ÅNGSTRÖM

Jason Hazeley & Joel Morris

Episode One – "The Man Who Wasn't Dead"

CAST

Character	Actor
Character	Actor
Character	Actor
Character	

Producer: Lyndsay Fenner

- REH/RECORD: dates, time XXXX-XXXX
- STUDIO: ADDRESS
- SMs: XXXX
- BA: NAME, 521 HWH EXT: XXXXX DDI: 020 7765 XXXX
- TAPE: XXXX PROG: XXXX
- TX: R4 DAY/ MONTH/ YEAR/ TIME
- CHARGE: XXXX

1.	GRAMS	NARRATOR BED: SIGUR ROS / MAX RICHTER / MOGWAI
2.	NARRATOR	(SCANDI ACCENT) Angstrom. Adapted from the best-selling
		Angstrom Trilogy. By Martin English, writing as Bjorgen
		Swedenssonsson. Chapter öne. "The Man Who Wasn't Dead".

3. GRAMS BUILD MUSIC

 NARRATOR Snow. You never get used it. Even a snowman hates the snow.
 Fragments of his own body. Falling from the sky. Like standing in a rain of cold flesh. It will, eventually, even for the jolly snowman, bum him out.

5. GRAMS MUSIC FADE

6. FX CRUNCH OF BOOTS IN SNOW. EUROPEAN NEE-NAW POLICE SIRENS.

- 7. NARRATOR The valley was cold. As cold as gravlax, which is a fish dish popular in Scandinavia. And the road in the valley was cold. As cold as the valley. And the gravlax. Inspector Knut Angstrom pulled his collar up round his beard and warmed his chin with his breath. His chin was warm. Like gravlax. But toasted gravlax.
- 8. SERGEANT (F) Down here, sir.
- 9. ANGSTROM Good. Good. Tell the SCOs to hold the roadblock. I don't want anyone leaving tyre marks on my corpse.

- 10. SERGEANT No witnesses, as far as we know. We had an anonymous tip off.
- 11. ANGSTROM Anonymous, eh? Did they leave their name?
- 12. SERGEANT No.
- 13. ANGSTROM Typical. When?
- 14. SERGEANT Switchboard operator flagged it just after lunch.

15. FX CRUNCH OF BOOTS ON SNOW. FADE SIRENS.

- 16. ANGSTROM I just hope it wasn't a red herring.
- 17. SERGEANT No. Meatballs.
- 18. ANGSTROM That's a relief. Don't like to miss herring day. Lunchtime.
 Lunchtime. That means we can narrow time of death down to some time before lunchtime, but after... say... the fourth century.
- 19. SERGEANT Are you sure?
- 20. ANGSTROM Think, man. That's when the Njalsland peninsula was formed by volcanic activity around the North Atlantic Plate, so any time before then and this whole place would have been underwater. And then we wouldn't have known a thing. That's how sharks get away with it. (FLASH OF ANGER) Damn them! Is it down here?
- 21. SERGEANT Yes. A word of warning, sir. It's not a pretty sight.
- 22. ANGSTROM I've seen a dead body before, Sergeant. (GASP BEAT) Oh my god.

24. GRAMS SINISTER, TENSE MUSIC UNDER

- 25. ANGSTROM Where is it? Where's the body? There's... nothing left. Not a thing. What happened?
- 26. SERGEANT We were hoping you could tell us, sir.
- 27. ANGSTROM What monster could have done this? To attack a human body, to tear it apart, until... until... it's simply not there any more. Any blood or residual tissue?
- 28. SERGEANT No.
- 29. ANGSTROM Sure there were no witnesses?
- 30. SERGEANT Nobody comes down in the valley since they built that new indoor valley up at Malmsteen. It's so much easier to park.
- 31. ANGSTROM (PENSIVE, SLOW) What. Happened. Here? (BEAT) I need a drink.
- 32. SERGEANT I think Lars has a flask of something in the car.
- 33. ANGSTROM Let's see if we can think better with some of that in our veins, eh?

34. FX CRUNCH OF BOOTS ON SNOW. FADE UP SIRENS AS THEY WALK BACK

- 35. SERGEANT I was working on another theory, sir.
- 36. ANGSTROM I'd like to hear it.

37. SERGEANT I'm not an expert like you... but... what if there's no body because... there was no murder?

38. FX SIRENS UP FULL NOW

- 39. ANGSTROM There is always murder. Look at all this. The police cars. The incident tape. Me. Nobody would waste these resources on nothing. People are not idiots.
- 40. LARS I am.
- 41. ANGSTROM Except you, Lars. Of course. Ah! Thank you. (DRINKS) Ahhh. Did you make this yourself?
- 42. LARS Yes. I make it from myself.
- 43. ANGSTROM What is it made from? Potatoes?
- 44. LARS No. I make it myself. From myself.
- 45. ANGSTROM Good. It is warm. Warm and salty. Against the cold. That's good. That's really good. Got any more?
- 46. LARS I will go behind the car.

- 2. NARRATOR Meanwhile, elsewhere, in the offices of Fis Magazine, based in Njalsland's cutting-edge silicon valley, snow did not fall. A cutting-edge roof took care of that. And yet inside a storm was brewing. Hot-haired, blue-headed young reporter Mina Oblong slammed her hands on the cutting-edge desk of her editor Pilou Bremer, and pushed it back against the cutting-edge partition until his hips squeaked.
- 3. GRAMS FADE
- 4. FX DESK BEING PUSHED REPEATEDLY AGAINST WALL
- 5. PILOU Stop it. You're hurting me.
- 6. MINA Can't take it, eh? Go on. Fire me if you want.
- 7. PILOU I can't. And you know it.
- 8. MINA See? You need me too much.
- 9. PILOU No. I can't fire you because you don't work here. You're freelance.
- 10. MINA Nice. After all I've done for you.
- 11. PILOU Mina... You're good.
- 12. MINA So let me follow this lead. I know it's a big story. Something's rotten right to the top. Government. Police. A cover-up. Why won't you carry it?

- 14. MINA Scared, eh?
- 15. PILOU No. We're an online portal providing curiositised click-tent for advertisers. We do not investigate... old murders.
- 16. MINA Take a risk. You can afford to. Last time I checked, this magazine was making more money than Portugal.
- 17. PILOU People like cat videos.

18. MINA Yeah. But for how long? Cats are a new thing.

- 19. PILOU I don't think cats <u>are</u> a new thing.
- 20. MINA Sure they are. When did you first see a cat? Five years ago. Before then, there was just dogs, right?
- 21. PILOU I don't think so.
- 22. MINA How would I know? I probably wasn't even born then, granddad.
- 23. PILOU I'm twenty-five.
- 24. MINA Don't try and get my pity just because you're nearly dead.
- 25. PILOU OK. OK. You follow this hunch of yours, Mina. But I can't give you any more than four hundred thousand kroner and as long as you like.
- 26. MINA Screw you.
- 27. FX DOOR SLAM

1. GRAMS NARRATOR BED UP

- 2. NARRATOR At the police station, snow falls on the flat roof. Death hides here. In the chilly files of the archives. A cold saga of lives snuffed out, of dreams slashed in two, and of bicycles, stamped with the owner's postal code. Police work has many colours. All of them black.
- 3. GRAMS MUSIC FADE

4. FX FEET ON CONCRETE. A FILING DRAWER SLID OPEN.

- 5. ANGSTROM I need the exact time that telephone tip-off was phoned in.
- 6. CLERK Ah! Here we go. Sunday... Monday...
- 7. ANGSTROM Happy days...
- 8. CLERK (THROWN) What?
- 9. ANGSTROM Before the murder. Those were happy days.
- 10. CLERK OK. Here we are. Tuesday... Wednesday...
- 11. ANGSTROM Happy days...
- 12. CLERK (BEAT) Thursday... That's... today.

- ANGSTROM Heeeeeeey. Give me that. (FLICKING THROUGH) It's not here The tip-off call. It's not in the log. It's just business as usual. Unlicensed hovercraft. Suspected goblin. Contraband bacon. Routine stuff. Then... nothing. No anonymous call. No tip off. It's almost as if... it never happened.
- 14. CLERK I don't understand, sir.

15. FX FILING CABINET SLAM SHUT IN ANGER

16. ANGSTROM Somebody has stolen my murder. This crime just got doubled.

1. GRAMS NARRATOR BED UP

NARRATOR Mina sat on her laptop in her car in the snow. Not sitting <u>on</u> her laptop like a chair, because that made the screen hard to see, but in the sense of using it.

3. GRAMS BED OUT

MINA So many dead ends. Someone's got something they want to hide.
 And they're good. Because if I can't see it, someone's hidden it hard. (MUSING TO SELF) Where are you? Where are you?

5. FX COMPUTER RETURN BEEP

6. MINA There you are. (BEAT) What are you? What are you?

7. FX COMPUTER RETURN BEEP

8. MINA Oh you're one of those. (BEAT) Who are you? Who are you?

9. FX COMPUTER BEEP

10. MINA Oh. That's who you are. Maybe we need to talk... Mr Angstrom.

- 2. NARRATOR Chief Inspector Bols Aashol had done all the crimes in Njalsland for as long as anyone could remember, and was Angstrom's immediate superior. He sat sadly behind his desk, looking over his spectacles. Then he chose a pair. And put them on.
- 3. GRAMS MUSIC FADE
- 4. FX OFFICE ATMOS
- 5. BOLS You're too close to this case. So close that you can't see it's not there. I ask you again, where's the body?
- 6. ANGSTROM Murder doesn't need a body.
- 7. BOLS Yes it does. This isn't the first time this has happened. Remember the Janson murder?
- 8. ANGSTROM There's a man who'd made too many enemies.
- 9. BOLS Yes but he wasn't dead. He'd fallen asleep in his car. And the Lagerlöf case.
- 10. ANGSTROM The whole Lagerlöf family. I solved that.
- 11. BOLS They'd been on holiday in Finland. They were fine.
- 12. ANGSTROM OK. OK. It has happened, maybe four, or twenty, other times since I came here. But this one's different.

- BOLS This is Njalsland. You are not in Stockholm any more, with its city ways. We do not need murder here any more than we need a Maglev railway, or a Laserquest.
- ANGSTROM This place thinks it's so civilised. With its endless snow and generous childcare provision. But that's just a socially progressive blanket, covering the festering cesspit underneath.
- 15. BOLS Get off my desk. You're crushing my spectacles. (SIGH) Why don't you take some gardening leave?
- 16. ANGSTROM I've never done gardening. I don't know what is gardening.
- 17. BOLS Well... Maybe you should.
- 18. ANGSTROM (CHILDISH) Maybe <u>you</u> should.
- 19. BOLS (SIGHS) Angstrom, you're relieved of duty. Take some time off.
- 20. ANGSTROM (SAD) Maybe you're right.
- 21. BOLS I know I am. And Knut ?
- 22. ANGSTROM What?
- 23. BOLS Help yourself to some spectacles. You look like hell.
- 24. FX DOOR CLOSES

- 2. NARRATOR Snow fell on the garden centre. Angstrom's boot prints formed a dotted line, as if the car park could be cut away from the garden centre, and used as a coupon for discount bedding plants by the gods. But, alas, the gods were dead.
- 3. GRAMS BED FADE
- 4. FX GARDEN CENTRE ATMOS
- 5. ASSISTANT Can I help you, sir?
- 6. ANGSTROM I need a lawnmower.
- 7. ASSISTANT Well, you're in the right place. We have many lawnmowers here.
- 8. ANGSTROM Mind showing me around one?
- 9. ASSISTANT We don't have any round ones. They are all lawnmower shaped.
- 10. ANGSTROM You're the expert. What have you got?
- 11. ASSISTANT Well, this one is very popular. The Käling 430. It hovers on a cushion of air.
- 12. ANGSTROM Cushion? Yes. Good. I'll take it.
- 13. ASSISTANT Lovely.
- 14. ANGSTROM Hang on. That one's got a turny-roundy bit at the front.

- 15. ASSISTANT The TL21? It is an electric rotary mower.
- 16. ANGSTROM Electric? I'll take it.
- 17. ASSISTANT Two lawnmowers?
- 18. ANGSTROM I'm on gardening leave from a job where I faced murder every day.I'll need all the lawnmowers I can get. What about this one?Haven't got an orange one yet.
- 19. ASSISTANT Are you sure?
- 20. ANGSTROM Listen, kid. I've got to spend two weeks in the garden <u>not</u> thinking about murder. The last thing I want to do is run out of lawnmowers. I need to silence the ghosts.
- 21. ASSISTANT (BEAT) Perhaps I could take you through to our ride-on selection?
- 22. ANGSTROM Excellent. Excellent. Show me your sit-ons.

- 2. NARRATOR Angstrom returned to his apartment in Grötby. Grötby: the name means "village of porridge", but there was no village any more, and precious little porridge. More than half a century ago, a cluster of barns had been cleared for shopping malls, cinematheques, social clubs, and, thrust through the middle like a concrete forearm, a tower of homes, in a tower.
- 3. GRAMS FADE
- 4. FX KEYS IN LOCK OF MODERN PUBLIC APARTMENT. DOOR
 OPENS. SHUTS.
- 5. ANGSTROM I'm home. (BEAT) Hello? Hello-o-o? (BEAT) Nobody home.
- 6. KRISTA (BEAT) Hello, darling.
- 7. ANGSTROM Krista. My love.
- 8. KRISTA What are all these?
- 9. ANGSTROM Lawnmowers. I thought you'd like them.
- 10. KRISTA Like them? I love them. You know me so well.
- 11. ANGSTROM They are for me, really. I need some time.
- 12. KRISTA You take all the time you need, darling.
- 13. FX DUCK QUACK

14. ANGSTROM Elvin! My cheeky duck.

15. KRISTA He has missed you. You are always at work.

- 16. ANGSTROM Not any more. I'm going to be here now. With you.
- 17. **FX DUCK QUACK**
- 18. ANGSTROM And also with you, Krista._Here. Help me in with the rest of these lawnmowers.
- 19. KRISTA I cannot. You know I cannot.
- 20. ANGSTROM Have you... injured your back?
- 21. KRISTA No. You know why. (LIKE A GHOST) Wooooo!
- 22. ANGSTROM (TEARING UP) Don't go.
- 23. KRISTA I cannot stay. Goodbye, Knut.
- 24. FX DUCK QUACK
- 25. ANGSTROM Elvin! Elvin. No. Don't go. And you. Krista, as well. No.

26. FX DUCK QUACK. HEAVY DELAY. ECHO TO SILENCE

27. ANGSTROM (BEAT) You were never here, were you? Only in my mind. (BEAT) Now, who will help with my lawnmowers? They are blocking the lift. (GETTING ANGRY) Why did I buy these stupid things? I don't have a garden! Not here! No amount of lawnmowers can change that. God. It makes me mad! (GRUNTING, LIFTING) Get out of my home, you lawnmowers! Get out! All of you!

28. FX LAWNMOWER BEING THROWN THROUGH A GLASS DOOR

29. ANGSTROM I have ruined my door.

1. GRAMS NARRATOR BED

2. NARRATOR Alone in his apartment, Angstrom watched the sodium-yellow container depot below. Boxes moving to and fro, like bloodcells. What was inside them? Maybe, like bloodcells, some contained cancer. Others, running shoes. In the modern world, they are perhaps the same. Angstrom poured himself a whisky, into his brandy.

3. GRAMS FADE

- ANGSTROM I promise. I'll stop. I promise you. No more death. No more murder. For my dead duck. And my wife. I promise. It stops now.
- 5. FX EMAIL ALERT
- 6. ANGSTROM An email? Nobody sends me emails.
- 7. MINA Can you meet me on the 2145 ferry? I want to talk.
- 8. ANGSTROM (TYPING) Who... are... you?
- 9. FX EMAIL WHOOSH
- 10.FXEMAIL ALERT
- 11. MINA A friend. I will be wearing an anorak. You do the same.
- 12. ANGSTROM (TYPING) What is this about?
- 13. FX EMAIL WHOOSH

14.	<u>FX</u>	EMAIL ALERT
15.	MINA	Murder.
16.	ANGSTROM	(TO HIMSELF) Murder? (TYPING) I'll be there.
17.	FX	EMAIL WHOOSH
18.	ANGSTROM	Just one last murder. I promise. And then I will let you rest, my
		darling duck. (BEAT) And my wife.

1. GRAMS NARRATOR BED

- 2. NARRATOR By late evening the Njalsland ferry was no longer packed with commuters saving the forty minute drive up the peninsula, and the silence of the deck was pierced only by the gentle patter of snow and engines.
- 3. GRAMS BED FADE

4. FX FERRY ENGINES, LOUD. THEY HAVE TO SHOUT.

- 5. ANGSTROM (SHOUTING) I like your anorak.
- MINA (SHOUTING) It has a reinforced zip. I like yours too. Is that a drawstring neckline?
- 7. ANGSTROM I don't like to talk about it. Too many memories.
- 8. MINA l'm... sorry.

9. FX FADE ENGINES SLIGHTLY, FOOTSTEPS ON METAL

- 10. ANGSTROM You didn't know. What is this?
- 11. MINA I'm a journalist. I need to talk to you.
- 12. ANGSTROM I don't talk to journalists. Except just then. And now. I'm stopping now. This is the last thing I'm going to say to you.
- 13. MINA You don't have to talk. Just listen.
- 14. ANGSTROM I don't listen to journalists.

16. ANGSTROM No. I was talking to that... seagull.

17. FX SEAGULL CAW

18. MINA It's about Askeladen. (BEAT) The Ash Lad.

- 19. ANGSTROM(ANGRY) What do you know about the Ash Lad? (BEAT) I'm still
talking to the gull.
- 20. MINA Back in '95, that was your case. I know. Fifteen people. Strangled with their own legs. I've read the internet.
- 21. ANGSTROM You know nothing. You weren't even born then. (BEAT) The lifespan of a herring gull is around 12 years. Still talking to him.
- 22. MINA It doesn't add up. I think the wrong man went down. I think the Ash Lad is still out there.
- 23. ANGSTROM He's dead, do you hear? In prison. Stabbed in the neck with a sharpened toothbrush. From the inside. They made it look like a routine toilet accident. It's over. Do you hear? Stop the ferry. I want to get off.
- 24. MINA You'll fall in the sea.
- 25. ANGSTROM Maybe that would be for the best. You! Dragging up the past! All that murder got me nothing. And it stops now. No more. (GOING OFF MIC) Let me through! I'm going to fall in the sea.

- 26. MINAI hacked into the police data stream! You lost a murder this week.Down in the valley. Take me there. Please.
- 27. ANGSTROM (COMING ON MIC) OK. But there's nothing to see.
- 28. MINA And I want to see that nothing with my own eyes.

- 1. GRAMS NARRATOR BED
- NARRATOR In the valley a fresh fall of snow had covered the scene of the murder, erasing the evidence, as if it had never been there, which it possibly hadn't.
- 3. GRAMS FADE BED
- 4. MINA (OFF MIC) Here!
- 5. FX FOOTSTEPS IN SNOW
- 6. ANGSTROM (RUNNING ON MIC) What is it?
- MINA What do you think? It's a horrible little figure. A model. It's meant to be a troll, I think.
- 8. ANGSTROM (HORRIFIED) It's... him. The Ash Lad. He's back.
- MINA I'd always imagined him bigger. Like the size of a man. A little wooden figure wouldn't have the strength to --
- 10. ANGSTROM No. The killer. He left it. These crude models were his calling card.
- 11. MINA Hang on. That wasn't in any of the reports.
- 12. ANGSTROM We never told the press, to avoid copycats. The trolls meant we'd know it was him. Look at this cheeky little fellow. With his three eyes, his arse forehead and his nose covered in fingers. The work of a maniac.

- 14. ANGSTROM For us to find.
- 15. MINA So what can this little troll tell us?

16. FX FOOTSTEPS IN SNOW

17. ANGSTROM Nothing. They're made of wood. I spent two days interrogating one of these back in '95. In the end I just had to accept it. It's not a witness. It's a clue. That's one of the things you learn in this job. To tell the difference. (GOING OFF MIC) Come on. I think we could do with a hot drink.

1. GRAMS NARRATOR BED

- 2. NARRATOR The bar was unremarkable, a feature which would help anyone adapting a lengthy novel for radio broadcast, rendering a long passage of narration unnecessary and helping maintain the pace of the story. There was no need to stop. No need to look away. No need to take a pause. The bar was a bar. Nothing more to say. (BEAT) Maybe there being nothing to say was in itself significant. Maybe it was worthy of a moment's thought. But there was no time for that. It was merely a bar. And Angstrom and Mina were inside it. Now.
- 3. GRAMS FADE BED

4. FX FADE UP BAR ATMOSPHERE

- MINA The Ash Lad is part of low folklore, isn't he? The unlikely trickster who outwits the forces of authority and wins.
- 6. ANGSTROM You seem to know a lot about this.
- 7. MINA I read a lot of Wikipedia. In low comedy, the Ash Lad or Askeladen, is identified with Norway, with characters from Sweden and Denmark as his high status rivals, citation needed. Are you okay?
- 8. ANGSTROM Nothing. I'm fine. It's just like someone trod on my grave... and the grave of my duck. And my wife.

- 9. MINA Do you want to be alone? I don't mind hiding under the table.
- 10. ANGSTROM I'm fine. I'm fine. OK? (AFTER AN AWKARD BEAT) I like your jumper.
- 11. MINA My mother knitted it.
- 12. ANGSTROM Nice reindeer.
- MINA It's a bee. She's in a sort of clinic for people who cannot recognise or knit the shapes of animals. Thank you. For noticing. She'd like that.
- 14. ANGSTROM (AWKWARD) So... we have a murderer. But no body. Someone's playing with us. But that troll... I have a feeling I know who our body was before it disappeared. God. It's late. Look, I've got to get home and put some damaged lawnmowers on eBay. Can you meet me first thing at City Hall, with a bag of hammers?
- 15. MINA I thought you'd never ask.

- NARRATOR City Hall: a concrete box, cold and dispassionate, with an art gallery on the top floor because if there's one thing Swedish architects worship in this godless world, it is metaphor.
- 3. GRAMS FADE BED
- 4. SECRETARY This is council property.
- 5. ANGSTROM And <u>this</u> is police property.
- SECRETARY (BEAT) You'll have to hold it a bit further away. I can't see what it is. Is it a supermarket points card?
- 7. ANSGTROM It's a police badge. We need to search this office.
- 8. SECRETARY Not without the permission of Councillor Lundstrom.
- 9. ANGSTROM Let me guess. Councillor Lundstrom didn't come to work today. Right?
- 10. SECRETARY Yes. How did you know? We had a text saying she was in hospital for routine tests on her hair.
- 11. ANGSTROM Those tests are going to come back dead.
- 12. MINA We suspect Birgit Lundstrom was murdered yesterday morning.
- 13. SECRETARY Murdered?

- 14. ANGSTROM And if you don't mind, we'd like to do some police stuff. Hammer, please.
- 15. SECRETARY Hey! You can't go in there!
- 16. FX SMASHING A WOODEN DOOR IN WITH A HAMMER
- 17. SECRETARY (AFTER A BEAT) Oh. OK. So you can.
- 18. FX FILING CABINET DRAWER OPENS AND SLAMS
- 19. ANGSTROM Right. We need to use our wits. And these hammers. Here.

20. MINA Thanks but no thanks. I'll hack her computer.

21. ANGSTROM You kids with your robots. They'll never replace the hammer.

22. FX HAMMER SMASH ON FILING CABINET

23. MINA While I log on to the world wide web, why don't we have the conversation we had in the car on the way here again? I enjoyed that.

24. FX SMASHING OFFICE APART WITH A HAMMER UNDER

- 25. ANGSTROM Sure. Lundstrom was head of City Planning. For years we tried to connect her to Hans Lotto, the controversial construction lobbyist. I heard that she'd met him for some under-the-table lunch deal. She was careful, she gained a lot of enemies.
- 26. MINA So our man had some sort of beef with her?

- 27. ANGSTROM Chicken salad, I think. But Lotto got a signature on a backdoor
 land deal. I was surprised Lundstrom survived last time. If the killer
 is back in action, she's the obvious next victim.
- 28. LUNDSTROM (SHOUTING) Stop! Stop!

29. FX SMASHING SOUNDS STOP

- 30. ANGSTROM Ah! Councillor Lundstrom. We were just doing some exposition about you.
- 31. SECRETARY I tried to stop them coming in and smashing everything up with hammers, Councillor, but they had hammers.
- 32. LUNDSTROM This is my office. What on earth are you doing?
- 33. ANGSTROM We're trying to save your life.
- 34. LUNDSTROM I'm not dead.
- 35. ANGSTROM That's what they all say.
- 36. MINA Her story checks out. She's still breathing.
- 37. ANGSTROM Then we got here just in time.
- 38. LUNDSTROM Get out.
- 39. ANGSTROM Don't worry. We were just getting.
- 40. MINA (AFTER A BEAT) Out.

- NARRATOR Sitting in his car, Angstrom brooded. Mina played a smartphone game where you have to make little rows of vegetables turn into fireworks while she waited for him to finish.
- 3. GRAMS FADE BED
- 4. ANGSTROM I'm finished.
- 5. MINA Finished brooding?
- ANGSTROM No. Finished everything. This is over. We're finished. The one thing I was sure of was that Lundstrom was dead.
- 7. MINA We can't give up. Not now.
- 8. ANGSTROM Now is <u>exactly</u> when we can give up. You think we can give up yesterday? It's too late for that! We should never have met. This is all wrong. Raking over the past. And it stops now. Get out.
- 9. MINA I... I... I...
- 10. ANGSTROM Don't pretend to be Spanish to win me over.
- 11. FX CAR DOOR OPENS
- 12. ANGSTROM Go. Get out of my car.
- 13. MINA You should sleep on it.

- 14. ANGSTROM I'm not sleeping on my car. Not again. Don't make me go back to those days. This is the last time we will see each other, Mina. Goodbye.
- 15. MINA Good...
- 16. FX CAR DOOR SLAMS
- 17. MINA ... bye. (AFTER A BEAT) I can still see you through the window.
- 18. ANGSTROM Go! (AFTER A PAUSE) This place.
- 19. FX CAR ENGINE REVS, STARTS, DRIVES OFF

1. GRAMS NARRATOR BED

- NARRATOR Back in his apartment, Angstrom wrestled with his thoughts, then he karate chopped his anxieties and boxed his emotions.
- 3. GRAMS FADE BED
- 4. ANGSTROM I'm sorry. I failed you. I was foolish.

5. FX (AFTER A BEAT) DUCK QUACK

- ANGSTROM I was just seeing patterns that weren't there. Like a hungry man staring into a plate. He imagines sausages. But there are no sausages. Just painted flowers. This is how you got killed. Me. Seeing sausages everywhere. Not seeing the truth. Through the sausages.
- 7. FX LANDLINE PHONE RINGS
- 8. ANGSTROM Hello?
- 9. MINA (PHONE D.) It's me.
- 10. ANGSTROM I said we'd never see each other again.
- 11. MINA (PHONE D.) I can't see you. It's a phone.
- 12. ANGSTROM Why won't you leave me alone? What are you looking for?
- 13. MINA (D) (SCARED) Help.
- 14. ANGSTROM Damn right you need help. You're obsessed with this killer.

- 15. MINA (D) He's trying to... kill me. There's... a bomb. Here. In my car.
- 16. ANGSTROM I'll be right there.

1.	GRAMS	ACTION MUSIC UNDER THROUGHOUT
2.	NARRATOR	Angstrom raced through the streets like a man driving a car, which is exactly what he was.
3.	FX	CAR DRIVING AT FULL PELT, HORNS, SCREECHES
4.	ANGSTROM	Keep talking. Focus on me. Where are you?
5.	MINA	(D) I'm at the sauna. I took the car.
6.	ANGSTROM	You're at the car sauna?
7.	MINA	(D) I thought it might need a steam. I wanted to treat it. Oh god. Oh god. The bomb. The clock. It's ticking.
8.	ANGSTROM	I've got a plan. Don't panic. I'm going to stay with you, Mina.
9.	MINA	(D) (EDGE OF PANIC) Stay with me? Where are you going to sleep? My brother's coming down from Oslo at the weekend, there's only one sofabed.
10.	ANGSTROM	I mean I'm going to stay on the phone. What can you see?
11.	MINA	(D) There's a bomb. On the dashboard.
12.	ANGSTROM	Don't move! It might set it off! What else can you see? Check the seats, the dash, the rear view mirror. Look! Look hard!
13.	MINA	(D) Aaaargh!
14.	ANGSTROM	Oh god. She looked too hard. Have you strained your eyes?

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- 15. MINA (D) A body! A dead body! In the back seat!
- 16. ANGSTROM Who? Who's dead in your back seat?
- 17. MINA (D) God!
- 18. ANGSTROMDon't be stupid. God's been dead since the nineteenth century. It
can't be him.
- 19. MINA
 (D) Lundstrom. Birgit Lundstrom. The councillor. She's dead. In

 the back seat.
- 20. ANGSTROM Our body. At last! Well, better late than never. Hold on.
- 21. FX GEAR CHANGE. SPEED AWAY.

1. GRAMS NARRATOR BED

- NARRATOR Angstrom's car sped through the night like a well-oiled bullet fired through unusually thin air from a gun already moving at a tremendous pace.
- 3. GRAMS FADE BED
- 4. FX TICKING OF BOMB.
- 5. MINA I'm scared. She's looking at me. Her dead eyes. Wide open. Unnatural. Like... chemists. You know the chemists that stay open when you expect them to be shut? That's her eyes. Where are you?
- 6. ANGSTROM (D) I'm right here. Keep talking.
- 7. MINA Oh help me. The bomb counter is going down.
- 8. ANGSTROM (D) They do that. If the numbers go up, the bomb never goes off.
 Dammit. Our guy knows what he's doing. Focus on me. How could the body have got in your car?
- MINA He must have snuck it in under the cover of the steam. Hurry! It's down to two minutes. Oh, god.
- 10. ANGSTROM (D) I said don't panic.
- 11. MINA What do you mean, don't panic? Where are you?

12. FX CAR DOOR OPENS

- 13. ANGSTROM I'm here. Quick. Out. So I can have a look at this bomb of yours.
- 14. MINA I'm scared. I can't die. I'm death intolerant. It makes me all stiff and cold...
- 15. ANGSTROM Nobody's going to die today.
- 16. MINA What about her in the back seat?
- 17. ANGSTROM Apart from her. There's nothing to be scared of. It's just a bomb.It'll be wired to the electrics. So all I need to do is pull this from under the dash...
- 18. MINA I don't want to die. What about all the things I still wanted to do? I wanted to go to the Great Lakes. I wanted to meet Sting. I wanted to master kickboxing. I wanted to roundhouse kick Sting into a lake.
- 19. ANGSTROM Then I plug it into the cigar lighter, and short out the whole thing...
- 20. FX FRITZING ELECTRICS. BOMB TICKING STOPS.
- 21. MINA It's... stopped.
- 22. ANGSTROM What did I tell you? Now let's get out of here.
- 23. FX CAR DOOR SLAMS, FOOTSTEPS
- 24. MINA (PANTING) Thank you. You saved my life.
- 25. ANGSTROM I may look a little rumpled. A little old fashioned. But I know a few things.

26. MINA Like what? 27. ANGSTROM Well, we've got a body. We've got a bomb. I'll get forensics down. There'll be clues. There'll be detective work. There'll be a case. Young lady, we've got work to do.

28.FXHUGE EXPLOSION

29. ANGSTROM B-I-oody Helgeland.

1. GRAMS NARRATOR BED

- NARRATOR Angstrom needed a drink. All detectives need a drink eventually, especially after a point of dramatic crisis. He and Mina holed themselves up in a corner of the Gloomy Snowman bar, and nursed their 600 kronor lager slammers.
- 3. GRAMS BED FADE

4. FX BAR ATMOS UNDER

- 5. MINA I couldn't help noticing. You know a lot about bombs.
- 6. ANGSTROM Well... I used to set them. Ever heard of a group back in the 70s called Meiner Baadhof?
- 7. MINA You were in Meiner Baadhof?
- 8. ANGSTROM Yes. I played keyboards. Then I was kidnapped on the Dutch leg of the tour for our 1979 double album and brainwashed into becoming a terrorist. It wasn't a good time for me. Though I did learn a lot about bombs. Enough to stop that one going off.
- 9. MINA But... It did go off.

10. FX BEEPING NOISE - TEXT ALERT

- 11. ANGSTROM (NOT LISTENING TO HER) Your phone.
- 12. MINA Shit. A voice message. From an unknown number.

- 13. ANGSTROM Ten to one says it's our killer.
- 14. MINA Check this! It was sent before I got in the car. Must have got caught up at the message centre.
- 15. ANGSTROM This modern mobile technology. It'll never replace the mammoth.
- 16. MINA Shh. I'm listening. (GASP)
- 17. ANGSTROM (BEAT) Are you OK?
- 18. MINA Listen.

19. PLAY A RECORDING OF ANGSTROM SAYING "THERE IS AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE UNDER THE DASHBOARD OF YOUR CAR"

- 20. ANGSTROM It's... me.
- 21. MINA It's you.
- 22. ANGSTROM <u>I</u> did it. I'm the killer.
- 23. MINA No you didn't. You're a good man.
- 24. ANGSTROM Don't you see? Now this is starting to make a little sense. I'm the only person who could have done this. I had the skills. I had the motive. I needed a body. Something to prove there was a crime. I tried to kill you. And kill me. I needed a murder and I was prepared to kill for it. Somebody needs to stop me. And if nobody else will, I'll damn well do it myself! Stand back. I've got a gun.
- 25. MINA Don't! You don't have to die.

- 26. ANGSTROM I'll pull the trigger. And I'll be out of all your lives. This god damned rotten place is stinking to the core. And I'm the stinking rotten heart of it. The world will be better off without me.
- 27. MINA No!

28. FX MOBILE RING

- 29. ANGSTROM Sorry. That's mine. Can you hold the gun?
- 30. FX RING STOP
- 31. ANGSTROM He-II-o? What? We'll be right there.
- 32. MINA What was it?
- 33. ANGSTROM They've found another body. Same MO. Little troll and everything.
- 34. MINA But... You were here with me.
- 35. ANGSTROM The perfect alibi.
- 36. MINA It couldn't be you. It makes no sense.
- 37. ANGSTROM What if that's just what I want me to think. I'm not off the hook yet.If I'm the murderer, you need to stop me before I do it again. Have you got a gun?
- 38. MINA Yes. You just gave me yours.
- 39. ANGSTROM Then let's go. And don't let me out of your sight.

- 41. NARRATOR Next time on Angstrom...
- 42. ANGSTROM It's quiet. Too quiet in here. It's like a morgue.
- 43. MINA It <u>is</u> a morgue.
- 44. ANGSTROM I want all of these people interviewed.
- 45. MINA They're dead.
- 46. ANGSTROM This job never gets any easier.
- 47. _____ END MUSIC