

CHAPTER 12: AN UNEXPECTED ENCOUNTER WITH THE SUN GOD OF THE ANDES

Overview

This episode happens sometime further into the story, after Pearl had already come across tips that León is not exactly the nice man he pretends to be.

Edwin Wallace sends Pearl to retrieve an Incan relic from a lockbox at a bank in New York City, left there by a member of the Golden Mean. Pearl has some difficulties to convince the bank manager that Edwin (who is thought dead) sent her. Pearl eventually enlists the help of her friend Iris.

By the time Pearl returns to the bank, she learns it was robbed and Edwin's lockbox broken into.

Pearl goes after the criminals at Grand Central Station and learns the relic was delivered to an anthropologist in town. She tips the police about the bank robbers and heads to the anthropologist's office. After searching the place, Pearl and Iris come across a hidden room filled with relics and an old film projector. What Pearl learns from the film may be the missing piece to understand the puzzle that is León.

Scenes

Bank Office

PEARL

(smiling)

Hello. I'm Pearl Wallace. My grandpa Edwin sent me to retrieve the contents of a lockbox.

MANAGER

(surprised)

Edwin Wallace sent you? Edwin died on a plane crash two years ago! It was all over the newspapers!

PEARL

(evasive)

Yes... I mean on his will.

MANAGER

(smiling)

Oh, sure. I'm sorry, Miss Wallace. Do you have the lockbox number and keys?

PEARL

(evasive)

Keys? No... the number only.

MANAGER

(surprised)

Mmm... That may be an issue. Allow me to check our files. Would you mind waiting here?

PEARL

(annoyed)

If nothing can be done about it...

MANAGER

(smiling)

It will only be a few minutes. Excuse me.

PEARL

(annoyed)

Great... Might as well look around while I wait.

Scene starts.

Journal Clue

That manager took long enough! But, no good. He wants proof I'm Edwin's heir! Outrageous!
Very well, I'll head back home and get my papers. Oh, I *will* rub those papers in his pudgy
face...

Park Avenue

IRIS

(smiling)

Hello, dear! When did you get back to the US of A?

PEARL

(smiling)

Hi, Iris! Just this morning. I'm on a bit of an errand.

IRIS

(smiling)

Mmm... I smell trouble!

PEARL

(smiling)

Nothing of that sort! Just picking up a few items for Grandpa.

IRIS

(worried)

Knowing you, probably cursed Egyptian relics or something of the sort.

PEARL
(evasive)
Incan, actually.

IRIS
(smiling)
Oh my... Mind if I join you?

PEARL
(smiling)
Not at all! But first we need to find my papers. They must be here somewhere!

Scene starts.

Journal Clue

Took me ages, but finally I found my papers! But how long did it take, really? I just heard someone robbed the bank! That's all I needed... I just hope the lockbox was left intact!

Bank Safe

LUC
(serious)
Miss Wallace. Why am I not surprised?

PEARL
(evasive)
Luc? I mean, Agent Luc? I mean, where else would I be?

LUC
(serious)
Yes, where else? Care to explain your connection to this heist?

PEARL
(smiling)
Family business.

LUC
(serious)
Your family has an account in this bank?

PEARL
(smiling)
In a way, yes. Mind if I look around and make sure everything is intact?

LUC

(surprised)

Well, of course I do... Miss Wallace! You can't go in there!

Scene starts.

Journal Clue

What could be Interpol's interest in a New York bank robbery? No mind! Aside from the stolen money, a single relic was stolen: a six hundred years old Incan gold plate. Who would have guessed! But these culprits didn't leave without dropping a clue. I've found train tickets to New Haven! Next stop: Grand Central Station!

Grand Central Station

PEARL

(smiling)

They are here, Iris. I can feel it!

IRIS

(worried)

Well, then I hope your feeling is strong, because there are hundreds of people in here!

PEARL

(smiling)

Trust me, I will find them. It's all a matter of looking in the right places.

IRIS

(worried)

And then what? Confront them? Armed robbers?

PEARL

(serious)

Too many innocent. Once I find what I need, I'll call Luc.

IRIS

(smiling)

Luc specifically, not the police.

PEARL

(annoyed)

What are you insinuating?

IRIS

(smiling)

That we should find this clue right away and call our charming knight for the rescue.

PEARL

(annoyed)

Iris...

Scene starts.

Journal Clue

It wasn't that hard to spot the robbers. Bags full of old coins and money! And in the hands of the most rough-looking gentlemen I've ever seen outside Attica. I overheard them talking about a Professor Szever and the 'gold disk'. I'm pretty sure they delivered the Incan relic to this Professor. Now it is a matter of locating this Professor. Oh, and calling Luc, of course! Interpol will love to capture these nefarious criminals!

Anthropologist's Office

PEARL

(smiling)

This is the place.

IRIS

(worried)

And you are going in because...?

PEARL

(serious)

Because we will not find anything on the outside? Professor Szever? Hello?

IRIS

(worried)

Oh my, look at this place. What sort of person lives here?

PEARL

(serious)

Works, probably. Look at the diploma on the wall. This man is an anthropologist.

IRIS

(worried)

This man is odd. This place gives me the shivers!

PEARL

(smiling)

C'mon, let's search it.

IRIS

(annoyed)

Yes. What about calling the police too? Hello, police? Yes, we just trespassed onto someone's office and we're rummaging through his stuff. Mind to drop by?

PEARL

(serious)

Iris, please. We don't have a lot of time.

IRIS

(annoyed)

When did I trade journalism for robbery again?

PEARL

(smiling)

Consider this hands-on research for your next great article.

IRIS

(annoyed)

I will *love* to receive my Pulitzer in jail.

Scene starts.

Journal Clue

No sign of this Professor Szever or the relic, but I came across a concealed door behind a wall hanging carpet. Iris wants me to call Luc again, but I'm no damsel in distress! I'm going in.

Curio Room

IRIS

(surprised)

Allow me to correct myself: **THIS** place is messy.

PEARL

(amazed)

It's a treasure trove. Look at all these artifacts!

IRIS

(annoyed)

Yes, and the mold and dust. I guess this room is so well hidden not even the housekeeper found it!

PEARL

(serious)

Look at the projector. Both the film and some parts are missing.

IRIS

(smiling)

But I'm sure you have an idea.

PEARL

(smiling)

Always. Keep an eye on the door, will you? I think I can get this machine working again.

Scene starts.

Journal Clue

This place looks amazing! Grandpa would love to settle in and study every artifact, one at a time. But there is no time, of course! I just managed to get the projector fixed and the film back in. All there is left now is watching it. I suddenly feel like I've just swallowed a whole iceberg. Oh, well. Here it goes...

Cutscene

OLD FILM effect. We are seeing the projector screen with the film PEARL has just uncovered.

PAN to a mountainous wilderness. Ice covers some parts of the area. It's visibly windy. A group of men, many South American Indian descendants appear carrying equipment and pointing up a path. CAMERA SLIDE towards where the guide points, showing ruins similar to Machu Picchu.

CUT to a hole on the ground, inside the ruins. Inca motif can be seen carved and painted on the stones. SLIDE DOWN to broken bones, vases and what seems like jewelry.

CAMERA SLIDE RIGHT through the ruins as a smiling León shows up holding the Incan golden disk on his hands.

END OF REEL effect. FADE OUT.