

2ND CHANCE AT LIFE

Written by

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Inspired by True Events

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INT. DARK ROOM - NIGHT (DREAM)

*Sexy saxophone music PLAYS in BG, room lit only by candles. An older Latino man - ANDRE, 60s - is half-conscious in a big chair. He can barely make out what is happening as he grasps the end of the arm rest for support.*

*Magnum bottles of wine and glasses are knocked over on the table in front of him. The room SPINS as FLASHES of INEZ, early 30s, attractive curvaceous Latina, slow dances.*

INT. BEAT-UP OLD HYUNDAI - NIGHT

Andre WAKES UP confused by his deeply disturbed dream.

ANDRE

Huh? What? Where am I? What just happened?

He quickly turns to find ALANA, his white, Irish Catholic wife in her late 50s, frustratingly speeding down a dark road as fast as she can. She has rollers in her hair and is wearing a muumuu with puffy animal slippers.

Andre becomes dizzy, tries to wiggle around in his car seat. He sits back in a panic, dripping in sweat and breathing heavily.

ANDRE (CONT'D)

Alana... something is wrong... I can't see well I'm... I'm burning up...

Alana pulls over to the side of the road and grabs paper towels out of the glove box. She tries to pat him down but he drenches right through it.

ALANA

Lord, please give Andre the strength to fight through this.

ANDRE

I think... I think I have to go to the hospital...

Alarmed, Alana quickly pulls a U-turn.

INT. HOSPITAL - EMERGENCY ROOM - NIGHT

A NURSE - young, nervous, male - PUSHES Andre on a gurney through a set of double doors.

NURSE

Excuse us, coming through, we have  
a code blue here, people!

The emergency room doors SWING OPEN as DR. CRUZ enters.

DR. CRUZ

What seems to be the problem?

NURSE

Patient is still breathing but  
barely conscious, he can't stand on  
his own and he's burning up. His  
wife said he fainted at work.

DR. CRUZ

Let's get him down on the operating  
table. Run an EKG, I want a chest x-  
ray, and make sure you hook him up  
to an IV, he may just be severely  
dehydrated. And run his alcohol  
levels too, I want to know his  
history. He's looking a bit yellow.  
Might have to give him emergency  
dialysis.

The nurse takes over the procedures. Dr. Cruz walks back  
through the double doors to find --

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

-- Alana pacing back and forth, a nervous wreck, ready to  
burst into tears, biting her already chewed-down nails.

At the sight of Dr. Cruz, she rushes over.

ALANA

Doc, Andre is turning 64 next year  
and he's planning on retiring, I  
don't think he can work like this  
much longer, but if he retires  
early we won't be able to cash in  
on his benefits... How will we pay  
these medical bills if he stops  
now? I know it's the labor that's  
really putting a toll on his body --

DR. CRUZ

Okay, one thing at a time. Tell me  
what happened tonight. We'll worry  
about bills later.

They both look back through the glass in the double doors, watching Andre being tested like a lab rat.

*INT. STAR MART - STORAGE ROOM FREEZER - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)*

*SUPER TITLE CARD: A CALENDAR SHOWS IT'S NEW YEARS EVE 2017*

*Andre loads in frozen food. He shivers, COUGHS like a dog. He looks down at his digital watch, it's 5 minutes to midnight.*

*We hear YOUNG WORKERS laugh from the back of the store. Andre looks wistful as he his phone VIBRATES.*

*He picks it up and sees he got an "On This Day" notification of the photos and videos from New Years Eve's of the past.*

*He scrolls back to a video and clicks on it. It's a HOME VIDEO dated 12/31/87 in the bottom left corner.*

*ON THE PHONE SCREEN*

*1980s-style home, brown wood panel walls, shag carpets. YOUNG CARA, 5, Andre's daughter, runs around in a sparkly dress and a Happy New Year hat as she blows on a party horn.*

*YOUNG CARA*

*Happy New Year! Happy New Year!*

*A younger, healthier Andre is cheering Cara on with a younger Alana, adorably watching their whole family. Andre kisses her gently. He jumps up, playfully chases Cara, scoops her up to give her big hugs and kisses.*

*ANDRE*

*Happy New Year, baby girl. I love you so much!*

*Andre pulls in his son, YOUNG SCOTT, 2, who bangs on various pieces of furniture like they're drums with his noise maker.*

*ANDRE (CONT'D)*

*(whispers)*

*And a Happy New Year to you, too!*

*Andre kisses him on the forehead and taps his little tosh. The happy family all sits together watching the ball drop.*

*INT. STAR MART - STORAGE ROOM - CONTINUOUS*

*Andre's MALE COLLEAGUES are socializing when they hear a loud CLANG from the freezer. They go to check out the sound --*

*INT. STAR MART - STORAGE ROOM FREEZER - CONTINUOUS*

-- and find that Andre has zoned out, and dropped his phone on the metal ground. His colleagues come in and take the boxes out of his hands, shaking him out of it.

Inez, from Andre's dream, runs in and throws her arms around Andre to warm him up. She has a thick Spanish accent.

*INEZ*

Come on, Andre, you'll work yourself to death! Why don't you come join us for a holiday drink in the lot? I have a bottle of bubbly in my car with your name on it!

*COLLEAGUE #2*

Yeah, man. You never come out back, looks like you could use a drink!

Inez has pulled out of the embrace, but keeps her hand on Andre's shoulder, rubbing her thumb in circles. Andre's eyes light up as he awkwardly smiles at her touch. His cell phone RINGS, snapping him out of it as he shakes her off.

*ANDRE*

Excuse me, Inez, I need to take this. Sorry, guys.

Inez smiles softly, watching wistfully as Andre leaves the room to take the call.

*EXT. STAR MART - PARKING LOT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)*

Andre FaceTime's his daughter, CARA, 26, still as adorable as she was when she was 5. He can't hear her with the sound of a party raging through the phone.

*ANDRE*

Cara, love, it's so loud over there, I can barely hear you.

*INT. NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)*

Cara drags CHARLES, 30s, handsome and strong, through a crowd of YOUNG PEOPLE and toward the door.

*EXT. NIGHT CLUB - CONTINUOUS (FLASHBACK)*

The two emerge outside, the bass of the club thumping.

CARA  
We got engaged! Dad, can you hear  
me? Happy New Year! Where are you?  
Where's Mom? We're getting married!

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. STAR MART - PARKING LOT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Andre tries not to get too emotional.

ANDRE  
Oh, baby girl, congratulations! Did  
you know your mother and I got  
engaged on New Year's Eve too?

CARA  
It's perfect, isn't it?

Andre smiles wistfully.

INT. STAR MART - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Andre looks out the back door at his COWORKERS passing around  
a bottle of cheap bubbly in the parking lot.

EXT. STAR MART - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Andre heads outside to join the others. He pops open a bottle  
for them that sprays everywhere, puts his mouth on it to not  
waste any more spillage. They all cheer, pat him on the back.

INT. STAR MART - STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Andre, weaker than ever, clocks back in. He picks up a box to  
return to work, but falls to the floor in pain. We see him  
struggle to get off the floor, barely able to crawl.

ANDRE  
Help...! Somebody...! I need  
help...! Please...!

EXT. STAR MART - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Andre's colleagues put out the blunt they were passing around  
at the sound of his pleas. They rush back in to find --

*INT. STAR MART - STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)*

*-- Andre, halfway out of the storage room door, gasping for air. He is dripping sweat and has turned white.*

*ANDRE*

*Someone call my wife... I feel like  
the floor is falling...*

*Colleague #1 runs out of the room. Colleague #2 scrambles to find Andre's phone and makes a call. The rest of the guys grab Andre from every side to get him into a chair.*

*Colleague #1 emerges from the boss's office with Inez, who comes running to comfort Andre.*

*INEZ*

*It's going to be okay, my dear, I  
will take care of you.*

*COLLEAGUE #2*

*(whispers to Colleague #1)  
What are you doing, man? Inez isn't  
Andre's wife.*

*COLLEAGUE #1*

*(normal volume)  
No way!*

*Colleague #2 quickly pulls Colleague #1 aside so Andre and Inez don't hear their conversation.*

*COLLEAGUE #1 (CONT'D)*

*I totally thought they were  
together with the way she's always  
rubbing up on him. My bad.*

*COLLEAGUE #2*

*I just called Alana, his actual  
wife, she should be here any  
minute.*

*Andre is too zoned out to notice their interaction.*

*EXT. STAR MART - CONTINUOUS (FLASHBACK)*

*Alana rushes toward the back door, kicking beer cans out of the way to get in.*

*INT. STAR MART - CONTINUOUS (FLASHBACK)*

*She gives everyone a dirty look.*

ALANA  
*Andre! Where are you?*

*The guys help Andre to his feet and bring him --*

*EXT. STAR MART - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)*

*-- out to his car.*

*INT. STAR MART - CONTINUOUS (FLASHBACK)*

*Alana is left face-to-face with Inez. Alana gives Inez a long hard stare up and down, then follows the boys out.*

*Inez stays back and watches from the window.*

*INT. CAR - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)*

*Andre looks up from the car seat to see his colleagues all looking on worried. Closes his eyes.*

*Alana takes a look back at him as she starts the car and gives Inez a confused glance.*

ALANA  
*Let's get you to bed. You can tell me all about it in the morning.*

*Andre is deep in sleep, dreaming...*

BACK TO PRESENT

*INT. HOSPITAL - ANDRE'S ROOM - NIGHT*

*Andre abruptly opens his eyes and tries to survey his surroundings, but everything is blurred and the sound MUFFLED. The Nurse runs the last of the tests.*

*Cara pushes through the doors and hugs her father. Alana enters close behind her, hovering by the door.*

ANDRE  
 (excited)  
*Cara, what are you doing here, sweetie? I told your mom not to worry you guys.*

*Andre starts COUGHING from all the excitement. He closes his eyes, takes a deep breath as Cara leans in closer to comfort him, pulling up the blanket and fluffing his pillow.*



CARA

You never go to the doctors so I knew something had to be really wrong when Mom called. Scared me half to death!

ANDRE

I'm fine, they were saying it's probably just pneumonia. Wait, let me see this ring! I have to make sure I approve!

CARA

Look!

Andre grabs her hand, mesmerized by the rock. Alana peers over from the doorway without stepping forward.

ANDRE

Wow! Alana, do you see this? Be careful walking around NYC with this huge rock!

CARA

I will, Dad, don't worry, I turn it inside out.

They both embrace as they hold back tears. Cara gets a phone call and steps out.

Alana stiffly stands near the door, hands crossed in front of her body, not sure what to say, what to do.

ALANA

Are you... hungry?

ANDRE

Yeah, I guess it's been a while since I've had anything to eat.

ALANA

(mutters)

Do they not feed their patients around here?

Alana excuses herself --

INT. HOSPITAL - HALL - CONTINUOUS

-- and takes off toward the cafeteria, passing Cara at the other end of the hall, Cara on the phone.

CARA  
 (on the phone)  
 Thank you for checking in, babe. It  
 looks like he's gonna be okay, just  
 pneumonia.

At the other end of the hall, far outside of Cara's vision,  
 Inez emerges from a stairwell and sneaks toward Andre's room.

INT. HOSPITAL - ANDRE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Andre lies in the hospital bed, being tested on by Dr. Cruz  
 and NURSES. He stares at an old B&W fuzzy TV screen.

The doctor excuses himself from the room, and the nurses  
 follow him out.

Inez enters to Andre's surprise, rushing to his side.

INEZ  
 Oh, Andre, I just heard! Everyone  
 was so worried about you when you  
 didn't show up to work. How are you  
 feeling?

ANDRE  
 (under his breath)  
 Oh, boy.

He tries to sit up and quickly brush back his hair.

ANDRE (CONT'D)  
 I'm fine, Inez, don't worry, it's  
 just a little pneumonia. You didn't  
 have to come all the way here.

INEZ  
 Oh, no! Poor baby. Pneumonia! That  
 sounds terrible.

ANDRE  
 Nah, it's like a bad cold. I'll be  
 out of here in no time.

INEZ  
 Thank goodness! You'll never guess  
 what happened.

ANDRE  
 At work?

INEZ

Yes. They've been calling me into the office lately to have me work on renewing my work visa. But early this morning, at the end of my shift, they told me that it was rejected. Something about not filling it out correctly. They know my English is no good and now I cannot return to work!

ANDRE

Inez, that's terrible. Why didn't you get someone to help you?

INEZ

Well, you haven't been around... but it's okay, now it gives me more time to take care of you.

Inez embraces Andre as he squirms to shake her off. Inez, not getting the hint, takes a seat at the foot of the bed.

ANDRE

This isn't good, Inez!

INEZ

Shhh, it's gonna be okay. Your feet look so swollen. Here, let me.

Inez begins to massage his feet as Andre does his best to cut her off. He tries to bend forward, but seizes up in pain. He resigns and sits back.

ANDRE

Inez, you need to get that fixed. Maybe your husband can help you find a lawyer that can get you new papers. Being here with me isn't going to get your job back.

INEZ

I can't go home to him, he's a monster! Last night he beat my kids for accidentally breaking something, it was just awful! I tried to stop him, but then he just started yelling and waving his arms around at me... I felt so bad leaving them when I went to work... What was I supposed to do? He would kill me if he knew I lost me job...

Andre takes in this poor woman with sympathy.

ANDRE

Why don't you just go back home and get some support from your family then?

INEZ

I can't go back to my part of Colombia, I'm not from the fancy capital like you. It's even worse there than here!

Andre struggles to sit up as he touches Inez's hands to both stop her from touching him and to reassure her.

Alana enters carrying food, catching them in the moment. Alana rushes into the hall.

ALANA

(yelling)

Security! Security!

Inez pulls her hands away from Andre. SECURITY rushes in.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Someone get this woman out of my husband's room! Who let her in here?

ANDRE

Calm down, Alana, you're making a big deal for no reason at all. My coworkers are all worried about me, so Inez just popped by to pay me a visit.

ALANA

I don't care who she is or what she's doing here. I want her out!

The nurses and Dr. Cruz enter.

SECURITY

Ma'am, I'm going to need you to come with me.

Inez complies, exiting with her head down, refusing eye contact with Alana. The nurses check Andre's blood pressure. Alana sits where Inez was, giving everyone the cold shoulder.

Dr. Cruz approaches Andre with a clipboard.

DR. CRUZ

Andre, I actually have some news for you.

(MORE)

DR. CRUZ (CONT'D)

The heart specialist believes there's fluid in your lungs because your heart is beating at an abnormal pace. Your blood isn't flowing like it should, which has been making you ill. Let me ask you, what is your daily diet like?

ANDRE

Eggs, avocado, steak, rice, beans... you know, the usual.

Dr. Cruz takes notes of Andre's answers.

DR. CRUZ

What's your drug and alcohol intake?

ANDRE

I don't smoke, Doc, so you don't have to worry about that. I enjoy wine and beer though.

DR. CRUZ

How much wine do you drink daily?

ANDRE

I don't know, maybe a bottle or two a night.

Dr. Cruz takes pause and looks up from his clipboard.

DR. CRUZ

Look, Andre, you seem to be in good shape, but you may have to lay off the red meat and alcohol for a while. The specialist is concerned you may --

Cara enters.

CARA

Dad, you missed it, some crazy lady just got escorted out of here by security.

DR. CRUZ

-- have a heart condition.

Cara, Andre, and Alana exchange shocked glances.

CARA

A heart condition? The nurses said it was probably just pneumonia.

DR. CRUZ

We can't operate yet because your heart is only performing at 15% of it's capacity.

Cara goes white. Alana grabs Andre's hand.

DR. CRUZ (CONT'D)

We need to keep you in the hospital for a bit to make sure your heart gets stronger before operating.

ANDRE

Is an operation really necessary? I feel fine, really.

DR. CRUZ

Andre, it looks like you may have suffered... a mild heart attack.

Andre looks to his daughter. Cara gets choked up.

INT. INEZ'S CAR - DAY

The car is an absolute mess. There's trash everywhere, and the trunk is full of luggage and belongings. Her two sons, ROBERTO (5) and MIGUEL (3), playfully fight in the backseat. From the looks of it, the family lives in this car.

Inez fumbles around, looking for her cell phone in frustration.

INEZ

I give up boys, we can't live like this. I'm calling my aunt, we're going to stay with family.

ROBERTO

No, Mommy, Stranger Danger!

INEZ

Shush, she's not a stranger. I'm calling her now.

Inez hesitates before making the call.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. INEZ'S AUNT'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

INEZ'S AUNT, an older, plumper version of Inez with country flair, answers the phone. The room is dark, and she's rushing to clean pots and chemical supplies.

INEZ

Hola, mi amore, it's tu sobrina,  
Inez.

INEZ'S AUNT

Inez... long time no see, we never  
hear from you. What can I do for  
you? Kinda busy here.

INEZ

I'm so sorry to interrupt. I just  
need a place to stay for a little  
while. The boys are growing so  
fast, their dad is no good to us,  
and we have to go someplace safe.

INEZ'S AUNT

I'm sorry, Inez, now is just not a  
good time. We have too much going  
on here already.

INEZ

Oh, come on, I could help out on  
the farm. And I'm sure the boys  
would love all the animals. What  
kinds do you have?

INEZ'S AUNT

This isn't the kind of place you  
think it is. It's not exactly safe  
for kids.

INEZ'S MEN, two guys covered in tattoos, wearing thick plastic gloves, cross through the background and into the basement. One gestures to Inez's Aunt to join them.

INEZ'S AUNT (CONT'D)

Listen, I've gotta go. Best of  
luck. Keep in touch, okay?

Inez's Aunt abruptly hangs up the phone.

INEZ

But... I have no place to go.

Inez puts her phone down slowly, leans her head back against the seat, sighs. The boys in the back FIGHT LOUDLY over a toy. Inez closes her eyes.

INT. HOSPITAL - NURSE'S STATION - CONTINUOUS

Alana grabs the attention of a random FEMALE NURSE.

ALANA

Excuse me, where is my husband's chart? I want to be filled in on what's going on.

FEMALE NURSE

Sorry, ma'am, I am not your husband's nurse. I'm sure the doctor will be in soon though.

ALANA

Then get me his nurse! This can't wait, I demand to speak to whomever is treating my husband here. Can you call him? With God as my witness, I will not allow you to mistreat my family like this when my husband is on his deathbed. He has been here for weeks and we've barely gotten any updates on his condition. What is taking so long? Why is everyone staring at me? Do something already!

PORTERS, AIDS, PATIENTS and GUESTS have all stopped to look at Alana like a crazy person - except for the NURSES, who continue to go about their busy day. After a beat, everyone goes back to what they were doing.

INT. HOSPITAL - ANDRE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Andre is looking very weak and barely conscious. Nurses are prodding him with needles, taking out vial after vial.

They look at one another with concern, WHISPER medical terms Andre cannot understand, and rush out, leaving him in deep concern. Cara, who was sitting on the sidelines, moves over to her dad's side, in tears.

CARA

Dad?

But Andre is somewhere between sleep and awake, barely able to concentrate on her.

CARA (CONT'D)

I just want you to know that we love you very much. I have always loved you, and I always will.

(MORE)



CARA (CONT'D)

I don't know if you can hear me, or if you're going to make it. But I promise you everyone will know how wonderful of a father you were. You will not be forgotten.

Cara cries as her father slowly starts to come to. He grasps her hand a little tighter.

ANDRE

(whispers)

Don't be upset my dear. I'm going to be okay.

Alarmed, Cara helps Andre slowly prop his hospital bed upright. She gives him a sip of water, he clears his throat.

ANDRE (CONT'D)

Your mother wants me to sign bank forms over to her in case something happens to me, but I want you to have everything. Use it to start your new life with Charles. I saved everything for you.

Cara lays her head on Andre's chest to let out a big sigh. They both rest, not speaking another word.

Moments later, DR. Cruz walks in.

DR. CRUZ

We have good news and bad news, Andre. Good news is your heart levels are finally steady, so we no longer have to run any more tests. Bad news is your arteries are clogged and you'll need a triple bi-pass...

INT. HOSPITAL - OPERATING ROOM - DAY

Andre is sedated and wheeling into the room with a red heart pillow across his chest.

DR. CRUZ

Prepped and ready, lay him out for surgery.

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - DAY

Cara and Alana hold hands, eyes closed.

INT. HOSPITAL - OPERATING ROOM - DAY

ASSISTANTS prepare to cut through Andre's chest bone as other RESIDENTS look on from the double-sided glass window. Some turn away at the sound of the ELECTRIC SAW.

We turn away from the surgery with them, toward the clock. It's 9am.

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - DAY

Alana paces.

CARA

Ma, sit down, you're making everyone uncomfortable.

ALANA

Is this a Catholic hospital? There has got to be a shrine here somewhere.

Alana exits. Cara sighs.

INT. HOSPITAL - OPERATING ROOM - NIGHT

The clock on the wall strikes 6pm.

Andre is still laid out on the operating table with his heart exposed. Everyone is attending to him, covered in blood and sweat. Images of a barely beating heart monitor flash up and start beeping on the screen.

DR. CRUZ

His vitals are dropping, he's been under too long. He's going to turn cold. Hurry up and close that last artery. We have to sow him back up and get to the recovery room, ASAP!

His heart beats slowly as they staple him back up.

INT. HOSPITAL - SHRINE - NIGHT

Alana is kneeling down to pray.

ALANA

Dear Lord, even though Andre really tries my patience, I still love him, so I pray he has the strength to make it through this operation.

(MORE)

ALANA (CONT'D)

I promise to be the wife he needs  
if he does.

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Both Charles and SCOTT, 23, have joined Cara and Alana. Scott is deeply distracted by his Nintendo Switch, but Charles can't take his eyes of Cara.

Dr. Cruz enters, all cleaned up. Everyone looks to him.

DR. CRUZ

The operation was a success. A long  
one, but we got the job done. Andre  
is going to be alright.

The family all hug, letting out sighs of relief.

INT. HOSPITAL - ICU - DAY

Alana cares for Andre, who can barely talk. Cara is on his opposite side, holding his hand.

ALANA

So have you picked out a date for  
the wedding?

CARA

Are you serious right now? We  
should be more concerned about  
who's going to take care of Dad  
when he's released. He's gonna need  
24-hour supervision. I can only  
turn work down for so long.

ALANA

It's okay, Cara, God will provide.  
I will look out for him before and  
after work. And your brother is  
still home, too. Your father will  
be here for another couple days  
under the nurse's supervision. I'll  
get instructions from them on what  
to do.

CARA

But what about during the day when  
you're not home? You know Scott can  
barely look after himself. Can't  
one of Dad's sisters come stay a  
while?

(MORE)

CARA (CONT'D)

I would feel awful if anything happened to him when we weren't there. He needs a live-in nurse.

ALANA

Your father is a grown man. He'll be fine.

CARA

Are you blind? No, he won't! He is in no condition to go back to work. You're going to have to work later, earn more money, and provide for the family now. You're not seeing the reality here. You guys want to help pay for the wedding, but off what? His retirement?

Andre opens his mouth to speak but can't. With all his strength, he tries to push the call button. Cara realizes she's upsetting him and rises to leave.

ALANA

Don't be so emotional, Cara. It will work itself out. I'd rather you go work on those wedding plans so you're not living together out of wedlock. Just let your father know if YOU need any help. It shouldn't be the other way around.

Cara kisses her father on the forehead. She is about to leave, but Dr. Cruz enters, breaking the tension.

DR. CRUZ

Andre, look at you my friend. All the rests came back negative. Looks like your body is responding well to the procedure. We'll have you out of here in a few days, all new again!

ALANA

(softer)

That's great, Doc, but everyone around here keeps saying 'just a few more days' and I can't keep taking the time off work. I'm just going to have my son pick him up when he's ready. Cara has to head back to New York.

Cara gives her mom a dirty look and leaves.

DR. CRUZ

We'll keep an eye on him. Now let him rest. We'll be in touch with the release plans.

INT. HOSPITAL - SOLO RECOVERY ROOM - DAY

Andre sits up in bed, looking like a whole new person.

DR. CRUZ

It's your lucky day, Andre. You've finally been approved to be released. Before you go, here's a lit of all your meds and instructions on how to use this at-home heart monitor. Please don't hesitate to call us if you need any help.

ANDRE

That's wonderful news, thank you! Let me call for a ride, thank you for everything, Doc.

Dr. Cruz leaves. Andre picks up his phone, calls Alana.

INT. BANK - DAY

Alana attends to a CUSTOMER at her desk. We see her cell phone light up in her purse and VIBRATE. She doesn't notice.

INT. HOSPITAL - SOLO RECOVERY ROOM - DAY

Andre, annoyed, hangs up without leaving a message and tries to call Scott.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - SCOTT'S ROOM - DAY

Scott is making out with his girlfriend, KRISTEN, who is on top of him, on his bed with loud ROCK MUSIC playing. The phone lights up, but he doesn't hear it over the music.

INT. HOSPITAL - SOLO RECOVERY ROOM - DAY

Andre, growing more frustrated, scrolls to Cara's contact in his phone, but hesitates. Decides against it.

Andre scrolls through his contacts and comes across Inez's number. He sighs.

INT. INEZ'S CAR - DAY

Inez sips on a Big Gulp when she heard her PHONE RING. She fishes through a bunch of crumpled take-out wrappers to find her cell. She finds it on the last ring and picks up.

INEZ

Hello?

ANDRE (V.O.)

Inez, it's Andre. Am I catching you at a bad time?

INEZ

No, never Andre, I always have time for you, mi amore.

INT. HOSPITAL - SOLO RECOVERY ROOM - DAY

Andre bites his nails.

ANDRE

Listen, Inez, I'm in need of a favor.

INEZ (V.O.)

Of course, anything for you.

ANDRE

Can you possibly pick me up from the hospital? They're releasing me today, and I can't get in touch with my family.

INT. INEZ'S CAR - DAY

Inez pushes the mess in the front seat to the back with the boys. Checks herself out in the rearview mirror and scrambles through her purse for lipstick that she over-applies.

INEZ

I'm so happy you called to ask me!  
I'll be over as soon as I can!

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Inez pushes Andre in a wheelchair to her car. Her two kids are squealing and fighting over each other in the back.

INEZ  
Roberto, Miguel, silencio! We have  
company.

Andre struggles to get in the car. He notices the  
overwhelming amount of STUFF in the back: clothes piled up,  
food containers, empty bottles. He steps on a squeaky toy and  
struggles to hand it back to the boys.

ANDRE  
Hello, boys, thank you for coming  
to get me.

The boys just stare.

INEZ  
They're shy and just starting to  
learn English.

Inez looks over at Andre, rubs his arm.

INEZ (CONT'D)  
I hope you know how grateful I am  
that you're alive and gave me a  
call!

Andre closes his eyes to rest.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - DAY

As Andre and Inez pull up in the car, Scott emerges with  
Kristen, laughing. Kristen sees Andre getting out of the car  
and elbows Scott. Scott avoids eye contact with Andre.

ANDRE  
Where were you, Scott? I tried  
calling you, I needed a ride home  
from the hospital today.

SCOTT  
You did? I didn't know, my bad.

KRISTEN  
We were just about to go get some  
lunch. Would you like us to bring  
you back some soup or something?

ANDRE  
No, thank you, Kristen, go.

Scott and Kristen quickly cross paths with Inez who is  
helping Andre inside. They walk to Scott's car and speed off.  
Scott's state park pass swings on his rear view mirror.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - DAY

Inez helps Andre lay down in bed, kisses his cheek.

INEZ

Are you gonna be okay my love? I  
can stay and take care of you.

ANDRE

I'm fine, thank you for taking me  
home.

Inez hesitates. She looks out the window - her boys are still  
fighting.

INEZ

Ay Dios mios. Those two never stop  
fighting. I've got to take off, mi  
amore. If you need anything at all  
I want you to call me, okay?

She bends to kiss him on the forehead, her breast nearly  
nestled in his face. Andre closes his eyes.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Alana pulls up and gets out of her car, exhausted after a  
long day of work.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alana turns on the light in the bedroom to change - surprised  
to see Andre. She shuts off the light, quietly takes off her  
work shoes, and puts on old lady slippers. She gently kisses  
Andre on the head, and leaves the room.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Early the next morning, Alana slips out of the house dressed  
to go to work.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - DAY

Andre starts to stir, struggles to sit up.

ANDRE

Alana! Scott!



INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - SCOTT'S ROOM - DAY

Scott sleeps soundly, Kristen asleep in bed next to him.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

With immense difficulty, Andre gets himself out of bed. His personal-size belt monitor hits the floor. He reaches for it, but rolls back over in bed in terrible pain.

ANDRE

Anyone there? Do you even know I'm here? Scott! Alana!

Andre is tangled in wires, cutting off his circulation and making his head spin. He wiggles out of it and feels for his phone on the nightstand. He manages to call Alana with one eye barely open.

He hears a VIBRATION on the bedside table. Finds that Alana left her phone behind. He groans.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - SCOTT'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Scott's phone VIBRATES on his bedside table. He picks it up without opening his eyes and tosses it across the room, not bothering to look at it.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Andre hangs up, and goes through his contact list. He hesitates over INEZ.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - SCOTT'S ROOM - DAY

Kristen sneaks out the window in the same sun dress she had on the night before. Scott takes out his phone to find countless missed messages and calls. He ignores them all.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Scott leaves with hiking gear, looking at some trail on his phone. Moments after he drives away, in walks Inez.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - DAY

Inez wakes Andre as she enters with energetic gusto. She's in skin-tight jeans and a low-cut tank top.

INEZ

Good morning, sweetie, I got your text. Tell me, what can I get for you, love? Coffee? Toast?

Inez comes into Andre's focus.

ANDRE

Inez, I didn't expect you so soon. How did you get inside?

INEZ

I waited until your son left and then I let myself in. How can I help take care of you? Make you feel better?

ANDRE

Where are the kids? Where did you tell your husband you were going?

INEZ

Oh, you don't have to worry about him anymore. We left him, it was horrible, I had to get the boys out of there. You couldn't have reached out at a better time.

Andre looks on with sympathy.

INEZ (CONT'D)

The kids are in the car, they wanted to come in, but I know you need your rest. Don't worry about us, it's all about you right now.

She starts to stroke Andre's hair. Andre stiffens.

ANDRE

Inez, you can tell the boys to come in. I don't want them sitting in the car all alone. There should still be some of Scott's old toys in the basement if they wanna head down and play. Thank you for coming to help me. I... We don't really have a way to pay you right now, but --

INEZ

Don't you worry about that, sweetie, all you should focus on right now is feeling better.

ANDRE

Really? Inez, thank you, I'll figure out how to pay you back when I can, I'm just... still so sick and I need some help...

INEZ

Andre, you don't know how happy you just made me. I'm gonna take such good care of you!

Inez excitedly rushes off. Andre sighs, unsure of what he just did by inviting her in.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

She whispers to her boys and they run downstairs. Moments later, the sound of them banging on Scott's drums and knocking over cymbals can be heard.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Ignoring her sons' craziness, Inez pulls out practically everything from the fridge and starts cooking.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - DAY

Inez spoon-feeds Andre. She's all over him, stroking his hair and wiping the corners of his mouth.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Inez cleans the house. As Scott passes through wearing his headphones, he stops in his tracks. Inez gives Scott a dirty look and they both walk away without a word.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Inez whistles for the boys and they come trudging out. They leave moments before Alana returns home.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Alana inhales deeply, looks a little confused. The house is absolutely spotless. It was nice before, but not this nice.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Andre sits up in bed when Alana enters.

ALANA

Wow, you look great! Did you have a good day? Smells like you cooked yourself some good lunch.

ANDRE

I'm good, thanks. Starting to feel like myself again.

ALANA

Great... I thought you might need food, but it looks like you've got that covered... Well, if you're doing well, I'm going to head to a prayer group then. Be back later.

Alana exits. Andre sighs, turns up the volume on the TV.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - DAY

Alana walks out the front door dressed conservatively for work. She shouts over her shoulder as she leaves.

ALANA

Have a good day!

When she's gone, Inez appears, this time wearing a blouse that shows off even more cleavage.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The boys are glued to her side.

INEZ

Honey, I'm home!

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - DAY

Andre crawls back into bed and feigns being asleep. He SNORES LOUDLY to really sell it.

Inez comes in and rubs his arm.

INEZ

Andre, honey, are you still asleep?

Andre pretends to wake up groggily.

ANDRE

What? Yeah, yeah... I'm okay right now, Inez, thank you...

INEZ

Can I rub your feet? Help you get dressed, run you a bath, help you get undressed --

ANDRE

Food. Food would be great.

INEZ

You've got it.

She squeezes his shoulder and leaves him be. He sighs into his sheets, pulls them over his head.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Alana comes home, inhales deeply to try to detect that smell again. She runs her finger down the table to see it's freshly glossed with wood oil polish. She looks around, suspicious.

EXT. INEZ'S CAR - NIGHT

Inez sneaks to the side of her car, parked next door. She holds her sons' mouths shut.

INEZ

(whispering)

Rapido! She'll see us!

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alana storms in, turning on the light and waking up Andre.

ALANA

Andre, who was just here? I saw someone leaving the house as I was coming down the block. And it's squeaky clean. It's been smelling like rice and beans when I come home lately. And you seem to be back to your old self again. Did the hospital send a home nurse that I don't know about? You know we can't afford that. Is there something you want to tell me.

ANDRE

Well, if you were ever here then maybe you'd see for yourself. I needed your help, Alana. You were always running off.

ALANA

Yeah, to work.

ANDRE

And then to church. You're always everywhere else but here. It's like you don't want to be home and take care of me.

ALANA

Of course I do, but somebody's got to work and pay the bills. What do you want me to do? It's you that I've been praying for with the group!

ANDRE

And let me guess, Scott can't pitch in to help either. You enable him, he hasn't checked in once since I got home, and he's right in the other room all day!

ALANA

Leave Scott out of this. If you want company, call Cara, she would do anything for you.

ANDRE

Cara has been calling and checking in every day. She's busy with her career in the city. I know she wants to come home, but I can't do that to her.

ALANA

Then who's been coming here, Andre? What are you keeping from me? If I find out it's little miss massage lady from the hospital, so help me God-- !

ANDRE

She lost her job. She left her abusive husband. She has nothing but time and wanted to help. She's a bit much, but I needed the help. And besides, her boys love it here.

ALANA

Boys? You let her whole family into our home? Jesus, Mary and Joseph!

Alana does the sign of the cross and glances upward.

ANDRE

Please, you're taking this way out of proportion.

ALANA

You're not seeing the whole picture here, Andre. She's taking advantage of you.

ANDRE

No, she's not even charging me anything. She's doing it out of the kindness of her heart.

ALANA

Yeah, to make her way into yours! Don't you see that? We'll pray on this later.

Alana storms out. Andre sighs.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Alana sees a beat-up car parked outside the house next door. She starts to head toward her own car... but then does a double take at the other car.

INT. INEZ'S CAR - NIGHT

Inez leans over the back seat trying to feed her kids.

Suddenly, Alana KNOCKS on the window. Inez jumps, hitting her head on the ceiling. The boys SCREAM. Inez turns back around in the front seat and cracks the window open.

INEZ

Can I help you?

ALANA

Inez, is it?

INEZ

Yes, what do you want?

ALANA

I'm Andre's wife, Alana. I want to know why you've been parked outside our house? I've noticed your car here a lot lately.

INEZ

That's none of your business.

ALANA

...Inez, have you been coming into my house everyday after I leave?

INEZ

I am only coming in to help your husband.

ALANA

He doesn't need your help. I've got it from here. Thank you, but you can leave now.

INEZ

Yes, he does. You're not there for him. I am. The kids are, too. He needs us.

ALANA

(raising her voice)

You've got to be kidding me. I'm his wife. He has a family.

INEZ

(verge of tears)

Where would you like us to go? This is our home.

In the backseat, the boys start to CRY so hard that the little one CHOKES.

EXT. INEZ'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Alana quickly opens up the back door to help him out of his car seat. Miguel's face is bright red and he can barely breathe. Alana picks him up and sways him back and forth to calm him down.

ALANA

Shhhh, baby, it's alright. You're gonna be okay. Just calm down, deep breath...



Inez jumps out of the car, aggressively trying to grab her son out of Alana's arms. He cries harder.

INEZ

Give me back my kid! Who do you think you are just grabbing him like that?!

ALANA

He was choking!

Alana gives her crying son back to Inez. The women are now intensely close face-to-face.

ALANA (CONT'D)

(lowering her voice)

What do you mean this is your home? Don't you have anywhere else to go? You can't possibly be living in your car?

Inez gives Alana a serious look of desperation as she bends down to check on Roberto, Miguel still on her hip.

Alana hesitantly goes around to the other side of the car and cautiously helps her with him, too. Roberto is shaking with fear as Alana squats down to comfort him.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Okay, alright, come on. You can't stay out here. You can have the basement to yourselves tonight, but tomorrow we will have to find you a safe place to go. Don't even think about getting too comfortable. This is only temporary.

Ecstatic, Inez jumps into Alana's arms and gives her a huge hug. Alana pats her shoulder stiffly.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Inez, Alana, and the two boys walk up to the house together. Andre approaches the door, turns on the exterior light, and looks out with curiosity.

He sees the group together, and makes his way outside to help them in.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Inez and the boys sleep on old pull-out couches.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Andre grabs the last of Inez's things from her car, and takes a look back outside before closing the door.

The Winter trees, empty of leaves...

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - DAY

...soon become covered in green, Spring leaves.

Months have passed.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

SUPER TITLE CARD: CALENDAR SHINES BRIGHTLY ON EASTER

Inez is in the kitchen making arepa con queso for a big traditional Spanish breakfast. Alana tries to prepare hard boiled eggs and dye them different colors, but Inez has taken over the kitchen.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Alana enters to find Andre doing his daily physical therapy exercises. Inez enters behind her with a plate.

ALANA

Andre --

INEZ

Happy Easter, my little bunny. I brought you breakfast, you need your protein to be the big strong man that you are.

Inez squeezes Andre's muscles. She pulls out a fork and napkin from her bra to give him as he sits down on the chair to eat and rest.

Alana, looking on from her mirror, slams her dresser drawer. The last cross that Inez hasn't removed from her cleaning falls to the floor. She picks it up, lets out a deep sigh, and storms out.

ANDRE

(yells)

Alana, what did I tell you about slamming the drawers? It's very disturbing.

We hear the front door SLAM. Andre and Inez LAUGH as she sits down on the arm rest next to him, and puts her arm around him to rub his shoulders.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

SUPER TITLE CARD: ANDRE'S BIRTHDAY CIRCLED ON THE CALENDAR

Inez sits on Andre's lap while the two share a big bottle of wine, looking over photos of him from when he was younger.

INEZ

Que lindo. You were such a handsome young man. You aged so nicely!

ANDRE

Yeah, well, I'm 64 today, so I think that's the wine talking. I should be taking it easy anyway.

INEZ

It's your birthday, you can take it easy tomorrow. Today let's celebrate!

Andre blushes as Inez strokes his hair back and tries to kiss him on the lips. Andre turns his head away in discomfort, grabbing his wine glass and chugging it back.

Inez goes to pour him another glass, but hears keys jingling at the door. She quickly grabs the bottle of wine and runs downstairs to the basement. Andre grabs the glasses and follows her.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

He fumbles from being in a rush, and drops one of the wine glasses. It shatters on the top of the stairs. He pushes the broken glass down with his bare hands, quietly closes the door.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Cara enters and throws her stuff down on the table.

CARA

Hey Dad, happy birthday!

She runs her finger along the freshly oiled wood, and takes a look around. The place is spotless... suspiciously so.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Andre is surprised to hear Cara's voice.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CARA

Everything ok? I heard a crash from  
out front... Dad?

She takes a look around, noting how clean it is.

Andre pops his head out from behind the basement door. He  
rubs his hands on his jeans and throws his arms around Cara.

ANDRE

Cara, you're home! What a surprise,  
I'm so happy to see you! I was just  
cleaning, nothing to worry about.  
Doesn't the place look great? I'm  
feeling great, too. The doctor said  
I'm a whole new man now, and that I  
can start refereeing soccer games  
again next season.

CARA

That's great, Dad. Sorry I haven't  
been able to visit as often, I've  
been so busy with planning the  
wedding and work --

ANDRE

Please, honey, don't apologize.

CARA

I just had to make it back for your  
birthday though. And I wanted to  
invite you and mom to my company's  
5-year anniversary party next  
Friday.

ANDRE

Wow, Cara! 5 years already, huh?  
Congrats, sweetie. We'd love to  
come... but we have... house  
guests. Can she and the kids come?

CARA

House guests?

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Inez listens hungrily through the basement door.

CARA (V.O.)

I mean, technically it's a pizzeria. I don't see why they couldn't.

ANDRE (V.O.)

That's so nice of you to include them, I'm sure they'll love it!

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Andre closes the front door behind Cara, and Inez emerges from the basement. He looks at Inez sheepishly.

ANDRE

Sorry about that...

INEZ

Not a problem.

She holds up the bottle of wine and glasses.

INEZ (CONT'D)

Let's finish this off.

Andre grins and Inez approaches him with a glass.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Andre tries to open another bottle, but stumbles. It SHATTERS all over the linoleum, but Andre is too drunk to care. He starts laughing.

ANDRE

Oh no! Inez, can you help me?

She's giggling too, but seems less drunk than him. She pats his shoulder.

INEZ

I've got it, honey.

He touches her hand on his shoulder, smiling at her warmly. His touch gives her a burst of energy, and she gets out a dustpan. Andre wobbles as he stands.

Inez reaches for Andre, helps him walk around the glass.

INEZ (CONT'D)  
Here, let me put you to bed first.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - ANDRE AND ALANA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room is very dark without any lights on. Inez helps Andre to the bed, where he practically collapses into it. His hand is still holding hers, their fingers interlaced.

Andre's perspective is blurred, and so is ours.

Inez smiles down at him, warmly... and full of desire.

INT. FANCY ITALIAN RESTAURANT - NIGHT

SUPER TITLE CARD: MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND ON THE CALENDAR

In one corner, Cara is having drinks with GORGEOUS MODELS. In another, Inez and the boys sit with Andre and Alana.

There are gourmet pizzas on the table for everyone, but none of the models are eating.

Roberto and Miguel scarf down two pies all to themselves.

Inez whispers in Andre's ear, leaning against his side like she's his girlfriend, paying no attention to her own children. Andre stiffly sits still, not inviting her to touch him or pushing away her advances.

Alana stares out the window, ignoring the rest of the party.

Cara glances over at her parents and notices the display Inez is putting on. It's incredibly off-putting.

She excuses herself and grabs one of her clients, DANIEL, an older plump gentleman, and drags him over.

CARA  
Mom, Dad, this is Daniel  
Livingston. He's the president of  
the Smiling Kids Foundation we do  
our charity work with. He's one of  
the best men I know.

DANIEL  
Thank you, Cara, so nice of you to  
say. Great to meet you folks, you  
have an excellent daughter.

Alana forces a smile. Andre shakes Daniel's hand.

ANDRE

Daniel, I've heard plenty about you. Thanks for believing in our daughter's company.

Inez, never taking her eyes off Andre, reaches over and throws both arms around Andre to prevent him from moving any further. She continues to whisper into Andre's ear as he turns bright red.

Daniel and Cara exchange a wide-eyed look as Alana goes back to staring out the window.

DANIEL

If you'll excuse me, folks. Andre, feel free to join me for a drink at the bar later...

Andre leaps to his feet and follows Daniel to the bar. Inez looks instantly insulted.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Do you think they have anything stronger than wine in this place?

Daniel and Andre join the models back at the bar. They both check them out while they wait for the BARTENDER who is too busy flirting with the models to notice the men.

ANDRE

Excuse me, bartender, two Macallan's with 1 big cube please.

Cara walks up behind them.

CARA

Make that three!

Charles pops in with his eyes lit up, holds up the number four with his fingers. They sit beside Andre.

CARA (CONT'D)

Dad, what was that about? Those kids you brought literally ate all the food. Why is that woman all over you?

The bartender drops down four rocks glasses in front of them. Andre immediately picks his up and takes a big gulp.

ANDRE

Yeah, thanks for saving me over there. They're a bit much, huh?

CARA  
A bit much? Dad, she's obviously in  
love with you.

Before Andre can respond, Alana walks up behind them.

ALANA  
We're gonna go now sweetie, thank  
you for having us.

Alana takes the drink out of Andre's hand, places it down on  
the bar, and storms outside.

Andre shrugs, kisses Cara goodbye, chugs the rest of his  
drink and follows Alana out the door, Inez and the kids in  
the rear. Cara sits with a blank stare on her face as the  
others all celebrate behind her.

CARA  
(sarcastically)  
You're welcome.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

SUPER TITLE CARD: CALENDAR ON JUNE 15TH

Alana and Inez argue over the washing machine, shoving each  
other's baskets out of the way until Alana snaps.

ALANA  
How many times do I have to remind  
you that this is not your home, not  
your laundry machine, and not your  
husband's underwear?!

Alana grabs Andre's tighty whities out of Inez's basket and  
starts digging through Inez's stuff for more.

ALANA (CONT'D)  
Take your business down to the  
laundromat. And while you're at it,  
look for help wanted ads on their  
wall! Even better, look for room  
and board!

Alana rushes to load the laundry into the machine as the  
clothes fall over.

INEZ  
You and Andre invited me and my  
boys into your home. Andre says mi  
casa, su casa.



Alana bends down to pick up everything off the floor and throw it back into the wash.

ALANA  
English, Inez, English!

Inez lets out a deep breath but holds back from cursing Alana out in Spanish as she places down her basket.

INEZ  
You should be grateful for all the work I put into this home, while you're out doing God knows what.

ALANA  
Don't you dare take the Lord's name in vain. So help me God!

INEZ  
You just did, estúpido.

ALANA  
I have done nothing but pray for patience with you. I should be charging you and the boys rent!

INEZ  
I should charge you for all the cooking, cleaning, and taking care of your husband I do!

Alana slams the washing machine door as she loses her temper.

ALANA  
I have had it with you invading my space, pretending like this is your home, and worse, acting like Andre is your husband. He is my husband, this is my house, and you need to get OUT!

INEZ  
Don't you remember why we're even here in the first place, iditosa?

Inez begins to pace back and forth between the hanging sheets on the laundry line casting a shadow of her curvy figure behind each one as she pleads her case.

INEZ (CONT'D)  
I don't have a green card, so I can't work. They took away my license, so I can't drive down to the laundromat.

She stops at the last one with her head down, and caresses up against it in desperation.

INEZ (CONT'D)  
 Even if I did, I don't have two quarters to rub together. So I certainly can't go and find a new home in this situation. What do you want me to do? Where do you want me to go?

Inez splits the sheets open and sticks her head out looking Alana dead in the eyes.

INEZ (CONT'D)  
 Your husband is the only one on this Earth that cares. I need him, he needs me!

Inez wells up in tears, goes back to her basket, and dumps it all out on top of the machine. She stomps upstairs and slams a door. Alana tries to hold back tears but can't help but break down as she finishes her family's laundry in peace.

Alana takes Inez's slinky blouse and blows her nose in it. Guilt immediately kicks in as she takes a deep breath, and then throws the soiled blouse in with her laundry.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY

Inez wipes sweat off her forehead, staring in the mirror with haunted eyes. She rushes to the toilet, throws up.

EXT. CHARLES'S FAMILY HOME - BACKYARD - DAY

SUPER TITLE CARD: CALENDAR WITH "I DO BBQ" CIRCLED

Charles's FAMILY MEMBERS are all gathered around the deck with drinks in their hands.

Cara squeezes Charles's hand and steps toward Alana, sitting alone in a corner with her arms crossed.

CARA  
 You're being ridiculous sitting here by yourself while everyone else is having fun.

ALANA  
 I am having fun, Cara.

Cara sits down to talk.

CARA

I can't believe you didn't tell Dad about this.

ALANA

I don't want your father drinking anymore. He has to watch what he eats now. Invites to parties are just too tempting for him.

CARA

He's a grown man, Mom. He can control himself. I don't know why you always think so poorly of him. You're so selfish sometimes.

ALANA

Calm down, sweetie, no need to get all worked up.

CARA

But look. All of Charles's family is here.

Cara turns back to see CHARLES'S MOM and SISTER passing out pieces of cake to everyone with smiles on their faces.

CARA (CONT'D)

Sometimes I think they love me more than you do.

ALANA

Here. I have a story to tell you.

CARA

What?! I have a party to host --

ALANA

I wanted to fill you in on what's going on at home.

CARA

Not now, Mom. Today is supposed to be a good day!

Cara tries to stand, Alana grabs her arm and sits her down.

CARA (CONT'D)

You always find the perfect time to have these little talks. Frankly, I don't want to hear it.

Cara gets up, straightens up her dress.

CARA (CONT'D)

Try to have some fun for my sake,  
please.

ALANA

Cara, you really should think about  
not having any alcohol at your  
wedding. For your father's sake.

Cara glares at her mom and turns back to the others, a fake  
cheesy grin on her face as she approaches them.

INT. CARA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Cara lies in bed next to Charles, texting on her phone.

ON THE PHONE SCREEN:

CARA - Where were you today?

Scott - What do you mean?

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Scott sits on the floor playing video games. Inez sits on one  
end of the couch playing with Andre's hair. Alana is on the  
other end of the couch, reading her book on Mother Theresa.

Scott's phone VIBRATES. He pauses the game, picks it up.

ON THE PHONE SCREEN:

Cara - We had a BBQ at Charles's mom's place and she invited  
our whole family.

Scott - I had no clue.

Scott glances back at his father, accepting Inez's affection.

INT. CARA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Cara's eyes go wide at her latest text from her brother.

CARA

Oh my God, Charles, read this.

Cara shows Charles her phone screen. We see:

ON THE PHONE SCREEN:

Scott - Did Mom tell you Dad is having an affair with the caretaker?

Cara, white as a ghost, sits silent.

CHARLES

No! Seriously? Cara -- Cara, are you okay?

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Scott's video game is paused, he texts Cara.

ON THE PHONE SCREEN:

Scott - Mom's so blind. I mean, I don't know for sure. But the way they act together, I'm sure something is going down.

Cara - Let me just call you.

Andre says something to Inez quietly. Inez giggles.

ON THE PHONE SCREEN:

Scott - I can't. With them. Gotta go.

Scott puts his phone down, returns to his videogame.

INT. CARA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Cara throws the phone down on the nightstand, rolls over to Charles, and bursts into tears. Charles kisses Cara on the head, pulls her into a hug.

CHARLES

It's gonna be okay.

Charles turns off the lamp with one arm and slowly slouches down into bed with Cara crying herself to sleep in his arms.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - DAY

SUPER TITLE CARD: CALENDAR, "MOVE OUT DAY" CIRCLED, JULY 1ST

Andre helps Inez move her belongings from the basement into the back of his SUV. Alana and Scott are out front, watching.

ALANA

See, God has a plan for all of us, Inez. He helped us find this shelter for you.

INEZ  
 (mutters to herself)  
 Puta, bendjo, mierda.

Scott overhears her, and ties back his hair in rage, revealing his face clearly to us for the first time.

SCOTT  
 What did you say? My momma ain't no puta! You are! That's right, you're not the only one that knows Spanish around here. I'm onto you, bruja!

ALANA  
 Scott!

ANDRE  
 Cut it out. Go inside, both of you!

SCOTT  
 No, Dad, she needs to hear this. Mom has been nothing but nice to her. We put up with this nonsense long enough. She mooched off of us, took advantage of our kindness. Can't you see she used you?

INEZ  
 Don't listen to him, mi amore. He doesn't understand.

Inez puts her hands on Andre's cheeks to get his full attention, but he pulls away from her.

ANDRE  
 That's enough, all of you! She's leaving, alright? You can go back to your lives like nothing happened. You won't be seeing her anymore, so stop. It's Cara's big day tomorrow, calm down for her sake.

Alana storms inside the house. Scott stands his ground.

SCOTT  
 Why do I have a feeling she'll still be coming around?  
 (to Inez)  
 Stay away from our family!

Scott goes inside and SLAMS the door behind him. Andre helps Inez and the boys into the car. The boys are shaking in fear in the back seat. Andre attempts to comfort them.

INT. WOMEN'S SHELTER - NIGHT

Andre helps Inez settle into her new dorm-style room with 3 cots by making their beds for them.

INEZ

Thank you so much for taking me here today... it means so much to see how you care for me.

ANDRE

It's nothing, really, it's the least I could do. Thank you so much for your help these past months while I was healing... I really needed you.

INEZ

Andre, you know it was nothing! And if it weren't for Alana I would still be doing it.

ANDRE

But I'm feeling much better now, really. And it's thanks to you. I'll miss having you around.

Inez beams ear-to-ear. Then looks down at her feet, moves toward one of her bags.

INEZ

As long as you're here, there's something I'd like to talk to you about.

Andre wraps up the bed he's working on and turns to face her.

ANDRE

Anything.

She reaches into her bag... and pulls out a POSITIVE PREGNANCY TEST.

INEZ

I'm pregnant. And it's yours.

EXT. NYC CHURCH - DAY

SUPER TITLE CARD: CALENDAR, "WEDDING", JULY 15TH

The church is in the middle of the city, cars and people bustling all around.

Scott flies a drone around Cara's head, capturing the dress from 360 degrees.

CARA

Scott, the drone is for the wedding procession, it's too dangerous to fly around the building here.

SCOTT

Nah, I got this, sis!

INT. NYC CHURCH - DAY

Andre waits at the door as GUESTS find their seats. He's staring out the window at his two kids laughing and bickering, and he swallows, sweating nervously.

INT. WOMEN'S SHELTER - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

*Inez has just told Andre that she's pregnant.*

ANDRE

What are you talking about? We never --

*Inez approaches him and starts to wrap her arms around him.*

INEZ

Of course we did, you're the only man I've been with recently that could be --

*Andre pushes her away, paces to the other side of the room.*

ANDRE

No, no, I don't know what you're talking about --

INEZ

Your birthday, Andre. We weren't exactly safe... I'm keeping this child, with or without you --

ANDRE

I never slept with you, I would... I would remember that...

*But Andre starts to look uncertain.*

INEZ

You had a lot to drink, Andre... Maybe you forgot...



ANDRE

*I want a paternity test.*

INEZ

*You don't believe me? You think I'm  
some whore?*

ANDRE

*I didn't say that --*

INEZ

*What are you going to do? Are you  
going to support this child or not?*

*Off Andre's confused, overwhelmed face:*

INT. NYC CHURCH - DAY

Andre stares out the window as Scott backs up.

EXT. NYC CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

Scott backs up into the street without looking to catch a wider angle of the whole church when a car speeds past blaring their HORN at him. He turns away from the drone for one second to CURSE OUT the car, rush as the drone CRASHES.

SCOTT

Motherfu --

CARA

I told you. Now who's gonna film  
the whole wedding?

Andre opens up both the church doors from inside as we hear "Here Comes the Bride" play from inside. He now looks composed, grinning for his daughter.

ANDRE

We're ready for you now, Cara.

Cara takes one last look at the broken drone, sighs, and chooses to smile, focus on her father.

CARA

Dad, wait, I have something for  
you.

Andre is dripping sweat, biting his tongue. He swallows. Cara holds back tears trying to hold back what she really wants to say, but with a deep sigh she focuses on the joy of the wedding day instead.

CARA (CONT'D)

Now this is the Dad I remember: so handsome, so happy. I don't know how you put up with Mom for this many years, but I admire your strength and your marriage.

Andre tries to hold back tears as she hands him a small box. Andre opens the box revealing two shiny cufflinks. Cara reads them out loud as she places them on the ends of his sleeves.

CARA (CONT'D)

"Daddy's Little Girl". I'm so glad you're alive to walk me down the aisle, I thought...  
(tearing up)  
I wasn't sure if you would live long enough.

Andre kisses her on the forehead, letting some tears out.

ANDRE

I love you, Angel. I've always dreamed this day would come for you.

CARA

Thanks, Dad. I love you, too.

Andre gently places Cara's arm in his and they make their way up the stairs and into the church.

INT. NYC CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

Andre walks Cara down the aisle. He stops at the altar to give her away as he shakes Charles's hand.

EXT. NYC ROOFTOP - NIGHT

At the reception, Andre and Cara have their father-daughter dance. Cara sinks into her father's arms.

LATER

Cara and Charles start a conga line behind their STEEL DRUM PLAYER and SAXOPHONE PLAYER with Andre on the end having the time of his life.

EVEN LATER

Scott captures Alana's mortified face behind them with his camera as Andre does shots in the background.

INT. IRISH PUB - DAY

SUPER TILE CARD: CALENDAR, "BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS", SEPT 23RD

Cara and Charles finish a shared slice of birthday cake with a Happy Birthday banner behind them. Both families are at one table swiping through honeymoon photos.

CARA

The honeymoon was so great, Dad.  
Thanks again for sending us to St.  
Lucia, you really didn't have to --

ANDRE

It was my pleasure, sweetie. It was  
the least I could do.

Andre gestures for the check and pays the bill while everyone is focused on the photos.

ANDRE (CONT'D)

Ready guys? We're all set.

Everyone AD LIBS gratitudes and "you didn't have to"s.

EXT. 5TH AVE & MADISON SQUARE PARK - DAY

The group walks down a park-lined street.

ANDRE

Hey Charles, you got any beer back  
at your place?

CHARLES

What kind would you like? We can  
pick up some more fresh brews on  
the way back if you want.

The two pass a liquor store.

ANDRE

How about whatever they've got?

Charles grins and places his hand on Cara's shoulder.

CHARLES

Cara, we'll meet you guys back  
upstairs, we're gonna make a pit  
stop.

CARA

Okay, love.

Charles and Andre disappear into the liquor store. Alana, walking beside Cara, glares at them.

ALANA

Well, I'm glad they're off doing their own thing.

(under her breath)

Even though it's beer they're getting.

CARA

What was that?

ALANA

Nothing. Listen, there's something I really need to tell you.

INT. LIQUOR STORE - DAY

Andre and Charles walk down an aisle, Andre taking careful consideration of every bottle.

ANDRE

I'm so glad we're getting a chance to talk man-to-man now, Charles.

CHARLES

Of course. I'm gonna take good care of your daughter, I promise.

ANDRE

There's something I've been meaning to tell her that I haven't quite found the right words or right time to say...

EXT. 5TH AVE & MADISON SQUARE PARK - CONTINUOUS

The ladies stand on the opposite corner of the street, waiting for the walk signal.

ALANA

It's about that lady Inez who overstayed her welcome in our house.

CARA

What about her?

ALANA

I did everything I could to help find Inez and the kids a decent place to stay, and we finally got them set up in a women's shelter.

CARA

So she's out of the house now. What's the problem?

ALANA

The problem is that your father insisted that we continue to help her. So I assisted her with getting her working papers renewed. This way she can get a job and support her own family and leave ours alone. But she isn't exactly leaving us alone...

INT. LIQUOR STORE - CONTINUOUS

Andre's in the beer cooler surveying six pack options.

ANDRE

I swear we couldn't get her out of the house no matter what we tried. She just kept getting more and more attached to me.

Andre holds up Bud as Charles waives no in disgust. Charles holds up Blue Moon as Andre shrugs.

ANDRE (CONT'D)

And it gets worse.

EXT. WOMEN'S SHELTER - DAY (FLASHBACK)

*Alana gets out of the car to give Inez an envelope with all the completed Visa paperwork. Inez starts to come out to meet her half-way.*

ALANA (V.O.)

But when I went to go drop off the last of the paperwork she needed after your wedding...

*Inez came out of the shelter in one of her usual skimpy dresses. But this time it doesn't fit her quite the same.*

*Inez wraps her arms around her baby bump.*

*The papers fall to the floor as Alana's mouth drops open.*

INT. LIQUOR STORE - DAY

Charles drops the six pack and they shatter everywhere.

CHARLES

Oh, crap! I'm so sorry.

ANDRE

Don't worry, they'll get someone to clean it up.

CHARLES

No, I meant I'm sorry about... all of this. Is it true? Is it really your baby?

EXT. 5TH AVE & MADISON SQUARE PARK - CONTINUOUS

A car honks obnoxiously at the ladies to go, as they finally cross waiving sorry to the car for the delay.

Alana looks over at Cara who is staring at her feet, fidgeting with her wedding ring, speechless.

ALANA

Cara, the baby was due on my birthday. I'm taking this all as a sign from God that I need to be a part of that baby's life. I want to help out that poor child in any way I can.

CARA

How can we even be sure she's telling the truth?

ALANA

Who would lie about something like that?

CARA

I don't know, Mom, maybe the woman who conned her way into our house in the first place?

EXT. LIQUOR STORE - DAY

Charles and Andre walk out with two tall boys in brown paper bags. They crack them open and chug them back right away.

ANDRE

Listen, Charles, don't tell Cara I told you. I'm gonna talk to her.

CHARLES

What did Alana say?

EXT. CITY STREETS - DAY

Cara furiously walks a couple paces ahead of Alana.

ALANA

Andre has actually been sweeter to me than ever before. I think he's very remorseful. He actually wants to work things out.

CARA

(monotone)

Well if that's what you think is best for the family, then we'll work it out as a family.

ALANA

We've been praying on this for months and we think it's the best thing to do for the whole family.

Cara freezes. She turns around slowly.

CARA

You've known about this for months?

Alana doesn't know what to say.

CARA (CONT'D)

When did Dad find out about this?

EXT. CARA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Cara and Alana approach at the same time as Charles and Andre, meeting in the middle from opposite directions. Cara comes in guns blazing, fuming.

CARA

You found out Inez was pregnant before my wedding and you didn't tell me?

Andre stiffens. He didn't expect Cara to find out like this. Alana and Charles hang back, not their place to talk.

ANDRE

I'm so sorry, sweetie. I've never felt so ashamed and embarrassed in my entire life.

CARA

Why didn't you tell me? That was two months ago --

ANDRE

I wanted to, but with everything going on with the wedding, I couldn't bear to spoil it with this bad news. This woman is evil and had some plan to trap me... I honestly don't even know how this happened... I think she took advantage of me while I was drunk and blacked out...

Andre zones out as he thinks back hard for a second...

ANDRE (CONT'D)

She... she wanted to stay in the country so bad... She would do anything. I swear, this one time she seduced me with wine... the next thing I knew I was drunk and unaware of what I was doing. She took advantage of me!

CARA

Are you saying... Dad, did Inez assault you?

ANDRE

I don't know, I... I can't remember... I don't even know if we really slept together... I never meant for this to happen. Not at my age. I just started my retirement and now I have to go back to work to support this child who may not even be mine. Who knows how much longer I'll be around.

Andre breaks down. Cara hugs him, nearly crying herself.

CARA

It's okay, Dad. We'll get through this together.



EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

SUPER TITLE CARD: CALENDAR, "ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT",  
SEPTEMBER 30TH

Cara pretends to have fun alongside the models, but her body language betrays the cheesy smile on her face as she sits slouched over in a golf course.

Cara's phone LIGHTS UP in the cup holder, her DAD calling as the girls hop out at the halfway house.

CARA

Go on girls, have fun. I'll catch  
up with you all in a bit.

They all ride off in their golf carts with drinks in their hands as Cara heads to the club house.

CARA (CONT'D)

Hey, I'm at work, what's up?

ANDRE (V.O.)

I just wanted to see how you're  
holding up after our little talk?

CARA

I'm fine, Dad. Now isn't the right  
time, I'm at work. If you guys  
wanna get together and talk through  
this as a family at counseling  
later this week, I'm down.

ANDRE (V.O.)

There's nothing to talk about. That  
only leads to words being said that  
you don't mean. We're just going to  
take this one day at a time.

Cara goes --

INT. COUNTRY CLUB - LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CARA

Are you even sure this baby is even  
yours? We need to get a DNA test!  
This woman is crazy.

The other CLUB MEMBERS pop their heads out from behind lockers to listen into the gossip.

ANDRE (V.O.)

No, she won't allow us to do a DNA test... but I still feel obligated to help out. She could be telling the truth.

Cara notices the nosey club members and closes herself in the bathroom stall.

CARA

(whispering)

Can't you see, this woman is clearly taking advantage of you. You need to call a lawyer. She's illegal here, right? That will make the problem go away!

ANDRE (V.O.)

You know we can't afford that. We're working this out on our own. Try not to get too upset over this.

Cara FLUSHES the toilet in order to dull out the sound of her SCREAMING as she begins to lose her temper.

CARA

Do you hear yourself? You sound like Mom! Inez is manipulating you to stay in the country! Don't you see she's not gonna stop until she has you all to herself? She's the devil and her evil plan is working because of your blindness! We need to talk to a therapist or someone as a family. Scott and I have feelings too, you know.

Cara roughly opens up the stall door and notices TWO CLUB MEMBERS sitting on the bathroom vanity stools in their matching pink-and-white golf skirts whispering to one another while staring at Cara through the mirror.

Cara runs the water to try to privately finish her conversation.

ANDRE (V.O.)

I know it's going to take time to get used to --

CARA

I have to go.

Cara hangs up and throws her phone in the sink.

The phone gets covered in suds and Cara peers down at it, getting an idea. She grabs the phone, shakes it off.

EXT. COUNTRY CLUB - DAY

Cara types in 1-800-LAWYERS and puts the phone to her ear.

CARA  
(whispers)  
Hi, 1-800-Lawyers? Yeah, I had a couple questions about male assault cases... calling for a friend...

INT. STAR MART - DAY

SUPER TITLE CARD: ADVENT CALENDAR, CHRISTMAS EVE WITH A MISSING CHOCOLATE

Andre is back working at Star Mart at the return counter scanning unwanted Christmas items for CUSTOMERS. He's barely motivated to get the job done.

INT. STAR MART - STORAGE ROOM - DAY

He clocks out with a big bag of diapers and bottles in his hand. His co-workers all WHISPER the moment he walks out.

INT. WOMEN'S SHELTER - NIGHT

Inez looks miserable as Andre approaches her with baby items.

INEZ  
That's it, that's all you bring me? Some cheap diapers and bottles that will leak after one use?!

ANDRE  
I'm doing the best I can in this situation.

INEZ  
In this situation? You mean the one where you knocked me up, dumped me in a women's shelter to have a baby on my own, and decided to stay and support your wife instead of me?

ANDRE

What are you talking about, Inez? I came out of retirement to support you and this baby that may or may not be mine.

INEZ

Don't even start wit me, bendajo! Of course it's yours, I'm not letting you do some expensive DNA test just to have proof. I found out it's a boy and I'm naming him after you, there's your proof!

ANDRE

Inez, please, don't make this any worse than it already is for my family. Alana has been nothing but supportive and understanding through this. That would crush her!

INEZ

Alana?

Inez seethes with anger.

INEZ (CONT'D)

If you were going to be loyal to me and leave that woman to raise our child, than maybe I'd listen to you... But you've abandoned us in this shelter! It's my baby, I do what I want!

Inez starts hitting Andre from behind as he puts on his coat to leave.

He walks out with his head down, not saying a word or even looking at Inez. Inez watches him go with fury.

EXT. SUPERMARKET - DAY

Andre and Alana exit the building with some shopping bags and start to cross the crosswalk toward the parking lot, when a car comes FLYING into the lane, nearly hitting them.

ANDRE

Alana, look out -- !

Andre grabs her and pulls her back to the curb just in time. They're shaken up but not hurt. The car slows down at the stop sign, and Alana squints at the person behind the wheel.

ALANA

Does that driver look like Inez to you?

ANDRE

It couldn't be, she never got her license back.

Frazzled, they pick up their groceries and carefully cross to get into --

INT. ANDRE'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

As they drive down the street, they notice the same car closely behind them.

ANDRE

Pull over here. I want to get some cash, maybe we'll lose them.

EXT. BANK DRIVE THROUGH - CONTINUOUS

Andre makes an ATM transaction. Alana waits in the car.

INT. ANDRE'S CAR - DAY

When Andre climbs back into the car and they pull out, the same car from before cuts them off at the intersection and speeds off. Andre gets a better look at the driver.

ANDRE

That IS Inez! Catch up to her!

Alana speeds up and catches her at the next light.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Andre gets out of the car and goes right up to Inez's window.

ANDRE

Inez! What the hell is wrong with you? You almost killed us twice! You could've hurt the baby!

Inez pushes her way out of the door to get into Andre's face.

INEZ

You lying, cheating, son-of-a-bitch, you're playing games with me.

(MORE)

INEZ (CONT'D)

You leaded me on, showed me we can be a family, and now go back to playing house with your wife after kicking me to the curb! What kind of a man are you?

Inez starts to pound on Andre's chest. Andre tries to stop Inez, but she's out of control.

ANDRE

I know a lot of cops in this town. Don't make me call them.

INEZ

I should call the cops and tell them you aren't paying child support!

ANDRE

Are you out of your mind?! This will not go over well for you. Are you forgetting the reason that we kindly chose not to go through lawyers because you're here illegally? That can change at any time.

INEZ

What? You don't love me anymore, you used to hug me, you used to kiss me, tell me how beautiful I was. Now you just think I'm fat and disgusting!

ANDRE

You need to go home and calm down. Stop overthinking everything!

INEZ

Mi amore, you're all I think about day and night. I want us to be together! Just leave her like you told me you would --

ANDRE

Inez, I never told you these things, you're completely delusional. What goes on between my wife and I is my business. Leave us alone, or your son might not grow up with a father!

INEZ

Mentiroso! Tramposo!

Inez gets in the car and drives off like a lunatic. Andre turns back to face his own car, unable to walk toward it, shocked and in a daze. Cars HONK at him.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Andre is searching through all of the cabinets for any drop of alcohol he can find.

Calls from INEZ keep pouring in, but he ignores every one.

He pulls down half-empty dusty old bottles from the top cabinet.

He pours himself shot after shot until all the bottles are empty.

He throws the phone across the room as it rings again.

He slumps onto the floor, leaning against the fridge, licking the last drop off the side of the bottle of Aqua Deante.

His phone lights up with a TEXT and he goes to smash the liquor bottle on the phone -- but then he reads it.

ON THE PHONE SCREEN:

Inez - "Help! The baby is coming!"

Andre snatches the phone and attempts to stumble to his feet. He slips and falls down, then manages to get up.

He stumbles out the door in the snow, forgetting to put his jacket on.

INT. ANDRE'S CAR - NIGHT

Andre races to get to Inez at the shelter, swerving the whole way, not wearing his seatbelt.

EXT. WOMEN'S SHELTER - NIGHT

As soon as he pulls up, Inez gets into the car angry.

INT. ANDRE'S CAR - NIGHT

Andre immediately floors the gas.

INEZ

How can you do this to me, Andre?  
You knew I could go into labor any  
day now and you ignore my calls! I  
could have had the baby at that  
shelter - or worse, I could have  
the baby in this car if you don't  
get me to the hospital NOW!!

Inez smacks Andre in the head, waking him up as he drives  
fast, half-conscious.

INEZ (CONT'D)

Andre, what's wrong with you?  
You're driving all over the road.  
There's a stop sign!

Andre SLAMS on the breaks, smacking his head into the  
steering wheel. He's knocked unconscious as the car comes to  
a screeching halt, ramming into the stop sign.

Inez SCREAMS OUT in fear, clutching her stomach. Everything  
goes silent for a moment until HORNS begin BLARING behind.

INEZ (CONT'D)

Andre, Andre, wake up, wake up, mi  
amore, Andre!

The DRIVER behind them speeds around them and flips them off.

Inez desperately dials 911.

INEZ (CONT'D)

HELP! HELP!

911 OPERATOR (V.O.)

What's your emergency?

INEZ

Help me! I'm in labor and my driver  
is passed out behind the wheel!

911 OPERATOR (V.O.)

Okay, Ma'am, is he unresponsive?

Inez continues to shake Andre to wake him up as she breathes  
deeply trying not to go into labor in the car.

INEZ

Yes, I mean no, just send help!



EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The cops come moments later, followed by an ambulance.  
RESIDENTS emerge from their homes to watch.

EMT  
Someone grab a stretcher!

OFFICER  
How can I help?

Inez is immediately wheeled into an ambulance. She continues to fight with them as they try to take her away to a hospital.

INEZ  
No, no, he needs to come with us, I need him with me.

EMT  
Ma'am, you're in good hands here.  
We have an additional unit coming to take care of him.

The cop shines a flashlight into Andre's eyes but he's not moving. They notice a red lump and cut on his forehead.

OFFICER  
Looks like he has a deep cut and may need stitches on his forehead.  
We'll have to take him to the hospital as well. Call for backup.

EMT  
Dispatch, this is unit 66Adam requesting for an ALS, over.

Inez WAILS in labor as the second ambulance pulls up. The officer waves them toward Andre and puts him on a stretcher.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Andre slowly wakes up and goes to reach for his head, but finds his hand is cuffed to the hospital bed. He looks around and sees a GUARD standing outside his door, panics.

ANDRE  
Help, somebody, I'm trapped -- !

The guard runs in the room with his hand on his taser.

GUARD

Sir, I'm going to have to ask you not to move. I'll get you a nurse, just lie still now.

ANDRE

What is this? Why am I handcuffed? Why am I in the hospital?

GUARD

(calls out)

Nurse, get in here, please!

(to Andre)

Sir, I'm going to ask you again not to make any sudden moves!

The guard keeps his hand closely on his taser as he approaches Andre's hospital bed and presses the call button. The NURSE comes rushing in to check his vitals.

NURSE

It's okay, I'll take it from here. Welcome back Andre, been a while since we last saw you.

ANDRE

Is this a joke? Why am I here?

NURSE

You caused quite the scene last night. What were you thinking, driving a pregnant woman to the hospital while intoxicated, especially with your heart condition? You could've killed someone. Your blood alcohol levels were off the charts. I don't even know how you're alive right now.

ANDRE

Oh my God - Inez, the baby -- !

NURSE

It's okay, Andre, they're down in the maternity unit. Andy is fine.

ANDRE

Andy?

NURSE

Inez's baby. I'll have the doctor come in and explain everything. Get some rest.

Andre stares blankly at the nurse, then sternly down at his wrist. The nurse shakes their head and turns to walk away. Dr. Cruz enters.

DR. CRUZ

Fancy seeing you again, Andre. We talked about your drinking last time you were here, and you swore it wouldn't be a problem. So Andre, I ask you again and I need you to be real with me: how much and how often do you drink?

Andre opens his mouth to speak but no words come out.

DR. CRUZ (CONT'D)

Your blood alcohol level proves that you must have polished off something strong tonight. You're lucky your heart didn't give out on you with all that pressure.

Andre breaks down crying.

ANDRE

I'm so sorry, Doc. I honestly don't remember anything.

DR. CRUZ

It's not me you have to apologize to. I have a feeling you're going to owe a lot of apologies all around once you're out of here. But first we're going to have to schedule you for your next surgery.

ANDRE

I'm sorry, what? I need surgery?

DR. CRUZ

I want to put in a defibrillator that will shock your heart, God forbid you get yourself into any further trouble.

ANDRE

God. So I'm not getting out of here anytime soon, am I?

DR. CRUZ

That's for the courts to decide.

ANDRE

Huh?!

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

Alana dejectedly walks in as the JUDGE calls on Andre. She's not your typical judge: laid back with long flowing gray hair, covered in turquoise jewelry. Andre enters, head down with a large bandage across it, still dressed in hospital scrubs. He takes a seat across from the judge.

JUDGE

Andre, are you aware of your actions that brought you here today?

ANDRE

Yes, ma'am.

JUDGE

Then you are aware that your license may be taken away and you could be facing jail time since this is your second offense.

ALANA

(whispering to herself)  
Offense?

ANDRE

Yes, ma'am.

JUDGE

According to your medical records, you recently recovered from a heart surgery and had a new baby?

Andre looks up at the Judge in surprise.

ANDRE

Yes, ma'am.

The Judge sighs.

JUDGE

Look, Andre. God gave you a "second chance at life" here. I've decided to only take away your license for one year.

ANDRE

Thank --

Andre clears his throat and tries not to cry as the Judge continues to explain the sentence.

JUDGE

Now in return, I do ask that you immediately check yourself into rehab and attend AA until this time next year. There will be no jail time required.

(beat)

I truly feel you need to be here to give that child the life he deserves. Locking his father up won't help that situation. Don't you agree?

ANDRE

(quickly)

No, ma'am -- I mean, yes, ma'am. Thank you, Your Honor.

JUDGE

Case dismissed.

The Judge hammers the gavel as Andre turns to walk out a free man. Alana's disappointed face is the first thing he sees waiting at the door.

INT. HOSPITAL - ANDRE'S ROOM - DAY

Andre sits up in a hospital bed hugging his heart-shaped pillow once again. Alana and Cara are sitting on the other side of the room listening to Dr. Cruz.

DR. CRUZ

Andre, you're lucky you were only court ordered to lay off the booze after that last stunt you pulled. You're here today I believe it's best you now use a defibrillator. It will notify us immediately that you need help. Do you understand how important this is for your health?

Andre nods.

DR. CRUZ (CONT'D)

Do I have your permission to move forward with the procedure?

ANDRE

Yes, Doc. Do what you have to do.

DR. CRUZ  
Let's go ahead and roll you in  
then.

CARA  
We'll be here when you get out,  
Dad. We love you.

Cara slowly reaches over and grabs Alana's shaking hand as they watch Andre pushed out of the room for his operation.

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Cara, Alana and Andre all sit around the kitchen table in silence, cleaning up dinner, until Cara finally breaks it:

CARA  
You look good, Dad. I'm glad the  
procedure was easy enough.

Andre offers a weak smile.

CARA (CONT'D)  
I've gotta get back to the city  
now.

ANDRE  
Hey, why don't you take my car? I  
won't need it for the next year.

CARA  
Wait, are you sure?

ANDRE  
Less temptation if it's not parked  
out front.

Andre LAUGHS with his hand near his heart. Cara and Alana look at him with concern.

ANDRE (CONT'D)  
I'm okay, really. Cara, go ahead.  
It was so good to see you again.

CARA  
Thanks, Dad. I love you.

Andre and Alana go to hug Cara, but she just looks down at the floor. She takes the keys and rushes out the door.

INT. ANDRE'S CAR - NIGHT

Cara is driving down the turnpike furiously.

CARA

Can you believe they didn't bring up anything at all? Not his accident, court hearing, the baby, nothing!

CHARLES (V.O.)

The most important thing is that he's feeling better after the surgery, right?

CARA

Yeah, but I honestly thought they would have a heart-to-heart with me while I was there, and -- nothing!

CHARLES (V.O.)

I'm sorry, hun, just get home safe.

CARA

We need an intervention.

CHARLES (V.O.)

A what?

Cara hangs up the phone and calls Scott. Goes to voicemail.

CARA

Hey, Bro, we need to talk. Call me.

INT. CHURCH - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Andre is having a good laugh with his AA COLLEAGUES. He's looking more alive than ever before.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Andre runs up and down the field, refereeing a kids game. He's wearing a cheesy smile. One LITTLE BOY kicks a goal. The PARENTS watch and cheer as Andre blows the whistle.

Parents line up to shake Andre's hand.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - DAY

Andre sits at a picnic table feeding BABY ANDY. He's grinning down at Andy with love and adoration.

INT. WOMEN'S SHELTER - NIGHT

Inez tries to settle her boys down, drinks some tequila. She looks like a mess, exhausted, and declining fast.

INEZ

Aunt Meda, last time we talked you were really busy. How about me and the boys come help you with all that? I have to get out of here!

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. INEZ'S AUNT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Inez's Aunt picks red flowers in the garden.

INEZ'S AUNT

Okay, but it'll come with a price. You must learn how to earn your keep around here. Farm life isn't all fun and games, you know.

Inez looks energized, almost manic.

INEZ

Okay... I'll come down soon... I just have a few loose ends to tie up here...

INT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - DAY

Through the window, Inez can be seen swerving up to Andre's house. She jumps out of the car, clearly intoxicated.

She lets herself inside and notices all the roses on the kitchen table. In a jealous rage she picks them all up and smashes them into the garbage.

She grabs Andre's cell phone off the kitchen counter and goes through his contact list, sending herself information. She throws down the phone and bursts into tears. Stumbles out.

EXT. ANDRE'S HOUSE - DAY

Inez stops at the gate when she finds Andre cleaning up a BBQ all by himself. Tearful, she takes a photo.



INT. CARA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Cara tosses down the car keys and collapses on the couch.

CARA

Strangest Father's Day ever. The baby was there, they didn't even tell me. They ambushed me! I knew I shouldn't have went.

CHARLES

No way! What did you do?

CARA

What was I supposed to do? He's just a little baby. It's kinda hard to be mad at him.

Cara gets a NOTIFICATION on her phone. She scoffs.

CHARLES

What's wrong?

CARA

"What kind of a Father's Day was that! You should be ashamed of yourselves. You and your brother! The more your father does for you, the worse you treat him."

CHARLES

What? Who would write that to you?

Cara shows him the phone - with the crazed selfie of Inez.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

Oh my God..

CARA

She must've thought Scott and I didn't show up to celebrate and now she's picking a fight. I honestly want nothing to do with her, I'm blocking her... I think... We all just need to move on somehow.

Charles pulls her into a hug and kisses her forehead. Cara gets choked up.

INT. SCOTT'S LAKESIDE APARTMENT - DAY

SUPER TITLE CARD: CALENDAR, 6 MONTHS LATER

Andre helps Scott move into his own tiny studio apartment. They place the last piece of furniture down and turn to each other to check out how their hard work came together.

SCOTT  
Thanks... It's kinda bittersweet,  
no?

ANDRE  
Yeah, you could say that.

SCOTT  
Look, I know --

ANDRE  
I know, it's okay.

Scott looks down at the floor not knowing what to say next. Andre finds Scott's work badge on the top box and takes it out to give it a good spit shine.

ANDRE (CONT'D)  
You're gonna be a great park  
ranger. Proud of you, son.

Scott and Andre hug it out.

INT. ALANA'S CHURCH - DAY

SUPER TITLE CARD: CALENDAR, "THANKSGIVING"

Andre returns back to mass with Alana, both dressed up for the holidays. He's helping out as an usher. Alana is in the pews watching Andre greet everyone with the collection basket row by row. She has tears of joy running down her cheeks.

INT. WOMEN'S SHELTER - DAY

Andre brings a big gift basket after mass to give Andy. Inez is playing with Andy on the floor alongside her two boys. She looks happier and rejuvenated.

INEZ  
Can you help me put together this  
new convertible crib? The church  
dropped it off this week, he's  
growing so fast and is gonna need  
it soon.

Andre kisses the baby hello and hugs the other boys, then goes to work right away on setting up the crib as Inez looks on from the doorway.

ANDRE

Scott just moved into a new place.  
We're off to see Cara's new place  
now as well. Her and Charles just  
bought their first home!

Andre looks so natural with Andy. It's clear he loves the  
little guy. Inez almost softens.

ANDRE (CONT'D)

Hey, do you think I could bring  
Andy along with me just for a few  
hours?

INEZ

Sure...

Andre smiles with gratitude and hugs her.

ANDRE

Thank you, Inez. I really want to  
make co-parenting work... which is  
hard to do when you send my kids  
strange texts...

INEZ

I know, I'm sorry, mi amore, you  
were all alone and I felt so sorry  
for you. But that was months ago,  
I... I hope we can move on.

ANDRE

I know. Thank you. Cara and Scott  
are wonderful kids...

Andre gazes down at Andy lovingly.

ANDRE (CONT'D)

...and so is Andy.

INT. CARA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Cara and Charles are preparing for the families arrival.

CHARLES

How does Inez have my number? I  
think I just got a message from  
her.

ON THE PHONE SCREEN:

Inez - Charles, please tell Cara I'm sorry for the way I've  
behaved. I was out of line.

CARA  
Here, let me handle it.

Cara takes the phone from him.

INT. CARA'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Charles is setting up the table. Cara joins him.

CARA  
Thanks for putting up with her, and me, and my crazy family through all of this. I know we haven't been easy to deal with.

Cara stops what she's doing and goes over to embrace Charles.

CARA (CONT'D)  
You have been more than supportive to me. I hope that we can put this all behind us now. We're still in the honeymoon phase after all right?!

Charles scoops Cara closer into him and gives her a kiss. Right at that very moment there's a KNOCK at the door. Charles lets go and squeezes Cara's face.

CHARLES  
You have nothing to worry about. I love you. Now, let's celebrate our first Thanksgiving in our new home with your family!

Cara giggles as she kisses him back.

INT. CARA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

She then goes to answer the door. In walks Alana, Andre, and Andy. Scott slowly makes his way in too while texting.

CARA  
Scott, wow, what a pleasant surprise to see you! And, Andy, hi... I didn't know he was coming.

Andre and Alana makes themselves at home. Scott lies back on the couch texting.

ANDRE  
He was so good during the long car ride.

CHARLES

What's up, little buddy?

Andy gives Charles a high five, laughs and runs in the apartment. Cara gets distracted by the baby running amuck in her new place.

CARA

Oh, careful, that's brand new. Umm, the only toys I have are the cat's.

Cara grabs a ball and throws it past Andy.

CARA (CONT'D)

Here, catch!

Andy stares.

CARA (CONT'D)

Oh, right, uhh... Here, look, Andy, would like this stuffed animal? He's soft, I think he likes you already!

Andy slowly moves closer to Cara and pets the soft stuffed animal. Their REAL CAT slowly peeks its head out from under the couch to say hello. Andy gets excited and SCREAMS, throws his arms around Cara.

ALANA

So, when are you two going to have a baby?

CARA

I don't know, it might be a while, the timing is just so crazy right now --

CHARLES

Hopefully soon, we've finally settled into our new place, the timing feels perfect --

A KNOCK at the door saves them from having to fully answer.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

Who else did we invite?

He opens the door and in walks Inez and her two boys.

SCOTT

Woah woah woah, who told them they could come?

CARA

I did! Everyone in this family has been skating around the issue like nothing's wrong. We needed to have a family meeting once and for all!

(MORE)

CARA (CONT'D)

Scott, I thought you were with me  
on this --

SCOTT

Yeah, but I didn't think *she* was  
gonna get involved!

Alana's eyes widen as Andre slumps further down in his chair.  
Charles grabs Cara's hand as he sees the worry in her eyes.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Whatever. No one ever wants to talk  
about anything, so here it goes --

Scott goes to finally say his peace, but Cara cuts him off.

CARA

For the record, I wanted to have  
this meeting a long time ago and  
Mom shut me down.

ALANA

That's because there's nothing to  
say.

CARA

Yes, there is! I really wanna get  
to the root of all this and help  
this family heal. We've all been  
torn up and broken over this kid!

Alana sighs out loud, goes over and picks up Andy, who looks  
like he is about to cry, but he's strangely calmed in her  
arms. Andy BLINKS as Inez gestures to take him. He doesn't  
seem to want to budge.

ALANA

Thank you for wanting to help,  
Cara, but we're good. Nobody needs  
to fix anything.

CARA

Are you sure about that? Take a  
look at everyone's body language.

Alana notices Inez on the verge of tears, Scott all huffing  
and puffing, Andre with his head down, too embarrassed to  
look up, and Charles looking up at the ceiling.

CARA (CONT'D)

I know it's been an uncomfortable subject for all of us for a long time now, so why don't we just go around the room and hear about what everyone is feeling? Who would like to start?

ALANA

I don't think this is necessary, it's just going to lead to things being said that we don't mean.

CARA

You'd be surprised, Mom. Everyone is hurting in their own way, and is entitled to express that. You may not want to speak your peace, but at least give the rest of the family a chance to say how they feel.

Alana bows her head, begins to silently pray.

SCOTT

May I go now?

CARA

Please.

Scott begins to rise from his chair.

CARA (CONT'D)

Oh, you don't need to --

Scott stands up and reaches into his pocket. He pulls out a baggie labeled "CBD gummies" and pops one in his mouth. He then notices everyone staring at him.

SCOTT

Gummies anyone?

They all shake their heads in disappointment, except for the kids whose eyes light up at the sight of candy.

Scott gets up, turns to Alana, who's head is bowed in prayer.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Mom, I love you, but how can you just turn the other way? This woman took advantage of you, she's evil and tried to steal Dad. I can't stand to see you get hurt --

ALANA

It's okay, Scott. God will be the one to judge in the end --

SCOTT

Seriously, Mom? Cara's right. We're grown, you and Dad don't have to pretend to be together anymore. You can become the nun you always wanted to be. Dad can go back home to his family in Colombia. Staying together and playing pretend isn't helping anyone!

Cara goes to grab Scott's shoulder, but his arm swings up in rage knocking all the gummies out of her hand and all over the floor. The kids run around trying to pick them up.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Oh no! These aren't safe for kids.

He quickly snatches one out of the baby's bands right before Andy goes to put the gummy in his mouth.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Cara, I didn't mean to lose my tempter...

He pops the gummy into his mouth and pockets the rest.

CARA

It's fine. Here, take a seat, I can go next.

Scott sits down on the ground as if he's one of the kids.

CARA (CONT'D)

Dad, I don't blame you alone for this affair... I actually think it's both of you... Mom's to blame for a lot of this, too...

Alana opens one eye mid-prayer.

ALANA

Cara, how can you say a thing like that?

CARA

It's true. You and Dad made a vow and unfortunately, he cheated on you... Or *might've* cheated... I guess we'll never know for sure what really happened. If he did...

(MORE)



CARA (CONT'D)

I think it's partly because you devoted your life to God, and whether you realize it or not, it shut him out! But, Dad, that didn't give you the right to seek out someone else... if that's what happened...

ANDRE

Cara, I didn't know you felt this way --

CARA

I'm not done! Just because I don't blame you doesn't mean I'm not upset with you!

Charles tries to reach out and grab Cara's hand to sit her back down before her emotions get the best of her, but she whips her hand away. She's getting choked up.

CARA (CONT'D)

I don't think it's right that you hid this behind my back during our wedding... You... You walked me down the aisle like nothing was wrong. You knew about this the whole time, and you never came to me. That's what really hurts the most.

Cara cries and can barely get any further. She turns to Inez and looks her straight in the eyes.

CARA (CONT'D)

I was Daddy's Little Girl and you ruined that for me!

Inez has been looking at her feet throughout this exchange, but now she whips her head up, scoffing at Cara.

INEZ

Daddy's Little Girl? You're nearly 30, Cara, if you have a weak relationship with your father that's hardly my fault.

CARA

And how old are you, Inez? All of my friends are having kids, it's supposed to be our turn, but I haven't even told them about Andy because it's embarrassing. Who am I supposed to call?

(MORE)

CARA (CONT'D)

What am I supposed to say?  
 "Congratulations on your new baby!  
 Guess what: My Dad just had a new  
 baby, too!" -- ?

ANDRE

No words I could ever say will make  
 up for how sorry I am. I never  
 meant to hurt anyone or for things  
 to happen this way. You know, when  
 I was on my death bed, I had  
 visions of playing with grandkids,  
 not raising my own all over again.

Cara wipes her tears away, takes a deep breath, and spills  
 out the last of what's left in her heart.

CARA

Do you actually think Charles and I  
 want to have kids anytime soon  
 after you just pulled this off? You  
 kinda ruined that for us too, Dad!  
 We're supposed to be in the  
 honeymoon phase and all I do is cry  
 myself to sleep every night! We're  
 not trying to bring grandchildren  
 into the world for you that would  
 only be months younger than their  
 uncle.

ANDRE

I'm so sorry, Cara, I didn't mean  
 to ruin anything for you and  
 Charles. I only want the best for  
 you and your new family now. I know  
 I haven't been the best father--

CARA

But that's the thing! You were the  
 best father!

ANDRE

I wasn't the best husband either,  
 and I want to make up for that, to  
 all of you.

SCOTT

It's a little too late, don't you  
 think?

ALANA

Your father and I have discussed  
 this, and we have a home together.

(MORE)

ALANA (CONT'D)

It's best we just stay a family and be here to help raise the baby. There's nothing left to say or figure out. You don't have to worry about these things. Just leave it up to fate.

CARA

But I do worry. You guys aren't thinking about the bigger picture here! What, is Andy supposed to just grow up and go to the same schools we did, with the same name as Dad? Everybody knows us, what are they doing to think?

ALANA

It doesn't matter what they think. Just take it one day at a time. God has a plan.

CARA

Do you even hear yourself? It's a child we're talking about here, not the weather! You don't care about anyone but yourself!

Charles pulls Cara in to try to shut things down.

CHARLES

Cara!

Inez has been watching the conversation escalate, and it appears she almost feels sorry for them... Suddenly very aware of the weight of her actions...

INEZ

It's okay, everyone. We're moving. We'll be out of your way by the end of the summer.

This is a shock to everyone, especially Andre.

ANDRE

What?! Where?

INEZ

I have an aunt who lives on a farm in Pennsylvania and has plenty of room in her house for all of us. I've known for a few months, I've been putting my affairs in order.

(MORE)

INEZ (CONT'D)  
 Life for the kids will be good  
 there. I won't bother your family  
 with any more trouble.

ANDRE  
 What about Andy? How will I look  
 after him?

INEZ  
 You don't have to, mi amore... This  
 is the best thing for all of us. I  
 never meant to cause so much harm.

She nearly gets choked up, but bites it down. She gestures to  
 her kids to get up.

INEZ (CONT'D)  
 Vamanos muchachos.

Andre reaches out his hand and holds Alana, who then gives  
 him a look of surprise. She embraces the moment in silence.

Inez goes to pack up her things and take the boys home when  
 the cat comes around the corner. Upon seeing the room of  
 people, it scurries back in the other room to hide under the  
 bed. The little kids SCREAM with laughter, and chase after  
 the cat. Breaking up the tension.

INT. CARA'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Cara and Charles lie in bed silent, still shocked from the  
 day's events.

CHARLES  
 Are you okay hun?

CARA  
 I'm just meditating.

Charles rolls over and cuddles his arms around her.

CHARLES  
 It's going to be okay, love. At  
 least the next time we get together  
 with everyone we'll have good news  
 for them.

CARA  
 We will?

CHARLES  
 Yeah, we can tell them that we're  
 trying to have a baby!

Cara laughs and rolls over to face Charles.

CARA

You don't tell them that you're trying, silly goose, you tell them when you know you're having a baby!

CHARLES

But you are ready, right? The intervention helped?

CARA

This whole situation helped me understand that I don't need to plan around my family, but that WE just need to plan our family when we're ready...

Charles gives Cara a look of confusion and desperation as he waits for her to finish her thought.

CARA (CONT'D)

And baby, am I ready!

Charles passionately kisses her as she wraps her whole body around him.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

SUPERIMPOSED: 1 MONTH LATER

EXT. SCOTT'S LAKESIDE APARTMENT - DAY

Scott sits around the fire pit chugging beer with Kristen when an SUV pulls up. They finish them really quick and throw them into the fire to watch them melt.

Andre gets out of the car and an adorable black lab puppy comes jumping out of the front seat along with him. The pup goes running up to Scott, licks him right in the face.

SCOTT

Hi! Wow! Who are you? Where did you come from? You're so cute!

ANDRE

A little birdy told me you could use a therapy dog. Thought I would come up and surprise you.

SCOTT

With a puppy?! Wow, thanks Dad, I love him already.

ANDRE

Look, I know no matter what I do will never make up for what I've done, but it's a start, right?

SCOTT

It's definitely a start!

Scott tries to grab the puppy and embrace him, but he's too playful, running around him and Kristen in circles.

ANDRE

So Scott, I've been doing some calculations, and it looks like I'm actually making more money off of retiring than working back at the store. I'm going to retire and live off social security. Now that the baby isn't around, I have the free time to go back home to Colombia and visit my family for a while. You were right. I'm going to give everyone here some space.

SCOTT

(sarcastic)  
That's cool.

ANDRE

Your mom has actually been looking into church retreats, she's been longing to go to Rome. Apparently, she has all this vacation time she never used.

(under his breath)

She never used it when I needed her to take care of me, but that's a different story.

Scott's heard this a million times. He's tired of it.

SCOTT

Someone had to work, you wouldn't have had any money if it weren't for her.

Andre sighs. Nods.

ANDRE

Yeah. You're right... I just want everyone to be happy again.

EXT. INEZ'S AUNT'S HOUSE - DAY

Inez's boys are out back playing in a dirt field surrounded by red and black wildflowers. They're cracking up chasing a barking, scruffy, stray dog around the farm.

INT. INEZ'S AUNT'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - DAY

Inez is stuck inside, crushing down poppy seeds, wearing nothing but her underwear and a gas mask.

Suddenly, we see FLASHING LIGHTS through the blackened curtains and hear SIRENS pull up.

OFFICER (V.O.)

This is the police! Come out with your hands up!

Inez rips off her gas mask and runs out the back door --

EXT. INEZ'S AUNT'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

-- and rushes toward her boys, trying to grab them, when an ICE van pulls up behind her. Before she can get to the boys, AGENTS jump out and tackle her. They escort her into the van, while other AGENTS pick up the boys, who cry hysterically.

INT. INEZ'S AUNT'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

A SWAT TEAM breaks down the front door, and find Inez's Aunt trying to destroy drugs in the garbage disposible.

EXT. INEZ'S AUNT'S HOUSE - DAY

Now cuffed, Inez's Aunt is roughly put in the back of the van with Inez, her kids, and the other WORKERS.

The COPS stay behind to collect evidence and caution tape off the property as the van pulls away.

INT. AIRPORT - NIGHT

Alana lines up amongst PRIESTS and NUNS covered in conservative headdresses. She checks her bag and gets her boarding pass at the desk of AL ITALIA.

On the other side of the terminal, Andre gets a ticket from AVIANCA COLOMBIAN AIRLINES. He takes in his surroundings of New York one last time as he wheels his suitcase away.

EXT. AIRPLANE HANGAR - NIGHT

A jail-like bus pulls up as a long line of IMMIGRANTS make their way off of it and onto an airplane. Inez and the kids are the first to board with their heads down.

INT. SISTINE CHAPEL - DAY

Alana, dressed in a long black dress, covering her head in a sheer lace cloth, looks in awe at breathtaking ceilings.

EXT. VATICAN CITY - DAY

Alana FaceTimes Andre.

SPLIT SCREEN:

EXT. OUTDOOR MALL - DAY

Andre is shopping when he answers Alana's call.

ALANA

Andre, I'm in the beautiful Vatican city! Did you make it back home safely?

ANDRE

It looks gorgeous there! I did, yes, thank you, it's so great to be back.

ALANA

How are things with your family? Oh, wait, hold on...

Alana has an incoming call.

She merges the call to create a THREE-WAY FACETIME.



EXT. MOUNTAIN RANGE - DAY

Scott is with Kristen and the puppy at an overlook of a breathtaking view on top of a mountain.

SCOTT

Mom, you there? I have Cara on the line too. Here, let me loop her in.

He merges the call to create a FOUR-WAY FACETIME.

INT. CARA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Cara and Charles look on from their couch.

ALANA

I made it to Italy safely.

CARA

That's awesome. I wanna go next time!

SCOTT

If you guys don't mind, I have something I want to say.

CARA

Yeah, Scott, go ahead.

Scott clears his throat and puts the camera down on a rock for everyone to see what's going on.

SCOTT

Can you see me? Yeah? Good.

Scott nervously rubs his hands together, sticks them in his pockets. He looks at everyone, then gets down on one knee. He clears his throat again.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Kristen, you have been my rock the past couple of years. I love taking hikes with you and raising this puppy with you. I want this right here, the rest of my life, with you. Will you marry me?

KRISTEN

Oh my God! What! Yes! Wow! Of course!

Scott pulls out a ring and places it on her finger. They embrace. Everyone cheers and AD-LIBS congratulations.

Scott pulls in Kristen and the dog and kisses them both in excitement.

SCOTT

Thanks guys, I was so nervous, you actually helped calm my nerves a bit.

CARA

We actually called because we have big news, too. Think you can handle more.

SCOTT

Whatcha got?

ANDRE

Oh really?

CHARLES

We do?

ALANA

Everything okay, sweetie?

CARA

We're having a baby!

CHARLES

We are?

CARA

Surprise!

Charles smacks a big kiss on Cara.

CHARLES

I can't believe you tricked me!

CARA

I wanted to tell you all as a family! I love you baby, we're having a baby!

ALANA

I prayed for this moment!

ANDRE

I'm so happy I'm going to be a grandfather!

SCOTT

AHHH! Look at you, big sis, all grown up, gonna be a mom, that's dope!

ANDY

Dada! Dada!

Out of nowhere, we see a baby coming running through the mall up to Andre in the background of his video. It's ANDY.

ANDRE

Andy?

Andre looks at Andy in confusion. Everyone on the call stares back at him in disbelief. He scoops up Andy and looks around.

CARA

What's the baby doing there, Dad? I thought you were down there visiting your family? I didn't know they came.

ANDRE

They didn't, I have no clue where he just came from!

All of a sudden, Inez pops up on camera making herself visible for all to see.

INEZ

We gotta talk.

Inez hangs up Andre's phone causing his screen to go dark. The others stare at each other dumbfounded.

Alana closes her eyes in prayer and hangs up. Scott rolls his eyes and shrugs his shoulder and hangs up.

Cara is left on the call all alone.

CARA

Dad?

FADE OUT.