

GIVE & TAKE:
THE TRIBE AGAINST THE GODS

Episode 7 – The Gods Fall

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1 EXT. TOWER - NIGHT

The first explosion hits below ground.

Concrete jumps.

Windows shudder.

A burst of orange light punches through a service entrance and disappears.

A second explosion.

Closer.

Dust rolls across the courtyard.

Outside the Tower perimeter, vehicles converge from three directions.

Police vans.

Municipal vehicles.

Unmarked black sedans.

Trucks from the waterfront.

Men pour out.

Not one army.

Three.

Chun-deung's authority.

Kang-dae's muscle.

The remains of Min-jun's network.

Floodlights snap on.

The Tower stands in the center of them.

Old.

Scarred.

Surrounded.

A loudspeaker cracks alive.

CHUN-DEUNG (V.O.)

Remain inside the building.

A beat.

CHUN-DEUNG (V.O.)

All exits have been sealed.

Another explosion rolls beneath the Tower.

CHUN-DEUNG (V.O.)

For your safety, do not attempt to leave.

Inside one upper window --

A curtain closes.

2 INT. TOWER - LOWER CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Dust.

Women move through it.

Fast.

Controlled.

No screaming.

Bitna comes down the corridor as two Sisters pull debris away from a stairwell.

BITNA

Report.

SISTER

South service exit is gone.

SECOND SISTER

West passage too.

BITNA

Tunnel Three?

SECOND SISTER

Open.

BITNA

Tunnel Five?

SISTER

We don't know yet.

Bitna points.

BITNA

Find out.

They move.

A woman carries a sleeping child through the dust.

Another carries a box of medicine.

A third drags a sack of rice.

Bitna stops her.

BITNA

Not yet.

The woman looks at the sack.

BITNA

People first.

The woman drops it.

Keeps moving.

Areto appears from the stairwell.

ARETO

They've got the street.

BITNA

Of course they do.

ARETO

And the alley.

BITNA

Of course they do.

ARETO

And the roof access.

Bitna finally looks at her.

BITNA

Do they have the tunnels?

Areto shakes her head.

BITNA

Then they have nothing.

A third explosion.

The lights go out.

Darkness.

A beat.

Emergency lamps flicker on.

Dim red.

Bitna looks down the corridor.

BITNA

Circle room.

ARETO

Now?

BITNA

Now.

3 INT. TOWER - BONG-CHA'S ROOM - SAME

Bong-cha stands over Jun-soo's sleeping mat.

The explosion has woken him.

Not crying.

Watching.

She lifts him.

A woman appears at the door.

WOMAN

Bong-cha.

BONG-CHA

I heard it.

WOMAN

Bitna called Circle.

Bong-cha wraps Jun-soo tightly against her.

BONG-CHA

Take him.

The woman hesitates.

BONG-CHA

Nursery group. Tunnel level.

WOMAN

You're coming?

BONG-CHA

After Circle.

She hands Jun-soo over.

He reaches toward her.

Bong-cha catches his hand.

BONG-CHA

I'll find you.

The woman leaves with him.

Bong-cha stands alone for half a second.

Another distant impact.
She turns and goes.

4 INT. TOWER - CIRCLE ROOM - NIGHT

Emergency lamps.
Dust in the air.
Women enter from every doorway.
Some barefoot.
Some carrying radios.
One still has flour on her hands.
Another has blood on her sleeve that is not hers.
No table.
The circle forms quickly.
Aera sits.
Bitna remains standing.
Bong-cha enters.
Their eyes meet.
The unfinished confrontation from before the explosions is still there.

BONG-CHA

You knew the fire reached the food stores.

Silence.

Bitna does not evade it.

BITNA

Yes.

BONG-CHA

And you didn't tell us.

BITNA

No.

A murmur.

Aera looks from one to the other.

AERA

We have men outside the building.

BONG-CHA

We also have this.

AERA

Bong-cha --

BONG-CHA

No.

That stops Aera.

BONG-CHA

An attack doesn't make what she did disappear.

Bitna accepts the blow.

BITNA

She's right.

Another impact.

The walls tremble.

Yun-hee looks up at the ceiling.

YUN-HEE

Apparently the men would like the floor.

No one laughs.

She shrugs.

YUN-HEE

I didn't say we had to give it to them politely.

A younger woman raises two fingers, asking to speak.

Bitna nods.

YOUNG WOMAN

How many exits are still open?

BITNA

Two confirmed. Maybe three.

ANOTHER WOMAN

How long?

BITNA

Before they breach?

She listens.

Heavy machinery outside.

BITNA

Not long.

AERA

Then we hold the Tower.

Bong-cha turns to her.

BONG-CHA

Why?

Aera doesn't understand the question.

AERA

Because they're coming for it.

BONG-CHA

I know.

AERA

If they take this building --

BONG-CHA

What?

A beat.

BONG-CHA

What do they take?

The room quiets.

Aera looks around.

BONG-CHA

The kitchen?

No answer.

BONG-CHA

The nursery?

She gestures toward the empty hall.

BONG-CHA

The rooms?

BITNA

The routes.

Bong-cha looks at her.

BITNA

If they control the building, they control the
routes through it.

BONG-CHA

Then we stop using those routes.
A woman across the circle leans forward.

WOMAN

And go where?

BONG-CHA

Everywhere we've already built.
Another explosion.
Closer.

BONG-CHA

The farms.

BONG-CHA

The clinic rooms.

BONG-CHA

The workshops.

BONG-CHA

The empty apartments near the harbor.

BONG-CHA

The storage building by the road.

BONG-CHA

Every woman who ever told us, If you need
somewhere for one night.

AERA

Abandon the Tower?

BONG-CHA

Withdraw from it.

Bitna looks at Bong-cha.

Then at the maps on the wall.

Routes.

Food points.
Medical caches.
Safe addresses.

BITNA

We can split into twelve groups.

AIRISEU

Seventeen.

Everyone looks at Airiseu near the wall.
She holds up a small notebook.

AIRISEU

Seventeen without repeating an address.

BITNA

How long to wipe the local records?

AIRISEU

Already started.

AERA

No.

They turn.

AERA

Not Bitna and Airiseu deciding.

She looks around the Circle.

AERA

All of us.

A beat.
Aera sits back.
Not commanding.

AERA

Proposal.

The women settle.

AERA

We remove every person who can be moved.

BONG-CHA

Every person.

AERA

Food, medicine, money, records, tools --

BITNA

After people.

AERA

After people.

A woman raises a hand.

WOMAN

And anyone who wants to stay?

Silence.

Bitna answers first.

BITNA

They can stay.

Bong-cha looks at her sharply.

BITNA

We don't order anyone out.

Another woman.

SECOND WOMAN

Do we fight if they enter?

Bitna starts to answer.

Stops.

Looks around the Circle.

BITNA

Only to protect a person who cannot get away.

Not the building.

Aera watches her.

Bitna meets her eyes.

BITNA

Not the building.

The young woman who spoke earlier raises shimmering fingers.

Agreement.

Another does the same.
 Then another.
 Across the Circle, hands rise.
 Not unanimous instantly.
 Questions.
 Looks.
 Fear.
 Then more shimmering hands.
 Yun-hee lifts hers.

YUN-HEE

I never liked the plumbing anyway.
 A few strained smiles.
 Finally Bong-cha raises her hand.
 Aera looks around the Circle.
 Then lifts hers.
 Consensus.
 Bitna exhales.

BITNA

All right.
 A beat.

BITNA

We leave.

5 INT. TOWER - STAIRWELL / CORRIDORS - NIGHT

Movement.
 Not evacuation panic.
 Procedure.
 Bitna stands on the landing.

BITNA

First group: infants, children under eight,
 anyone who needs help walking.
 Hands move.
 Women already know their assignments.

BITNA

Second: pregnant women, clinic patients,
medication-dependent.

A Sister repeats the order down the stairwell.

SISTER

Second group! Clinic and pregnancy!

BITNA

Third: elders who want assistance.

BITNA

Everyone carries what they can carry without
slowing the person behind them.

A woman appears with two suitcases.

Bitna points at one.

BITNA

Choose.

The woman looks between them.

Drops both.

Takes a child's hand instead.

BITNA

For our common good, sister.

6 INT. TOWER - COMMUNAL FUND ROOM - NIGHT

A plain room.

No vault.

No gold.

Boxes.

Envelopes.

Ledgers.

Two women divide cash into cloth bags.

Another breaks apart stacks of prepaid cards.

Another photographs pages, then feeds them into a metal basin.

Airiseu pours water over the papers.

Ink runs.

A teenager watches.

TEENAGER

We're destroying all of it?

AIRISEU

No.

She taps her head.

AIRISEU

We're destroying their copy.

The teenager grabs another ledger.

Tears it down the spine.

7 INT. TOWER - COMMUNAL KITCHEN - SAME

Women move through shelves.

Rice.

Dried beans.

Oil.

Salt.

Fermented vegetables.

Nothing goes into one large container.

Everything is divided.

Small sacks.

Small jars.

Small boxes.

A woman reaches for an enormous rice sack.

Another stops her.

WOMAN

Too heavy.

FIRST WOMAN

It's food.

WOMAN

It's twenty kilos of food in one place.

She cuts the sack open.

Several women hold out smaller bags.

Rice pours.

Distributed.

Aera enters.
She takes in the room.
No one looks to her.
Good.
She reaches for a sack.
A younger woman hands her a smaller one.

YOUNG WOMAN

That one.
Aera looks at the small sack.
Then at the larger one she intended to carry.

YOUNG WOMAN

You can't carry the big one that far.
Aera almost objects.
Doesn't.
She takes the smaller sack.

8 INT. TOWER - CLINIC - SAME

Medicine stripped from shelves.
Labels checked.
Women write names directly onto cloth packets.
INSULIN.
SEIZURE.
BLOOD PRESSURE.
PAIN.
ANTIBIOTICS.
A woman removes a framed picture from the wall.
Another looks at her.
The woman considers it.
Puts it back.
Takes bandages instead.

9 INT. TOWER - CHILDCARE ROOM - SAME

Children sit in small groups.
No coats yet.
No shoes yet.

Waiting.

Monkey King looks around at adults moving through the hall.

MONKEY KING

Are we losing?

An older girl beside him thinks.

OLDER GIRL

No.

MONKEY KING

Are they losing?

OLDER GIRL

I don't know.

MONKEY KING

Then what are we doing?

STONE LION

Getting out before they get in.

Monkey King considers that.

MONKEY KING

Oh.

Stone Lion hands him his shoes.

STONE LION

Feet.

Monkey King puts them on.

10 EXT. TOWER PERIMETER - NIGHT

Floodlights.

Barricades.

Chun-deung stands beneath a municipal canopy while men work around him.

Maps spread across the hood of a vehicle.

Dong-wook approaches.

DONG-WOOK

Two service exits collapsed.

CHUN-DEUNG

Good.

DONG-WOOK

Main entrance is still reinforced.

CHUN-DEUNG

Then open it.

DONG-WOOK

We will.

Kang-dae joins them.

Mud on his boots.

Impatient.

KANG-DAE

You're giving them time.

CHUN-DEUNG

Time to do what?

KANG-DAE

Prepare.

Chun-deung looks up at the Tower.

CHUN-DEUNG

Prepare what?

He gestures toward it.

CHUN-DEUNG

They're inside.

Kang-dae studies him.

KANG-DAE

You really believe the building is the problem.

CHUN-DEUNG

Yes. The building is where they are.

Dong-wook looks between them.

Says nothing.

A police commander approaches.

POLICE COMMANDER

Mayor. We're ready to enter on your order.
Chun-deung looks pleased.

CHUN-DEUNG

Not yet.

KANG-DAE

Why?

CHUN-DEUNG

I want every exit sealed first.

A beat.

CHUN-DEUNG

No one leaves.

Dong-wook looks back at the Tower.
Something about it bothers him.

11 INT. TOWER - TUNNEL LEVEL - NIGHT

Low ceiling.

Concrete.

Women disappear into darkness in groups of six, eight, twelve.

Each group carries something different.

Children.

Medicine.

Food.

Blankets.

Tools.

No group carries everything.

Bitna checks names against a paper list.

SISTER

Group Four clear.

BITNA

Destination?

SISTER

Workshop.

BITNA

Alternate?

SISTER

Farm Two.

BITNA

If Farm Two is watched?

SISTER

Clinic basement.

Bitna marks the page.

BITNA

Go.

The Sister leads them into darkness.

Stone Lion arrives with three children and two older women.

STONE LION

Tunnel Five is open.

BITNA

How open?

STONE LION

For now.

BITNA

Take them through.

Stone Lion nods.

One of the older women doesn't move.

BITNA

Go.

OLD WOMAN

No.

Bitna looks at her.

The Old Woman points to the tunnel behind her.

OLD WOMAN

They'll follow the noise.

BITNA

Yes.

OLD WOMAN

We can slow them down.

Bitna understands.

Doesn't like it.

BITNA

No.

OLD WOMAN

We're slow.

BITNA

No.

OLD WOMAN

They're young.

She gestures toward the children.

OLD WOMAN

They're small.

BITNA

Exactly. Weak. Vulnerable.

OLD WOMAN

Exactly.

Another ELDER WOMAN steps forward.

ELDER WOMAN

They'll hesitate.

BITNA

You don't know that.

ELDER WOMAN

I raised three men.

A beat.

ELDER WOMAN

Men hesitate when their mothers are looking at them.

Bitna looks at the children.

BITNA

Absolutely not.

Monkey King steps forward.

MONKEY KING

Why not?

BITNA

Because I said so.

The words land.

Bitna hears herself.

So does everyone else.

Silence.

Monkey King looks at her.

Not insolent.

Just waiting.

Bitna closes her eyes briefly.

Corrects.

BITNA

Because children should not be used as shields.

OLD WOMAN

We know these men.

A beat.

OLD WOMAN

They're our sons. Our grandsons.

She looks toward the tunnel.

OLD WOMAN

They'll hesitate.

Bitna looks down the tunnel.

Then back at them.

BITNA

You stall.

OLD WOMAN

Yes.

BITNA

You do not fight.

OLD WOMAN

Obviously.

BITNA

The second they touch one of you --

OLD WOMAN

We scream.

YUN-HEE (O.S.)

Loudly.

They turn.

Yun-hee approaches with a blanket bundle under one arm.

YUN-HEE

We're very good at that.

BITNA

You too?

YUN-HEE

I'm old enough to be strategically inconvenient.

Bitna stares at her.

Yun-hee smiles.

YUN-HEE

Go organize something.

12 INT. TOWER - TUNNEL FIVE - NIGHT

Hye-won moves with the nursery group.

Two women carry babies.

Three small children hold a rope between them.

Hye-won brings up the rear.

A deep BOOM.

The tunnel shudders.

Dust falls.

HYE-WON

Keep moving.

Another impact.
A support cracks overhead.
Hye-won sees it first.

HYE-WON

Run.
The women move.
One little girl freezes.
Hye-won grabs her.
Throws her forward into another woman's arms.
The ceiling comes down.
Stone. Dust. Darkness.
A child's scream.
Then --

HYE-WON

Go!
The women hesitate.

HYE-WON

GO!
They disappear down the tunnel with the children.
Dust settles.
Hye-won lies beneath the broken support.
Still conscious.
Barely.
She hears the children moving away.
Safe.
Hye-won closes her eyes.
A small smile.
Then nothing.

13 INT. TOWER - UPPER CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Aera carries the small rice sack.
Bong-cha comes from the opposite direction carrying blankets.
They nearly pass each other.
Stop.

AERA

Where's Jun-soo?

BONG-CHA

Already out.

Relief flashes across Aera's face.

AERA

Where?

BONG-CHA

You don't need to know.

Aera absorbs that.

Then nods.

AERA

Good.

Bong-cha notices the rice sack.

BONG-CHA

That's all you're taking?

AERA

Apparently it's what I can carry.

Bong-cha almost smiles.

The building shakes again.

Dust falls between them.

AERA

I thought this would hurt more.

BONG-CHA

Leaving?

Aera looks around.

AERA

Losing it.

Bong-cha looks at the cracked walls.

BONG-CHA

Did you own it?

AERA

No.

BONG-CHA

Then you can't lose it.

Aera looks at her daughter.

Bong-cha moves past her.

BONG-CHA

See you on the other side.

14 INT. TOWER - ROOFTOP ACCESS - NIGHT

Airiseu pulls cables from a communications box.

A Sister watches monitors.

Camera feeds die one by one.

SISTER

They're going to know.

AIRISEU

Know what?

SISTER

That we're shutting down.

AIRISEU

Good.

She pulls the last cable.

BLACK SCREENS.

AIRISEU

Let them think we're afraid.

15 EXT. TOWER PERIMETER - SAME

A monitor in Dong-wook's vehicle goes black.

Then another.

Then all of them.

DONG-WOOK

There.

Chun-deung looks over.

CHUN-DEUNG

What?

DONG-WOOK

They killed surveillance.

CHUN-DEUNG

Because they're trapped.

Dong-wook doesn't answer.

Kang-dae looks toward the building.

KANG-DAE

Or because they don't care if we see the show
anymore.

Chun-deung turns on him.

CHUN-DEUNG

See what?

No answer.

Chun-deung looks back toward the Tower.

For the first time --

Uncertain.

16 INT. TOWER - VARIOUS - WITHDRAWAL MONTAGE

- A woman unscrews a water filtration unit from a wall.
- Another leaves the sink.
- Hands remove medical supplies from drawers but leave the drawers open.
- Mattresses remain.
- Blankets go.
- A classroom is emptied of notebooks and pencils.
- Desks remain.
- A sewing machine is lifted onto a cart.
- Curtains remain.
- Tools disappear from a repair room.
- Shelving remains.
- Aera helps an elderly woman down stairs.
- Bong-cha carries water.
- Bitna directs traffic with hand signals.

-- Shimmering fingers answer her from three floors below.
 -- A little girl takes a jar of seeds from a windowsill.
 -- She looks at the plant beside it.

LITTLE GIRL

This too?

A woman shakes her head.

WOMAN

Too big.

The girl touches one leaf.

Then leaves it.

17 INT. TOWER - CIRCLE ROOM - LATER

Nearly empty.

No chairs.

No papers.

No maps.

Only marks on the floor where the circle has been held over and over again.

Aera enters.

Stops.

The room feels larger without people.

Bitna comes in behind her.

BITNA

You should be gone.

AERA

So should you.

BITNA

I'm counting.

AERA

Of course you are.

Bitna looks around.

AERA

How many?

BITNA

Forty-three still inside.

AERA

Including us?

BITNA

Forty-five.

AERA

Children?

BITNA

Tunnel group.

Aera hears something in her voice.

AERA

What tunnel group?

Bitna doesn't answer quickly enough.

AERA

Bitna.

BITNA

The elders have a plan.

Aera stares.

BITNA

I didn't make it.

AERA

That isn't what I asked.

BITNA

They're stalling the breach.

Aera drops the rice sack.

AERA

With children?

BITNA

The children are why it may work.

Aera moves for the door.

Bitna blocks her.

AERA

Move.

BITNA

No.

AERA

Bitna.

BITNA

If you go down there, every man outside who sees you becomes twice as dangerous.

AERA

They're children.

BITNA

They are protected by women who chose to stay.

AERA

You allowed this?

BITNA

The Circle gave me no authority to stop adults from choosing risk.

Aera looks at her.

That answer matters.

AERA

And the children?

BITNA

Their mothers agreed.

AERA

Every mother?

BITNA

Every one.

Aera looks toward the floor.

Below them --

A dull metallic CRASH.

The breach.

18 INT. TOWER - SERVICE PASSAGE - NIGHT

Men pull apart a false wall.

Plywood.

Shelving.

Concrete blocks.

A narrow opening appears.

Dong-wook stands behind them.

DONG-WOOK

Again.

Two men slam a steel bar into the remaining panel.

CRACK.

The barrier falls inward.

Dust.

Darkness.

DONG-WOOK

Got you. Finally.

Flashlights point.

A row of faces.

DONG-WOOK

Come on. Drag them out.

Old women.

Sitting shoulder to shoulder.

Children between them.

Babies bundled against chests.

Nobody runs.

Nobody screams.

One THUG lowers his flashlight.

His face changes.

THUG

Mom?

The Old Woman from before squints through the light.

OLD WOMAN

Why are you dressed like that?
A few of the men look at one another.
Another man stares past her.

SECOND THUG

Auntie?
An Elder Woman gives him a disappointed look.

ELDER WOMAN

Your mother know you're here?

SECOND THUG

No.

ELDER WOMAN

I thought not.
One of the children giggles.
Dong-wook pushes forward.

DONG-WOOK

Move them.
Nobody moves.

DONG-WOOK

I said move them.
The first thug looks at his mother.

THUG

Mom. You need to get up.

OLD WOMAN

Why?

THUG

We're coming through.

OLD WOMAN

Go around.

THUG

There is no around.

OLD WOMAN

Then go home.

A child laughs again.

Dong-wook steps closer.

DONG-WOOK

Enough.

He points down the tunnel.

DONG-WOOK

Clear it.

The men remain still.

DONG-WOOK

Pick them up if you have to.

No one moves.

Dong-wook sees the hesitation spreading.

DONG-WOOK

They are obstructing an operation.

The Old Woman looks at him.

OLD WOMAN

What operation?

DONG-WOOK

Move.

OLD WOMAN

No.

DONG-WOOK

Move her.

Nothing.

Dong-wook grabs the nearest thug by the shoulder.

DONG-WOOK

Do it.

The thug pulls away.

THUG

That's my mother.

DONG-WOOK

I don't care who she is.

Silence.

Every man hears that.

Dong-wook realizes too late.

The Old Woman looks at her son.

Not afraid.

Not pleading.

Just looking.

Dong-wook points toward the women.

DONG-WOOK

If they resist --

He stops.

Then commits.

DONG-WOOK

Kill them.

Nothing.

A baby's small cry echoes through the tunnel.

One thug lowers his weapon.

Sets it on the concrete.

CLACK.

Another man looks at him.

Then lowers his own.

CLACK.

Another.

CLACK.

Weapons begin hitting the floor.

One after another.

Dong-wook stares.

DONG-WOOK

Pick those up.

Nobody does.

The second thug steps backward.

Then another.

Men begin leaving.

DONG-WOOK

Where are you going?

No answer.

DONG-WOOK

Get back here.

They keep walking.

DONG-WOOK

You walk away now, you're finished.

The first thug stays.

Dong-wook sees him.

DONG-WOOK

Good.

The thug turns toward him.

DONG-WOOK

Get them out of the tunnel.

The thug walks toward Dong-wook.

Not the women.

Dong-wook frowns.

DONG-WOOK

What are you doing?

The thug takes Dong-wook firmly by the arm.

DONG-WOOK

Take your hand off me.

The thug tightens his grip.

THUG

We're leaving.

DONG-WOOK

I'm not.

The thug looks back at his mother.

Then at Dong-wook.

THUG

Yeah.

A beat.

THUG

You are.

He strong-arms Dong-wook back through the broken wall.
Dong-wook struggles.

DONG-WOOK

Let go of me!

The old women remain seated.
The children watch.
The last flashlight disappears around the corner.
Silence.
A beat.
The Old Woman looks at the Elder Woman.

OLD WOMAN

That went better than expected.
Yun-hee, sitting farther back with a baby in her lap:

YUN-HEE

I told you.

A beat.

YUN-HEE

Old women are terrifying.
The women begin to rise.
Not triumphant.
Working.

OLD WOMAN

All right.
She looks to the children.

OLD WOMAN

Now we go.

19 INT. TOWER - SERVICE PASSAGE - NIGHT

The last of Dong-wook's men disappear back through the broken wall.
The old women rise slowly.
Children are already being gathered.
No celebration.

No applause.

The Old Woman takes a baby from another woman's arms while she gets to her feet.

Monkey King peers through the broken opening.

MONKEY KING

Are they gone?

OLD WOMAN

For now.

MONKEY KING

Did we win?

Yun-hee looks at him.

YUN-HEE

We got what we needed.

MONKEY KING

What's that?

OLD WOMAN

Time.

She takes his hand.

They disappear into the tunnel.

20 EXT. TOWER PERIMETER - NIGHT

Dong-wook jerks free of the thug's grip.

DONG-WOOK

You're finished.

The thug says nothing.

He turns away.

DONG-WOOK

You hear me?

No response.

Dong-wook looks around.

Several men are already walking toward parked vehicles.

Others stand uncertainly.

Weapons hang loose at their sides.

DONG-WOOK

Get back in position!

Nobody moves quickly enough.

Chun-deung approaches.

CHUN-DEUNG

What happened?

Dong-wook straightens.

DONG-WOOK

They blocked the tunnel.

CHUN-DEUNG

With what?

Dong-wook hesitates.

DONG-WOOK

People.

Kang-dae joins them.

KANG-DAE

What kind of people?

Dong-wook says nothing.

The thug who recognized his mother passes them.

Kang-dae watches him go.

KANG-DAE

Ah.

Chun-deung looks between them.

CHUN-DEUNG

What?

KANG-DAE

Nothing.

A beat.

KANG-DAE

Open the front.

21 INT. TOWER - LOWER HALL - SAME

Bitna stands alone for a moment.

Listening.

No footsteps behind her.

No voices ahead.

A Sister arrives.

SISTER

Tunnel group is moving.

Bitna exhales.

SISTER

Thirty-one left inside.

BITNA

How many mobile?

SISTER

All but four.

BITNA

Then four get carried.

The Sister nods.

BITNA

Where's Aera?

SISTER

Upper floor.

BITNA

Bong-cha?

SISTER

Gone.

Bitna looks relieved.

SISTER

She took Route Nine.

BITNA

Good.

A heavy impact hits the main entrance.

Both women turn.

Another.

Metal groans.

BITNA

Twenty minutes became five.

SISTER

Maybe less.

Bitna looks down the hall.

BITNA

Then we need four.

22 INT. TOWER - UPPER FLOOR - NIGHT

Aera helps an elderly woman into a chair fitted with carrying poles.

Two younger women lift.

Aera steadies the woman's feet.

ELDERLY WOMAN

I'm not porcelain.

AERA

I noticed.

ELDERLY WOMAN

Then stop fussing.

Aera lets go.

The women carry her toward the stairwell.

Aera turns.

The hallway is nearly empty.

Doors open.

Rooms stripped of what mattered.

Beds remain.

Broken cabinets remain.

Old appliances remain.

Aera walks past them slowly.

Another impact below.

The building shakes.

Aera places one hand against the wall.

Instinctively.

Waiting for the stone to answer.

Nothing.
She removes her hand.
Keeps walking.

23 INT. TOWER - MAIN STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Bitna comes up fast.
Finds Aera.

BITNA

You're late.

AERA

So are you.

BITNA

I'm supposed to be.

AERA

So am I.

Bitna stops.

AERA

Don't argue. We don't have time.

BITNA

That has never stopped you before.

Aera almost smiles.

Another impact.

BITNA

Route?

AERA

Seven.

BITNA

Blocked.

AERA

Since when?

BITNA

Three minutes ago.

AERA

Alternative?

BITNA

Roof bridge to the textile building.

AERA

That's visible.

BITNA

Everything is visible now.

A beat.

BITNA

We just don't care.

Aera nods.

They move.

24 EXT. TOWER - MAIN ENTRANCE - NIGHT

A reinforced vehicle pulls back.

Then surges forward.

CRASH.

The entrance buckles.

Men shout.

Police shields rise.

Kang-dae's men push forward.

Chun-deung stands behind the line.

Watching.

Waiting.

CRASH.

The doors fold inward.

Dust erupts.

A gap.

Dong-wook grins.

DONG-WOOK

There.

He points.

DONG-WOOK

Move.

Men surge into the Tower.

Chun-deung follows.

Kang-dae does not.

He watches the upper windows.

Dark.

Too dark.

25 INT. TOWER - MAIN LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Men flood in.

Boots.

Shields.

Flashlights.

Commands echo.

DONG-WOOK

Left side!

POLICE COMMANDER

Clear every room!

DONG-WOOK

Find Bitna!

ANOTHER MAN

Find Aera!

CHUN-DEUNG

Find my daughter.

The men scatter.

A beat.

Nothing answers.

No resistance.

No screaming.

No women running.

Only empty space.

Dong-wook kicks open a door.

An empty room.

Another.

Empty.

A police officer pulls open a cupboard.

Three cracked bowls.

CHUN-DEUNG

Keep moving.

26 INT. TOWER - COMMUNAL KITCHEN - NIGHT

Men enter with weapons raised.

Stop.

Shelves nearly bare.

Large storage bins empty.

A few onions.

A broken ladle.

An enormous cooking pot sits in the center of the room.

Dong-wook lifts the lid.

Nothing.

He throws it down.

CLANG.

CHUN-DEUNG enters.

Looks around.

CHUN-DEUNG

Where's the food?

No one answers.

He opens another cabinet.

Empty.

CHUN-DEUNG

They had stores.

DONG-WOOK

They moved them.

CHUN-DEUNG

Where?

Dong-wook looks at him.

He doesn't know.

27 INT. TOWER - CLINIC - NIGHT

Police enter.

Cabinets open.

Beds made.

Almost no medicine.

One officer holds up a bottle.

POLICE OFFICER

Expired.

Another opens a drawer.

Bandages.

Two.

Nothing else.

A municipal official enters behind them.

MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL

There were reports of an illegal medical
operation.

The officer looks around.

POLICE OFFICER

Not anymore.

28 INT. TOWER - CHILDCARE ROOM - NIGHT

Dong-wook enters fast.

Stops.

Small tables.

A few toys too large or broken to carry.

Chalk drawings on the wall.

No children.

No women.

One drawing shows a crooked black Tower under a huge yellow sun.

Dong-wook rips it down.

Behind it:

another child's drawing.

Women holding hands.

Dong-wook stares.

Then tears that one down too.

29 INT. TOWER - CIRCLE ROOM - NIGHT

Chun-deung enters.

Empty.

No chairs.

No records.

No platform.

No desk.

Nothing indicating where power sat.

He turns slowly.

CHUN-DEUNG

This is it?

An aide behind him looks confused.

AIDE

Mayor?

CHUN-DEUNG

The council room.

AIDE

Yes.

Chun-deung looks around.

CHUN-DEUNG

Where did Aera sit?

The aide doesn't know.

CHUN-DEUNG

Where did Bitna sit?

No answer.

CHUN-DEUNG

Where was the head?

Silence.

Kang-dae appears in the doorway.

He studies the room.

KANG-DAE

There wasn't one.

Chun-deung turns.

CHUN-DEUNG

Don't be stupid.

KANG-DAE

I'm not.

He looks at the marks on the floor.

A worn circle.

KANG-DAE

That's why you can't find it.

Chun-deung's face hardens.

CHUN-DEUNG

Find the records.

AIDE

We're looking.

CHUN-DEUNG

Find the money.

AIDE

Yes, Mayor.

CHUN-DEUNG

Find something.

The aide leaves quickly.

Kang-dae almost smiles.

KANG-DAE

Congratulations.

Chun-deung turns on him.

KANG-DAE

You got the building.

30 EXT. FARM OUTBUILDING - NIGHT

A dim light comes on.

Inside, women unfold blankets.

A child sleeps on stacked grain sacks.

A clinic patient receives medicine.

Someone hangs wet clothes over a line.

No one speaks loudly.

No one needs to.

31 INT. UNUSED STOREFRONT - NIGHT

Metal shutters down.

Inside:

twelve women.

Three children.

Two elders.

A propane burner.

A basin of water.

A box of food.

A woman chalks names onto the wall.

Another crosses them off as they arrive.

The last woman enters.

The door closes.

A small lamp clicks on.

32 INT. TEXTILE WORKSHOP - NIGHT

Sewing machines pushed aside.

Mattresses spread across the floor.

Women divide money into envelopes.

A young mother counts bottles of water.

A Sister checks a radio.

SISTER

Route Nine clear.

A voice crackles back.

VOICE

Route Eleven clear.

Another voice.

VOICE

Clinic basement clear.

The Sister marks a sheet.

SISTER
For Our Common Good.

33 EXT. ABANDONED GREENHOUSE - NIGHT

A lantern glows behind dirty glass.
Women carry in water containers.
A teenager sweeps broken soil from one corner.
Another checks the roof.
A child asks:

CHILD
Are we staying here?

WOMAN
Tonight.

CHILD
And tomorrow?
The woman looks around.

WOMAN
Tomorrow we'll know more.
The child accepts that.
Starts helping sweep.

34 INT. TOWER - STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT

Dong-wook tears through boxes.
Empty.
Empty.
Empty.
One contains old screws.
Another contains curtain hooks.
He kicks it aside.

DONG-WOOK
Where did they put it?
A frightened municipal worker shrugs.

DONG-WOOK
The money.

No answer.

DONG-WOOK

The gold.

MUNICIPAL WORKER

What gold?

DONG-WOOK

The reserve.

MUNICIPAL WORKER

Maybe there wasn't one.

Dong-wook grabs him.

DONG-WOOK

There is always a reserve.

The worker looks terrified.

MUNICIPAL WORKER

Maybe they spent it.

Dong-wook shoves him away.

DONG-WOOK

On what?

The worker looks around.

MUNICIPAL WORKER

This.

Dong-wook follows his gaze.

Pipes.

Shelving.

Repairs.

Water tanks.

Insulation.

Useful things.

Dong-wook doesn't understand.

He walks out.

35 EXT. HARBOR - PRE-DAWN

Fishing boats sit idle.

Kang-dae stands on the dock.
Jae-hyun beside him.

KANG-DAE
Get them out.

JAE-HYUN
Crews aren't here.

KANG-DAE
Then call them.

JAE-HYUN
I did.

KANG-DAE
Call again.
Jae-hyun doesn't move.

KANG-DAE
I said call again.

JAE-HYUN
They answered.
Kang-dae looks at him.

JAE-HYUN
They're not coming.

KANG-DAE
Why?

Jae-hyun glances toward the market.
Half the stalls closed.

JAE-HYUN
Some are looking for wives.

A beat.

JAE-HYUN
Some are looking for mothers.

Another.

JAE-HYUN

Some just don't see why they should work for
you today.

Kang-dae stares at him.

KANG-DAE

Because I pay them.

JAE-HYUN

Not enough, apparently.

Kang-dae steps to the edge of the dock.

The water churns hard below him.

Wind snaps across the harbor.

Mooring lines strain.

The nearest boats rock violently.

Kang-dae raises both hands.

KANG-DAE

Still.

The chop flattens — almost.

Then the water breaks free of him.

Small waves slap the pilings again.

Kang-dae's jaw tightens.

He pushes harder.

KANG-DAE

Still!

Nothing changes.

36 INT. MUNICIPAL OFFICE - MORNING

Phones ring.

No one answers two of them.

A clerk carries three folders at once.

Another clerk leaves her desk.

SUPERVISOR

Where are you going?

CLERK

Home.

SUPERVISOR

Your shift isn't over.

CLERK

My mother left last night.

SUPERVISOR

Then call her.

CLERK

She isn't answering me.

SUPERVISOR

So?

The clerk looks at him.

CLERK

So I'm going to find out why.

She walks out.

Another woman watches.

Then closes her computer.

SUPERVISOR

You too?

She takes her coat.

SECOND CLERK

My sister's with them.

She leaves.

The supervisor looks around.

Half the desks now empty.

37 EXT. MARKET STREET - MORNING

Delivery trucks backed up.

A restaurant owner argues with a supplier.

RESTAURANT OWNER

You were supposed to bring rice.

SUPPLIER

Warehouse didn't load.

RESTAURANT OWNER

Why?

SUPPLIER

Half the staff didn't come in.

Across the street, a daycare gate remains locked.

A father stands outside with two children.

FATHER

They didn't call.

Another parent checks her phone.

MOTHER

They posted something.

FATHER

What?

She reads.

MOTHER

Closed until further notice.

He stares at the locked gate.

The children tug on his sleeves.

38 INT. UNDERWORLD - OFFICE - MORNING

Min-jun sits at his desk.

No jacket.

No guards in the room.

Dong-wook enters.

Dusty.

Angry.

MIN-JUN

You found them?

DONG-WOOK

No.

MIN-JUN

You had the Tower.

DONG-WOOK

We have the Tower.

Min-jun looks at him.

MIN-JUN

Then where are they?

Dong-wook says nothing.

Min-jun sits back.

MIN-JUN

How much money?

DONG-WOOK

Gone.

MIN-JUN

Weapons?

DONG-WOOK

Gone.

MIN-JUN

Records?

DONG-WOOK

Gone.

MIN-JUN

Food?

DONG-WOOK

Gone.

Min-jun looks almost amused.

DONG-WOOK

What's funny?

MIN-JUN

You took the Tower.

Dong-wook's face tightens.

MIN-JUN

What asset did you capture?

Dong-wook has no answer.

Min-jun looks toward the window.

MIN-JUN

None.

A beat.

MIN-JUN

You took an empty building.

Dong-wook bristles.

DONG-WOOK

We can find them.

MIN-JUN

All of them?

No answer.

MIN-JUN

Before tonight?

No answer.

MIN-JUN

Before tomorrow?

Dong-wook looks away.

MIN-JUN

No.

A beat.

MIN-JUN

You can't even tell me which direction to look
for my son.

That lands.

DONG-WOOK

You were living in the Tower.

MIN-JUN

I was a guest.

DONG-WOOK

You were Jun-soo's father.

MIN-JUN

That got me through the door because Bong-cha allowed it.

A beat.

MIN-JUN

The Tower is gone.

DONG-WOOK

So find another door.

MIN-JUN

That's what I'm going to do.

Dong-wook exits.

Min-jun remains alone.

39 EXT. TEMPORARY DWELLING - MORNING

Aera wakes sitting against a wall.

Fully dressed.

A blanket over her.

She is cold.

She looks around.

Women sleeping everywhere.

Children tucked between them.

Someone snores.

Someone coughs.

Someone breastfeeds under a blanket.

Aera stands carefully.

Her knees hurt.

She notices that.

She steps outside.

40 EXT. TEMPORARY DWELLING - CONTINUOUS

Cold morning.

A row of water containers.

Aera takes two.

A young woman reaches for one.

YOUNG WOMAN

I'll take that.

AERA

I can carry it.

YOUNG WOMAN

I know.

She points toward another woman struggling with a larger container.

YOUNG WOMAN

She can't.

Aera looks.

Understands.

She hands over one container.

Takes the larger one from the other woman instead.

The young woman smiles.

Not reverent.

Practical.

Aera carries the water.

Halfway across the yard, she stops.

Breathing harder than she expected.

She looks toward a patch of wilted plants.

Aera sets down the container.

Touches the soil.

Closes her eyes.

Nothing.

She waits.

Still nothing.

She opens her eyes.

A CHILD nearby watches.

CHILD

Are you doing magic?

Aera looks at her hand in the dirt.

AERA

Apparently not.

The child points toward a bucket.

CHILD

We have water.

Aera looks at the bucket.

Then at the plants.

AERA

Yes.

She picks it up.

41 INT. TEMPORARY SHRINE ROOM - LATER

A tiny room.

Former storage.

Women have placed candles along one wall.

A narcissus.

A small bowl of rice.

A strip of cloth.

A cheap photograph of Bong-cha holding Jun-soo.

Aera stops in the doorway.

No image of herself.

No offering to her.

A woman kneels and places a small piece of fruit before Bong-cha's photograph.

Aera watches.

The woman notices her.

Starts to rise.

AERA

No.

The woman stays where she is.

Aera steps closer.

AERA

Why Bong-cha?

The woman looks at the photograph.

WOMAN

She crossed over.

AERA

From where?

WOMAN

From them.

A beat.

WOMAN

And she came to us carrying a child they all said
belonged to them.

Aera looks at Bong-cha's face.

WOMAN

She said no.

The woman adjusts the candle.

WOMAN

That matters.

Aera looks again at the empty wall around the shrine.

No jealousy.

Something quieter.

Relief.

42 EXT. DERELICT RESIDENTIAL BLOCK - DAY

A different building.

Wider.

Lower.

Ugly.

Concrete stained by years of rain.

Laundry hangs from several balconies.

Many windows are dark.

Some are not.

Bitna stands across the street with three Sisters.

One Sister checks a clipboard.

SISTER

Forty-eight units.

BITNA

Occupied?

SISTER

Eleven confirmed.

SECOND SISTER

Maybe twelve.

BITNA

Utilities?

SECOND SISTER

Water on two floors.

SISTER

Electricity intermittent.

Bitna studies the building.

A woman in slippers steps onto a balcony.

Looks down at them.

BALCONY WOMAN

What do you want?

Bitna looks up.

BITNA

Empty rooms.

BALCONY WOMAN

For what?

BITNA

Women who need them.

The Balcony Woman looks at the Sisters.

BALCONY WOMAN

You from that Tower?

BITNA

Yes.

The woman disappears inside.

A Sister looks at Bitna.

SISTER

That went well.

A door opens at street level.

The Balcony Woman steps outside.

BALCONY WOMAN

You fixing the boiler?

Bitna looks at the building.

BITNA

Does it work?

BALCONY WOMAN

No.

BITNA

Then yes.

The woman considers her.

BALCONY WOMAN

Third floor leaks.

BITNA

We'll look at it.

BALCONY WOMAN

Elevator's dead.

BITNA

We have people who can fix things.

BALCONY WOMAN

And money?

Bitna looks at her.

BITNA

Some.

A beat.

BITNA

Mostly people.

The woman almost smiles.

BALCONY WOMAN

People would be useful.

Bitna looks up at the empty windows.

The Sisters follow her gaze.

BITNA

This will do.