

The WASP  
An Original  
by  
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EXT. SKY OVER OUTSKIRTS OF VESPURIA -- NIGHT

MOVING

The city skyline of Vespuria. THUNDER. LIGHTNING cracks through the air.

SKY AT SKYSCRAPER ROOFTOPS OVER DOWNTOWN VESPURIA

MOVING SHOT

Above downtown streets. THUNDER echos through the buildings. RAIN as it pours.

STREET LEVEL, DOWNTOWN VESPURIA

People walk the sidewalks. Umbrellas, long raincoats, hats for the men, raincoat hood covers for the women.

Distant gun SHOTS.

OPEN MARKET, DOWNTOWN VESPURIA

Two thieves grab food from the MELON MERCHANT'S (46) cart and race down the RAINY streets of Vespuria.

MELON MERCHANT

(yells after)

Hey! Hey!

(turns to Police  
Officer)

Bobby! Pam! Help!

DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA

The thieves run past people. A car passes, and a puddle of water SPLASHES.

Distant FOOTSTEPS of POLICE OFFICERS BOBBY and PAM.

IN THE SKY OVER DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA

A strong WIND. A flash of transparent, shiny, dark black wings, the size of man.

Below Police Officers Bobby and Pam chase down the street after the thieves.

OPEN MARKET, DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA

Melon Merchant speaks with two more STREET OFFICERS REBECCA and ZACK, she points in the direction of the two thieves.

The cops get in their patrol car and drive after them.

IN THE SKY OVER DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA

THUNDER. THE WASP'S body flashes on the screen. His black defined hornet body of pure masculinity and transparent, black wings.

DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA, OUTSIDE A PARK

C.U.

THIEF JOEY  
Why'd the Boss ask us to do this?

JOEY looks up, blinded by the light.

THIEF JOEY (CONT'D)  
I hear something...

THIEF LEO  
It ain't nothing but the wind. Now  
look for the boss.

The strong beat of WINGS as The Wasp approaches.

THIEF JOEY  
I'm tellin you Leo, I hear something  
and it ain't the wind.

IN THE SKY OVER THE PARK

The Wasp knocks down Joey. Still in flight he knocks down LEO.

FOOTSTEPS race in the near distance.

POLICE OFFICER BOBBY  
Hold it right there!

Police Officer Bobby reaches for his gun.

Leo crawls forward.

SHOT - a militant patch on Leo's jacket. He stands, The Wasp punches Leo full force in the face, Leo falls backwards onto the ground.

Joey shakes, stands bent at the knees and waist.

THE WASP'S P.O.V. - sees the same militant patch sewn into Joey's jacket.

THIEF JOEY  
I ain't with him! We ain't friends!

Joey jumps up, runs in the opposite direction of The Wasp right into Police Officer Pam.

WASP

Officers.

The Wasp takes a few steps back into the shadows.

PANS

The area.

MOVING SHOT

The Wasp flies and lands on a building rooftop above the park.

Police Officer Bobby stands over Leo, cuffs him.

POLICE OFFICER BOBBY

(waves after The Wasp)

Wasp.

POLICE OFFICER PAM

(calls out)

It's good to see you.

THIEF JOEY

Who's he?

POLICE OFFICER BOBBY

The Wasp. Everybody knows who he is.

C.U.

The Wasp. Three small green mid-eyes in the middle of his forehead. He shoots a green laser light from his ocelli.

PANS

The streets and park below. Police Officers Bobby and Pam take the thieves to the patrol car that pulls up.

WASP

Something is not right.

ANGLE ON

POLICE OFFICER BOBBY

Here you go Zack. Rebecca. They're all yours.

ANGLE ON

Wasp. He barely hears Joey in the distance:

THIEF JOEY

I can't believe the boss would leave us out here like this, Leo.

The Wasp sees nothing suspicious. Joey gets in the back of the patrol car.

ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE PARK

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER in sharp slacks, long overcoat and crisp hat that covers his eyes. He spies The Wasp on the rooftop. The Wasp flies into the night sky.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
I didn't boys.

b.g.

POLICE OFFICER ZACK  
Can we offer you a ride back to  
Vespuria?

POLICE OFFICER PAM  
Naw. Bobby and I will walk.

POLICE OFFICER ZACK  
Suit yourselves.

Scarlet steps out from the shadows into the street light.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Carleton.

Scarlet clips his fingernails with a fingernail clipper. SIRENS go silent. Patrol car drives off. CARLETON, Scarlet's Top in Command, steps forward into the light beside Scarlet.

CARLETON  
Leafhopper.

Scarlet admires his hand in the light.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Let's get back across the border.

CARLETON  
What about the boys, Scarlet?

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
I can't stand the lingering smell of  
police officers and jail.

Scarlet Leafhopper turns into half-man half-leafhopper and hops away into the darkness. Carleton climbs into his hidden getaway car and drives off.

INT. MOORE ENTERPRISES, SKYRISE LOFT -- MORNING

ANCHORWOMAN on aerial atom television.

ANCHORWOMAN

The robbery last night has stirred  
up a hornet's nest here in Vespuria.

C.U. TOM MOORE, Owner of Moore Enterprises.

TOM

Television, contact Jeeves.

ANCHORWOMAN (O.S.)

The Wasp...

Aerial television DIALS JEEVES, Tom's Personal Steward.

The entire floor of the loft is Tom Moore's living quarters.  
Daylight comes through the loft's 360 degree tinted windows.  
Wasp paper lanterns and sisal-carpeted floor.

Tom ties his tie.

Jeeve's image comes on the aerial television screen made  
only of air atoms.

TOM

Jeeves...

JEEVES

Good morning, sir.

TOM

Morning, Jeeves. I sense trouble.

JEEVES

What's bothering you, sir?

TOM

There is something more to that simple  
robbery in the Open Market last night.  
Both thieves wore the same militant  
patch. I already sent you a drawing  
of the emblem.

JEEVES

Ah! That's what that was, sir. I'll  
look into it, right away.

His tie tied.

JEEVES (CONT'D)

Your tie looks good, sir.

TOM

Thanks, Jeeves.

The television RINGS. ANGELICA'S face, Tom's Personal  
Assistant at Moore Enterprises, replaces Jeeves.

ANGELICA

Mayor Rodriguez and D.A. Porfume  
would like to meet with you, right  
away.

TOM

I'll be down in a minute.

INT. WA SHING'S QUARTERS, THRAXIA -- SAME TIME

SERVANT WOMAN YORI kneels before Scarlet, polishes his leather  
shoes. SERVANT WOMAN CHIYO holds his hand and buffs his  
nails.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

The Wasp is real.

Scarlet checks under his nails.

ESSENCE, Scarlet's adopted sister and Wa Shing's lover, stands  
quietly in the room.

SERVANT WOMAN MINH walks into the room. A tray with a drink  
in hand. She walks to WA SHING, Crime Boss and Scarlet's  
father, holds out the tray. Slight bow.

He takes the drink. He looks at Essence, glances at her, up  
and down. Wa Shing sips.

WA SHING

Mmmmmmm.

He still looks at her.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

Every man has a weakness. Find his.

ESSENCE

Let Scarlet go.

NATASHA, Wa Shing's wife and lover, stands quietly on the  
side.

Wa Shing slaps Essence across the cheek.

WA SHING

I told you to go!  
(flirts with Natasha)  
I have other things in mind...for  
Scarlet.

Angry, Essence bows. Leaves.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

Essence. Make sure he doesn't  
interfere. Ever. Again.

She bows. Exits.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

Scarlet.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Father?

WA SHING

Map out Vespuria's inner city. Find places for our warriors to hide, until it's time...Have one of your men take care of Essence.

INT. MOORE ENTERPRISES, ANGELICA'S RECEPTIONIST AREA --  
MOMENTS LATER

An all glass, ornate, exterior building, corner elevator. Doors open. Tom walks out onto the top floor of Moore Enterprises below skysrise loft.

TOM

Morning, Angelica.

ANGELICA

Good morning, Mr. Moore. The Mayor and D.A. are on videoconference in your office.

TOM

Thanks, Angelica

He walks through the large doors into his office.

TOM'S OFFICE

Two movie theater sized screens made of aerial atoms on the wall opposite Tom's large desk. On one screen MAYOR ROBERT RODRIGUEZ, Mayor of Vespuria, and on the other D.A. MARTHA PORFUME, District Attorney of Vespuria.

TOM

Mayor Rodriguez. District Attorney Porfume.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Tom, good to see you.

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME

Same here. The robbery last night. We have no records on these men at City Hall. They are not citizens of Vespuria.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

We did not recognize their patches.  
We added them to our file on Wa Shing.  
They're his men. A new division within  
his massive army. They are low ranking  
military.

TOM

What can I do for you?

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

As you know, Tom, he's taken over  
the outlying cities of Thraxia and  
Nutomia. It sounds like Wa Shing  
will be here soon. Keep any hint of  
the severity of the situation out of  
the press.

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME

The public has a right to know,  
Robert.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Martha...

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME

I don't know who the bigger enemy is  
to Vespuria? You. Or Wa Shing.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Why do you not hear what I say when  
I speak to you, Martha?

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME

I happen to disagree with you, Robert.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

I will not have chaos in Vespuria.

Brief silence.

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME

(to Tom)

We'll do what the Mayor wants.

(to Mayor)

For now. See you both tonight at  
Vespuria's Centennial Scientific  
Achievement party.

Her aerial screen disappears. The Mayor remains.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Always going on about the people's  
rights. It's my job to keep them  
safe. Whether or not that includes  
their every opinion.

TOM

It's my responsibility to inform them.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Yes. But at what cost?

TOM

I feel you.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Glad to hear. Anyway, Tom, I have increased security on the outskirts of the city. Monitoring all persons coming and going from Vespuria. Would you keep it out of the papers? I do not want to give Wa Shing a heads-up.

TOM

No problem.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Until tonight.

TOM

Mayor.

The Mayor's screen vanishes.

INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT, JAIL CELL, VESPURIA -- SAME TIME

THIEF JOEY

Leo, wha'd you do to make the Boss mad at us?

THIEF LEO

I ain't ever met the Boss. Ain't had no chance to make him mad.

ROW from the other room.

THIEF JOEY

I hear something, Leo.

Joey leans his ear against cell bars.

THIEF LEO

You always hearing something, Joey.

Door BURSTS open, two of Wa Shing's low-level MILITANTS MARCUS and PETER stand in the doorway. Cell door opens.

MILITANT JOEY

What was that all about?

MILITANT MARCUS  
What was what all about?

MILITANT JOEY  
Last night. Why'd the Boss want us  
to rob that merchant and make such a  
fuss?

Militant Peter weasels his way over to the cell.

MILITANT PETER  
Why do you want to know the Boss'  
business?

MILITANT LEO  
No need to know.

MILITANT JOEY  
How come we ain't ever seen either  
of you before?

MILITANT LEO  
Can't know everybody, Joey.

MILITANT JOEY  
(to Leo)  
Ain't many of us in Wa Shing's elite  
force.

(to Peter and Marcus)  
And I ain't ever seen any of you  
before. Leo?

MILITANT LEO  
They new to me too.

POLICE DEPARTMENT FLOOR -- MOMENTS LATER

The Militants pass by Vespuria's POLICE OFFICERS all tied  
up.

MILITANT PETER  
(weasel's laugh)

They escape out the front door of the station.

EXT. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Militant Marcus holds up a set of keys, nods to a patrol  
car.

MILITANT MARCUS  
We'll get across the border to  
Thraxia, no problem.

MILITANT PETER  
(weasel laughs)

MILITANT JOEY

What are you two talkin about? Who are these fools, Leo?

MILITANT LEO

I don't question the Boss, Joey.

MILITANT JOEY

We ain't goin back to Thraxia. The Boss says we gets to stay in Vespuria once the job is through. We done. We through. I'm staying.

Joey walks off. Peter tears after him.

Leo remains, considers. Looks Marcus over.

POLICE OFFICER BOBBY (O.S.)

There they are!

Bobby comes out of the Police Station, Leo takes off after Joey. Marcus hesitates, more Police Officers come out of the station. Marcus hightails it after Leo.

MONTAGE

THE CHASE OF JOEY AND LEO BY MILITANTS PETER AND MARCUS.

CHASE OF VESPURIA POLICE OFFICERS AFTER PETER AND MARCUS.

JOEY AND LEO ESCAPE.

Joey catches his breath. Takes off his long green militant coat with Wa Shing's emblem, throws it to the ground and repeatedly stomps on it.

LEO

Hey, Joey, what are you doin'?

JOEY

I ain't gonna answer to Wa Shing no more. I ain't ever goin' back.

LEO

It's only a matter of time before Wa Shing comes here.

JOEY

He may come, Leo. He may take over Vespuria. However for today, I am a free man.

Joey walks off. Leo considers. FOOTSTEPS. Leo rips off his jacket throws it on the ground.

LEO

Joey. Wait up.

Leo joins Joey. Their backsides.

JOEY  
Where we sleeping tonight, Leo?

LEO  
I don't know the territory, Joey.

JOEY  
Ain't gonna be sleeping inside.

CLASSICAL MUSIC overtures.

JOEY'S P.O.V. - Light shines down from a rooftop from where the classical music comes.

JOEY (CONT'D)  
There.

Peter and Marcus come upon their jackets on the ground. Peter puts Joey's on over his.

MARCUS  
Why'd you do that, Peter?

PETER  
I like authenticity.

MARCUS  
We're a team. So, if you're in, so am I.

Marcus picks up Leo's militant jacket and puts it on.

MONTAGE

PETER AND MARCUS GET CORNERED BY POLICE OFFICERS.

PETER ESCAPES.

MARCUS GETS CAUGHT AND HAULED OFF TO JAIL.

PETER HEADS BACK INTO THE HEART OF VESPURIA.

INT. VESPURIA'S CITY HALL, MARTHA'S OFFICE -- LATER

Martha's Assistant, PATSY enters the office.

PATSY  
There's been another incident.

MARTHA  
(distraught)  
Not again.

PATSY  
This time at the Police Department.

MARTHA

(sighs)

There's no way we can hide it. Make sure it gets in this evenings news.

(pause)

Patsy, disclose that Wa Shing is behind this.

PATSY

You know how the Mayor will react.

Martha angers as she listens.

MARTHA

I do not care how the Mayor will react. This is a second incident within twenty-four hours. The citizens of Vespuria need to know.

Martha is clearly upset.

EXT. OPEN MARKET, VESPURIA -- LATE AFTERNOON

Essence carries two bags full of fresh food.

An ASSAILANT, dressed in solid black, flies toward Essence with a karate kick. She spins and still holding groceries kicks the Assailant in her mid-section.

FIGHT CALL of SECOND ASSAILANT from behind her. Essence kneels and ducks as he flies over her head and rolls onto the ground in front of her. The Second Assailant faces her and kicks. With groceries balanced, she kicks him a few times. The final blow from below his chin. The Second Assailant's head flings backward with a snap.

A THIRD ASSAILANT comes from diagonal behind her, out of eyeshot. STEPS as the Third Assailant races toward her. Essence spins her body, slow motion as she tosses the grocery bags into the air, does an arm chop, a few fast kicks and knocks the Third Assailant out in time to catch the grocery bags as they come down.

MELON MERCHANT

What are we? All of a sudden a hot spot for violence?

MARKET MERCHANTS around her stare. More FOOTSTEPS in the near distance. Melon Merchant throws melon at FOURTH ASSAILANT. He kicks it in half.

The Wasp drops out of the sky onto the ground beside Essence, instant attraction.

WASP

Are you alright?

C.U. Slow mo.

WASP (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 (breathes long breath  
 of sexual attraction  
 toward Essence)

Tunnel visioned on Essence.

The Fourth Assailant punches The Wasp across the jawline. A FIFTH ASSAILANT comes into close view.

In slow motion Essence rewinds time to when The Wasp first lands on the ground.

WASP (CONT'D)  
 How did you do that?

He stares at Essence.

ESSENCE  
 Are you sure you want to stare at me?

WASP  
 Yes.

The Wasp holds out his wrist shoots long, sharp, darts full of venom in the Fourth Assailants neck. The Fourth Assailant chokes.

THE NEXT ASSAILANTS GET CLOSE TO THE WASP. THEY FIGHT. THE WASP WINS.

More RUNNING STEPS in the near distance.

WASP (CONT'D)  
 You really know how to make friends.

He takes one bag, grabs Essence around the waist with his other arm.

ESSENCE  
 Didn't your mother ever tell you,  
 "Good friends are hard to come by"?

He presses her body against his and flies off.

WASP  
 So this is an issue everyone faces.

ESSENCE  
 Yes. Where are we going?

An Assailant on the ground blows a poisonous dart through a blow-pipe. It pierces Essence's neck.

DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA -- SAME TIME

Martha's cell phone RINGS.

MARTHA

Hello.

MILITANT PETER (O.S.)

We lost them. They both got away.  
Marcus got himself arrested.

MARTHA

The incident went to press. That's  
all that matters.

Scarlet, in perfect attire, walks the streets.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Perfect.

Martha approaches from behind, she sees his militant patch.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

As for discovering Wa Shing's  
location...

The colors are different symbolizing true power amongst Wa  
Shing's elite ranks.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

...I found something more...delicious.

Scarlet stops at a building, looks at the slight cracks in  
the building. He notices breaks within the sidewalk  
foundation.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Peter. You'll be at the Centennial  
tonight, of course.

Scarlet places a sensor inside and measures the expansion  
capacity of the cracks.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

To keep an eye out for any more  
visitors.

PETER (O.S.)

(weasel laughs)  
Of course.

She hangs up phone.

MARTHA (O.S.)

Well, hello.

Scarlet freezes and looks timidly over his shoulder.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

And who might you be?

Scarlet pretends to not hear her and marks the building.  
Martha runs her hand up his back.

He shakes.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

I can have you arrested.

Scarlet looks at the ground.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Or you can come back with me to my  
place?

She wraps her arm into his. They walk away together.

INT. WASP'S NEST, MAIN COMPARTMENT -- LATER

Essence comes to. The Wasp has a glass of flower nectar juice  
up to her lips.

The compartment walls are light grey-brownish wasp paper.

WASP

Have some more of this.

ESSENCE

What is it?

WASP

Nectar juice from lilies and roses.

Essence looks around herself a bit.

ESSENCE

Where am I?

WASP

My nest.

ESSENCE

Why didn't you take me to the  
hospital?

WASP

The nectar juice rids the body of  
venom. There was enough in that  
dart to kill you. Who are you.

Essence hesitates to answer.

ESSENCE

Does it matter?

WASP

Jeeves scanned your fingerprints.  
Ran them through the city's records.  
Nothing came up.

ESSENCE

Is that how you treat all your guests  
when they're passed out on your couch?

WASP

I don't usually have guests over.

Essence stands up.

ESSENCE

I don't know who I am. Or where I  
came from.

She wobbles a bit. Jeeves walks in.

JEEVES

How is our guest?

The Wasp grabs her before she falls over, steadies her. Jeeves  
grabs her nectar glass before she tips it over.

JEEVES (CONT'D)

Let me get this out of the way.

He leaves with nectar glass.

She remains silent. The Wasp grabs the front of her blouse  
and forces her body against his.

WASP

Who do you work for.

ESSENCE

(angers)

Men. Is that any way to treat a woman?

He releases her.

Essence kicks at the Wasp under his chin. He grabs her ankle,  
sees the tattoo of Wa Shing's emblem on her ankle.

WASP

Wa Shing. Devoted. Aren't you.

ESSENCE

Wa Shing brands all his women.

Wasp sets down Essence's ankle and leg away from him. She  
twirls, spins and kicks at him.

He dodges her kick.

WASP  
A bit young for him.

ESSENCE  
Wa Shing adopted me.

Essence karate kicks The Wasp in the throat. Jeeves walks back in with glass of nectar.

JEEVES  
Oh my!

WASP  
How did you get across the border,  
unnoticed.

She dissipates into black molecules.

JEEVES  
Oh my! She's volatile!

Wasp beams a green laser light on her molecules from his ocelli and mists them with venom. Essence becomes whole and falls hard to the floor, she chokes.

JEEVES (CONT'D)  
Oh my! What is she?!?

WASP'S NEST, LILY AND ROSE BUSH COMPARTMENT

b.g. Jeeves stares as Essence crawls through a crevice in the paper wall into the room full of lilies and rose bushes used to manufacture flower nectar for The Wasp.

JEEVES  
She was about to recoup her health,  
sir. Was that really necessary?

Jeeves enters the room behind her the walls drip with nectar. He cups his hands and fills them with nectar as it flows down the paper walls. Essence weak, drinks from Jeeves' hands.

WASP  
Jeeves...

JEEVES  
Sir?

WASP  
What are you doing.

JEEVES  
My mother said never tarnish a woman's  
essence.

WASP  
She's with Wa Shing.

JEEVES

Oh my!

Essence kicks Jeeves in the face, knocks him out. She does forward somersaults off the ground toward the Wasp.

WASP

He's a nice guy.

Essence swipes her finger across the walls of dripping nectar.

ESSENCE

A man who listens to his mother.  
But, works for you.

She tastes the nectar.

ESSENCE (CONT'D)

The nectar is food for you, the Man  
Hornet. It's the only way you can  
survive, Wasp. Am I right?

Essence does a forsault then drops down at a backward angle and uses both feet to kick The Wasp under the chin, he falls back.

ESSENCE (CONT'D)

You were our only threat, Wasp.

She rubs her hands next to the paper walls which ignite as her hands break down into molecules. She completely molecularizes and breezes through the room to spread the fire. Essence's molecules disappear through the crevices of the paper walls.

The fire BLAZES through the compartment.

Wasp chokes on the smoke as he picks up Jeeves and takes him into the Main Compartment.

He goes back into the Lily and Rose Bush Compartment and sprays it down with venom from his ocelli.

INT. MARTHA'S BEDROOM -- LATER

Smoke from the puff Martha takes on her cigarette.

MARTHA

I like a quiet, powerful man.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Cigarettes will destroy your beauty.

He crinkles his nose in disgust. Scarlet pulls the cigarette from her mouth and squashes the light out.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)

You may not be concerned about your beauty, but I'm concerned about mine.

MARTHA

You look as good to me now as you did ten seconds ago.

He grabs a perfume bottle nearby and sprays her with it.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Scent is a part of beauty, dear.

He lightly kisses her lips.

MARTHA

You're with Wa Shing.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

I'm his son.

MARTHA

(purrs)  
Oooooohhhh! You are powerful!

Scarlet walks to the mirror and admires himself.

MARTHA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Mmmmmmm.

INT. WASP'S NEST, MASTER BEDROOM -- LATER

Tom looks at his bruised throat.

TOM

She knows how to leave her mark on a man.

JEEVES

I do believe she went easy on you.

Turns from the mirror.

TOM

(sarcasm)  
Thanks, Jeeves.

JEEVES

The party's in an hour, sir. I set out your turtleneck.

Tom picks up the dark maroon turtleneck set on his bed, pulls it on. He looks at himself in the full length mirror. Black dress slacks, polished shoes.

TOM

Good choice, Jeeves.

Tom takes a pill bottle from his night table, opens it, takes a nectar pill, pops it in his mouth. Slides pill bottle into his pocket, 'NECTAR' on the label. He misses his jacket pocket, the bottle falls to floor and rolls under the bed.

Jeeves hands Tom a folder.

TOM (CONT'D)

What's this?

JEEVES

Newspaper articles.

Tom accepts the folder, opens it, glances at newspaper articles inside. Pictures of Wa Shing's militia of midget leafhoppers.

JEEVES (CONT'D)

Wa Shing took over the cities of Thraxia and Nutomia within weeks.

TOM

How?

Tom flips through the articles.

TOM (CONT'D)

There must be millions.

JEEVES

Thraxia and Nutomia are small cities. Thraxia's half the size of Vespuria. Nutomia a third. Easy to conquer.

TOM

What else can you tell me, Jeeves?

JEEVES

Sir, the newspaper articles did not expound on more than that.

Tom sets the folder down. Walks back to the mirror.

TOM

We are going to have to get across the border to gather more information.

Tom takes one final glance in the mirror, checks to make sure his throat is completely covered.

JEEVES

Might I suggest sending Angelica?

Tom nods his head, agrees.

TOM  
Speaking of. She's expecting me at  
7:30 sharp.

JEEVES  
Then, you'd better get.

TOM  
I'll be staying in the city at the  
loft tonight, Jeeves. No point in  
coming back out to the nest.

JEEVES  
Very well, sir. I have a lot of  
cleaning up to do. The Builder will  
be here in the morning.

Tom heads out the room.

JEEVES (CONT'D)  
One last thing, sir.

TOM  
Yes, Jeeves.

JEEVES  
She is dangerous, sir.

Tom gives Jeeves a look.

JEEVES (CONT'D)  
Do you think it wise to fall for the  
enemy?

Tom takes in Jeeves's comment, but feels something for  
Essence. He grabs his keys, leaves.

INT. WA SHING'S QUARTERS, THRAXIA -- SAME TIME

Entire room full of large fish tanks built into walls. Fluid  
DRIPS. Leafhoppers inside them.

Servant Woman Chiyo holds a handheld mirror in front of  
Scarlet. He admires himself.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
The city walls are ripe for our  
warriors.

WA SHING  
Essence, what do you have to report?

ESSENCE  
The Wasp...is dead.

Natasha cradles her and Wa Shing's baby in her arms.

Essence on the other side of Wa Shing, he pushes Essence aside and does not even notice, she is visibly upset.

WA SHING

Yori!

Servan Woman Yori approaches and bows, she has Wa Shing's emblem branded into her ankle.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

Take it out of the room.

Yori takes the child from Natasha.

NATASHA

(cries)

No.

She goes after Yori.

NATASHA (CONT'D)

A child needs its mother.

WA SHING

I need its mother.

Natasha stops in her tracks, lowers her head in shame. Yori leaves the room with the child.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

(to Scarlet)

Reenter Vespuria. Take your best men. We need ID's of Vespuria citizens to get the larvae across the border without detection.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Yes, father.

Natasha walks over to Wa Shing, rubs his chest and moans.

WA SHING

(affectionate)

Natasha...

He pets her hair.

Essence angers, she is put off.

ESSENCE

(attacks Natasha)

I'm Wa Shing's woman!

Scarlet looks away from mirror long enough to see what's going on.

WA SHING

(bites)

I'll have none of that in my house!

Wraps his arm around Natasha's waist.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

Essence. Go with the men.

With his free hand pulls Natasha's face to his.

ESSENCE

They don't need me.

Holds Natasha's chin up to his mouth, softly nuzzles her.

WA SHING

I need you...

He pulls away.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

...with them. You let your emotions  
get the better of you, Essence.

Essence fumes at Wa Shing, she storms out of the room.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

Scarlet.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Yes, father.

WA SHING

Since your men can't seem to get rid  
of Essence, you get rid of her. I  
have no more use for her.

Scarlet still admires himself in mirror.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

Go! Now!

Scarlet bows, leaves the room.

EXT. CITY HALL, DOWNTOWN VESPURIA -- NIGHT

Angelica and Tom walk up the exterior stairway.

b.g. Peter mans the party outside for Martha.

People everywhere. Chatter. Laughter. Dance. CLASSICAL  
MUSIC drifts out the doorway entrance.

TOM

I need you to go to Thraxia tomorrow morning and find out how Wa Shing is manufacturing his army.

ANGELICA

Why Thraxia?

TOM

He attacked there first. He's probably established there.

CITY HALL, HALLWAY

CLASSICAL MUSIC in the b.g. People dance.

TOM

I've already sent transfer papers to Moore Enterprise's sister company in Thraxia. They know to expect you.

CITY HALL, MAIN ROOM

Tom escorts Angelica into the main room by the arm.

D.A. on ballroom dance floor with Scarlet. Scarlet, in formal suit, looks mint, not a hair out of place, flawless skin.

Mayor dances with his wife.

Tom escorts Angelica to the dance floor.

D.A. nods. Mayor smiles.

On other side of room Tom sees Essence. He stares at her.

ANGLE ON

Essence.

TOM (V.O.)

(heavy sexual breath)

She stands on second floor balcony. People walk to and fro past her.

ANGLE ON

A Young Man, JULIAN, approaches Angelica.

JULIAN

May I?

ANGELICA

Certainly.  
(to Tom)  
Mr. Moore.

TOM  
 Sure Angelica. That's fine.

She strolls off. Tom heads up the stairwell toward Essence. He steps up to her places his hand on her elbow and teases her to him. He wraps his arm around her waist dances with her.

ESSENCE  
 Hasn't your mother told you, 'Look but don't touch'?

TOM  
 What my mother did teach me...was getting a woman is not what you want to learn. How to keep the one you want, is.

ESSENCE  
 Essence.

TOM  
 Essence. Tom Moore of Moore Enterprises.

He presses her body into his.

TOM (CONT'D)  
 (whispers)  
 And you are a hard one to hold on to.

ANGLE ON

Essence follows Tom out of the room.

CITY HALL

Julian sees Essence and Tom leave.

JULIAN  
 I can't believe he left you here.

ANGELICA  
 It's alright.  
 (whispers)  
 He's my boss.

\*

CITY HALL STEPS

TOM  
 Let me take you to my favorite place.

CITY HALL

Scarlet holds Martha's elbow and guides her through the crowd. Scarlet's men all throughout the room turn to watch Scarlet lead Martha away. They quietly follow him.

MARTHA

What's going on!?

Scarlet walks D.A. down the hallway, his hand clenches her elbow.

SCARLET

Martha, you can manipulate a lot of men, but not me.

MARTHA

I don't understand?

SCARLET

Mother always said, "Don't ever take on an enemy until you know who it is you're fighting."

MARTHA

You knew I was the District Attorney.

SCARLET

I'm not easy to seduce, Martha. Now, take me to where the records are kept for the citizens of Vespuria.

D.A. walks Scarlet and some of his men down the hall toward City Hall Records.

CITY HALL RECORDS, HALLWAY

Aerial security cameras appear, SNAP photos, then disappear. Reappear, SNAP photos, disappear. Martha stops.

MARTHA

This is it.

D.A. puts thumb on AERIAL KEYPADS. Door unlocks. Keypad disappears.

Scarlet's men enter.

CITY HALL RECORDS DEPARTMENT

CARLETON

Hurry it up!

SCARLET

Don't make a scene, Carleton.

Aerial computer screens activate. Scarlet's men unload their equipment.

EXT. CITY HALL STEPS

Julian escorts Angelica down the steps. b.g. Peter spots Julian. Looks around for others.

JULIAN  
Have a good night Angelica.

ANGELICA  
I didn't catch your name?

JULIAN  
Julian.

Julian takes off his jacket. He wears a white emblem armband of Wa Shing's militia on his white blouse.

Julian heads back to Scarlet's hideaway. Peter follows him.

INT. WA SHING'S QUARTERS, THRAXIA -- SAME TIME

Clear plastic fluid pipes come through the walls and into the manufacturing plant. Larvae the size of newborn babies lie in large tanks of fluid.

Wa Shing struts amongst his young with Natasha in the b.g.

WA SHING  
Soon my children! Soon we will have  
you transported into your new home.

MOORE ENTERPRISES -- SAME TIME

With Essence, Tom drives Speedster up side of Moore Enterprises. Parks on rooftop. Breathtaking lilies, roses. Rooftop is like an outdoor home.

CITY HALL RECORDS DEPARTMENT -- SAME TIME

Special devices download the fingerprints and identities of Vespuria's citizens into memory cards.

FOOTSTEPS from down the hallway.

MARTHA  
Take me with you.

Scarlet considers.

SETH (O.S.)  
Done!

SETH, one of Scarlet's men.

CARLETON  
Download virus into the network.  
Make sure they can't track our steps.

SETH

Yes, sir!

He shoots virus into aerial screens. FOOTSTEPS fadeaway.  
Seth slams close the equipment case.

The aerial screens download the virus through the network.  
'VIRUS' reads across the screens in bold red.

CARLETON

Let's get out of here!

Scarlet's men exit the room. Scarlet remains with Martha.  
Scarlet kisses Martha, he turns into half-leafhopper half-  
man.

MARTHA

You've got to take the empire over  
from Wa Shing, Scarlet! I want it  
all!

The word INSTALLED flashes in red across the screens, the  
computers lock up and shut down.

Scarlet takes Martha in his arms jumps out of the room.

CITY HALL RECORDS, HALLWAY

Scarlet hops to the far end of the hallway.

Scarlet hops out of the building with Martha in his arm.

DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA

Scarlet's men disperse down the streets of Vespuria.

ANGLE ON

Scarlet hops to the top of a nearby skyscraper.

TOP OF SKYSCRAPER

Scarlet releases Martha.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

You'll be safe here.

Kisses her again.

MARTHA

I'll wait for you to return...

She looks him over...

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Leafhopper.

He hops away.

Martha pulls her cell from her purse.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Peter...

DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA

C.U.

PETER

I'm on it. I've already put in a call to Vespuria's Police Department. They're on their way.

MARTHA (O.S.)

Follow them into Thraxia.

Scarlet's men load up a van.

PETER

(calls out)

Wait up!

JULIAN

Hurry up. The Boss wants us out of here.

MOORE ENTERPRISES ROOFTOP

Tom sees Scarlet Leafhopper across the skyline.

TOM

I need to go.

He escorts Essence to Speedster.

TOM (CONT'D)

Speedster get Essence home.

Speedster leaves rooftop. Tom takes off his jacket, transforms into The Wasp, flies after Leafhopper.

**DIRECTORS CHOICE OF SCENES OF WASP AS HE FIGHTS SCARLET LEAFHOPPER ACROSS VESPURIA SKY.**

EXT. APARTMENT, VESPURIA -- MOMENTS LATER

Essence's black molecules drift through the sky seven floors above street level at Vespuria's apartment complex.

OFFICER RICK in uniform on the street below looks up at her dark molecular cloud.

OFFICER RICK  
 (to Officer Mike)  
 What's that?

OFFICER MIKE  
 I don't know.

They watch Essence's black molecules drift to an open, black iron barred balcony. Over balcony her molecules solidify and Essence appears.

Taps button on his shoulder cb.

OFFICER RICK  
 Calling for backup.

Other ground OFFICERS take their guns out of their holsters. They go into the apartment complex.

APARTMENT, SEVENTH FLOOR

ESSENCE  
 Where are the rest of the men?

SETH  
 Scarlet sent them ahead. Wa Shing wants us back in Thraxia taking care of business.

STAIRWAY

The Police Officers CLIMB the stairs to the seventh floor.

OUTSIDE APARTMENT DOOR, SEVENTH FLOOR

The Officers kick in the door.

SETH  
 You deal with it.

OFFICER PAUL  
 Hold it!

Seth knocks into Officer and runs through Essence, over the balcony and climbs out onto the side of the building.

SETH  
 (over headphone)  
 Carlton, pick me up on the other side.

Officers SHOOT at Essence. Essence backward somersaults.

OFFICER EUGENE  
 Stop right there, miss!

Palms open, she holds her arms out in front of her, perpendicular to her body. She walks slowly backwards onto the balcony.

SIRENS on the street below. SCREECH of tires as police cars come to a stop.

STREETS BELOW

COPS surround the building. They run into the apartment building and up the stairs.

BALCONY

OFFICER ON STREET

(on megaphone)

Hold your hands up!

Essence bends over and pulls a gun from either boot. A silver handheld gun in the right hand and one in the left. Arms perpendicular, aims at Officer Eugene, shoots. He's down. The silencer makes it impossible for the cops on the street to know he's been shot.

STAIRWAY

Cops a few floors down.

BALCONY

Essence holds her hands up in the air with a gun in either hand.

OFFICER ON STREET

(on megaphone)

Drop the guns!

STAIRWAY

OFFICERS in bulletproof vests on the stairwell and around doorframe just outside the apartment.

OFFICER OUTSIDE DOORFRAME

(over earpiece to cop

on street)

We have two men down.

STREETS BELOW

OFFICER ON STREET squats beside vehicle.

OFFICER ON STREET

Put the guns down!

## BALCONY

Essence lowers her right hand at the officer with the megaphone on the street below. She raises her left hand angled at the OFFICER ON ROOF of the opposing apartment building. She shoots both guns at the same time.

## STREETS BELOW

Officer with megaphone is shot.

## ROOFTOP, ACROSS THE STREET

Officer On Roof falls over the edge to the streets below.

## DOORFRAME

Officer outside doorframe turns into apartment. SHOTS.

## BALCONY

Essence stares at bullets as they come at her. Her arms extended out to her sides parallel to the ground.

She dissipates into molecules right before they hit her. They pass through her.

## BALCONY

Essence solidifies, dives off balcony. Centered above cops on street below she breaks down into molecules. In humanlike form she spins around and around. She solidifies. Grabs the guns before they fall. Fires. The cops FIRE. She turns in fast circles between a molecular and solidified state. BULLETS PASS through her and INTO THE WALLS of the buildings around her as she shoots at the cops below and the cops in the doorframe and they SHOOT at her.

She flows back to balcony. Solidifies one last time and takes a stance. Faces toward the apartment interior. Runs inside.

## DOORFRAME

Most the officers are dead. One still stands. Essence goes into hallway.

He freezes, stares at her, taken in by her beauty.

## ESSENCE

Hasn't your mother ever told you,  
'It isn't polite to stare'?

She kicks him under the chin. Knocks him out.

She turns and throws something into the apartment, shoots it, it EXPLODES. She dissipates into molecules and filters through the floor. Silver guns drop and hit the floor.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING, GROUND LEVEL

Essence passes straight through each floor to the first level. She exists the building.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING, STREETS BELOW

She disappears unseen.

MOORE ENTERPRISES, SKYLOFT

Speedster parked vertically inside glass case against Moore Enterprises' Skyloft glass wall. The Wasp mists the window from his ocelli. He flies through the gaseous opening into the loft. He can barely hold himself up from passing out.

The Wasp stumbles. He can barely stand. He transforms into Tom. He heads to a small refrigerator, collapses on the floor, crawls on his stomach.

Tom reaches, barely opens the small refrigerator door. Bottles of nectar concentrate inside, he passes out.

INT. SKYRISE LOFT -- MORNING

Liquid INJECTION. Jeeves shoots a dose of nectar into Tom.

JEEVES (O.S.)

Sir?

Jeeves voice sounds in Tom's head.

Tom opens his eyes, vision highly distorted.

JEEVES (CONT'D)

You didn't answer my call.

Jeeves leans over Tom. Tom lies on his bed.

JEEVES (CONT'D)

I figured something was wrong.

Tom tries to speak but cannot move his lips.

ANGELICA (O.S.)

Is Mr. Moore going to be alright?  
I've never seen him like this.

JEEVES

How did you get up here?

Angelica holds up a special key.

ANGELICA

A special key. Mr. Moore had it made  
for me. He told me. About his

(MORE)

ANGELICA (CONT'D)  
condition. It's for emergency purposes  
only.

JEEVES  
It will take hours for the pain to  
go away. These acetylcholine  
attacks...

ANGELICA  
Maybe I should stay? Wait for him  
to recoup? Before I leave?

JEEVES  
No. He has already set everything  
up. You leave. I will stay here and  
give him his nectar shots every half  
hour until he fully recovers.

ANGELICA  
But, what if he doesn't? He looks  
terrible.

JEEVES  
Angelica, we musn't talk like that.  
He'll be fine.

ANCHORWOMAN (O.S.)  
News just in.

Jeeves and Angelica look at the aerial television across the  
room.

INT. NEWSROOM, VCTV

ANCHORWOMAN  
We join District Attorney Martha  
Porfume at City Hall.

EXT. CITY HALL, DOWNTOWN VESPURIA

News conference. D.A. and Mayor at podium.

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME  
Vespuria's City Hall records were  
broken into late last night. An  
unknown number of identities were  
stolen.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ  
We have secured the borders of  
Vespuria and heightened security's  
awareness of potential trouble within  
the inner city. We are asking that  
citizens remain calm. We are doing  
our best to keep our city safe.

NEWSROOM, VCTV

ANCHORMAN

The Wasp took on Scarlet Leafhopper,  
responsible for last night's break  
in.

SKYRISE LOFT

JEEVES

Go Angelica! You must be on your  
way!

(to Tom)

You alright, sir?

TOM

Yes, Jeeves. A slight headache is  
all.

JEEVES

Sir, you're going to have to take  
better precautions. Need I remind  
you these acetylcholine attacks are  
deadly.

Tom swings his legs over the edge of the bed, dizzy.

JEEVES (CONT'D)

Take it easy, sir.

INT. WA SHING'S QUARTERS, THRAXIA -- SAME TIME

WA SHING

It's only a matter of time!

Wa Shing's men printout sets of fingerprints. A sticky tape  
substance is used to lift the prints which are laid on the  
fingertips of Wa Shing's men. Seth, Julian, Peter amongst  
them.

Lasers are used to cement the adhesive prints to their  
fingertips.

C.U.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

They'll never see it coming!

Scarlet gives him a look.

SCARLET

We had a bit of a problem.

Essence's molecules enter the room.

SCARLET (CONT'D)

She drew some attention last night.

Essence solidifies, Wa Shing angers at the sight of Essence.

ESSENCE

Your romantic encounter with the  
District Attorney of Vespuria...that  
didn't draw attention to us?

WA SHING

(glares at Scarlet)  
I told you to kill her!

ESSENCE

Martha?

WA SHING

(glares at Essence)  
You!

Essence hurt.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

I don't kill, father.

WA SHING

I made you from my own DNA! Don't  
tell me you don't kill!

Wa Shing SLAMS Scarlet in the face. It throws him across  
the room into the fishtank glass full of leafhoppers. Glass  
CRASHES to the floor, flies into Scarlet's face and body.  
Leafhoppers jump everywhere.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

Watch how it's done, son.

Wa Shing pulls out a gun. SHOOTS at Essence. She dissipates.

Scarlet stands. Angers.

SCARLET

I never liked the way you treated  
her.

WA SHING

You didn't stop me, did you? Because  
you're weak, son. That's why I always  
send Essence to do your job when it  
comes to fighting.

Scarlet sees himself in a full length mirror: Chards of thick  
glass cut deep into his body and face.

WA SHING (CONT'D)

You're just as ugly as I am for it.

Scarlet pulls a piece of glass out of his face. Blood.  
Deep scars.

## SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Father! You've Destroyed Essence's  
innocence! And you've DESTROYED my  
beauty!

Wa Shing calmly pours himself a shot of Jack Daniels from  
the wet bar. Drinks.

Scarlet slowly approaches Wa Shing.

Wa Shing pours another drink. Scarlet kills Wa Shing with  
his bare hands.

Wa Shing falls to the floor, blood flows out of his mouth.

Natasha rushes to Wa Shing. Cradles him. Scarlet watches Wa  
Shing die. Essence resolidifies.

## ESSENCE

Thank you.

## NATASHA

(cries)

I know you didn't mean to do this.

## SCARLET

Natasha.

Natasha puts a hand affectionately near the glass in Scarlet's  
face.

## NATASHA

You're still beautiful to me, Scarlet.

She leans Wa Shing into her chest. Hugs him close. Cries.

## SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

I'll take care of you, Natasha.

(to Essence)

I should never have stood by all  
these years and done nothing knowing  
what father was doing to you, Essence.  
No man will harm you again under my  
watch. These scars will forever bare  
my shame and serve as my daily  
reminder.

(to his men)

Let's get across the border.

EXT. VESPURIA'S BORDER -- NIGHT

The borders are manned with armed patrol.

A band of semis with Scarlet's men approach. Carleton drives  
the lead semi. Seth in passenger seat. Julian drives the  
semi behind Carleton. Peter beside him in the passenger seat.  
They stop at the border patrol booths.

PATROL steps outside, walks to driver and passenger doors. They scan the fingerprints of Carleton and Seth with flat, mousepad-like tablets. The database inside the booth BEEPS and flashes a green light as it recognizes the fingerprints.

PATROL OFFICER JASON  
 (to Patrol Officer  
 Brad)  
 They're fine.

Steps down from the semi's steps.

PATROL OFFICER JASON (CONT'D)  
 (waves drivers in)  
 Come on in.

PATROL OFFICER BRAD holds his hand up for Carleton to wait. Walks in front of the semi.

PATROL OFFICER BRAD  
 Can I talk to you for a minute?

PATROL OFFICER JASON  
 Sure.

PATROL OFFICER JASON joins Brad in front of the semi.

PATROL OFFICER BRAD  
 Shouldn't we check the rest of the  
 band?

PATROL OFFICER JASON  
 Naw. It's fine. Let them pass.

PATROL OFFICER BRAD  
 Let's double check them just in case.

PATROL OFFICER JASON  
 You're right, Brad. I'm tired. Got a  
 little lazy.  
 (to Carleton)  
 If you don't mind holding up for a  
 minute.

CARLETON  
 No problem, Officer.

PATROL OFFICER JASON  
 (yells into Patrol  
 booth)  
 Hey Chris!

PATROL BOOTH

PATROL OFFICER CHRIS sits asleep with feet kicked up in the air at the television screens. He opens a lazy eye.

PATROL OFFICER JASON (CONT'D)

Do a double.

PATROL OFFICER CHRIS

Yeah yeah.

Chris sees Carleton's face on the aerial television screen.

VESPURIA'S PATROL BORDER, SKY

A HELICOPTER crosses the border overhead. A patrol helicopter flies up. Over megaphone PATROL calls to intruding helicopter.

HELICOPTER PATROL OFFICER

Stop and show your hands for scan.

The helicopter hovers. Scarlet in pale green suit with stripes of scarlet in a vertical cross-colored pattern that flow behind him. b.g. in helicopter Natasha sits, rocks her and Wa Shing's child swathed in a blanket.

Scarlet stands in the open helicopter doorway, holds up his hands. The HELICOPTER PATROL OFFICER holds up a handheld laser and zaps Scarlet's fingertips from across the sky. The database BEEPS and flashes green.

HELICOPTER PATROL OFFICER (CONT'D)

(on megaphone)

Clearly show your face for scan.

SCARLET

Why?

HELICOPTER PATROL OFFICER

Security is on heightened alert.

We're matching faces with fingerprints.

Scarlet pulls out a machine gun and BLASTS patrol officer.

Patrol Officer's body gyrates forward and back. He falls out the helicopter.

PILOT

What the?...

Patrol inside the helicopter SHOOT at Scarlet and his men.

Scarlet and his men BLAST the patrol helicopter until the BLADES SLOW DOWN and the HELICOPTER FALLS. Scarlet and his men fly off into Vespuria's inner city.

PATROL BOOTH

Patrol Officer Chris compares Carleton's face to the face the database pulled based on his fingerprint scans.

The faces do not match.

Patrol Officer Chris races outside the booth. Scarlet's militia pass through the guarded gates. Patrol Officers SHOOT after the semi's as they speed past.

Patrol Officer Chris runs back into the booth, speaks over cb.

PATROL OFFICER CHRIS  
Red alert! We have a breakthrough.

SIRENS. Lights flash over the booths.

b.g. the patrol helicopter CRASHES off to the side.

PATROL OFFICER CHRIS (CONT'D)  
Red alert! Red alert! Copter down!

The booth EXPLODES.

I/E PATROL BOOTH

Patrol Officers bodies fly all over the place from the blast. Scarlet and his men BLAST the rest into their graves from their helicopters.

DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA -- BREAK OF DAWN

SHOTS of Scarlet's militia all throughout downtown Vespuria. On building rooftops they extend large hoses over the edges. Larvae oozes down the tubes.

Men on the streets below hold the ends of the tubes into the cracks of the buildings. Larvae goo fills and caulks the cracks in the brick walls.

Scarlet paces on the rooftop. He stops beside Natasha who bounces her and Wa Shing's baby. He affectionately caresses the child's cheek.

Essence stands as Scarlet paces again and raves.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Sleep! Sleep well, my father's  
children! Your time is soon! Hurry  
men! The city is about to wake!

Scarlet's men wench their hoses back up to the top of the buildings. The men below disappear into the dark alleys as the people of Vespuria come alive and walk out onto the streets.

SKYRISE LOFT -- LATER

STATIC. The aerial atom television turns on.

ANGELICA  
Hello. Hello? Is anyone there?

TOM  
Angelica.

The aerial television turns toward Tom. A photo of Essence comes across the screen. Tom's heart beats.

ANGELICA  
This is Wa Shing's lover of twelve years.

TOM  
(to himself)  
His own daughter.

Jeeves serves Tom lunch.

JEEVES  
The woman you brought to the nest?

TOM  
Yes.

A photo of Scarlet on screen.

ANGELICA  
His son. Half-scarlet leafhopper.  
Half-man.

TOM  
I saw D.A. Porfume with him at the  
City's celebration.

JEEVES  
Up to no good?

TOM  
Perhaps.

Angelica on screen.

ANGELICA  
Wa Shing manufactures his army from  
leafhopper larvae and human DNA. He  
embeds the manufactured larvae into  
the city walls. Once they  
metamorphize...

TOM  
...they attack the city. That's how  
he sustains the mass numbers in his  
militia.

ANGELICA

Wa Shing was killed last night.  
Scarlet Leafhopper has taken over.

TOM

Angelica, why wasn't there more  
information in the newspapers Jeeves  
found?

ANGELICA

Leafhopper has his men inside Moore  
Enterprises sister company. They  
control the airwaves, what goes in  
the papers.

TOM

My own company.

Tom glances at Jeeves.

TOM (CONT'D)

Why wasn't I made aware of this?

b.g. FOOTSTEPS. Angelica looks over her shoulders.

ANGELICA

Talk to you in a couple of days.

TOM

Be safe, Angelica.

Angelica's face and the aerial atom television disappear.

JEEVES

I think, sir, that you might be a  
target.

TOM

I agree, Jeeves. Moore Enterprises  
will be one of the first places he  
attacks. Unless we stop him first.  
Jeeves?

JEEVES

Sir?

TOM

What kills larvae?

JEEVES

Insecticide, I suspect, sir.

The room VIBRATES and the windows HUM with motion. A loud  
EXPANSION sound from outside.

The loft VIBRATES again and windows SHAKE all throughout.  
Tom looks outside. The surrounding buildings also VIBRATE.

## EXT. DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA, BUILDINGS

Camera takes aerial view from Tom's loft down into the streets below.

A loud, long SOUND that represents the progression of the metamorphosis of the larvae echoes throughout the city streets below.

The buildings POUND like a HEARTBEAT as the larvae expand and contract within the walls.

People stop and stare at a sealed crack that expands up the entire side of the building. Clear caulk shows wormlike creatures inside that move ever so slightly. Their movement causes a slight opening of the crack within the building wall which then shakes the building and its foundation and grows in wave to effect the surrounding buildings.

A glimpse of numerous buildings throughout the city, wormlike creatures inside. Every other building has them.

## INT. LARVAE NEST

SLIMY sounds as the wormlike creatures move within the liquid.

## DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA, BUILDINGS

A group of EXTERMINATORS from Pest Removal Inc. jump out of their work truck and approach one of the larvae holes.

EXTERMINATOR FRANK

Clear the area! Clear the area!

The exterminators, green gloves and white coveralls, pull out hoses and containers of insecticide.

A couple of the men approach the filled hole, climb ladders on either side and cut downward into the seal. Liquid OOZES out.

Men at the bottom wait for the seal to collapse.

The weight of the larvae leans onto the broken seal and in a wave flows out of the hole onto the ground below.

The fluid SPLASHES on some of the exterminators. It hits the lip of EXTERMINATOR CLARK. His lips turn purple-blue. EXTERMINATOR HOWARD gets hit on the cheek and eye.

EXTERMINATOR HOWARD

Ohhh. Ohhhh. Ohhh. It's freezing.  
Oh.

EXTERMINATOR CLARK

Come on. Let's get your eye flushed.

They walk over to the portable flushing station.

EXTERMINATOR HOWARD  
What is that stuff, Clark?

EXTERMINATOR CLARK  
Larvae don't produce this substance,  
Howard. But, what it is for sure, I  
can't tell.

EXTERMINATOR FRANK  
(yells at them)  
Quit standing around. Get to work.

EXTERMINATOR CLARK  
(yells back)  
Frank. We got splashed with some of  
that gelid liquid. Howard got some  
in his eye.

Exterminator Frank looks around.

EXTERMINATOR FRANK  
Anyone else?

EXTERMINATORS  
No. We're fine.

Wormlike creatures all over the ground.

Exterminators all around SPRAY the worms that wiggle. They  
shrivel and die. Frank jogs over to join Clark and Howard.

Tom walks amongst dead larvae. He bends over one of the  
wormlike creatures and looks at it closely.

EXTERMINATOR CLARK  
Not sure what we got here.

Tom reaches to touch the gelid liquid that covers the larvae.

EXTERMINATOR CLARK (CONT'D)  
I wouldn't touch that if I were you.  
None of us really know...

Clark points to his own purple-bluish lips, then points to  
Howard's eye and cheek.

EXTERMINATOR CLARK (CONT'D)  
...what all it can do to you.

Tom pulls his hand away.

TOM  
(refers to Howard's  
cheek)  
Sorry about that.

EXTERMINATOR CLARK  
 These things happen. The survival of  
 our city is more important.

Exterminator Frank looks over Clark's lips as Howard flushes  
 his eye.

EXTERMINATOR FRANK  
 You two get in the medical van when  
 you're through. Have the medical  
 attendant check that out.

EXTERMINATOR CLARK  
 Thanks Frank.

TOM  
 How many of these larvae beds do we  
 have throughout the city?

EXTERMINATOR FRANK  
 Sir, they're everywhere. It'll take  
 us weeks to clean them out.

One of the wormlike creatures moves. Exterminator Frank  
 sprays it with insecticide. A glimpse inside the skin and  
 Tom sees a human-like figure inside.

The ground shakes like an earthquake, the buildings GROAN.

EXTERMINATOR FRANK (CONT'D)  
 They seem to metamorphize at a fast  
 pace. They'll be hatched before we  
 can get to them all.

b.g. The exterminators clean up the area.

b.g. Clark and Howard head to the medical van.

TOM  
 (about Howard)  
 I hope he is going to be alright.

EXTERMINATOR FRANK  
 Hope so. He's a great member of our  
 team.  
 (yells out)  
 Team. Listen up. That stuff gets in  
 your eyes or anywhere on you head to  
 the flushing station right away.  
 Hear me!?!)

EXTERMINATORS IN UNISON  
 Yes, sir.

EXTERMINATOR TODD whistles to Exterminator Frank. Exterminator  
 Todd hangs off the side of the truck like a fireman.

EXTERMINATOR TODD

We're headed to the next larvae bed.

Waves him over to join them. The DRIVER takes off. Exterminator Frank runs over, jumps on the truck. Other Exterminators remain to finish spraying the larvae.

Tom pulls inner waistband. Jeeves' image on the small aerial miniature television.

The wormlike creature that Exterminator Frank sprayed begins to move.

Tom PANS the larvae all over the ground. All of them had been sprayed, all of them wiggle inside their larvae skins full of life.

JEEVES (O.S.)

Something wrong, sir?

TOM

They're immune to the insecticide, Jeeves. Have Angelica stay in Thraxia. See if she can discover something that does work.

Tom releases the button, Jeeves' image disappears.

Speedster pulls up. Doors opens. Tom gets in.

b.g. SMALL CHILD in waders walks through the gelid liquid pool of larvae on the ground.

C.U.

A sharp rock in the Small Child's thick gloved hands cuts through the skin of one of the wormlike creatures as it moves.

Isolate.

Small Child sees exposed leafhopper baby bake in the sunlight. The liquid that kept the temperature of the larvae skin at about 40 degrees below zero, now open exposes the leafhopper creature inside to the sun and cooks it.

SHOT

The others that were sprayed with insecticide still wiggle with life.

b.g.

INT. BOTTOM FLOOR BUILDING

SPECTATORS BRIAN and KEN.

ANGLE ON

The Small Child walks off. D.A. Martha Porfume walks past the sea of larvae. She comes upon the one that was cut open. She holds its little hand in hers. A tear in her eyes.

Isolate.

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME  
I know just what to do with you.

The D.A. takes off her suit jacket, wraps the dead baby leafhopper in it.

ANGLE ON

BRIAN  
Are you watching this?

KEN  
I am.

BRIAN  
Isn't that the District Attorney?

KEN  
I guess so. You keep up with politics more than I do.

BRIAN  
That *is* the District Attorney for Vespuria. She's responsible for public safety.

KEN  
Seems to be practicing her parenting skills.

They watch the D.A. walk off.

BRIAN  
We've got to do something.

CO-WORKER PAULA walks by.

PAULA  
Let The Wasp take care of it. He's the one who really keeps the city safe. We can always rely on him.

Brian and Ken look after her.

They look outside building after building all up and down the street caulked from the ground to the rooftops protecting the baby-sized leafhoppers.

BRIAN

If The Wasp can take out an army like that, all the more power to him. But, I'm not waiting around to find out.

KEN

I'm with you, Brian.

BRIAN

I'm volunteering to help out Vespuria's Police Department in any way I can.

STREETS FILLED WITH LARVAE

The larvae still wiggle inside. Leo and Joey walk by.

JOEY

This can't be, Leo.

LEO

You knew it was only a matter of time before...

JOEY

Shshsh, Leo.

A leafhopper under foot wiggles with life.

LEO

I don't know much Joey. But, I know when the odds are against us.

JOEY

Freedom comes for a price Leo.

LEO

I don't know what kind of price you are asking to pay, Joey? I do know we were on the winning side.

JOEY

I've never known freedom, Leo. Until now. I will join the forces against Wa Shing.

They look around the empty streets.

JOEY (CONT'D)

But how, Leo?

LEO

I don't know, Joey.

JOEY

For now, we let others fight our fight, and we watch. We wait. Until our time has come again.

A little leafhopper's hand reaches through its skin and clasps at Joey's ankle.

STREETS OF VESPURIA

Speedster navigates through the streets of Vespuria. Jeeves' image on Speedster's monitor.

JEEVES

Sir, Pest Removal's headquarters is under attack.

TOM

Scarlet Leafhopper. Thanks Jeeves.

Tom transforms into The Wasp.

WASP

Speedster to Pest Removal's headquarters.

Speedster navigates to Pest Removal's headquarters.

PEST REMOVAL HEADQUARTERS

Scarlet's men, Julian and Seth, tie up the CEO. b.g. Peter off to the side. Scarlet gets on network CB.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Men! Exterminate, the exterminators!

CEO

No! You can't do this.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

No one hurts my father's children.

Scarlet's men gag the CEO.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)

The Citizens of Vespuria will learn to respect me and all my extended family. Since they can't get along, I'll teach them how.

PEST REMOVAL TRUCK, STREETS OF VESPURIA

Carleton lands on the truck from above. The truck bounces the driver and passengers inside. Carleton's HELICOPTER flies just above. Carleton's face appears upside down in the driver's unrolled window.

CARLETON

Hello.

He punches the driver out. Opens the door, pulls the passed out driver to the street, climbs in. The other exterminators bail from the truck. Carleton does a 180 in the truck, peels out.

ELSEWHERE

Joey and Leo walk down the sidewalk. Seth passes by them.

SETH

Joey. Leo. Thought you guys were in jail?

JOEY

We got out.

SETH

Help out why don't you?  
 (he tosses them machine guns)  
 I'll take this side of the street, you take that, we'll meet up on the other end.

Points down the street.

SETH (CONT'D)

Our orders are to stop the exterminators.

Seth heads out.

JOEY

Can you believe that Leo?

LEO

What Joey?

JOEY

Leaves us in jail with no intent to get us out and just like that he thinks we still answer to him.

Joey slings machine gun over his shoulder and strolls down the sidewalk.

LEO

Where you going Joey?

JOEY

I ain't killin no exterminators, Leo...he's gone. Good riddance to him. I ain't workin no more for Wa Shing.

Leo thinks about it.

LEO  
 Alright, Joey.

Leo joins him. We see their backs.

SPEEDSTER

BEEP. BEEP. BEEP.

Speedster swerves away from a Pest Removal truck that runs a red light perpendicular to the vehicle.

WASP  
 That was close.

VESPURIA SKY

A HELICOPTER with Scarlet's men FIRES at Speedster. She swerves a few corners out of range. The COPTER flies away down another street.

Speedster SCANS building.

SPEEDSTER

SPEEDSTER  
 Target around corner.

WASP  
 Activate front firearms.

Front covers come down. Fire arms angled upward.

VESPURIA SKY

HELICOPTER rounds building corner.

SPEEDSTER

SPEEDSTER  
 Second target in sight. Third in back.

VESPURIA SKY

Speedster SHOOTS round of bullets at first helicopter. Second one comes in sight. A third behind Speedster.

Speedster's back covers come down. Firearms angled at third helicopter. FIRES.

VESPURIA SKY

Pilots FIRE back at Speedster.

TINGS of bullets as they hit the metal body of Speedster.

VESPURIA SKY

First COPTER SMOKES, CRASHES to the ground.

Second and third fly past each other and u-turn. Second one gets shot in gas tank, it EXPLODES.

Speedster drives in reverse. Third copter FIRES.

Speedster SWERVES around a corner. DODGES cars. SWERVES around another corner.

VESPURIA SKY

Third helicopter swings too wide. Tail of copter HITS building TEARS through stops mid-flight in building corner.

Speedster SWERVES right.

SPEEDSTER

Wasp shifts Speedster into forward drive. Looks at map on screen, sees his location in relation to Pest Removal.

SPEEDSTER

We're almost at destination.

WASP

Can you locate Scarlet Leafhopper in the building.

STREETS OF VESPURIA

A large sign 'Pest Removal' in view. Speedster projects a sensor scan over Pest Removal's building.

SPEEDSTER

DOOP. DOOP. DOOP.

SPEEDSTER

He's on the ground floor. Straight ahead.

STREETS OF VESPURIA

WASP BREAKS DOWN THE EXTERIOR WALL OF THE BUILDING

Speedster stops inside.

PEST REMOVAL HEADQUARTERS

Scarlet has CEO at gunpoint. CEO is hog-tied, mouth gagged.

CEO  
 (mumbles  
 incomprehensible  
 words)

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 Wasp

ESSENCE  
 So. We meet again.

Wasp nods at her.

WASP  
 Hello Essence.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 On friendly terms?  
 (to Essence)  
 Obviously, you've never been stung  
 by a hornet.

He aims his gun at the Wasp and SHOOTs.

The Wasp dives behind a large piece of building debris for protection. Scarlet SHOOTs again. The Wasp remains protected.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)  
 It's too late anyway, Wasp! My  
 father's young are all over the city.  
 And when they metamorphize, it's all  
 over!

Two of Scarlet's men cut CEO loose.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)  
 (nods to Wasp)  
 Take care of him, men!

Scarlet runs out of the building. Julian and another of Scarlet's men with CEO follow. Peter hides from The Wasp. Essence in the rear.

WASP  
 (to Essence)  
 Are you leaving so soon?

Stops and turns.

ESSENCE  
 Will you miss me?

WASP  
 I might.

A look. She leaves. Wasp rolls a sensor device shaped like a jumping jack ball on the floor.

SCARLET'S MEN AND WASP BATTLE IT OUT.

THE LITTLE DEVICE FOLLOWS SCARLET AND ESSENCE.

SCENES PASS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN WHERE SCARLET RUNS AND WASP FIGHTS HIS MEN.

The Wasp punches. All Scarlet's men are down.

WASP (CONT'D)

Location.

An aerial map POPS up shows location of Scarlet and Essence.

WASP (CONT'D)

(to himself)

Two blocks from here.

PEST REMOVAL, STREET, VESPURIA

The Wasp flies to Scarlet's location.

b.g. Peter escapes from the building.

STREETS OF VESPURIA -- ELSEWHERE

Scarlet runs. Looks behind him. Sees Wasp.

Scarlet grabs an innocent BYSTANDER by the hair. Jerks her back in front of his body.

The two men with the CEO disappear around the corner ahead of Scarlet.

Wasp lands.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Make another move Wasp and I'll kill her.

Scarlet takes a few steps back, keeps bystander with him. He SHOOTs at Wasp. Gets to the edge of the building, lets the woman go and disappears.

The woman falls to her knees:

BYSTANDER

(cries)

Wasp chases after Scarlet. The two men and CEO now in the far distance.

Scarlet turns and SHOOTs behind him. The Wasp ZAPS the bullets with green lasers that come out of his ocelli.

They BURST, MINIATURE EXPLOSIONS in mid-air and turn to dust.

Scarlet pulls out a machine gun. BULLETS fly out at Wasp. Essence comes into view. She slows down time with miniscule multi-seconds going back in time.

In slow motion the bullets come. The Wasp ZAPS each of the bullets. The last bullet BURSTS into the air.

Real-time.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

(to Essence)

Whose side are you on, anyway?!

The Wasp shoots seven darts with venom into Scarlet. Scarlet lunges backward. Wasp shoots another seven darts, then another seven into Scarlet.

Scarlet takes off his long coat. The darts pop out as he pulls its off. He wears a padded dartproof vest underneath.

Scarlet hops just far enough away so that the Wasp misses as he mists him with venom.

Scarlet lurches out his long sticky tongue. Wraps it around Wasp's throat. He tightens. Wasp chokes. Grabs Scarlet's tongue around his neck. Tries to release it. Scarlet pulls tighter.

The Wasp steps back until tongue taunt. He turns and Scarlet flies through the air. Wasp spins faster and faster and Scarlet swings around him. Wasp takes a step back, Scarlet's jaw hits against the wall, automatically his tongue recoils.

Wasp regains his breath.

Scarlet runs while he has time.

Essence jumps and LASHES at the Wasp with a knuckle knife. He blocks her. She kicks him. Again he's out of breath. She lashes at him again. Leaves a light cut. He barely stands. He flies up to the top of the building.

Essence dissipates and flies to the building's rooftop after him. She solidifies.

BUILDING ROOFTOP

Wasp regains his breath.

WASP

I don't want to hurt you.

She walks in closer to The Wasp.

WASP (CONT'D)

Please, just leave.

She runs at a fast pace toward Wasp.

ROOFTOP OPPOSING BUILDING

JOEY (O.S.)

Leo. You watchin this?

He and Leo lie on their stomachs. Watch The Wasp and Essence.

ROOFTOP WITH WASP

Essence FLIES through the air to punch The Wasp in the chest. He opens a palm and stops her fist.

ROOFTOP OPPOSING BUILDING

LEO (O.S.)

I'm watchin, Joey.

The pressure knocks Essence backwards. She lands on her feet. Favors her fist.

The Wasp touches near his heart. Thin hairline of blood. She goes after him again. He flies up before she can hit him. She ROLLS and HITS the ground. He lands.

She turns. Essence rewinds time in slow motion back to when the Wasp is five feet from landing.

JOEY

Whoa! Leo? Did you feel that?

LEO

I did, Joey.

JOEY

What was that Leo?

LEO

I think we went back in time Joey.

JOEY

I've heard she can do that.

Essence runs at high speed, curls into a ball, FLIES toward The Wasp. She hits his chest dead center. As he flies backward she uncurls from her ball, lands on her feet.

The Wasp lands on his back. Essence regains speed, her running feet airborne, she kicks him across the rooftop closer to the edge as her feet swing to and fro. At the edge he puts his palm out. Her foot kicks it. The pressure throws her. She absorbs it with a backward cartwheel. She grounds a stance.

He gets up.

WASP

Are you through.

She notices The Wasp is 7 feet away from the edge of the building. She runs and angles one foot toward him, tucks the other. Kicks him hard in the chest. He's out of breath, falls back, slides across the rooftop. His head hangs halfway out over the edge. He pulls himself back secure on the rooftop.

She runs and flies toward him, he sidesteps out of her way:

ROOFTOP OPPOSING BUILDING

JOEY (O.S.)

He ain't fightin back Leo.

The Wasp grabs Essence by the waist. Swings her over the edge of the building.

ROOFTOP OPPOSING BUILDING

JOEY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Leo. This ain't good. We're goin to have to take up arms against Scarlet Leafhopper! We're going to have to join the fight. No more sittin back waitin.

LEO

I'm with you Joey.

The street below. Back to safety on the roof. The Wasp throws Essence away from him. She rolls into a ball, rolls on the ground, stands and spins around.

She walks on the edge's lip.

WASP

Leaving.

ESSENCE

Father sends me to take our biggest threat because his only son is a coward. Wa Shing is dead. And I don't answer to Scarlet. If he wants you dead, let him kill you.

The rooftop VIBRATES. SOUNDS of Wa Shing's youth METAMORPHIZE.

PANS

City Skyline, buildings still caulked full of Wa Shing's youth.

b.g. Essence dissipates and flows down building in her molecular state.

WASP (O.S.)  
Plane, come get me. Tracker, report location.

ROOFTOP

Small aerial atom television activates, on it Scarlet paces. The CEO bound and gagged, tied up in a chair. b.g. the ocean and a balcony outside the glass doors behind Scarlet.

WASP (CONT'D)  
The Peace Tower.

INT. PEACE TOWER, VESPURIA

The small jumping jack ball tracking device moves in its corner.

Scarlet looks outside. Sees Essence land on the balcony. She solidifies. Walks to the doors, opens them. Enters.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Why did you help him out?

ESSENCE  
Your memory doesn't serve you correctly.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Don't lie to me! Father was right!  
Those emotions of yours! No control!  
(to Carleton)  
Carleton!

CARLETON  
Sir!

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
How many exterminators are left?

CARLETON  
Most of them have abandoned their positions to seek safety. Wa Shing's youth are secure for now.

CEO  
(mumbles; disgruntled)

Leafhopper glimpses at CEO.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Carleton. Where is Nathasha?

CARLETON

I left her at our new hideaway, sir.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Are there men with her?

CARLETON

Yes, sir.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Fine. From now on she and the baby remains with you or I at all times.

CARLETON

Leafhopper, I don't think that...

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

If you can't protect her Carleton just let me know. She is my family. She is to remain with me at all times.

CARLETON

Yes, sir.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Retrieve her from the hideaway. She does not like to remain alone.

Carleton leaves.

IN THE SKY OVER OCEAN

The WASP PLANE flies at full speed. The Peace Tower ahead.

EXT. PEACE TOWER

The Wasp Plane hovers in the air one floor below the main level, where Scarlet is at.

The HATCH OPENS. Wasp gets out and balances on top.

He jumps up and grabs a bar under the balcony above him. Swings his legs up and hooks them around the bar. He scoots over to a ladder. Grabs it. Climbs the last couple of steps. Pushes open the metal door above him. Climbs onto the balcony above.

EXT. PEACE TOWER, BALCONY

The Wasp sees Scarlet and his men inside. The CEO bound. Ducks and hides underneath a window seal. Peeks inside. Counts the men. Seven. And Essence.

He crawls up a metal beam. It's wide enough to hide his body from view.

INT. PEACE TOWER

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 Essence. Find Martha. Have her help  
 us find Angelica. Tom Moore's personal  
 assistant. It's about time my new  
 assistant and I became acquainted.

ESSENCE  
 Martha would probably prefer to hear  
 from you directly.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 All the more reason to send you.

Essence breaks down into molecules and leaves the tower.

PEACE TOWER, BALCONY

Wasp Plane levels with balcony, SHOOTs out the windows.

INT. PEACE TOWER

Scarlet's men jump to the sides. They FIRE back.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 (yells)  
 Hold your fire!

Scarlet's men cease fire.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)  
 I'll handle this.

His men look confused.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)  
 (yells)  
 Leave!

His men leave the Peace Tower, the CEO scoots around on the  
 floor in his chair still gagged and tied.

CEO  
 (mumbles  
 incomprehensible  
 words)

The CEO tilts over and falls onto his side.

Scarlet faces The Wasp.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 The Flying Wasp!

The Wasp steps in through the glassless window.

The Wasp faces Scarlet.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)  
She seems to fancy you.

A moment of silence. CEO lies quiet on his side on the floor.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)  
I'm offering you a truce. To join  
us.

CEO  
(violently shakes his  
head 'no')  
Mm.

WASP  
I...

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
You are only one man, Wasp. You cannot  
fight my army.

WASP  
Why?

CEO stares horrified that Wasp is considering Scarlet  
Leafhopper's offer.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
I want to see her happy.

WASP  
Essence.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Father did not treat her right. I  
will take over Vespuria. I do not  
want to take you from her.

Scarlet jumps out the glassless window onto the balcony.

PEACE TOWER, BALCONY

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
I will not ask you twice.

Scarlet stands in silence. He jumps off the edge of the  
balcony, falls floors to the rocks by the ocean below.

INT. PEACE TOWER

POLICE OFFICERS burst down the tower doors. They pour into  
the room.

One runs over to the CEO, ungags him.

CEO  
Don't do it!

Wasp forgets the CEO is there.

OFFICER  
We got him, Wasp.

Officers assist CEO.

Wasp walks out onto the balcony. His wings softly move with the ocean air.

PEACE TOWER, BALCONY

Wasp Plane levels horizontally to Peace Tower.

b.g. in Peace Tower Officer releases CEO from bondage. CEO rubs his wrists to relieve the pain and stares at Wasp.

WASP (V.O.)  
(sighs)

Wasp flies off in thought.

INT. MARTHA PORFUME'S OFFICE, CITY HALL, VESPURIA -- SAME TIME

Isolate.

Written on Martha's calendar: 'TOM MOORE, Moore Enterprises, 7:00a - Possible weapon to take out Leafhopper's army.'

ANGLE ON

Martha's empty office. Essence stands over Martha's calendar. HIGH HEELS down the hall.

Essence looks at the closed door. The knob turns. Essence molecularizes and leaves the room.

MARTHA  
(hums to herself)

She walks to her desk. Things seem a bit out of place.

MARTHA (CONT'D)  
hm.

INT. SKYLOFT -- MOMENTS LATER

Essence enters the loft. Solidifies. Looks around. Makes herself comfortable. Checks out the incredible view. Stays to await Tom Moore's return.

INT. SKYLOFT -- NIGHT

Essence stands in the soft dim light of the loft. She looks out the window. Sees The Wasp.

EXT. SKYRISE LOFT -- NIGHT

The Wasp looks at a spot on the window he SPRAYS it with his ocelli. It VAPORIZES. He FLIES through it unharmed into the loft, he lands.

INT. SKYRISE LOFT

DIM CITY SOUNDS outside in the darkness.

The window SOLIDIFIES back to its original state.

INT. SKYRISE LOFT -- MOMENTS LATER

Essence sits quietly and watches him. He does not notice that she is there.

Tom stands in the open at one of the loft's corners. A showerhead embedded in the metal frame sprays water. Tom, naked, brushes his hand over his chest. He stops at the cut where Essence injured him. Pain as water hits the spot. He takes his focus away. Looks outside.

He leans with both palms pressed against the glass. Views the night skyline of Vespuria.

FLASHBACK -

INT. COCKPIT PRIVATE JET OVER RAIN FOREST

PILOT  
We're going down.

DAN MOORE, Tom's father, leans over the right shoulder of the PILOT.

DAN  
Is there anything we can do?

PILOT  
No. Take your seat and buckle up.

Dan goes back into the body of the plane. His son, YOUNG TOM, daughter and wife are all buckled up. He takes his seat beside his wife, buckles up.

The jet dives down, SPEED OF WIND, DEAD SILENCE from the passengers.

A flash of both Dan and Young Tom as they look outside.

PRIVATE JET OVER RAIN FOREST

Silence except for the JET as it PIERCES through the air towards the rain forest below.

BODY OF PRIVATE JET

YOUNG TOM

Dad?

DAN

Sssshhhhh, son.

PRIVATE JET OVER RAIN FOREST

The jet glides over the TREETOP for some distance then falls down into the trees.

COCKPIT

At impact, the pilot thrusts into the wheel. Dies instantly.

BODY OF PRIVATE JET

The top and side of jet rip off as it comes to a stop. Tom's mother and sister are dead. Blood comes from their bodies.

Tom is unscathed. He shakes his sister.

YOUNG TOM

Sis! Sis!

Her body falls over limp.

YOUNG TOM (CONT'D)

Mom? Dad?

His mother doesn't move. His father moans. Young Tom goes around to his dad who's leg is busted, a bone sticks out. A piece of metal through his mid-section.

YOUNG TOM (CONT'D)

Dad!

DAN

Son.

Young Tom touches his father's hand.

YOUNG TOM

No.

DAN

Be a good man, son.

YOUNG TOM

Dad...No...

DAN

I love you.

His head swings down onto his shoulder. He dies.

YOUNG TOM

(nose runs, eyes blur)

Dad? Dad?

The noise of the RAIN FOREST.

YOUNG TOM (CONT'D)

(cries)

BACK TO SCENE

Tears fall from Tom's eyes as water falls over his body. He stares out into the night.

FLASHBACK CONTINUED -

EXT. RAIN FOREST

Young Tom runs from the jet. He runs and runs. Tears flood his eyes. Twenty feet from the jet he steps on a rare green hornet's nest. It immediately comes alive.

Young Tom doesn't notice, he runs. The angry green hornets fly out of their nest after their attacker. Their transparent green wings reflect in the moonlight.

They swarm and attack Young Tom. Covered with green hornets one after another sting him.

He passes out from the pain.

INT. HOSPITAL -- LATER

A bright light shines down on Young Tom's body. Young Tom only sees a dim light. He hears the DOCTOR talk to Jeeves.

DOCTOR

Tom's been stung by green hornets. They are rare and deadly. Their sting contains 97% acetylcholine. Any one else would have died within minutes of an attack like that.

JEEVES

Is he going to live?

Looks at Young Tom.

DOCTOR

He's in excruciating pain. Tom has an unusually high count of white  
(MORE)

DOCTOR (CONT'D)  
 blood cells. It's what has kept him  
 alive. I'm afraid though that his  
 body will not be able to rid itself  
 of the acetylcholine. Far too much  
 has been injected into his system.  
 To survive his body adapted - accepted  
 the acetylcholine as part of its  
 genetic makeup.

Looks into Tom's eyes.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)  
 You're a lucky young man, Tom. You  
 can thank your parents for your  
 incredible DNA.

BACK TO SCENE

Tom regains the moment. He turns toward the showerhead and swipes his hand in front of an embedded sensor that turns off the water. He grabs a towel from a small hook on the metal frame and wraps it around his body.

He steps from the shower onto the loft's floor.

TOM  
 (stares)  
 How long have you been there?

ANGLE ON

ESSENCE  
 Long enough.

TOM  
 I guess you figured it out.

Essence looks at window spot Wasp entered through.

ESSENCE  
 Tom Moore. The Wasp.

b.g. the shower floor spins around 180 degrees and turns into a normal wall corner.

ESSENCE (CONT'D)  
 Did I leave a scar?

TOM  
 A part of you always remains with  
 me.

Essence moves over to Tom. Tom suffers a moment but holds his own. Essence's lips close to Tom's lips. Tom closes his eyes.

TOM (CONT'D)  
HMMMMMMMM...uM

Tom steps into the loft.

TOM (CONT'D)  
Just let me get dressed.

He dresses, she watches.

TOM (CONT'D)  
You can stay the night here.

ESSENCE  
You're not going to make me leave?

TOM  
I can't keep you out.

Dressed he goes to the case for Speedster.

TOM (CONT'D)  
Speedster.

The case opens.

TOM (CONT'D)  
But, I can keep you in.

Walls lock up, window walls activate.

TOM (CONT'D)  
I'll see you in the morning.

Tom gets in Speedster. Leaves.

INT. MOORE ENTERPRISE'S NEWS JOURNALIST DEPARTMENT, THRAXIA --  
MORNING

Floor BUZZES with activity.

Angelica rummages through newspapers and tv news videos. Wa  
Shing's MILITANT GUARDS march the hallways and stand guard  
at the doors of the Journalist Department.

JOURNALIST DILLA stands over Angelica's cubicle.

JOURNALIST DILLA  
Pssst.

Angelica looks up.

JOURNALIST DILLA (CONT'D)  
You tell him we don't appreciate  
this.

ANGELICA

Who?

JOURNALIST DILLA

The big man. Tom Moore.

Dilla's eyes PAN the department, falls on guard after guard.

JOURNALIST DILLA (CONT'D)

He's part of it. Isn't he?

ANGELICA

No!

JOURNALIST DILLA

You're a part of it too, aren't you?

Angelica sees NEWS JOURNALISTS and REPORTERS all around the room look over at her with the same question in their mind.

ANGELICA

Leave me alone.

Head of Department, DAVE:

DAVE

Come on, Dilla. Back to work.

JOURNALIST DILLA

(to Angelica)

Watch your back around here. I don't believe for one minute Tom Moore doesn't know what is going on around here.

A younger reporter, JUD, takes her place.

REPORTER JUD

Jud.

He offers his hand. Angelica looks at it.

REPORTER JUD (CONT'D)

It's alright. I'm headed to the field. Join me?

ANCHORMAN

Ah. No. I have to get back to Vespuria.

REPORTER JUD

Jeeves...Jeeves said to show the new girl around.

ANGELICA

(queries)

Jeeves?

(gathers her belongings)

Yes, Jud. I will join you. Thank you for inviting me along.

REPORTER JUD

(looks at her

belongings)

Is that everything of yours?

Angelica nods her head 'yes'.

INT. WASP'S NEST, COMPARTMENT 3 -- MORNING

Lilies and rose bushes everywhere. Nectar drips on the walls.

JEEVES (CONT'D)

We'll have a brand new supply of nectar soon! And just in time. You're current bottled supply is almost out.

TOM

Thanks Jeeves.

Tom sits and reads the morning newspaper. An aerial television in the far corner.

ANCHORWOMAN (O.S.)

After rescuing Pest Removal's CEO Scarlet Leafhopper is still at large.

They both look at the tv.

Isolate.

ANCHORMAN in the field with CEO.

CEO

Don't trust him. Wasp. He's turned on us.

ANGLE ON

Tom reaches for water. Takes a sip.

tv. Photos of downtown Vespuria's leafhopper larvae beds.

ANCHORWOMAN (O.S.)

Will The Wasp stop Scarlet Leafhopper or aid him as he takes over the entire City of Vespuria? Will Vespuria cease to exist as we know it? Wasp...did you turn on us?

ANGLE ON

Tom squinches his eyes.

JEEVES (O.S.)  
She's getting to you.

TOM  
Who?

JEEVES  
That woman. The one who burned up  
the nest.

Tom sighs.

TOM  
She's hard to grasp.

JEEVES  
You need to get to the office for  
your meeting with the Mayor and D.A.

Tom folds newspaper in half.

EXT. HEAT TECH CORPORATION, THRAXIA -- SAME TIME

Jud and Angelica get out of Jud's vehicle.

JUD (O.S.)  
Tom Moore knows more about what's  
going on in his company than what  
you think. Jeeves wanted me to bring  
you here. I'll introduce you to  
Charles. Then, you're on your own.

They head to the building.

JUD (CONT'D)  
Oh, and Angelica, don't go back to  
the office.

Hands her the keys to his vehicle.

JUD (CONT'D)  
Drive yourself back across the border.

INT. MOORE ENTERPRISES, TOM'S OFFICE -- LATER

Mayor Rodriguez and D.A. Porfume sit on either side of Tom's  
desk and face an aerial movie screen. Angelica on screen.

EXT. HEAT TECH CORPORATION, THRAXIA -- CONTINUOUS

b.g. SPARKS fly on the manufacture line. HEAT TECHNICIANS  
weld heat guns.

LEAD TECH CHARLES  
 I'm Charles, Heat Tech Corporation's  
 Lead Tech. This 15 millimeter heat  
 gun will kill Wa Shing's militia.

LEAD TECH CHARLES of Heat Tech Corp demonstrates the heat  
 gun. Aims at a model of one of Scarlet's metamorphized youth,  
 shoots. Fire BLAZES, BURNS the image.

LEAD TECH CHARLES (CONT'D)  
 It's the only way to kill them.

TOM'S OFFICE

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ  
 Will these guns also kill the larvae?

HEAT TECH CORPORATION, THRAXIA

Charles picks up a scythe, attaches it to the heat gun.

LEAD TECH CHARLES  
 You can with this.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ  
 What is that?

LEAD TECH  
 The liquid inside the larvae beds  
 has a special gel compound that  
 prevents the heat from penetrating  
 the larvae skins. The Heat Tech  
 engineers designed this scythe to  
 fit the heat guns. You cut through  
 the skins like so...then blast them.  
 (he demonstrates)  
 They can't seem to survive in certain  
 temperatures.

TOM'S OFFICE

Mayor stands up.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ  
 How fast can you have a shipment to  
 us?

HEAT TECH CORPORATION, THRAXIA

LEAD TECH CHARLES  
 We have a shortage of supply. Our  
 technician's have been manufacturing  
 heat guns for Thraxia and Nutomia's  
 underground police force. They're  
 shipped out as fast as we can make  
 them. We will load up whatever we  
 (MORE)

LEAD TECH CHARLES (CONT'D)  
have and get them out to Vespuria  
right away.

TOM'S OFFICE

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Excellent!  
(shakes Tom's hand)  
Tom, thanks. I'll inform Vespuria's  
Police Department.  
(to Angelica)  
Angelica. See you soon.

ANGELICA

I look forward to coming home, Mayor.

Angelica's screen goes blank. Tom stands.

MARTHA

(to Mayor)  
The Police need to collaborate with  
Pest Removal's exterminator team.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

I'll take care of that. I also want  
a press release sent inviting our  
citizens to volunteer their services  
and join the fight against Wa Shing's  
army.

MARTHA

I don't agree with you on that, Mayor  
Rodriguez.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

You don't agree with me? The public  
has the right to defend themselves.  
Right? Martha.

MARTHA

Not when we don't know the health  
consequences from the gelid liquid  
that covers these larvae.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Pest Removal has reported no health  
considerations. Only that the  
substance is extremely cold.

MARTHA

They wear protective gear that we  
cannot provide the citizens. And we  
do not know long-term damage to health  
due to contact with the liquid.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

This is war, Martha. The enemy is here. I want the public to join the fight. Have the press release state, "Health risks unknown." We cannot fight an army the size of Wa Shing's without numbers and the citizens are going to have to join the fight if they want to continue on with life as we know it.

MARTHA

What about The Wasp?

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

The Wasp? If the CEO is right, he's turned on us.

MARTHA

The Wasp would never do that.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Who knows what lurks in a man's heart? It's clear to me that he did not take Scarlet Leafhopper out when he had the chance. Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to get the word out.

TOM

Martha.

Tom goes to wet bar.

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME

What is it about you, Tom?

TOM

I'm afraid I don't follow you, Martha?

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME

(challenges)

You don't?

Tom gives Martha a look.

TOM

I don't mix business with pleasure, Martha.

MARTHA

There must be an exception.

Tom hands her her drink.

TOM

I saw you with Scarlet the other night at the Centennial.

Martha downs her drink.

MARTHA

How was I to know? We have so little information on Wa Shing's inside men.

Martha grabs her purse. Frustrated forces a smile. Leaves.

ANGELICA'S RECEPTIONIST AREA

ESSENCE (O.S.)

Scarlet doesn't like infidelity.

Essence releases speaker button on Angelica's aerial phone.

MARTHA

Who are you?

ESSENCE

We haven't met, have we? Essence. Scarlet's sister.

MARTHA

Well, he's had time enough to get ahold of me.

ESSENCE

Perhaps you should hold out a little longer. Martha...the Mayor will never kill enough larvae in time to stop us. You know this.

MARTHA

I know.

ESSENCE

Shall we.

ELEVATOR BELL they enter.

SKYLOFT -- MOMENTS LATER

Tom steps out of the ornamental elevator into the loft. Essence is gone.

INT. SCARLET LEAFHOPPER'S HIDEAWAY, VESPURIA -- MOMENTS LATER

Martha smokes her cigarette shaken with excitement.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (O.S.)

(purrs)

Maarrrrrrrrrtha! Howww are youuu?

MARTHA  
 (flirtatiously raises  
 eyebrow)  
 Leafhopper!

She sees his scarified face.

MARTHA (CONT'D)  
 What happened to you?

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 (angry)  
 Is that any way to greet your lover?

MARTHA  
 (softens)  
 I like the rough look.

She takes a puff from her cigarette. Scarlet raises his eyebrow to challenge her. Nervous Martha puts out her cigarette. Blows out smoke.

MARTHA (CONT'D)  
 (coos)  
 I'm so proud of you for taking over  
 your father's empire.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 Thank you.

Natasha comes over with her and Wa Shing's baby cradled in her arms. She cuddles against Scarlet.

MARTHA  
 Who is she?

Scarlet pulls Natasha away from him.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 Natasha, you were my father's lover.  
 I only said I would take care of  
 you.

Natasha resigns.

Martha feels secure. She blows kisses to Scarlet.

MARTHA  
 The Mayor is planning another attack  
 on the larvae beds.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 He doesn't have the manpower to stop  
 us.

MARTHA

He's calling the residents of Vespuria into play. I thought you deserted me.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Desert you, Martha? It just wasn't time.

(flirts)

Timing matters.

MARTHA

Don't leave me for so long again. I am an older woman, afterall.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Essence!

(no reply)

Essence!

(no reply)

Carleton!

CARLETON

Sir.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Where is Essence? I don't have time for her disappearing games! Where is she!?!?

ESSENCE

(solidifies)

I'm right here.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Is this true, what she says?

ESSENCE

I don't trust her.

MARTHA

Lovely girl.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Father was right. I should have killed you.

ESSENCE

A one time fling that you confuse for love. She's not your informant.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Well, I don't trust you.

ESSENCE

She says jump and you jump.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
I am not going to lose this war.

ESSENCE  
How many citizens could they possibly recruit in one or two days? Her information is not worth thinning out your resources on.

Scarlet Leafhopper thinks for a moment.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Carleton! Get my men throughout the city. Protect the larvae beds until they hatch.

CARLETON  
Sir, we don't have enough men. They are spread out all through Thraxia and Nutomia commanding the troops.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Bluff the citizens then.

CARLETON  
Sir?

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Have the men heavily guard the innermost city walls. Have them shoot any citizen that tries to interfere with the larvae beds. It's time they accept that their Wasp can not save them.

Carleton radios Scarlet's COMMANDING OFFICERS, commands them to spread throughout Vespuria.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)  
Martha, can you get us into Moore Enterprises?

(glances at Essence)  
Without being conspicuous?

MARTHA  
Tom Moore's assistant, Angelica, she will have access to the entire building.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
Full access?

MARTHA  
Yes.

Martha sees Peter stand nearby.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

And I have just the man to retrieve her.

Scarlet looks at Peter.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

He's one of yours?

Martha smiles.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)

(admires)

Nice moooooove, Martha.

MARTHA

Peter intercept her at the border.

Peter nods. Leaves.

Martha wraps herself around Scarlet.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

(coy, refers to Essence)

Can't she get us in?

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

I don't want to take any chances. Carleton!

CARLETON

Sir!

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Come with me. Let us survey the damage that has been done.

(affectionately)

Martha.

She follows him.

INT. HEAT TECH CORPORATION, THRAXIA -- SAME TIME

MEN at loading dock fill trucks with heat guns with scythes on the ends of them.

LEAD TECH CHARLES

Hurry it up, men! We've got to get this shipment to Vespuria straightaway!

INT. WASP'S NEST, MAIN COMPARTMENT -- SAME TIME

Tom relaxes.

ANCHORWOMAN

Breaking news. Scarlet Leafhopper's men are scattered throughout Vespuria and they are armed.

Jeeves walks in. Bottle of nectar wine and wine glass in hand.

JEEVES

What a fine mess he's made of things.

TOM

(deep sigh)

Yes.

JEEVES

What to do?

TOM

Wait. Angelica reaches the border in a half hour.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE -- LATER

POLICE stand around the Mayor.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Men. Heat Tech Corporation has designed some weapons to assist us in the destruction of Scarlet Leafhopper's larvae beds. I need you to get out there and kill those larvae.

POLICE OFFICERS//VOLUNTEERS BRIAN AND  
KEN//EXTERMINATORS

(in unison)

Yes, sir!

Excitement as they exit the room.

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREETS OF VESPURIA, BUILDINGS -- MOMENTS  
LATER

Flatbed trucks with heat guns.

KEN

I have to admit. I'm scared Brian, but this is exciting.

BRIAN

I agree. Volunteering took on a whole new meaning.

Police men jump off the back of flatbed trucks with heat guns. Joey and Leo walk by.

JOEY

That's it Leo. Our chance to rejoin  
the fight.

Joey and Leo set down their machine guns and grab heat guns  
from off flatbed trucks.

Larvae on the ground moves. They and the others scythe the  
skins, the exposed baby leafhoppers burn to a crisp and die.

KEN

Whatever those things are, I hope I  
never see one hatched and alive.

INT. LARVAE SACKS

Commotion inside. HUMAN LIKE SOUNDS and LEAFHOPPER CHIRPS  
as the larvae move around.

STREETS OF VESPURIA, CARLETON'S VEHICLE -- ELSEWHERE

Scarlet looks around in horror as Carleton slowly drives.  
Seth and Julian follow behind in their own vehicle.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

NNNNNoooooooooooooooooo!!!!!!!!!!!!  
(chest heaves)  
So many...so many have died already.

NATASHA

Sssshhhhhhh. Now.

Natasha, baby in arms, sandwiched between Essence and Martha  
whom sit behind Scarlet in the back.

Martha glares at Natasha.

CARLETON

We just don't have enough men to  
stop them.

Martha climbs over Natasha and sits beside Scarlet up-front.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

(angered)  
I'll stop them! Revvvvvvvvennnnggggge  
will be minnnnnnnneeeeeeeeeee!!!!

Martha nuzzles Scarlet. He puts his arm around her.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER (CONT'D)

Essence! Create a windstorm. Take  
out the enemy.

Essence molecularfies. Flies out of the vehicle's roof.

Natasha sits in back alone. Pouts.

## STREETS OF VESPURIA ABOVE CARLETON'S VEHICLE

Essence's molecules fly toward the center of space near the top of the skyscrapers. Carleton's vehicle disappears out of sight.

Essence's molecules spin and she creates wind. A windstorm ensues.

## DOWNTOWN, VESPURIA

The windstorm spreads through the city.

The windstorm reaches enough power people are picked up off the ground and thrown everywhere into buildings and each other. Scarlet's men unaffected by the windstorm seek cover.

## WASP'S NEST, MAIN COMPARTMENT

The faint sound of the CITY SIRENS.

TOM

Jeeves, do you hear that?

JEEVES

Yes, sir.

ANCHORMAN (O.S.)

It appears the City of Vespuria has been taken by storm.

Isolate.

CAMERAMAN as he gets shot of Vespuria and the destruction as it occurs.

Essence spins the storm in her molecular state.

## ANGLE ON

TOM

Contact Angelica. Tell her to stay near the border. It's not safe to come downtown.

JEEVES

I'll send her a message immediately, sir. Then call border patrol. I'll tell them to keep an eye on her. Make sure she is safe until the storm is over.

## INT. SPEEDSTER -- MOMENTS LATER

WASP

Speedster. Find Scarlet Leafhopper.

It lights up. Drives through Vespuria.

STRONG WINDS. A person SLAMS into Speedster's windshield.

SPEEDSTER

Not able to locate Scarlet with all  
this activity.

WASP

Ride up out of the storm. You should  
get better reception that way.

Speedster rides vertically up side of a building. She reaches  
the top floors just above windstorm.

INT. SPEEDSTER

SPEEDSTER

Locating Scarlet.

Wasp looks in rearview mirror. Sees a small cloud of black  
molecules at the center of the storm

Wasp opens door, steps out. Flies over center of windstorm -  
hovers.

Wasp mists venom from his ocelli into black cloud.

Essence solidifies. She looks Wasp in the eyes. Falls  
backwards. Wasp dives after her.

Essence rewinds time in slow motion the venom squeezes out  
of her and flows back into his ocelli.

Real time - Essence solidifies before the Wasp's venom mist  
reaches her. Essence throws three of her molecules at The  
Wasp's ocelli. They block his ocelli from use.

Essence throws a couple more of her molecules at The Wasp.  
They fly into his eyes and blind him.

Essence flies feet first across the air into the blind Wasp.  
SLAMS him full force in his stomach. He flies backwards and  
SLAMS into the side of a building.

Essence molecularizes, flows down to the streets below.  
Solidifies and disappears.

ANGLE ON

Unable to see The Wasp SLIDES feet first down the building.

WASP

(whispers)  
Speedster. Help.

At lightning speed Speedster drives in reverse down side of building. Hits ground. Spins 180 at ground level. RACES to building with Wasp who SLIDES full speed down it.

Speedster aligns himself underneath Wasp and races up the side of the building. Speedster BRAKES TO A STOP below Wasp, puts his GEARS in reverse. Matches Wasp's speed in reverse. Wasp SLAMS into front bumper of Speedster.

Speedster RIDES him backwards down the side of the building to the ground.

The Wasp rests on the ground, blind. A BLAST of heat from a nearby heat gun.

EXTERMINATORS

(in unison)

Yeah! It's working.

The HEAT reaches The Wasp's ocelli and eyes. Not seeing it it BURNS Essence's molecules into his pupils and ocelli.

THE WASP'S P.O.V. - he now sees everything in shades of grey and black with green bursts that outlines the things, buildings and people around him. The Wasp stands.

WASP

Speedster, Leafhopper's getting away.

EXT. STREETS OF VESPURIA -- SAME TIME

Scarlet backs out his LEAFHOPPER MOBILE from one of the semis, Martha beside him her hair wild and unruly. Carleton helps Natasha and the baby then himself onto the carriage. Carleton stands close, warms to Natasha. Essence lands on the other side of Scarlet, looks out and around.

C.U. Angelica bound under dashboard of Leafhopper Mobile.

Scarlet drives his hopper through the streets of Vespuria and checks on his father's children.

One of the larvae lay on the ground. Its head burst through the skin. Its face and teeth burnt to a crisp. Other larvae lay around it. One with leafhopper like arms protrude from the skins, burnt.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

They've been slaughtered!

Another, barely alive, take its LAST BREATH.

One of the larvae, underdeveloped, under the others, moves. Scarlet stops his hopper. Gets down from the carriage.

His MEN march in line on either side of the road. They march in place as Scarlet walks over.

With love he picks it up and holds it like a baby in his arms.

It cries. He climbs back into his hoppermobile.

NATASHA  
(weeps)

CARLETON  
I've calculated the damage. We still have enough troops left to take over the city once they all hatch.

Martha gives a devilish look of power pleasure to Scarlet.

INT. SPEEDSTER, VESPURIA

JEEVES (O.S.)  
Sir?

WASP'S P.O.V. - everything around him in shades of grey and black with bursts of green outlines. Monitor with Jeeves' image.

WASP  
What is it, Jeeves?

JEEVES  
I fear something bad has happened to Angelica, sir. Brad with border patrol sent me this.

Jeeves plays video message.

Wasp sees Peter escort Angelica to her car.

b.g. patrol booth Brad bound and gagged. Peter drives Angelica into Vespuria.

WASP  
Peter. He works for Martha. Angelica can get them inside Moore Enterprises and Martha knows how to find her.

JEEVES  
Martha Porfume? The District Attorney? Can you trust anyone anymore?

WASP  
Try Angelica's personal tracker. Jeeves...Find her.

JEEVES (O.S.)  
Yes, sir.

HOPPERMOBILE

Speedster approaches hoppermobile. Scarlet's men BLAST Speedster.

Speedster drives sidewalk slowly.

SPEEDSTER

WASP'S P.O.V. - everything around him in shades of grey and black with bursts of green outlines.

WASP  
 Angelica could be with them in the hoppermobile.

HOPPERMOBILE

Firearms attached to hoppermobile legs BLAST Speedster.

ANGLE ON

CAMERAMAN shoots action.

ANCHORMAN  
 Can you believe this?

The Wasp does not shoot back at hoppermobile. He follows at a slow pace.

ANCHORMAN (CONT'D)  
 This can't be happening.

HOPPERMOBILE

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 Ah Ha Ha Ha! Cease fire men! The Wasp has decided to join us.

ANGLE ON

ANCHORMAN  
 It's true! The Wasp's not fighting back. Citizens of Vespuria. Friends. This is the worst thing that could happen at a time like this. We have to continue to ban together. Without each other Vespuria will be lost.

SPEEDSTER

WASP  
 There's nothing I can do but wait.

SPEEDSTER  
 I don't understand.

WASP

My eyes. I cannot see things right,  
Speedster. I don't want to risk  
Angelica's life. So, I'll wait.  
They'll come for me.

STREETS OF VESPURIA

Speedster turns in another direction as hoppermobile hops away.

STREETS OF VESPURIA, HOPPERMOBILE

Scarlet drives like a madman through the city.

Angelica's TRACKER goes off.

MARTHA

What is that noise?

Peter stands back behind Martha who looks down at Angelica. Angelica stares at Martha from beneath the dashboard.

Angelica's mouth gagged, shrugs 'I don't know'. Martha takes mouth gag out.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

What?

ANGELICA

I don't know.

The TRACKER BEEPS again. Martha reaches for the device.

MARTHA

Let me have that!

Angelica bends down and bites her.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Ow!

Martha slaps Angelica across the cheek. Pulls tracker off her.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

It's a tracker.

She throws it in the street, it shatters.

Peter puts gun to Angelica's temple. COCKS hammer.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

No! We need her to get into the building!

Peter backs off Angelica.

Essence rewinds time. She pulls tracker off Angelica.

ESSENCE (V.O.)  
 (to Martha)  
 It's better to mislead them.

She breaks down into molecules. Flies tracker to Tom's loft at top of Moore Enterprises. She leaves it on a small ledge outside.

Scarlet stops outside Moore Enterprises.

INT. SKYRISE LOFT

TOM'S P.O.V. - everything around him in shades of grey and black with bursts of green outlines.

TOM  
 Did you find Angelica?

Tom sees a green light flashes in the northeast corner just outside of his loft.

JEEVES  
 I've been tracking her all throughout the city. She is with Scarlet Leafhopper.

Tom walks to the northeast corner. Sees tracker outside.

TOM  
 That's what I thought. Is that her tracker, Jeeves.

Jeeves looks.

JEEVES  
 It is, sir.

TOM'S P.O.V. - everything around him in shades of grey and black with bursts of green outlines.

TOM  
 Jeeves, you've got to get out of here. Take Speedster.

MOORE ENTERPRISES, ENTRANCE TO BUILDING

Scarlet leads Angelica up the stairs to the glass entrance.

b.g. Natasha remains in Hoppermobile and bounces her baby in her arms and Peter the baby leafhopper in his. The babies cry. Beside her, Carleton and Essence remain and guard hoppermobile.

GUARDS DESK

GUARD AT DESK sees Angelica, Scarlet and Martha come up the stairs outside. Seth and Julian close behind.

ENTRANCE TO BUILDING

Angelica swipes her fingerprints over aerial card reader for entry into the building.

SCARLET

(to his men)

Stay out here.

Seth and Julian man the entryway. Angelica, Scarlet and Martha enter.

GUARDS DESK

Guard At Desk stands.

GUARD AT DESK

District Attorney. Good to see you.  
Mr. Moore said to send you right in.

MARTHA

He's expecting me?

GUARD AT DESK

He's expecting all of you. He called  
down not five minutes ago.

Angelica looks surprised, she leads Scarlet and Martha to the elevators. Doors are open wide expecting them.

Scarlet follows Angelica inside Martha right behind him.

ELEVATOR

Doors close.

ANGELICA'S RECEPTIONIST AREA

Elevator BELL. Doors open. Angelica steps out into the reception area. Martha follows. Scarlet sees ornamental glass elevator on outside of building that leads to loft.

Angelica uses her special key.

ORNAMENTAL ELEVATOR

The elevator stops. Scarlet and Martha step inside loft. Scarlet catches elevator door before it closes.

SCARLET

Stay Angelica.

Angelica timid, steps inside loft.

Scarlet and Martha enter further into the room.

TOM

Martha.

MARTHA

Hello, Tom.

TOM

I see you are with Scarlet.

SCARLET

I admire your taste, Tom.

TOM

Thank you.

SCARLET

So, what will you miss the most.  
This breathtaking view? Or being  
the head of one of Vespuria's most  
powerful businesses?

TOM

I intend on keeping both.

Angelica backs quietly into elevator. Doors start to close.

Scarlet lurches his tongue behind him to keep doors open. He hits elevator so hard he knocks it off its hinges and it crashes through the upper exterior wall.

Air BREEZES into loft.

SCARLET

I said stay Angelica.

Behind him Angelica moves inside elevator, it tips. Afraid to move she remains inside.

Building SHAKES. So do the surrounding buildings.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

The children! They're hatching! I  
have no more time for you.

Scarlet's tongue lunges, wraps around Tom. Scarlet hurls Tom out of the building, knocks him on the head.

MOORE ENTERPRISES BUILDING

An unconscious Tom outside Moore Enterprises falls through the air.

SKYRISE LOFT

Scarlet uncoils his tongue. Wraps his arm around Martha's waist.

ANGELICA (O.S.)

Help me!

Elevator off its hinges CREAKS about to break and fall through the glass support wall to the streets below.

Scarlet holds Martha, Martha in sheer joy holds on to Scarlet.

ANGELICA (CONT'D)

Please. Help.

The ornamental glass elevator CRASHES through the support wall and falls to the streets below. Scarlet stares after in fascination.

Scarlet hops out of Moore Enterprises into the ornamental elevator as it falls to the streets below. He looks out at Tom directly across from Scarlet's position.

Tom falls unconscious through the air. They fall seventy-six floors.

MOORE ENTERPRISES, VESPURIA SKY

b.g. Scarlet Leafhopper leaps out of the elevator with Martha and Angelica, the elevator CRASHES.

MARTHA

Why did you save her?

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

She hasn't done anything wrong. She doesn't deserve such an appalling death.

Martha kisses him.

MARTHA

You are such a kind, caring, gentle man Scarlet.  
(purrs)

Essence's molecules inside Tom activate. They wake him up. He turns into The Wasp before he slams face first into the pavement.

VESPURIA STREETS

The Wasp flies to a skyscraper rooftop. Ruin lays around him. He looks down into Vespuria. CHAOS below.

STREETS OF VESPURIA BELOW

Leafhoppers CRAWL out of their larvae beds onto the streets armed with machine guns. Wa Shing's emblems mark their arms.

SCREAMS from citizens who run and hide in fear.

The Leafhoppers disperse amongst the city streets.

Scarlet Leafhopper with Martha on Hoppermobile go through the streets of Vespuria. CELEBRATE the captivity of Vespuria.

PAN skyscraper rooftop, The Wasp.

PAN Vespuria sky.

Scarlet's men fly in helicopters over the city streets. Zoom in and out of buildings. Machine guns in hand. Carleton looks out one of the helicopter doors, Peter inside. Seth and Julian look out another helicopter's doors.

CARLETON

Follow Scarlet to the Mayor's office.

PILOT

(calls back)

Yes, sir!

The helicopter ZOOMS around another corner.

STREETS OF VESPURIA BELOW

People BLAST heat guns out of their apartment windows. A couple of Leafhoppers fall. Other Leafhoppers SHOOT back. Glass SHATTERS. A Citizen FALLS out of the window.

CITIZEN

Aaaaaaaaahhhhhhhhhhh!

MARTHA

(to Scarlet)

I have something for you.

The Hoppermobile hops through the city. Hoppermobile stops outside City Hall.

CITY HALL

A bronze statue of the baby leafhopper Martha found earlier on display at the center of City Hall's walkway.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

I love it. Martha. A testimony to our successful takeover of Vespuria.

Scarlet wraps his tongue around Angelica lurches her into Carleton's helicopter.

Scarlet grabs Martha around the waist. Hops out of the hoppermobile.

Scarlet lurches his long tongue, wraps it around a car on the streets below. Flings it through the Mayor's office window floors above the street.

MAYOR'S OFFICE

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ (O.S.)  
The larvae have hatched. They've  
taken over the city.

Behind him the car CRASHES through his office window.

Scarlet with Martha stands on the shattered windowsill.

Shock at the sight of Scarlet Leafhopper with Martha.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ (CONT'D)  
Martha?

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME  
Robert.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ  
I don't understand?

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME  
We always had to do things your way,  
Robert! And I am tired of never being  
treated with respect. From now on...  
(to Scarlet)  
...we will do things mmmmmmmmmmyyyyyyy  
way!

Scarlet wraps tongue around Mayor, flings him out of the office window.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ  
Aaaahahahahahaaaaa!

Martha rubs up against Scarlet.

D.A. MARTHA PORFUME  
I love it when you play rough.

They embrace.

EXT. MAYOR'S OFFICE

WASP'S P.O.V. - everything around him in shades of grey and black with bursts of green outlines.

The Mayor flies through the air The Wasp catches him.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Thanks Wasp. I owe you one.

MAYOR'S OFFICE WINDOWSILL

Martha stands at windowsill with Scarlet. Shouts across distance.

MARTHA

Nnnnnnnoooooooooooo!!!! I worked so hard on this! Nnnnnnnoooooooooooo!!!!

Scarlet hops out window. Martha wrapped in his arms.

Lands hard in a flying helicopter. It tilts from the force.

EXT. MAYOR'S OFFICE

Another helicopter with Scarlet's men shoots at Wasp.

WASP

Hold on!

Wraps his wings around Mayor.

The veins of the wings flash with green lights that VIBRATE. BULLETS fly around them. The activated wings shield them. Wasp dives feet first from the sky. The HELICOPTER follows.

Near street level Wasp opens his wings. Soft land. Releases Mayor.

WASP (CONT'D)

Run for cover.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ

Be safe Wasp.

BULLETS BLAST the pavement around him.

Scarlet wraps tongue around Wasp's neck from behind and flings him toward an opposing building. Wasp uses his ocelli mist to vaporize the window. The mist spreads out more than normal with Essence's molecule expanded. The Wasp flies through.

SKYSCRAPER FLOOR

Space closes. Locks Scarlet's tongue into building. Scarlet's tongue releases Wasp who rolls onto floor.

SKYSCRAPER

Another HELICOPTER comes around the corner. BLASTS the window which Scarlet's tongue is tied into.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 (screams through air)  
 Nnnnnnooooooooooo! You fools!

HELICOPTER

SETH  
 Hold fire!

Scarlet leaps across the sky onto another skyscraper. He pulls with all his might. The window around his tongue SHATTERS the entire window wall. He pulls the glass from the wall, large SHARDS OF GLASS fall to the streets below. Scarlet's tongue is free.

HELICOPTER

SETH (CONT'D)  
 Resume fire!

They BLAST inside the skyscraper at The Wasp.

SKYSCRAPER FLOOR

Wasp SHOOTS venomous darts from his wrists into a HELICOPTER PILOT.

SKYSCRAPER

Pilot dies. Helicopter FLIES UNCONTROLLED through the air.

ANGLE ON

Scarlet hops across sky into building with Wasp.

SKYSCRAPER FLOOR

Wasp mists Scarlet with venom. Essence's molecule causes it to spread across an area wider than normal.

Scarlet chokes. Essence's molecule returns to Wasp's ocelli.

Wasp approaches and punches Scarlet who flies backwards to windows ledge. Wasp approaches ledge, kicks Scarlet in face. Scarlet slides down the outside of the building. Lurches tongue into room. Wasp shoots darts into tongue and bolts it into the floor.

SKYSCRAPER

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER  
 (cries)

Hangs by his tongue outside of building.

ANGLE ON

Scarlet's men fly around the corner in numbers. They hang down from helicopters.

Carleton's helicopter rescues Scarlet.

The others, armed with machine guns, SHOOT into the glassless windows of the skyscraper.

SKYSCRAPER FLOOR

The Wasp kneels down, lifts wings parallel to the floor. Shoots lasers from small points on outside of his wings and from his ocelli at Scarlet's men outside. He wipes out most his enemy immediately before him. Bullets BOUNCE off his wings.

SKYSCRAPER

One Player, Seth, remains. He hangs down from HELICOPTER.

SKYSCRAPER FLOOR

BULLETS POUND The Wasp's ears. Venom comes from his ocelli spreads with Essence's molecule and eats away the flying bullets. They VAPORIZE into the air before they reach him. Essence's molecule returns to his ocelli.

He SHOOTS the last of Scarlet's men with venomous darts.

HELICOPTER FOOTBAR

Seth's body does a slow dance with each piercing sting. Falls through the air. His machine gun falls WIND BARELY holds it up as its weight carries it to the street below. It SHATTERS into a million pieces.

SKYSCRAPER FLOOR

WASP'S P.O.V. - everything around him in shades of grey and black with bursts of green outlines.

He looks, CHAOS on the streets below.

SKYSCRAPER

Scarlet Leafhopper's helicopter flies off.

SKYSCRAPER ROOFTOP

The HELICOPTER lands, Scarlet gets out of helicopter with machine gun in hand. Angelica directly in front of him. Martha steps off helicopter behind him.

b.g. Natasha sits inside helicopter babies swathed in blankets. She holds her baby in her arms. Peter holds the Leafhopper baby.

Wasp flies up.

WASP

Let her go, Scarlet!

Scarlet throws Angelica to the ground in front, she falls to her knees, bruises them.

Essence steps out of the helicopter onto the rooftop.

Scarlet SHOOTS at Wasp. Wasp flies straight up into the air. He misses most bullets and shoots lasers from his ocelli to BURST the rest.

Angelica knocks Scarlet down at the knees.

Martha kicks Angelica in the stomach.

Angelica reaches out, grabs Martha's foot, jerks it out from under her. Martha falls hard flat on her back.

She kicks Angelica in the mouth with her other foot. Lip cut Angelica bleeds. Martha kicks again. Angelica tilts her head perpendicular level with the roof. Martha misses.

Martha pulls Angelica by the hair drags her away to the edge of the roof.

Angelica slaps at Martha's hands. Frees herself.

Jeeves pilots a helicopter.

JEEVES

Angelica come on!

Angelica sees Jeeves. Runs, jumps into helicopter. Jeeves flies off to safety.

Martha fists Essence. Her head jerks back. Nose bleeds. Tender touch to her face.

ESSENCE

What was that for?

MARTHA

I'm not having to answer to you when this is all said and done with. You ungrateful little...

Essence decks Martha.

Martha grabs Essence by the hair. Essence grips Martha's hair. Their heads jerk from side to side. Bodies against

each other. CAT FIGHT. Essence RIPS a chunk of Martha's hair out.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Uhhhh!

Martha reaches up. Feels bald spot. Spits on Essence.

Essence punches Martha in the face.

Essence grabs both sides of Martha's head and knocks her face against her lifted knee.

Martha falls back onto the footbar of the helicopter, wraps one arm around as it lifts off. Martha's full body off the ground. It lifts further.

Essence runs, jumps, wraps her arms around Martha's waist. The weight and pull causes Martha to release part of her grip.

The HELICOPTER goes over the edge of the building. Martha tries to regain grip. At same time, Essence climbs up Martha's body. The pull causes Martha to lose her grip. They both fall. SCREAMS. Essence molecularizes. Martha falls to her death.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

Marrthaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!

Scarlet Leafhopper jumps off the building after her to save her.

TOP OF BUILDING, VIEW OF VESPURIA CITY SKYLINE

WASP'S P.O.V. - everything around him in shades of grey and black with bursts of green outlines.

Essence turns toward the Wasp.

ESSENCE

You have something that belongs to me.

She pulls her molecules from his eyes.

THE WASP'S P.O.V. - sees clearly again.

Essence pulls her molecules in his ocelli but they remain.

ESSENCE (CONT'D)

Those are mine.

WASP

You gave them up, Essence. They're mine now.

She runs, her knees in the air, she twists slightly and flies full bodied at Wasp. One leg tucked, the other fully extended dead center aim at his chest. Her arms in alignment with the rest of her body.

Wasp grabs her extended leg by the ankle and spins her feet away from him in a 180 degree angle. She twists angled from a horizontal toward a vertical position.

The Wasp reaches out, grabs Essence by the waist wraps his arm around her, brings her body up against him. The Wasp takes a deep breath as he takes in Essence.

WASP (CONT'D)

Is that any way to treat a man?

He kisses her.

The Wasp kneels down on one knee her hand in his. He delicately takes her ankle with Wa Shing's emblem branded into it into his hand. He stares at it and SHOOTs her molecule with his laser at it. Her molecule broken further down into many particles that move around on the emblem in buglike fashion. They pull the emblem out of her skin and leave a fresh set of new unmarked skin cells. The Wasp reaches over and takes some gel left from the larvae beds and applies it to her skin.

The Wasp still kneels, he sprays venom from his ocelli. Essence's molecules break down even smaller into a billion tiny molecules. They spread out and form a dark cloud over the entire City of Vespuria.

MOVING ABOVE STREETS OF VESPURIA

Essence's tiny billions of molecules full of Wasp's deadly green venom pierce Scarlet's manufactured Leafhopper Militia.

Leafhoppers swat at the tiny venom molecules. One Leafhopper after another is pierced with the venom particles and die from the toxic acetylcholine.

Scarlet jumps atop the roof, a near death Martha in his arms.

SCARLET LEAFHOPPER

If she dies Wasp, this won't be the  
last you see of me.

WASP'S THEME MUSIC.

MOVING

Across Vespuria's skyline as Leafhopper hops into the distance with Martha.

THE END