum stands looking at his surf ski, smiles and then bends down to pick it up. Just as he bends a dagger flies out of nowhere, and sticks in the tree exactly where his head would have been if he hadn't bent over. Magnum looks up at the spot, and sees the dagger. A terrible realization comes over him that he could have been killed. He looks in the direction the knife was thrown, and sees nothing.

37 ESTATE LAWN

37

where the gypsies are camped out. Pista cleans his gun, as Joska puts his knives away in his case. One is missing. Several goats walk by, and a few chickens peck at Higgins' grass. Magnum approaches, carrying the dagger that almost killed him. He's mad.

MAGNUM

I think you lost this.

Magnum holds up the dagger.

JOSKA

Not lost, stolen.

He grabs it from Magnum and completes his set in the case.

MAGNUM

Don't give me that...you tried to kill me just now.

JOSKA

What you talk, gaje? If I tried to kill you, you'd be dead.

MAGNUM

If I hadn't bent over, I would be.

CONTINUED



37

CONTINUED

37

JOSKA

Did you see me try to kill you?

MAGNUM

No...you were hiding.

PISTA

In world of gypsy, only a coward  
does not face the man he kills.

MAGNUM

Then Joska is a coward.

A few oohs and ahhs come from the gypsies. They gather around. We've seen Joska mad before but not this mad. He sees the people gathering and this adds fuel to the fire. In a mad fit of rage he picks up a passing chicken and hands it to Magnum. The crowd's reaction is one of incredible shock. They become hushed and only mumble to themselves. Then they become incredibly silent as they wait for Magnum to react. Magnum just stands holding the chicken, he doesn't know what it means.

MAGNUM

Why did he give me a chicken?

All the gypsies stare at him.

MAGNUM

Come on, what's going on?

PISTA

It is the challenge of the chicken.

MAGNUM

The what?

PISTA

It is the most sacred of all gypsy  
traditions...handed down by the  
celebrated King Vilmos himself...

(bows head)

...may his exalted feet never be  
nailed to the soil....

As usual, all the gypsies follow his lead and mumble along with him.

MAGNUM

But what does it mean?

CONTINUED

37

CONTINUED - 2

37

JOSKA

It means soon I will be king.

PISTA

Joska, you fool, you know the consequences if you lose.

MAGNUM

What's the challenge of the chicken?

PISTA

It is only way for gypsy not of royal blood to become king. A duel is fought....

MAGNUM

What!

PISTA

It is not fight to the death. It is fight of honor. Whoever draws first blood wins.

MAGNUM

That's it? That's all Joska has to do to become king?

PISTA

Joska takes great risk, the penalty for losing is worse than death. He will be banished from his tribe and sent to work in factory.

MAGNUM

And what if I lose?

PISTA

In gypsies' eyes you become a woman. You help with the washing and tell fortunes. But you cannot lose, you are real king. Your royal blood will show through.

JOSKA

I spit on his royal blood. Tomorrow I will be king.

Joska storms off leaving Pista and Magnum alone as the other gypsies disperse and go back to what they were doing before.

TC'S VOICE

Tomorrow you're gonna be dead.

38

EXT. KING KAMEHAMEHA CLUB TERRACE - DAY

38

Magnum, Rick and TC sit at the bar.

MAGNUM

It's not a fight to the death. We each hold the end of a scarf in our teeth and try to cut each other with daggers.

TC

I take it that the duel will be at the crack of dawn.

MAGNUM

Pista says nobody's awake then. Gypsy duels take place at the crack of ten thirty, maybe eleven.

RICK

Come on, Thomas, you're not really gonna go through with this?

MAGNUM

The guy gave me a chicken, I have to.

TC

TM, this isn't like you, getting involved in all this gypsy stuff.

RICK

Yeah, a couple of days ago you didn't believe it at all.

MAGNUM

I don't know, guys, but since I've been king, I've started to respect the old ways. As Pista the marksman, bear trainer, and poet said, 'tradition make life less complicated.'

TC

He's putting us on, that's right isn't it, TM, you're putting us on.

RICK

Either that, or he's gone as crazy as all the rest of those gypsies.

SARI'S VOICE

Who is crazy, my darling?

They all turn around to see Sari standing behind them. Rick is caught with his foot in his mouth. Magnum laughs.

CONTINUED

38 CONTINUED

38

RICK

No one, Sari, no one. I was just saying how crazy I was about you.

SARI

And I for you. How is your shoulder, is it still bothering you from last night?

She rubs it gently.

TC

What happened last night?

Rick and Sari ignore the question.

RICK

Sari, you don't think Thomas should duel with Joska, do you?

SARI

But, of course. He is king, he has no choice.

RICK

Come on, Thomas isn't a king.

SARI

You do not respect my beliefs? You do not respect the ways of the gypsy?

RICK

I didn't say that.

SARI

And where is gypsy outfit I gave you to wear?

RICK

I can't wear it at the club.

SARI

And why not? You were eager enough to get ball scores. You spend every evening with me, yet you do not like my way of life.

RICK

Sure, I do. I love the gypsy way. I can't wait to wear the outfit.

SARI

That's a good darling.

CONTINUED

38 CONTINUED - 2

38

RICK

But I still don't understand why  
Magnum has to fight a duel.

SARI

Magnum has accepted his position and  
will defend it with honor tomorrow.  
If you want to see me tonight you  
will understand.

RICK

I understand.

TC

I don't. This is still crazy to  
me. I still say Magnum's gonna get  
killed.

39 INT. GUEST HOUSE - NIGHT

39

The living room is dark except for the grey light from the TV set. We can hear our National Anthem and a picture of the American flag is on the screen. The light from the screen illuminates Magnum, asleep on the couch, and his coffee table littered with the refuse of junk food scattered all over it. The National Anthem ends, as does the picture of the flag. The screen goes to snow, and the sound goes to static. Suddenly, a dark figure steps into the light. The grey light from the television casts a shadow on his face, but we can see that he is a gypsy man, in his twenties. He slowly moves over to the couch. He stands over it, looking at Magnum. Then he reaches for Magnum. Before he can lay a hand on him, the lights go on. The man freezes, and Magnum jumps up in a start.

MAGNUM

What? What?

40 ANGLE - DOORWAY - HIGGINS

40

stands, a gun in his hand and the lads by his side.

HIGGINS

Raise your hands in the air, or I'll  
be forced to release the lads.

Higgins starts to walk down the stairs as the man raises his hands. Some may recognize him as Jozsef Kovacs, the man in the teaser.

MAGNUM

What's going on, Higgins?

CONTINUED

40 CONTINUED

40

HIGGINS

It's quite obvious, isn't it? This man was trying to kill you. Luckily, for you I was on patrol and saw him skulk in.

MAGNUM

Put the gun away.

HIGGINS

Can't you grasp the situation, Magnum?

MAGNUM

Higgins, he's my client.

HIGGINS

Must your clients resort to prowling to get your attention?

JOSZEF

I had to, man, the place is full of gypsies.

HIGGINS

Quite. But what does that have to do with....

MAGNUM

(interrupting)

Higgins, meet Jozsef Kovacs, my client, and the real King of the Gypsies.

On Higgins' reaction....

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

41 INT. GUEST HOUSE - NIGHT

41

The television is turned off and the lights are turned on. The lads sleep at Higgins' feet, as Magnum pours coffee.

HIGGINS

Why didn't you tell me this was all a charade from the first?

MAGNUM

You didn't ask.

HIGGINS

Of course I knew something was amiss. You were not behaving to character.

MAGNUM

Come on, Higgins, I had you completely fooled.

HIGGINS

Of course not.

JOSZEF

The important thing is that he's got my tribe fooled.

MAGNUM

Joszef and Sari hired me to pose as king so we could flush out whoever kidnapped Joszef and tried to have him killed.

JOSZEF

We figured he'd make a move to do to Magnum what he tried to do to me.

HIGGINS

But, if you were kidnapped how did you free yourself?

JOSZEF

Easy, I walked away. Of course, I had to kill them first, but hey, they tried to kill me, so we're even. Besides, this way they couldn't go running to whoever hired them and let him know I was still around.

CONTINUED

41 CONTINUED

41

HIGGINS

Perhaps it's that Joska fellow.  
After all he has challenged Magnum  
to a duel.

JOSZEF

No way. If he was willing to go as  
far as attempt a challenge of the  
chicken, he could have challenged  
me, instead of trying to have me  
kidnapped.

MAGNUM

Great, then if we know it's not  
Joska there's no reason why I have  
to fight the duel.

JOSZEF

What? And become a woman in the  
eyes of the gypsies? You gotta go  
through with the duel. What's the  
worst that could happen...you get a  
little scratch.

CUT TO

42 EXT. BEACH - DAY

42

In the middle of the duel. Magnum dressed in his normal  
attire has one end of a very colorful scarf in his mouth,  
and a dagger in his hand. Joska is dressed in traditional  
gypsy dress and is also holding an end of the scarf in his  
mouth. Joska is lunging with his dagger, doing flips over  
the scarf. He is obviously not going for a little  
scratch. Gathered all around them are gypsies. They are  
yelling and carrying on.

43 ANGLE - TC, RICK AND SARI

43

Rick is wearing a very gaudy gypsy outfit that Sari gave  
him. He looks ridiculous.

RICK

Watch it, Thomas!

TC

Magnum's gone crazy. Why is he  
doing this?

CONTINUED



43

CONTINUED

43

SARI

Because he is great Rom Baro. It is in his blood, he can not help himself. Just as I am in Rick's blood. You look so wonderful in your outfit.

TC

Isn't it a little bright?

SARI

It is gypsy way of showing how masculine her lover is.

TC shoots Rick a look. Higgins comes up to them.

HIGGINS

She's quite right. I received a very similar outfit myself in the Urals.

TC

You, Higgle?

RICK

TC just doesn't understand our ways.

TC

Your ways? Your ways are about to lose TM here some important parts of his body.

RICK

Don't worry, he has royal blood, he can take that guy.

44

ANGLE - DUEL

44

Joska, frustrated that his lunges miss because Magnum is able to avoid him, decides to cut the distance between them. He does a flip, and then cuts the scarf in half, grabbing the loose end. It is quite a move.

TC

No, he can't.

Magnum, with extreme concern on his face, looks over at Higgins for help.

45

HIGGINS

45

always the soldier, stands fast, observing, then....

CONTINUED

- 45 CONTINUED 45
- HIGGINS  
Lunge, Magnum, lunge.
- Higgins observes a beat.
- HIGGINS  
Parry, parry!
- 46 MAGNUM 46
- trying to follow Higgins suggestions, but finding it difficult.
- 47 WIDER 47
- as Joska continues his great moves, and Magnum can only play defense. Joska makes a few more beautiful acrobatic moves then suddenly, Joska grabs the scarf in his hand and pulls Magnum's head close.
- JOSKA  
Prepare to bleed, gaje!
- 48 MAGNUM AND JOSKA 48
- face to face. Joska is sweating, he is intense, he feels that he has Magnum where he wants him.
- JOSKA  
Now I become king!
- Joska is about to make a huge slash with his knife, Magnum is too close to avoid it. Instead, Magnum lets go of his end of the scarf and kicks Joska in the stomach, sending him flying backward into the tidal pool.
- 49 WIDE 49
- as everyone for a moment is stunned. There is silence.
- 50 JOSKA 50
- as he lifts his hand out of the water. It is bleeding, in the fall he cut himself with his own knife.
- 51 WIDE 51
- as Pista notices the blood.

CONTINUED

51 CONTINUED

51

PISTA

(jubliant)

Joska is bleeding! Our Rom Baro has drawn blood.

The gypsies go wild, shouting Rom Baro, the band strikes up the gypsy "Hail to the Chief."

MAGNUM

(to Pista)

Is that fair? He fell on his own knife.

PISTA

In world of gypsy we do not care for fair. The rule say who ever draw blood first is king. You are king!

MAGNUM

Does this mean Joska will be banished?

52 JOSKA

52

as he realizes what all this means. He looks at his hand, screams a mournful cry, throws his knife into the ocean and runs away, down the beach.

53 RICK, TC, SARI, HIGGINS

53

Sari and Rick are elated, TC shakes his head, Higgins applauds, politely.

HIGGINS

Good show, Magnum.

RICK

Way to go Rom Baro!

SARI

See, I knew you'd make wonderful gypsy.

TC

I think you're all crazy.

54 WIDE

54

as Pista quiets down the crowd.

CONTINUED

54 CONTINUED

54

PISTA

Silence! Silence! I wish to make a toast.

He pulls one of those goat skin wine sacks from his belt and holds it up.

PISTA

To our Rom Baro!

Everyone cheers.

PISTA

And to tomorrow's wedding.

Everyone cheers louder. Magnum steps up to Pista.

MAGNUM

Who's wedding?

PISTA

Rom Baro makes joke!

Pista laughs loudly, everyone joins in on cue.

MAGNUM

Rom Baro does not make joke. I want to know who's getting married.

PISTA

A king must have his queen. You won the duel...you won Aranyka.

She steps out of the crowd blushing, everyone applauds her.

MAGNUM

But I don't....

PISTA

It is gypsy law. Tomorrow you will be married!

The music begins, the gypsies dance and sing.

MAGNUM'S VOICE

I will not marry a fifteen-year-old girl!

55 INT. HIGGINS' STUDY - NIGHT

55

The shades are drawn and it is darker than usual. Higgins sits at his desk, Jozsef in a chair facing him. Magnum paces.

CONTINUED

55 CONTINUED

55

JOSZEF

Hey, calm down, will ya?

MAGNUM

Calm down? Look, I agreed to pose as king for you, and I even risked my life to fight a duel but marriage is out of the question.

JOSZEF

You don't have to. There's no way the wedding ceremony can take place.

HIGGINS

He's quite right, Magnum. They'll most certainly make an attempt on your life before that.

MAGNUM

Swell.

JOSZEF

Once you are married to Aranyka she is queen. It would give her too much power, and the right to choose the new king if you die.

MAGNUM

So they're going to have to kill me before the ceremony is over.

JOSZEF

Right.

HIGGINS

So there's nothing to be concerned about, Magnum.

MAGNUM

Higgins, I'll be a sitting duck.

HIGGINS

I can assure you that the assassin will never have the chance to kill you.

MAGNUM

I can't wait to hear why.

HIGGINS

Because I'm going to kill you before he has a chance to.

CUT TO

56

EXT. SECLUDED PART OF THE ESTATE - DAY

56

It is early morning. Magnum is dressed in his wedding outfit. His shirt is unbuttoned. It shouldn't be a gypsy outfit, something else, very Magnumesque. Higgins, however, is dressed in an outlandish gypsy outfit. Higgins has an archery target set up and is carrying a crossbow. Magnum stands next to Higgins. Higgins takes a piece of wood and is about to tape it to Magnum's chest. Magnum starts to giggle.

HIGGINS

I should of known, you'd be ticklish.

MAGNUM

I'm not...it's your outfit.

HIGGINS

I'll have you know, that this is an authentic gypsy costume, given to me by the tribe I saved from the Nazis. I wore it so I would blend in with the others.

MAGNUM

Listen, Higgins, I don't know about this plan.

Higgins continues securing the wood.

HIGGINS

It's been well thought out. The only way to flush this villian out is to fake your death.

MAGNUM

That part is fine. It's how my death is faked that bothers me.

HIGGINS

I can assure you it will look authentic. I will shoot an arrow into your chest, protected by the wood of course....

MAGNUM

That's the part I don't like. Trusting you to hit this piece of wood.

HIGGINS

Magnum, I am an expert marksman with all forms of weaponry. This crossbow is extremely accurate.

CONTINUED

56 CONTINUED

56

MAGNUM

Sure, shooting at a big target like that. This piece of wood is only six-by-six.

HIGGINS

About as large as that small coconut over there.

Higgins points at a large palm tree that has a few small coconuts under it, that have fallen off the tree.

MAGNUM

Yeah.

HIGGINS

Pick one up.

57 ANGLE - TREE

57

as Magnum walks over and picks up a coconut.

58 HIGGINS

58

as he loads the crossbow.

59 WIDE

59

Higgins turns the bow in the direction of Magnum.

MAGNUM

If you think I'm going to hold this while you....

HIGGINS

Toss it. As high as you like.

Magnum shrugs and tosses it high into the air. Higgins takes aim.

60 COCONUT

60

as it rises in the air we hear the sound of the crossbow going off, and then quickly the arrow finds its center. It hits with the sound of a....

61 TAMBOURINE

61

a quick cut to this, as a gypsy woman hits it hard.

Pull back and widen to:

62 EXT. ESTATE FRONT LAWN

62

All the gypsies are dancing and playing music. They are all dressed in their best traditional outfits. The estate is decorated in bright, gaudy colors. Outside of a tent we can see Aranyka being prepared for the big day. She does look beautiful, with a white gypsy dress and a bouquet of flowers in her hand. Pista looks at her and beams, he is very proud.

63 ANGLE - TEN DANCING GIRLS

63

They hold hands, in a circle, to the exotic rhythms of the music. One of them holds the bridal veil in one hand, on a stick. It is entirely red or has red in it with a rose attached. Other gypsies, of all ages celebrate in the b.g.

64 RICK AND SARI

64

arrive for the wedding. Rick has on an even brighter costume than before. Sari is dressed as a gypsy princess should be.

They approach TC who stands alone watching the festivities. TC sees Rick's outfit and his mouth drops open.

RICK

This is some wedding, huh, TC.

TC

Get away from me with that suit.

RICK

You don't like it?

TC

If there was an air raid, they'd bury you.

SARI

Never mind him, Rick, it is beautiful outfit and you certainly earned it last night. How is neck...better?

TC

What happened to your neck?

RICK

Never mind.

CONTINUED



64 CONTINUED

64

TC

Come on, you two have been sneaking out every night, and every morning you got a new injury. What gives?

SARI

A real man does not discuss his accomplishments.

RICK

Hey, look, here comes Thomas.

65 ANGLE - MAGNUM

65

as he approaches them.

SARI

Please, excuse me and Magnum for a moment we must discuss gypsy ritual for groom.

Magnum arrives on the scene, Rick and TC are heading away.

TC

You're not going through with this are you?

MAGNUM

Sure I am.

TC

The girl's only fifteen.

SARI

That is over the hill for gypsy. I was married three times by then.

Rick sort of shoots her a surprised look.

TC

I don't believe this. Come on, Zsa Zsa, let's get a good seat.

They exit leaving alone....

66 MAGNUM AND SARI

66

MAGNUM

Where's Jozsef?

CONTINUED

66

CONTINUED

66

SARI

See, in the crowd, the man with red beard and green pants?

MAGNUM

That's Jozsef?

SARI

No, no, that's my third cousin Mikel. Jozsef is old woman standing next to him. I'm his sister and I wouldn't recognize him.

MAGNUM

Higgins in position?

SARI

I think so.

MAGNUM

So what happens in the ceremony?

SARI

Aranyka enters the circle first. Then you enter and stand next to her. There's a lot of singing, then the veil is dropped on Aranyka's head. At that moment you are married.

MAGNUM

That veil better not drop.

SARI

Not to worry. Your friend will have killed you way before that happens.

67

PISTA

67

as he approaches the band that is playing festive gypsy music. He whispers something to a violinist and the festive music stops. All grows quiet until about five violinists strike up the traditional wedding march, only it's played in a way only hot-blooded gypsies could.

68

WIDE

68

as Pista takes Aranyka's hand and leads her into the circle. All the gypsies gather around. Aranyka begins to cry.

69 MAGNUM AND SARI

69

MAGNUM

I guess this is my cue.

SARI

Good luck, Magnum. This is great thing you're doing.

70 MIDDLE OF CIRCLE

70

Aranyka looks like any beautiful, blushing bride as Magnum enters the circle. The gypsies grow hushed. Only the bleating of goats can be heard. One of the dancing girls breaks the circle and holds the veil about six inches over Aranyka's head. An old man enters the circle and begins to sing an outlandish aria from some Hungarian opera. He sings it a cappella Magnum begins to look over the guests.

71 MAGNUM'S POINT OF VIEW

71

He searches the crowd for the possible assassin. And he searches for Higgins. Higgins stands in the back of the crowd, shrouded by a hood over his head. He pulls his crossbow out from under his clothes and discreetly tries to load it. In the crowd are also TC, Sari, Rick, Pista, and Joska who, despite his banishment has come to the wedding. Magnum looks over at the old woman who is Jozsef and winks. Higgins begins to slowly lift his crossbow.

72 WIDE

72

Magnum moves a few inches to get in a better position for Higgins' shot. The singer hits a very high note. Magnum sticks out his chest to give Higgins a clear shot when....

JOSKA

No!!!!

73 JOSKA

73

running through the crowd, he makes a leap for the circle but is caught midair by some gypsy men standing next to Pista.

JOSKA

No, Aranyka, you cannot marry him.

PISTA

Tie him to a tree until after the ceremony.

CONTINUED

73 CONTINUED

73

JOSKA

Aranyka, I love you.

Joska is carried off kicking and screaming.

PISTA

Let the marriage continue.

74 BACK TO WEDDING CEREMONY

74

The singer must try to reach the note again, he does so off-key. He starts to build again. Magnum prepares for the shot.

75 HIGGINS

75

lifts his crossbow again. He takes aim. Some men look behind and see what Higgins is doing.

GYPSY #1

He tries to shoot our Rom Baro!

The crowd lets out with a loud roar and about twenty large gypsy men descend on Higgins, whose eyes grow wide with fear. He is almost trampled to death. However, the bow manages to go off, but unaimed.

76 MIDDLE OF CIRCLE - MAGNUM

76

reacts to the people attacking Higgins but before he can do anything the arrow is shot and it just happens to hit the stick that is holding the veil. The veil falls and lands on Aranyka's head. The marriage is complete. Magnum freaks, the gypsies cheer.

PISTA

The marriage is complete! Long live our Rom Baro and his new queen!

Magnum looks over at Jozsef who shrugs his shoulders, then Magnum looks over at Higgins who is being covered by gypsies. Magnum looks into camera and shakes his head in disbelief and we:

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

77 EXT. ESTATE - DAY

77

The aftermath of the wedding. Most gypsies are celebrating. Aranyka stands in a huddle with other young gypsy girls. They look over at Magnum, who stands alone shaking hands occasionally with a passing gypsy, and giggle. Magnum shakes hands with one more gypsy, then TC and Rick come over.

TC

Okay, TM what's going on?

MAGNUM

What do you mean?

TC

I always knew Higgle was crazy but trying to ice you with a crossbow is too weird even for him.

RICK

Yeah, what gives?

Magnum sees Pista approaching. Next to him is two large gypsy men dragging Higgins.

MAGNUM

I'll fill you in later. Just act like everything is normal.

Pista and the group come up to them.

HIGGINS

Get your hands off me this instant!

PISTA

You are prisoner...you say nothing.

HIGGINS

Magnum, do something.

MAGNUM

(shakes head)

I knew it would come to this someday. It's been building up. Our petty arguments, his constant complaining.

HIGGINS

Magnum....

CONTINUED

77 CONTINUED

77

MAGNUM

I knew he hated me but I never realized he wanted to kill me.

Higgins' eyes widen in outrage.

PISTA

We will take care of him, Rom Baro ...the gypsy way.

RICK

What's the gypsy way?

PISTA

He is tarred and feathered and forced to live in chicken coop until the owl sleeps with the crow.

HIGGINS

Magnum....

MAGNUM

That punishment is too easy. I think instead I'll make him my personal slave.

HIGGINS

I'd rather live with chickens.

TC and Rick are laughing.

PISTA

As Rom Baro wishes. He is your slave. Release him.

They do, and the two men who were holding him walk away.

PISTA

(to Magnum)

Gypsy tradition is for you to consummate the marriage at the stroke of midnight. Aranyka will be waiting for you. You are one lucky gypsy.

Pista laughs as he walks away.

78 EXT. ESTATE HOUSE - NIGHT - TO ESTABLISH

78

79 INT. HIGGINS' STUDY - NIGHT

79

Joszef, TC, Rick, Sari, Magnum, and Higgins are there.

MAGNUM

Great plan, guys. I'm married to a fifteen year old.

CONTINUED

79 CONTINUED

79

HIGGINS

It's not legal in the eyes of the law...only gypsies.

MAGNUM

Aranyka is a gypsy and she's waiting for me to consummate the marriage.

TC

How come there wasn't any reception? I'm starving.

SARI

Gypsies do not hold celebration feast until after the wedding night. They do not want groom to be too drunk to perform his husbandly duty.

MAGNUM

How can you worry about food at a time like this?

JOSZEF

They shouldn't have let the marriage ceremony be completed. Now if something were to happen to you, Aranyka has the right to choose the next king.

Suddenly, it hits Magnum. His eyes widen, and....

MAGNUM

Maybe she already has.

80 INT. MAGNUM'S GUEST HOUSE - NIGHT

80

It is lit only by candles that seem to be everywhere. We hear the door being unlocked and then it opens. Magnum enters, and goes for the light switch, then notices the candles. Suddenly, out of the darkness, the beautiful, and young Aranyka steps into the candlelight. She is wearing only a seductive negligee.

ARANYKA

Hello, my husband....

MAGNUM

Aranyka...about the marriage.

ARANYKA

It was beautiful...no?

CONTINUED

80

CONTINUED

80

MAGNUM

Yes...but....

ARANYKA

We must hurry, it is five minutes to midnight.

Aranyka starts to move closer to Magnum.

MAGNUM

I think we should wait a while...until we know each other a little better.

ARANYKA

Is Rom Baro shy?

MAGNUM

That's it, I'm shy. Why don't you put some clothes on, I'll get us some cocoa and we'll watch the late show.

Aranyka moves very close and puts her arms around Magnum.

ARANYKA

Aranyka knows how to make a man not feel shy.

Magnum squirms.

MAGNUM

Aranyka....

ARANYKA

Come...the bedroom is all prepared.

Aranyka takes Magnum by the hand and starts to lead him into the bedroom.

81

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUING

81

Aranyka leads him in. It has been prepared by gypsy women. There are red drapes, a purple satin bedspread and candles everywhere.

MAGNUM

I'm kinda hungry, Aranyka, why don't I put a couple of pizzas in the microwave and....

CONTINUED



81 CONTINUED

81

ARANYKA

The celebration feast is after the wedding night. The time for eating is then. Now is the time to consummate our love.

Magnum stops for a second, then hits on an idea.

MAGNUM

You get into bed first, then me.

ARANYKA

Anything you wish, Rom Baro.

Aranyka pulls back the sheets and jumps in. She lifts the other end, beckoning Magnum.

ARANYKA

Come....

Magnum goes. He makes a dash for the bathroom and runs inside. He slams the door. Aranyka is confused.

ARANYKA

Rom Baro!

82 INT. BATHROOM

82

as we see Magnum lean against the door and lock it. He sighs a big sigh of relief. We hear the banging on the other side of the door as we....

CUT TO

83 EXT. ESTATE - MORNING

83

A large table that holds the wedding cake and other food is off to one side. The gypsies again are in a festive mood, playing music, and dancing. Suddenly, a cry comes up from the crowd as Magnum and Aranyka enter the grounds. Gypsies rush up with red velvet bags full of chicken feathers and throw them at Magnum and Aranyka. Higgins, Sari, Rick, and TC are all present. Pista approaches Magnum. Aranyka runs to her girl friends to giggle over the lies she's going to tell.

PISTA

(teasing)

Rom Baro looks tired....

CONTINUED

83

CONTINUED

83

MAGNUM

Rom Baro is.

PISTA

Good, good. As soon as you and your lovely queen cut the cake the ceremony will begin.

Pista walks off, Rick, TC, Higgins, and Sari come up to Magnum.

TC

You do look tired.

MAGNUM

That's because I spent the night in a bathtub. Look, you guys better scatter and keep an eye out.

Everyone leaves. Aranyka, smiling, comes back to get Magnum, she leads him to the cake.

ARANYKA

It's time to cut the cake!

Everyone cheers as Aranyka and Magnum head for the reception table.

84

ANGLE - TABLE

84

In the middle of it is a large red wedding cake with purple Hungarian writing all over it. There is other food on the table also. Magnum and Aranyka take their place behind the table. Magnum looks over the crowd.

85

MAGNUM'S POINT OF VIEW

85

He sees Jozsef dressed as the old woman again. He moves through the crowd. Rick and TC also move through the crowd keeping an eye on everyone. Everything looks normal except we can't see Joska or Pista. It will be assumed that they are lost in the crowd.

86

WIDER

86

as everyone is gathering around. Magnum and Aranyka smile at each other and take a knife. They both hold the knife and slowly lift it to cut the cake.

87

REVERSE ANGLE - DOWN THE BARREL OF A RIFLE

87

We see Magnum's back as he is about to cut the cake. The crowd watches anxiously. The barrel of the gun kicks slightly as we hear shots ring off in rapid fire.

88 SLOW MOTION - MAGNUM 88  
as he is hit in the back and falls forward.

89 REVERSE ANGLE - SLOW MOTION 89  
We see Magnum's face as the pain of the shot registers, and he falls forward, face down into the wedding cake.

90 WIDE 90  
Magnum lands in the cake. Blood comes out of his mouth. Panic hits the crowd. Aranyka screams as does Sari.

SARI  
He is dead! The King is dead!

Mournful cries ring out, women scream, men shout, people begin pushing in every direction, not knowing where the shots came from.

91 RICK AND TC 91  
run in the direction of the shots.

92 PISTA 92  
as he runs into the panic.

PISTA  
Do not panic! I am in charge!

93 WIDER 93  
as the crowd starts to listen to Pista. Aranyka runs to his side.

PISTA  
The King is dead! But I am in charge now. I will see that my people have a leader.

SARI  
But you cannot be king! You are not of royal blood.

ARANYKA  
I am queen. Whoever I choose to marry will become king. I will marry Pista.

Shocked reactions come from the crowd.

CONTINUED

93 CONTINUED

93

SARI

You cannot be serious.

ARANYKA

I do what is best for my people.  
Pista will make best king...and I  
love him.

PISTA

I am king! I will lead my people.

The people are very confused, they don't know what to make of this. Meanwhile, Magnum is face down in a cake. Suddenly, Jozsef comes out of the crowd and whips off his disguise.

JOSZEF

I do not accept you as king, Pista,  
I accept you as coward and murderer.

The crowd can't believe their eyes, it is their real king.

GYPSY #1

It is Jozsef Kovacs!

PISTA

But I thought....

JOSZEF

That I was dead. Just as you  
thought Mr. Magnum is dead.

94 MAGNUM

94

as he rises from the dead. He is full of cake, but not hurt. He spits out the empty blood capsule from his mouth. The crowd oohs and ahhs over Magnum's return to life.

95 WIDE

95

Pista is stunned. TC and Rick return carrying Pista's rifle.

PISTA

What is the meaning of all this?

Magnum walks over.

MAGNUM

You shot me in the back, Pista.

CONTINUED

95 CONTINUED

95

PISTA

That is absurd. If I shot you why  
are you not dead?

Joszef takes the gun from TC.

JOSZEF

Because....

Joszef pumps three shots into Pista. They are blanks.

JOSZEF

Magnum had a hunch you were the one  
behind all this, so Sari snuck into  
your tent last night and changed the  
real bullets with these blanks.

MAGNUM

You had Joszef kidnapped so the  
gypsies would need a new king. You  
knew you were too old to win on  
merit so you decided to marry into  
it. Using Aranyka as bait.

PISTA

You cannot prove any of this.

Aranyka starts to cry.

JOSZEF

I don't have to, I am rightful Rom  
Baro. I will be judge and jury.

SARI

It's all over, Pista. Joszef is  
real Rom Baro now. You are finished.

PISTA

(pleading to  
gypsies)

I should have been king...my third  
wife was related directly to the  
royal family...but she died. They  
wouldn't even let me keep her money  
...it was unfair.

JOSZEF

Turn him over to the gaje police.  
In my eyes he is no longer a gypsy.

A couple of gypsies take Pista away. He doesn't give up.

CONTINUED

95 CONTINUED - 2

95

PISTA

Let's make a deal, I will give you  
Aranyka! She is beautiful, no?

Pista is carried off. Aranyka walks up to Jozsef.

ARANYKA

What about me?

JOSZEF

You are banished from the tribe.  
Maybe you can start a new life with  
Joska.

She smiles and runs off. The gypsies are happy now. They  
start yelling....

GYPSIES

Rom Baro...Rom Baro...Rom Baro!

The band strikes up the gypsy version of "Hail to the  
Chief". Jozsef smiles and opens his hands to everyone.

JOSZEF

My people!

The gypsies all gather around him. He looks back at  
Magnum and the rest as we....

DISSOLVE TO

96 EXT. FERRARI - DAY

96

going down the road. Magnum drives as Rick sits in the  
passenger's seat, brooding over a letter in his hand. He  
is still wearing his gypsy outfit.

RICK

How can she just kiss me off like  
that?

MAGNUM

Don't you think it's time you  
stopped wearing that outfit?

RICK

I had six girl friends when I went to  
'Nam, not one of them sent me a Dear  
Rick letter.

MAGNUM

Do you mind telling me why we're  
going over to see her?

CONTINUED

96 CONTINUED

96

RICK

You're going to convince her that I'm  
the right guy for her.

MAGNUM

Me?

RICK

After what you did for her brother,  
she owes you.

MAGNUM

You know, I've been meaning to ask  
you...what did you and Sari do all  
those nights? I mean you hurt  
almost every part of your body.

RICK

Promise not to tell TC?

MAGNUM

Scouts honor.

RICK

She was teaching me to be an acrobat.

MAGNUM

What?

RICK

It's been my dream all my life to  
become an acrobat and join a circus.

Magnum starts to laugh.

MAGNUM

Are you serious?

Magnum laughs harder as the Ferrari pulls into:

97 EXT. SARI'S STOREFRONT - DAY

97

It looks as if it's been deserted. Rick jumps out of the  
car as it rolls to a stop. He runs inside. Magnum follows  
behind him.

98 INT. SARI'S PARLOR - DAY

98

It's deserted. No furniture, no decorations on the wall,  
just some scattered papers on the floor and a few magazines  
thrown about. Rick is crushed.

CONTINUED

98 CONTINUED

98

RICK

She's gone.

MAGNUM

Hey, Rick....

RICK

She used me, and then just took off.

MAGNUM

Come on, Rick, she didn't use you, I think she really liked you.

Magnum starts kicking at the papers and magazines on the floor.

RICK

I wasn't good enough. I trained hard but she told me I'd never make the big top.

MAGNUM

It wasn't that, it was because she's a gypsy. They have to keep moving on.

Rick takes his gypsy hat off and throws it to the floor.

RICK

Gypsies, I've had it up to here with them. They're all crazy...it's in their blood.

Magnum notices a National Geographic in the corner of the room. He picks it up and sees the date...June 1936...There is a marker in it and Magnum opens it to that page.

RICK

Come on, let's get out of here.

Magnum looks at the page of the magazine.

99 INSERT - PICTURE

99

It is the same one Jozsef was looking at at the beginning of the show. Its title reads "Life with the Hungarian Gypsies." There is a picture of a man in traditional gypsy costume. Underneath the picture it says "King Vilmos Kovacs, exalted king of the Gypsies". The king looks exactly like Magnum.



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63

100 CLOSE - MAGNUM'S FACE

as he reacts to the picture.

100

MAGNUM

(shocked)

What the...?

He looks into camera, perplexed, unsure...we hear the gypsy  
"Hail to the Chief" swell up in the b.g. and we....

FREEZE FRAME

AND

FADE OUT

THE END