APPENDIX B

(Later, the contemporary, Black Sea room. RAISA, IRINA and ANATOLY are sitting. Waiting. They have been there some time.)

ANATOLY

How much longer?

(RAISA silently shakes her head.)

ANATOLY

It’s been nearly an hour.

RAISA

An hour to overthrow a president and destroy a life’s work? It doesn’t seem long to me.

ANATOLY

That won’t happen.

RAISA

No. Why did I say it.

ANATOLY

He’d rather be shot.

RAISA

Thank you, Anatoly.

ANATOLY

Well, I mean…

RAISA

I know what you mean.

IRINA

My father is very strong. I believe in him.

ANATOLY

We all do.

RAISA

Then let’s try to show it.

IRINA

We are. We’re with him.

RAISA

They can’t make him resign. Can they?

ANATOLY

‘The Politburo thinks….’, ‘The Supreme Soviet has warned….’, ‘Fall on your sword for the good of the Party…..’

RAISA

Like under Stalin.

ANATOLY

They’ve got form alright.

RAISA

They’re wrong. Wrong.

ANATOLY

He’s playing a dangerous game.

RAISA

It’s not a game, it’s life and death to him.

ANATOLY

Raisa, I know. I know.

RAISA

Come on, we can’t just sit here. We must be positive. Do something!

(She gets up restlessly. Goes to the window.)

Oh my god. Look!

ANATOLY

What?

(He comes to the window)

RAISA

Dozens of soldiers. With machine guns.

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