

Ophlazer's Clue

by

Altel Chagla

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e-mail: [chaglaaltel@gmail.com](mailto:chaglaaltel@gmail.com)

### Cast of Characters

**Altun Ophlazer:** Detective Inspector. Witty, and positive. Young mtf femme les with long curly natural red hair.

**Diana Biran:** Detective Sergeant. Young, and curvy futch les. Has an assertive personality.

**Sonay:** The Alluring Thief. Has a high sense of justice. An andro soft-butch with an average height. Is a les ace.

**Oktay:** Sonay's gay friend. The appearance of a glam fashion model, the character of a macho bandit.

**Vladislav:** Sonay's gay friend. A true gentleman with the appearance of a bike gang leader.

**Mister Padour:** Mrs. Padour's wealthy husband. Psychologically abuses his wife.

**Housekeeper:** Works at the Padour's villa.

**Gardener:** A grumpy, and not so tidy middle-aged man. But the master of his work.

**Young man:** The guy who irritated Oktay, and Vladislav at the park.

### Scene

A small but wealthy city with a good geopolitical location.

### Time

The 1980s.

ACT IScene 1

*We see a PARK good enough for a small wealthy city. On the scene we have a bench, a street lamp, and a trash can far away. There's a trash can near the trash can.*

*The YOUNG MAN is sitting on the bench, pleased. OKTAY and VLADISLAV enter together from different sides. They don't hide their dissatisfaction toward the young man. Oktay stands in front, while Vladislav approaches the young man from behind.*

OKTAY

We saw what you have done.

YOUNG MAN

(analyzes Oktay with the edge of the eye,  
snorts, and turns his face away)  
Not interested in the sissies.

(notices Vladislav, and sits straight in  
the fear)

VLADISLAV

We wouldn't date someone like you anyway.

(sits down)  
I believe, you can correct your recent mistake.

YOUNG MAN

Got it. You're together. Huh!  
(backs to his normal self)  
Clowns... Go away!

OKTAY

(pulls the young man up by his collar with  
an ease)  
Listen here, scant! Joking with us is a deadly sport.

(shows his fist to the young man's face)  
Wanna taste it?

VLADISLAV

(lightly)  
Please, calm down, my friend.

(he stands up in a hurry)

YOUNG MAN

We can solve it peacefully.

(notices a police patrol)  
Aha! Now you're in a trouble. I'll call the police.

OKTAY

Oh, really?

(pushes the guy toward the police)  
Don't be shy! Tell them everything!

YOUNG MAN

(comes back with a sly smile)  
Prove it.

VLADISLAV

Young man, we don't need to prove anything.

OKTAY

(pushes the guy toward the police again)

YOUNG MAN

(freezes in fear, and finally exhibits a  
fake smile to the police)  
Nothing. Just fooling with my guys.

OKTAY

(puts his arm on the guy's shoulder)  
We are not your guys, bastard.

YOUNG MAN

(gets down because of the height)  
Ouch-ouch-ouch.

VLADISLAV

(signs to Oktay to let the guy off)

YOUNG MAN

You're crazy!

VLADISLAV

The only one here who is not on good terms with their head is you. Now go take your trash, and throw it in its place.

OKTAY

(walks on the guy)  
Into your mouth!

VLADISLAV

Let's forgive him for this time.

YOUNG MAN

(takes the trash from the ground, and drops it in the trash can)  
Freaks!

(runs away)

OKTAY

(laughs)  
Well.

*Before they both walk out, Vladislav casually salutes the police patrol.*

*ALTUN and DIANA enter.*

ALTUN

Guess, who is leading The Alluring Thief case.

DIANA

Don't tell me it's Inspector Tufa!

ALTUN

Bingo!

DIANA

Hah! Good. That narrow-minded sexist will never solve that case. Bravos to his department.

ALTUN

To be perfectly honest, I cannot stop myself thinking about Mrs. Padour's case.

DIANA

The wife of a wealthy man committed suicide due to jealousy.

(ironically)

Amazing! They could have given this case to us.

ALTUN

(looks at Diana with questioning eyes)

DIANA

Pardon.

(an awkward pause)

ALTUN

Anyway, Sergeant Biran. Let's sum it up.

DIANA

Alright. Everyone who surrounded the couple, as one, claimed that Mrs. Padur was unstable. That she could do that.

ALTUN

The wife follows the husband to the restaurant where he was having a business meeting and accuses him of having a secret date with the woman with whom he was sitting at a table right now.

DIANA

While the husband and his friends proved that they saw her for the first time there.

ALTUN

From the gardener's words, they suggested that the offended woman went right back home.

DIANA

Later it was proven. She died from diabetic pills overdose.

ALTUN

(dreamily)

The dosage makes something either a remedy or a poison, said Paracelsus.

DIANA

That's right. The hours later, the husband finds the wife's cold body with a letter beside her. Which was also proven to be written by her hand.

(gets faster at talking)

He immediately called police, and went out right away. The gardener was also confirmed that no one got in after the return of the wife till the arrival of the husband as he worked nearby all day.

ALTUN

Something is surely off.

DIANA

It's because everything went smoothly.

ALTUN

But it cannot.

DIANA

Very rarely, but can. Inspector Ophlazer, you better don't overload your head. The case is closed, anyway.

ALTUN

You're right. No, really, I shouldn't have to.

DIANA

Ridiculously, the woman Mr. Padour had a meeting with came out to be The Alluring Thief herself.

ALTUN

Really? So it's another argument in the favor of the husband.



DIANA

They say she has a tempting charm.

ALTUN

Huh? Oh, right. She's the master of shapeshifting.

*Altun and Diana slowly walk away to leave while talking.*

*Oktaý and Vladislav enter together with the gazettes under their arms. They sit down to read.*

DIANA

Each description of her drastically differs. But everyone notices her alluring eyes.

ALTUN

She could use them to hypnotize her victims then.

DIANA

I wonder, how she is as her real self.

*Altun and Diana walk off. SONAY enters from the other side. She has a short ponytail, a soft-butth outfit, and a charismatic gait. In addition, she wears a tie as a belt.*

SONAY

What's up, guys?! Ready to move out?

OKTAY

Everything is cleaned up. The car is ready.

VLADISLAV

The transfers are done. The previous time it was an animal rehabilitation shelter. This time we sent everything to two schools for the kids with disabilities.

OKTAY

(finds the topic with Mr. Padour)  
Found it!

(reads carefully. His positive attitude disappears as he finishes reading)

SONAY

Well done, guys! I'm proud of you.

*Oktaý hands the gazette to Vladislav. He quickly reads through.*

SONAY

What is it?

VLADISLAV

Something not so pleasant.

*Sonay grabs the gazette, and carefully reads it. Finished, she sits down.*

VLADISLAV

My friend! Don't dare to blame yourself.

SONAY

I have to talk to Altun.

OKTAY

We have to leave the city today as planned, you know.

VLADISLAV

The telephone box is right there.

*Sonay rushes to the telephone box.*

OKTAY

What about to cool down first?!

*The LIGHTS turn OFF and ON. Sonay heavily comes back. Oktay and Vladislav are waiting on the feet for her.*

SONAY

Wait for me in the car. She lives nearby, so we're going to talk here.

*Vladislav and Oktay look at each other.*

VLADISLAV

No matter what, hold on.

OKTAY

(pats on Sonay's shoulder)  
You go, sis!

*Vladislav and Oktay leave. Sonay goes here and there, then sits down not knowing how to put his legs, roughly ruffling her hair. She manages to calm down a bit. Altun enters. She is genuinely delighted to see her school friend Sonay.*

ALTUN

Oh, my! Sonay!

*Altun and Sonay hug.*

SONAY

You're looking amazing!

ALTUN

*Thanks! You're looking cool as usual. How wonderful to see you again!*

*(grabs Sonay's hand to drag her)*

*Let's go.*

SONAY

*(confidently but with tender resist to go)*  
I earnestly want to spend more time with you. But I'm in a hurry. Let's talk here.

*(invites Altun to sit down)*  
I just hope, the information I'm going to give you wouldn't damage our friendship.

ALTUN

Is everything alright?

SONAY

Don't worry about me.

*(jump up)*  
Forget it! We'll better go to a cafe.

ALTUN

*(holds Sonay)*  
No, please, I want to know!

SONAY

It can be risky for you.

ALTUN

(gently pulls Sonay down to sit)  
Let me decide it for myself.

SONAY

I have doubts about Mrs. Padour's suicide.

ALTUN

Did you know her?

SONAY

Not exactly.

ALTUN

Sorry, but I didn't participate in that case. In addition, it's closed.

SONAY

I know. But I have to know, if it was really a suicide. I believe in no one except you here. I don't want to put you at risk, please, just search as much as you can.

ALTUN

Couldn't you at least tell me a bit more?

SONAY

Their prenuptial agreement. Do you know what is said there.

ALTUN

She gets almost everything, if he ever cheats on her. They must already checked it.

*Altun and Sonay stay silent for a while.*

ALTUN

I've not read the full report yet. Maybe I can find something.

SONAY

(gets hopeful)  
There's another thing, too...

ALTUN

So, you are suspecting the husband. Honestly, I was having my own thoughts about this case.

SONAY

(feels better)  
Really?

*Altun stands up, and offer Sonay a hand. Sonay stands up, and takes Altun's hand under her arm.*

ALTUN

Would I put you off from the way, if we have a little walk?

SONAY

Of course not!

*Altun and Sonay leave while talking.*

ACT IISCENE 1

*We are in the WAITING ROOM of Mr. Padour's villa. There's a huge painting, two huge vases, and a medium-size table in the middle.*

*The HOUSEKEEPER brings Diana and Altun here.*

HOUSEKEEPER

I'll inform Mister Padour.

ALTUN

Excuse me. I have seen Mr. Padour's luggages at the entrance. Where is he going?

HOUSEKEEPER

Sorry, I'm not informed.

*Housekeeper leaves.*

ALTUN

We're in a time shortage. They didn't even question the housekeeper properly. Even though she was off two days before, she still could do that. She can be Padour's secret lover, too.

DIANA

You're right.

*Housekeeper comes back.*

HOUSEKEEPER

I'm afraid, he's busy right now. Could you wait?

ALTUN

Yes, of course.

*Housekeeper is about to go.*

DIANA

Could you, please, answer some of our questions?

HOUSEKEEPER

The last time police saw no reason to ask me.

DIANA

We're the different ones. So?

*Housekeeper reluctantly sits down.*

ALTUN

At the first, what were your personal thoughts about Mrs. Padour?

HOUSEKEEPER

One day she was calm. Another day she could have several breakdowns. Sometimes her mood swings would get out of hand.

ALTUN

Could you be more precise?



HOUSEKEEPER

Lately, she was on good terms with him. Even agreed that she is the guilty side. Recently, she kept saying her husband is playing mind games with her, and even cheating on her.

ALTUN

How was Mr.Padour reaction to all of these?

HOUSEKEEPER

Poor, man. He was in confusion. He couldn't keep up with her emotional tournaments.

ALTUN

Now, please excuse me. It may sound rude, but how is your relationship with Mr. Padour?

HOUSKEEPER

You are right. It is rude. Why did you even asking these questions?

ALTUN

We clarified some conditions related to the death of Mrs. Padour.

HOUSEKEEPER

She could be annoying sometimes, most of the times, but the murder is too much!

ALTUN

I said death, not murder.

HOUSEKEEPER

(stands up)  
I see you are looking for a scapegoat. But it's not

going to be me!

ALTUN

We're not charging you for anything. Yet. Could you sit down, please?

HOUSEKEEPER

I went to my mother's town two days before the event! And came back three days after it. Of course, you cannot charge me for anything! Mister Padour is not guilty either! He is a gentleman. I wonder, how he even could stand that crazy horse.

DIANA

You better calm down already.

*Housekeeper sits down and cries on the table.*

*GARDENER enters.*

GARDENER

The taxi is here!

(approaches to check the housekeeper)  
What the hell is going on?

DIANA

We are from the police. You must be the gardener-

GARDENER

What do you want again?!

ALTUN

We would like to talk to you, too.

GARDENER

Damn it!

*Housekeeper stands up and hugs Gardener while crying hysterically.*

DIANA

Calm down, you both!

*Gardener, and Housekeeper freeze in the place.*

ALTUN

Now try to remember if you saw something off.  
Including several days before the event.

*Housekeeper wanted to say something, but Diana interferes.*

DIANA

Don't hurry to answer. Think carefully.

ALTUN

Even the slightest change. Both at home, and in its owners. Like a schedule.

*A little time has passed. Housekeeper rises hand.*

ALTUN

Yes.

HOUSEKEEPER

Mister Padour was his usual self.

GARDENER

Remembered!

*Housekeeper shudders out of fear.*

GARDENER

Two days before the event, I saw Mr. Padour in the kitchen at 3 a.m.

HOUSEKEEPER

What were you doing here at that time?

(moves away from the gardener)  
The workers cannot stay overnight.

GARDENER

I was tired, woman! I fell asleep in the garage. Mister Padour ordered me to rearrange the whole garden. Which was also strange.

ALTUN

Why?

GARDENER

Because he used to have zero interest in it. It was like all of the sudden.

HOUSEKEEPER

No! He wanted it to be a surprise for his wife.

ALTUN

Alright. What did you see that night?

GARDENER

He spent a long time looking for something.

HOUSEKEEPER

Lier! Mister Padour doesn't eat at night as he follows his diet strictly.

GARDENER

You know, he was surely not looking for a snack!

DIANA

You didn't state it the previous time.

GARDENER

Your friends didn't ask!

ALTUN

The problem is the most of the time people don't give meaning or just unaware of the seen. As it seamlessly gets lost in the dark part of the mind. Till the right question is asked.

Please repeat to us everything you saw on the day of the event.

GARDENER

But I already told it!

DIANA

You'll repeat it as much as we want!

*Diana's voice was convincing enough to change the attitude of the Gardener.*

GARDENER

That day I worked mainly on the entrance.

ALTUN

Did you decide it for yourself or Mr. Padour told you so?

GARDENER

It was his order.

(got in thoughts for a moment)  
Mr. Padour left. His wife followed him immediately.  
An hour and a half later she came back.

ALTUN

How would you describe her mood?

GARDENER

I may be wrong as I am not a psychologist, but she looked furious. I have never seen her like that.

ALTUN

Please, go on.

GARDENER

Nobody came in or went out after her. Mr. Padour's arrived two hours later. He was inside only ten minutes, not much.

*MR.PADOUR enters. He checks the policewomen as seamlessly as he can, then approaches them as a boa to its prey.*

MR.PADOUR

My earnest apologies!

ALTUN

Detective Inspector Altun Ophlazer.

DIANA

Detective Sergeant Diana Biran.

MR.PADOUR

How can I help you?

ALTUN

We have updated the case.

MR.PADOUR

What?

*The LIGHTS go OFF.*

## SCENE 2

*The LIGHT is ON at the center. We see Mr. Padour at the table here. Diana and Altun stand around. It's the INTERROGATION ROOM.*

*Mr.Padour shivers as the room is cool.*

MR.PADOUR

Let me guess. One of you is going to play the bad police, and the other the good one.

DIANA

We are both good police. However, she is the polite one.

(slams her hands on the table)

I'm not. I especially can't stand the husbands who abuses, and kills their wives.

MR.PADOUR

Ho! Good for you.

(to Altun  
)

So you're accusing me of killing my wife, huh? I have to say that it was me who was in a danger. Unfortunately, my wife's psychology was not stable.

ALTUN

Do you know what is the main problem with this murder case?

MR.PADOUR

(smugly)

Yeah, the nonexistence of any murder. Alright. To prove my innocence, I'll answer any question.

ALTUN

Your wife's will is simple. Nothing for you. You didn't need it anyway. But your prenuptial agreement is really interesting.

MR.PADOUR

I've never cheated on her.

ALTUN

But she affirmed the opposite.

MR.PADOUR

Listen, my wife had some quirks. Even her friends left her for that.

ALTUN

Everybody owns a quirk or two. People knowing her says Mrs. Padour was alright before the marriage.



MR.PADOUR

Maybe it comes with the age or money. She was from a poor family. Anyway, she was always envious and suspicious. Ask anybody knowing her and me.

DIANA

(calmly but menacing)  
Sir, don't tell us how to do our job.

ALTUN

We discovered a peculiar moment. Oddly, all of your friends mostly retelling your stories.

MR.PADOUR

Oh, really? Recently, we were at a dinner party of a serious persona. She made a successful scandal there.

DIANA

Why?

MR.PADOUR

She just wanted attention. As always. She saw me talking to a woman and flamed up.

ALTUN

I have a person who swears that it was you who was acting envious. You wouldn't let her alone. You also didn't shy away from telling an unpleasant joke about your wife to a complete stranger.

MR.PADOUR

Maybe the joke sounded unpleasant to your witness. As I see, you're tuned against me from the beginning.

DIANA

I just figured out Mister Padour's fave word is "maybe".

ALTUN

From the words of your wife, you were playing mind games with her.

MR.PADOUR

Alright, ladies! I know you don't like it when you get the questions, but where is your proof?

ALTUN

We are not done yet. Could you tell us, what were you doing in the kitchen at 3 a.m. two days before the murder?

MR.PADOUR

What the heck? It's my own business! I was hungry.

ALTUN

According to the gardener, it took you way long looking for something.

DIANA

According to your housekeeper, you follow your diet precisely.

MR.PADOUR

(to Diana)

Ha-ha!

(to Altun)

Gardener? You put his words against mine?

ALTUN

That's very classist of you.

MR.PADOUR

Oh, common.

ALTUN

We are aware of the fact that your wife was known for a tendency to hide her medicine. Do you know what kind of pills she used to take?

MR.PADOUR

No.

ALTUN

And this fact, without any doubt helped you. You also didn't know who is her new doctor, and the previous doctor wouldn't tell you a thing. We checked them. Neither of them reported a break-in or a similar issue. You had to search for the pills at the villa. That night you found it.

MR.PADOUR

I think, I was overly kind toward you until now.

(stands up)

Enough is enough!

*Altun pulls out a jar of pills.*

ALTUN

You couldn't follow her everywhere. And you didn't trust anyone. Your wife didn't keep a planner, or a diary. She had a good memory.

MR.PADOUR

What is it?

ALTUN

What if I told you we found it in her room during revision. These are new pills with a higher dose. We also found a secret place in the kitchen.

MR.PADOUR

Impossible!

ALTUN

Why? Because you scratched the whole villa inch by inch? She is smarter than you think.

MR.PADOUR

(pulls himself together  
)

Wait! You cannot fool me! What about the results of the expertise?!

ALTUN

Let me summarize it for you.

(slowly but surely walks around)  
She had two things in her stomach. A fruit cocktail, and the old pills. Her doctor confirmed that, and the previous Inspector was satisfied with it. With the help of the letter which I guess, was masterfully written by you, he closed the case. Sometimes, the urge to impressing others, or just banal laziness creates the soil for such kind of hasty decisions. We found out you copied your teachers' hand several times. Your school would not know, if you didn't spill it out at a school party.

(stops closer to Mr. Padour)  
Mister Padour, why would your late wife bother

tucking in such amount of pills? It's a tiresome task for a suicidal person. While she could just take a few of this and get better results? She has to know it.

MR.PADOUR

(drops himself back on the chair)  
It could be a perfect murder.

(a carefree snort)  
Honestly, it was fun.

DIANA

In the case of you, I have no doubt.

MR.PADOUR

On the other hand, it would be a pity if the world couldn't hear of it.

(smiles and looks at the others as a wild animal)

DIANA

Save our time, and tell us everything.

MR.PADOUR

I got bored with her. I wanted the change. I'm sure you know what I mean. But I couldn't risk. The only way was getting rid out of her. Making her think that I was cheating on her was an easy-pastry-pie. I acted as if I was talking with someone till I learned that there is going to be a woman in one of my business meetings. It was double luck when I discovered her being a thief. I lost some amount of money, but who cares. My brainless friends would believe in everything I was making up about my wife. I told them she was threatening me with suicide to make me feel guilty. Stupid jerks.

DIANA

The friends are the mirrors of us.

MR.PADOUR

(acts as if he did not hear Diana)  
You were right about her cache. I had to find it for learning the type of pills. She had a habit of drinking her specially made fruit cocktail every day. I was nearly 100% sure she would return home, and consume the whole jar in the kitchen that day.

(gets more comfortable as talking)  
I cut telephone cables, just in case. Finally, the gardener was an excellent witness.

ALTUN

Oddly, he became a witness both in, and against your favor.

MR.PADOUR

As I said before, the jar was almost empty when she kicked off. I replaced the jar. Got the pills from her secret place. Dropped the letter. Called the police, and ran out.

DIANA

(moves aside)  
Dastard.

MR.PADOUR

Where did you find those pills?

ALTUN

From the pharmacy.

MR.PADOUR

(jumps on)  
What?!

*After the full realization, Mr. Padour attacks Altun, but Diana captures him with ease. Mr. Padour's keeping his death glares on Altun while being dragged out.*

SCENE 3

*LIGHTS go OFF and ON. We are in the PARK again. Diana and Altun enter.*

ALTUN

It was earnestly a tough one.

DIANA

Not for you. That was something!

ALTUN

Without your help and support, Diana, I wouldn't go far.

*They walk around.*

ALTUN

I recently met up with a close friend of mine from school. She's teaching kids with dyslexia.

DIANA

Wow! Respect.

ALTUN

She was my protector, while by herself was regularly mocked. She used to bring me her skirts, and dresses. She was a butch from childhood. She made me believe in myself. God knows how she got the medications for my hormone therapy. I always felt

lucky to have a friend like her. Now I feel lucky to have an amazing college like you.

DIANA

Oh...

ALTUN

Would you mind if I make a call?

DIANA

No problem. I gotta go, too. Wait! Would you like to go out somehow? I mean, like a celebration.

ALTUN

With great pleasure.

DIANA

Really? I can pick you up at seven.

ALTUN

Good.

*Altun and Diana look at each other with adoration. The LIGHTS slowly go OFF.*

---END---