

KARAMORE or KILL ALL HUMANS

by

Brian McCann

Brian McCann
cwsynan@gmail.com

The Guards walk P152k past Karamore and up to the door behind Sendai and Jeamoogie. Sendai regards P152k with scorn, P152k regards Sendai with fear.

INT. INFIRMARY - LATER

Karamore lies in a hospital bed with bandages around her stomach and an IV drip. Yova holds Karamore in her arms and strokes Karamore's hair. Both stare into space.

INT. THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF JEAMOOGIE'S OFFICE - LATER

Sendai blocks the door to Jeamoogie's office. Yova screams in her face.

YOVA

You knew! You knew this would happen!
You heartless bitch!

INT. OFFICE OF JEAMOOGIE - CONTINUOUS

Karamore sits in a chair in front of Jeamoogie's desk, Karamore stares at her feet. Jeamoogie sits on the desk, playing with Jinn's saber.

JEAMOOGIE

Well the one good thing is that we
have nothing to worry about oversight
wise.

Karamore raises her gaze.

JEAMOOGIE (CONT'D)

It's all within my department, special
prerogative you see. Although I
don't expect you to understand all
that Kary, best leave it to the grown
ups.

Jeamoogie lowers the saber.

JEAMOOGIE (CONT'D)

You'd tell is she suffered wouldn't
you?

Karamore raises her gaze to almost look Jeamoogie in the eye.

JEAMOOGIE (CONT'D)

I didn't want that. I um...well I
didn't want that to happen.

Jeamoogie meets Karamore's gaze.

Beat.

JEAMOOGIE (CONT'D)

Well I'm sure she didn't.

Jeamoogie raises the saber again to play with it.

JEAMOOGIE (CONT'D)

You're very good at what you do
Karamore. Very good.

Jeamoogie picks up her coffee mug and takes a swig.

JEAMOOGIE (CONT'D)

You know you should have some coffee.

INT. MUMU'S APARTMENT - LATER

Karamore and Mumu sit on Mumu's couch. Karamore stares into space. Mumu sits to face her, she has a horrified expression on her face.

MUMU

That's horrible.

Beat.

MUMU (CONT'D)

How could...why would...why were
those servers there in the first
place?

KARAMORE

Here.

MUMU

Well I mean yeah this is the
distribution point for the whole
Northeast but why were they with
Soldiers?

Karamore gets up and walks over to Mumu's window.

KARAMORE

Do you have radio?

MUMU

Does that have something to do with
why there were Servers with that
codemaker Soldier?

Karamore turns back to the window.

KARAMORE

Yeah.

MUMU

Well I uh...

Mumu looks back towards the wall behind her, an old, dead radio sits on a shelf.

MUMU (CONT'D)

It's busted. You don't have one?

KARAMORE

I don't.

MUMU

Why not?

KARAMORE

I like records.

MUMU

Oh well, I mean, I know a few other people who have radios but, we've got to keep this quiet right?

Karamore nods.

MUMU (CONT'D)

Well then I don't know anyone.

Beat.

KARAMORE

I know someone.

MUMU

Who?

INT. JAZZ CLUB BACKSTAGE - DAY

Karamore and Mumu walk past JAZZ BAND doing scales and SOUND TECHNICIANS running back and forth. They come upon Laila arguing with a Technician.

KARAMORE

I need to find Agura.

LAILA

What? No I'm not doing this again. I knew her once a long time ago, I help her out from time, I am not associated with her beyond that.

Laila turns to leave, Karamore blocks her path.

LAILA (CONT'D)

Look even if I knew where she is...
 (to Mumu)
 Which I don't.

MUMU

Oh no I'm not, I mean she is--

LAILA

You think I want to send more goons
 to harass her over that stupid ratshit
 poem.

Karamore grabs the Laila collar.

KARAMORE

Now you listen to me. That poem was
 the most beautiful thing I'd ever
 heard. It gave context to things
 I've been feeling my entire life.
 It's crudeness and vulgarity made it
 only more impossibly beautiful to
 me. I need to find Agura. Also if
 you don't tell us where she is I'll
 pry out your teeth with a knife.

LAILA

Apartment block H-23. Unit 654.

Karamore lets go of her and walks off. Mumu approaches Laila.

MUMU

Look, thank you, we're sorry, she's
 had a rough--

Karamore steps back up to the Laila.

KARAMORE

How are you with radios?

INT. UNIT 654 - CONTINUOUS

The apartment is large but crowded with stuff. Overgrown house plants sit in the corners. Wine bottles and the remnants of blunts litter the floor. Out Agura's window the SDC building is visible. Agura snores loudly on the couch. The door has a dozen looks above and below the knobs. There's a knock. Then karamore's foot smashes through the door. Agura startles awake.

MUMU (O.S.)

(muffled)

No Karamore, Karamore, you can just
 knock again you don't have to bust
 down the door.

Karamore's hand reaches though the hole and gropes at the locks, she can't reach some of them and can't seem to figure out how others work. Agura watches on.

MUMU (CONT'D)

Oh dear.

Karamore busts her foot through the door again. Agura jumps right off the couch. Karamore busts a large enough hole in the door to climb through. Agura screams and stumbles back into a corner.

AGURA

Look I got some cutlery in there,
it's real silver, you can have that.
You you can have my wine too just
don't hurt me.

Karamore looks around and goes off to the left. Laila and Mumu come in behind Karamore. Laila rushes to Agura.

LAILA

Agura it's all right. It's all right.
She's a fan.

AGURA

A fan of what?

LAILA

Your stupid ass poem.

AGURA

What and you believed her?

Karamore carries a massive radio in from the other room and sets it down in front of the window.

MUMU

No, Karamore, you don't have to move
it like that.

KARAMORE

(to the Stage Manager)
I need you to tune this to 8.9
Gigahertz.

LAILA

That's ultra wide. Not even the
military radios get that frequency.

KARAMORE

Can you do it?

STAGE MANAGER

I'd have to jerry rig the power supply
with like a toaster or something but
maybe.

Agura struggles up, supporting herself on Mumu's arms.

AGURA

Why do you need to use my radio to
listen to ultrawide frequency?

KARAMORE

Last night I was forced to kill three
servers against my will. I need to
know why.

Beat.

LAILA

I'll get a toaster.

INT. UNIT 654 - LATER

The radio is open, many miscellaneous wires have been spliced
into different parts. Laila makes final adjustments.
Karamore gazes towards the SDC tower in the distance. Mumu
and Agura throw cards into a hat.

AGURA

How do you know that girl anyway?

MUMU

I work in the SDC infirmary, her handler used to
be an instructor of mine.

AGURA

Aw man, she's got a handler, that
explains so much--

Laila pops out from under the radio.

LAILA

Shit. Finally.

Everyone stops what they're doing. Karamore walks over to the radio.

LAILA (CONT'D)

I make no guarantees. I'm going to have to tune
the frequency manually, it might burn out, If it
does I'm gonna need like half a mile of copper
wire to put it back together--

AGURA

Ah shit I got some of that.

MUMU

Really?

AGURA

Yeah don't tell anyone.

The Stage Manager tunes the radio.

LAILA

But this just...might...it might work.

Karamore, Agura and Mumu crowd closer to the radio. As the Laila tunes it, the chatter goes from Jazz music to military chatter, to indiscernible sounds. Then a louder station comes in, playing statically, blown out music.

LAILA (CONT'D)

That's it.

MUMU

Is that music?

LAILA

Compressed right into the dirt but yeah.

MUMU

You're sure you have the right station?

Karamore steps away from the group and leans against the window.

LAILA

When you're a radio operator in the Defense Force, they teach you to tune like this for emergencies. I'm sure.

Mumu sees this and walks up to her.

AGURA

What a shitty reason to kill someone.

LAILA

Oh shut up.

MUMU

(to Karamore)

It's all right Karamore. Maybe we can think of some other way to--

The music stops.

P152K (O.S.)

(over radio)

Attention. Attention. This is the voice of humanity. 61285 98324...

P152k continues reading strings of numbers and repeating this phrase throughout the scene.

Karamore turns back to the radio.

MUMU

Is that a soldier?

LAILA

Yeah, I mean, what else could it be?
Hang on. Agura do you have like
something lead or steel?

Agura struggles up.

AGURA

Oh yeah, tones of it, in the loft.

Before Agura can get up, Karmore bounds up the loft stairs, surveys a pile of metal scrap, and pulls out a big steel sheet. She leaps from the loft with the sheet in hand.

AGURA (CONT'D)

Whoa, don't kill yourself.

LAILA

Give it here.

Karamore gives Laila the steel sheet. Laila struggles to hold it.

Laila slides it down over the radio so that it comes between the radio and the window. As it descends, the radio signal grows fainter. The Stage Manager pulls it away, the signal returns to it's previous strength. Karamore turns her gaze to the SDC.

MUMU

West? It's broadcasting from the
west?

The Laila puts down the sheet and slumps back into the couch.

MUMU (CONT'D)

There's nothing out west but server
territory all the way to the coast!

AGURA

Shit, if there were soldiers on the
coast I would've seen it, believe
me.

MUMU

Where are they broadcasting from
then?

KARAMORE

The SDC.

Mumu and Agura regard Karamore with horror.

LAILA

It gets worse.

Mumu and Agura turn to the Stage Manager.

LAILA (CONT'D)

That's a numbers station. For broadcasting orders from a head quarters to troops in the field. But they're not useful for any old Soldier or Yeomen out in the dunes, oh no. You've gotta carry a key to decode the numbers. We Servers just use stations like this for internal espionage, one representative party spying on another. But Soldiers, Soldiers use them to relay high level commands. Soldier force commanders are listening to this numbers station.

MUMU

Why would humans relay their Soldiers orders out of their enemy's command station?

KARAMORE

Because humanity is dead.

All turn to Karamore, Karamore turns to face Mumu.

KARAMORE (CONT'D)

(to Mumu)

We need to break into the SDC.

MUMU

How are we supposed to do that?

KARAMORE

Both of us work there.

MUMU

Yeah but you can't just walk around where-ever you want. There's checkpoints, guards--

Karamore turns to Agura.

KARAMORE

You, when you wrote that poem, how did you do it?

AGURA

Literally how is that relevant to anything?

KARAMORE

How?

AGURA

Well I mean I don't remember I was shitfaced.

KARAMORE

What about generally?

AGURA

I mean...I take like, I have a general idea to start with. But then I just like, play with it and see where it goes. Get into the grove.

KARAMORE

(to Mumu)

We'll do that.

Karamore turns to leave, Mumu follows.

MUMU

Uhm, thanks a lot. Sorry for the uh...everything.

LAILA

Hey wait.

Karamore stops at the door.

LAILA (CONT'D)

We just found out that enemy is transmitting instructions on how to kill us from our own HQ. What are we supposed to do with this information?

KARAMORE

Do you have hashish?

AGURA

Nope. No, don't have that--

LAILA

Yes.

AGURA

I mean, we probably do--

KARAMORE

Smoke it.

Karamore exits. Mumu follows.