

INT. MATERNITY WARD - NIGHT

The Count Brain walks with a determined gait towards a NURSE at the central nursing station, filling out some paperwork.

COUNT BRAIN  
Your attention, urbanite! 1

NURSE  
Excuse me? 2

COUNT BRAIN  
Listen to me. I will not repeat  
myself. I am looking for an... 3

The Count falters, his villainous bravado faltering.

COUNT BRAIN (CONT'D)  
Um - Anne Allen? 4

NURSE  
And you would be? 5

A gut-wrenching wail echoes through the hallway and past the nursing desk. The Count immediately recognizes the cry.

COUNT BRAIN  
Ah ha! There she is! I must go! 6

The Count turns away from the nurse and makes his way toward the sound of painful screaming.

NURSE  
Wait! Only expectant parents are  
allowed in there! 7

The cries become louder and more desperate as Count Brain strides closer. He stops in front of Room 3104 and slowly opens the door.

Inside the room, the Paragon Fist is propped up in a hospital bed, her legs suspended and spread apart as she appears to be pushing. The ATTENDING NURSE wipes some damp, matted hair from her forehead. DR. HENDERSON is reaching between her legs.

PARAGON FIST  
Oh God! Oh God! I can't do this! 8

DR. HENDERSON  
Take a deep breath. We're gonna push  
(MORE) 9

DR. HENDERSON (CONT'D)  
again, okay?

Hesitating, Count Brain slowly makes his way through the door. As he approaches, the Attending Nurse notices him.

ATTENDING NURSE  
Excuse me, sir! You can't be in here! 10

Count Brain is speechless as he looks at the Paragon Fist; completely vulnerable, in pain, beautiful. Entranced, he approaches.

The Count places a pale hand against the cheek of his arch nemesis. Paragon Fist looks up and sees him for the first time.

PARAGON FIST  
Abner... 11

DR. HENDERSON  
Miss. Allen, we need to push. 12

PARAGON FIST  
(breathless)  
Okay, okay... 13

Paragon Fist grabs Count Brain's hand, taking the villain by surprise.

She lets out an earth-shattering scream.

DR. HENDERSON  
The head's out. Push again. Make it count! 14

The Paragon Fist pushes hard, crying out in pain. The doctor pulls out a bloody, fluid-drenched baby.

Silence.

The doctor moves to suction out the newborn's nose and mouth. A piercing cry breaks the silence as the infant takes its first breath.

The Paragon Fist collapses back, drained but smiling through her exhaustion. She begins to cry - not from pain this time, but from sheer relief and joy.

ATTENDING NURSE  
It's a girl. 15

COUNT BRAIN  
A girl? 16

The doctor cuts the umbilical cord, and the attending nurse moves to give Paragon Fist the infant.

PARAGON FIST  
Do you want to hold her? 17

Count Brain looks unsure as the attending nurse wraps a blanket around the child and places it into his arms. The Count does not speak; he stares at the infant. He glances back to see Paragon Fist watching him.

COUNT BRAIN  
Umm...how are you? 18

PARAGON FIST  
Like I just got my ass kicked by your henchmen, only a thousand times worse. 19

Angela Szczesny  
COUNT BRAIN  
Uh... 20

PARAGON FIST  
I think I'll be out of commission for a while. No more world domination schemes, not until my maternity leave is over. Alright? 21

COUNT BRAIN  
(quietly, still in shock)  
I-I think I might be out of commission myself, actually. 22

Moving his gaze away from his newborn daughter, he glares down at the Paragon First.

COUNT BRAIN (CONT'D)  
But not for long... 23

Reaching down, he takes hold of his archnemesis's hand. A tiny hint of a smile graces his normally stoic lips.

FADE TO BLACK.