

The Bias Virus

Created & Written by

Paul Spreadbury

Feature Screenplay

US Copyright 2022
WGA West Reg # 2179563

850 723 3663
Shedman11@hotmail.com

FADE UP

INT. HOTEL BAR.

Intimate, upscale, piano music. MILLER STEVENS (White/40) at the bar nurses a drink. CLAUDIA GREEN, (Black/40ish), professionally dressed with a leather satchel approaches.

CLAUDIA
Hello Mister Stevens

MILLER
Miss Green, nice to see you again.

Claudia sits down. Bartender steps up.

BARTENDER
What'll you have?

CLAUDIA
Tito's martini, stirred, two olives.

BARTENDER
Coming right up.

CLAUDIA
So, how's everything coming along with Project Gen U?

MILLER
Fine! Dr. Mucoso and his team are moving right along. We might even be a little ahead of schedule.

CLAUDIA
That's great.

The bartender returns.

BARTENDER
Tito's martini, stirred, two olives.

CLAUDIA
Thank you.

Claudia lifts her glass for a toast.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)
To the success of Project Gen U.

MILLER
I'll drink to that.

They toast. Claudia takes a thumb drive from the satchel.

CLAUDIA
Here's the new specs for their
behavioral profiles.

MILLER
Excellent. I'll get them to Dr. Mucoso
right away.

CLAUDIA
I'd like to meet the man someday.

MILLER
Sorry, that's not likely to happen.

CLAUDIA
How come?

MILLER
Dr. Mucoso is beyond reclusive. He's
an outright anthropophobic.

CLAUDIA
Excuse me?

MILLER
He has a fear of people.

CLAUDIA
Is that why he builds robots?

MILLER
I'm sure. His best friend's a robot!
His name's Benny.

CLAUDIA
Are you one of his robot?

Miller laughs.

MILLER
No. Doc needed at least one flesh and
blooder to handle sales, I'm it. But
if I was one, you wouldn't know it.

CLAUDIA
They're that good?

MILLER

(whispers)

He built a football coach for the University of Alabama a few years back and it worked out great. Wait'll you see the two he's building for the DCD.

CLAUDIA

I can't wait.

MILLER (CONT'D)

Say, about your agency, the DCD.

CLAUDIA

The Department of Child Distribution.

MILLER

Um, none of our Washington friends have ever heard of it. I can't even find a website. What's up with all the cloak and dagger?

CLAUDIA

It's highly classified.

MILLER

A middleclass White married robo-couple are part of some top-secret mission?

CLAUDIA

Actually, yes. The new behavioral specs I gave you should be a clue.

Miller looks at the thumb drive.

MILLER

Obviously, I'm going to read it.

Claudia leans into Miller, touches his arm. He likes it.

CLAUDIA

Okay, I'll give you a taste.

MILLER

I'd like a taste.

CLAUDIA

The robo-couple your building must be perfect parents.

MILLER

Parents? Like in a mom and dad?

CLAUDIA

(excited whisper)

Parents who'll raise a child without prejudice, politics, organized religion or any bias of any kind.

MILLER

Interesting.

CLAUDIA

The overturning of Roe v. Wade means millions of unwanted babies will soon be in the system. No moms or dads, no one. They'll need more than some government welfare program can offer, they'll need a family.

MILLER

Very warm and fuzzy.

CLAUDIA

Nothing warm and fuzzy about it. Have you any idea of the burden millions of unwanted will place on our society? The economy? Crime?

MILLER

Unwanted. Thus the name Generation U?

CLAUDIA

That's right. If the beta test of the prototypes goes well, we'll need thousands more robo-parents to handle the load.

MILLER

I like the sound of that commission.

CLAUDIA

So, when do you think I can see the prototypes?

MILLER

I'll call the doc. I have a feeling the scope of the project will light a fire under him. (beat) In fact, I'm sure of it.

FADE

TRANSITION:

INT. HOTEL SUITE. NIGHT.

Claudia sits at a desk, drink in hand, bowl of popcorn and thin, metallic electronic tablet-like object on the desk. She flicks a long lizard-like tongue to snag popcorn from the bowl. Sips her drink. Tosses the thin tablet-like device in the air. It floats and turns into a video screen. Bodegan alien Commander KAT MANDOO (FEMALE) appears on the screen. She's humanoid looking with lizard-like eyes and features.

KAT

Greetings Claudia. How did your meeting go with the robot man?

CLAUDIA

I passed along the updated behavioral profile data. He said the prototypes will be ready soon.

KAT

You realize the Prime Minister still thinks you're out of your mind.

CLAUDIA

I know.

KAT

Your unique perspective on the virus has opened quite a few minds.

CLAUDIA

I chose to be a Black human so I could experience the virus firsthand. (beat) It's different.

Claudia sips her drink.

KAT

Different in what ways?

CLAUDIA

Observing the virus is one thing, living with it's another. Everywhere you go you feel eyes on you. You can almost read their thoughts and sense their fear. And you don't know why.

KAT

Only on Earth does such a virus exist.

CLAUDIA

But the younger they are, the weaker the virus. I look into the eyes of the infants and I swear, it's not there! They're not born with it. They're exposed to it over time!

KAT

Still, you have to admit your plan, Project Gen U, sounds kind of crazy.

CLAUDIA

Since when has crazy stopped us? We part seas, turn loaves of bread to fish, put 2 of every beast on a boat and make it rain for 40 days and nights!

KAT

Don't forget the burning bush and tablets. We gave them a simple ten step how-to guide and still, they don't get it.

CLAUDIA

No surprise. Most of them can't even stick to a diet.

KAT

Let's hope this works. If it doesn't, the orders are to give it up.

CLAUDIA

Have arrangements been made to assign monitors for the beta test?

KAT

The most elite members of the Bodegan Thespian division are preparing to assume their roles on earth.

CLAUDIA

I've arranged so they can monitor both prototypes at their workplaces.

KAT

Thespians to play roles as their neighbors are being cast as we speak.

CLAUDIA

A house across the street from the prototypes has been secured.

KAT

I have a surprise. Titania herself is going to participate.

CLAUDIA

Titania! The greatest Thespian in the history of Bodegan theater.

KAT

Winner of six Golden Comets for Best Actress.

CLAUDIA

What an honor! She's dealt with the virus more than any thespian!

KAT

Her performance as Joan of Arc is a classic.

CLAUDIA

Will I get to meet her?

KAT

She'll be at the pre-pro meeting.

CLAUDIA

Titania, in the flesh. Unreal!

KAT

Focus on your earth duties. Make sure the prototypes are ready and every thing's in order.

CLAUDIA

Yes commander! (pause) Uh, and Kat?

KAT

Yes?

CLAUDIA

Thank you for having faith in me.

KAT

Always have, always will.

FADE

TRANSITION

INT. PROGRAMMER'S COMPUTER LAB. DAY.

High tech/bunker-like. Lots of computers, arms & legs in cabinets. DR. VICTOR MUCOSO (aka MUCOUS) is distinguished (Claude Rains-like), wears a lab jacket, tinted granny-glasses with snow white hair gathered in a grandmotherly bun. He stands by a headless torso wearing Italian WWII uniform.

MUCOUS

Elevate the right arm.

The arm on the torso rises, stops halfway at the elbow and begins to snap its fingers. The INSTRUMENTAL OPENING to James Darin's 'Mack the Knife' plays. Mucous rolls his eyes.

MUCOUS (CONT'D)

(impatient)

Damn it, Benny! Not again!

Mounted on a lazy Susan-type swivel tray on a workbench is the lifelike robo-head of Benito Mussolini (BENNY). He lip synch's karaoke-like to lyrics scrolling on a monitor.

BENNY/SONG

(lip synch)

The shark, babe, has such teeth dear
and it shows them pearly white. Just a
jackknife...

The torso snaps fingers and sways to the music.

BENNY/SONG (CONT'D/O.C.)

...has old Mac Heath babe and he keeps
it, ah, out of sight.

Mucous SIGHS. Tosses a shroud over the torso. Song stops.

MUCOUS

Let's take a break.

Miller and Mucous's lab assistant & lover MONICA MEANS (White/30's) enter.

MONICA

Mucous! What are you doing messing
around with El Duce's head?

MUCOUS

I must synchronize him with the torso.

BENNY

(Italian Accent)

Atsa right! El Duce gotta have-a sharp-a mind and strong-a body.

MILLER

The hell with that. The director of the DCD's expecting to see the prototypes for the Project Gen U beta test next week!

MUCOUS

Ahh! Benny and I have been working round the clock on those two. Don't worry. They'll be ready.

MONICA

Benny? What's he have to do with it?

BENNY

(smiling)

I am-a da brains behind-a D.F.S.!

MILLER

D.F.S.? What's that?

Mucous smirks, waves for Miller and Monica to follow him.

MUCOUS

Follow me. You've got to see this.

They arrive at a workbench with two shrouded objects.

MUCOUS (CONT'D)

Introducing Arnie and Irene Beta!

He removes the shrouds to reveal the human looking heads of ARNIE (White/35) and IRENE BETA (White/35). Both are inactive with eyes closed. Miller and Monica examine them closely. Admire the workmanship.

MONICA

Mucous! You've outdone even yourself.

MUCOUS

Thank you, dearest.

MILLER

Gotta hand it to you doc, they're great. But, what's this D.F.S. thing?

MUCOUS

Dormant Fascism Software. I've
uploaded it into their hard drive.

(pats Benny's head)

No one knows fascism better than
Benito Mussolini!

BENNY

(bashful)

Aww Doc, you're a-too kind.

MILLER

Are you nuts!? According to the specs
they're supposed to be programmed to
raise this kid by the golden rule!

MONICA

Mucous! This is a big contract!

MILLER

It's worth billions!

MUCOUS

It's worth more than that. This
Project Gen U as they call it is the
answer to all our dreams.

MONICA

Huh?

MILLER

I think your brain needs an upgrade
doc.

MUCOUS

Think of it! Thousands of perfect
robo-parents raising millions of Black
and Brown rugrats, all according to
this ridiculous golden rule.

Mucous laughs maniacally. Monica strokes his head.

MONICA

Are you sure you're okay Muckey?

MILLER

Yeah, where you going with this doc?

MUCOUS

Don't you see? All of those robo-
parents will be programmed with DFS...

BENNY

When-a da bambinos are-a old enough.
Quattro anni, or cinque anni...

MUCOUS

(mad scientist)

The DFS activates and all the mommies
and daddies brainwash the little shot
eaters into accepting the White race
as the Master Race!

BENNY

And when they are a-old enough to vote
they elect a-me, El Duce, President of
da U.S. of A.

A Benny for President banner drops & hangs from the ceiling.

MUCOUS

We'll rule the country!

BENNY

From-a there, it's a hoppa-skipa-
jumppa to rule da world! (laugh)

MUCOUS

It's brilliant!

MILLER

It's nuts! If the government gets a
whiff of this, we'll all hang!

MUCOUS

The beta test will go just fine. For
the first four years the robo-parents
will be just what the WOKE-Y
bureaucrats ordered. Watch.

Mucous pushes a button on a control panel. Arnie and Irene's
heads come to life, all bright-eyed and pleasant.

MUCOUS

Hello Arnie, hello Irene.

ARNIE

Hey there doc! What's shaking?

MUCOUS

Look who's come to visit.

ARNIE
Miller? Is that you? And Monica?

IRENE
We haven't seen you guys in years!

MONICA
(confused)
Huh?

ARNIE
Don't you recognize us?!

MUCOUS
Possibly the shock of seeing you, sans
torsos has them confused.

MILLER
Yeah, uh, that's probably it.

ARNIE
The doc says we were in a car wreck.

IRENE
We don't remember a thing about it.

BENNY
It was a-horrible.

ARNIE
Yeah, Benny was in the car with us.

IRENE
We all went through the windshield and
lost our heads.

MONICA
Wow, talk about your freak accidents.

ARNIE
Yeah, thankfully the doc was driving
by to pick up all the pieces.

IRENE
One minute, our heads are over here
and our bodies are there!

MUCOUS
And soon all those pieces will be back
in place, just like new!

IRENE

Good thing for us the only doctor in the world who can put us back together happened by.

MONICA

Talk about your dumb luck.

IRENE

But wait! There's more!

ARNIE

(laughs)

You sound like one of those guys in the TV commercials!

IRENE

Because of the accident we can't have children.

ARNIE

Neither can Benny.

BENNY

It's a-so sad.

IRENE

But Doctor Mucoso arranged it so we can foster a baby girl!

ARNIE

And if it works out, we can adopt her!

IRENE

Poor Benny. He can't have one.

MUCOUS

Yes, the state child welfare people frown on giving children to current or former fascist dictators.

ARNIE

Dr. Mucoso even got us a rental in Canoga Park and jobs so once our torsos are attached, we can get right to work!

IRENE

I totally forgot, I'm a nurse!

ARNIE

I'm a restaurant manager.

MILLER

That all sounds great Arnie and Irene.
Still, sorry about the accident.

ARNIE

Nothing to lose our heads over!

Arnie and Irene laugh. The others take a quick look at each other and laugh too.

IRENE

If not for the accident, we never
would've met Dr. Mucoso and would've
missed out on everything!

ARNIE

A new home, new jobs, new baby.

IRENE

A new life!

Arnie and Irene smile and share an air smooch.

MUCOUS

That's enough for now. Time to rest-up
for your torso transplants.

ARNIE

See y'later Miller, Monica.

IRENE

Let's not be strangers.

Mucous pushes a button. Arnie and Irene shut down, eyes close, Mucous puts the shroud back over their heads.

MILLER

Wow! That's wild.

MUCOUS

Benny and I uploaded a lifetime of
memories; family, childhood, how they
met. They remember you from college.

BENNY

They think-a you work for Google and
you're a-married.

MILLER

Me and Monica, married?

Monica cuddles Mucous.

MONICA

Muckey, you know you're the only man
for me.

Monica swirls her tongue around Mucous's ear.

BENNY

Ah, sweet amore!

MUCOUS

Monica, demonstrations of affection in
the lab are a big no-no.

Monica stops, looks Mucous sternly in the eye.

MONICA

Did you shave your ears?

MUCOUS

Just the left one. I thought you might
like it.

MONICA

(smiles)

I do but, don't you dare clean them!

MUCOUS

Of course not!

MONICA

You know how much I love the wax.

Miller hands Mucous the thumb drive.

MILLER

Here are the new behavior specs.

MUCOUS

I'll upload them this evening. Arnie
and Irene will be ready to the beta
test in a few days.

MILLER

The DCD's embedding agents to monitor
them at work and at the subdivision.

MUCOUS

Monitors hey, hm, that might pose a problem.

TRANSITION:

INT. BODEGAN SPACESHIP CONFERENCE ROOM.

Futuristic looking room with a long conference table. Large window with a view of Earth in the distance. Kat stands at the head of the table with Claudia. Behind them a video screen with words: PROJECT GEN U. Nine Bodegan actors disguised as Earthlings sit at the table. Four younger (22-28/Mixed gender & race) dressed as fast-food workers in sailor suits and five older (70-80/Mixed gender & race).

KAT

You all know Earth Liaison Officer Claudia Green. She'll review your assignments.

CLAUDIA

First of all, kudos to wardrobe and make-up. You look just like real earthlings.

Black, elderly drama queen TIFFANY CHANDELIER stands.

TIFFANY

Frankly, this pant suit does nothing for my hips.

White, elderly curmudgeon BRENNAN WALTERS responds.

BRENNAN

That pant suit should get a Golden Comet for best wardrobe in a supporting of rolls. Lots of rolls.

BRENNAN

Shut your face crooker!

Image of a Cap'n Craby's restaurant appears on the screen. Claudia approaches the four young thespians in sailor suits.

CLAUDIA

The male prototype manages a restaurant where you four all have roles as employees.

She points to buxom Bodegan actor CRYSTAL, blonde (25).

CRYSTAL

I play the part of promiscuous cock-tease Crystal Hornblower. My role is to test the male prototypes fidelity to his marriage.

CLAUDIA

Do you think you're up to the part?

CRYSTAL

(confused)

Huh? I thought with earth men their part had to get up for it.

The group laughs. Claudia points to cool, hip Black urbanite, NATHANIEL (25)

CLAUDIA

Nathaniel Gray, your role is to challenge Arnie's racial tolerance.

NATHANIEL

(hip hop)

Not looking for a lover, not looking for a fight, I'm the fearless Black Knight of the urbanites. Yeah!

Light applause from the others. Claudia points to raven-haired Native American CHEYENNE (28).

CHEYENNE

Bi-sexual Native American Cheyenne Lightfoot. I challenge Arnie's feelings about alternative lifestyles.

CLAUDIA

Very good and last but not least.

Points at awkward, shy STEVE (21).

STEVE

I'm Steve Ward and, uh, I'm an Incel and I'm part of the alternative lifestyle thing.

CLAUDIA

We need two to do that?

CHEYENNE

Y'can't stay in character and be bi-sexual and Incel at the same time.

STEVE

One person with dissociative identity disorder could cover all the bases.

CRYSTAL

But you'd have to pay triple scale.

KAT

Thanks. I think we're fine as is.

Claudia turns to the elderly group, three men, two women.

CLAUDIA

You five will live at this retirement home for actors.

Image of rundown Hollywood mansion with worn sign reading: BARRYMORE HOUSE appears on the screen.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

Irene, the female prototype is your visiting nurse. She'll bring the baby to work with her and it's your job to look for any signs of the virus.

Claudia points to overly made-up GRACE BARRYMORE (75) who wears a necklace of fake pearls and an over-sprayed perm.

GRACE

I'm Grace Barrymore. Proud owner and manager of Barrymore House.

Grace proudly gestures to the four other old actors.

GRACE (CONT'D)

And these are the residents of Barrymore House, the Supernovas!
(beat) That means dying stars.

PORKY LASAGNA (70) looks/talks like a film noir mob hitman.

PORKY

I play da role of Porky Lasagna. Y'know dem crime movies wid lots of shadows all over da place? I was da guy who made most of dem shadows. Dey called me da shadow man.

Drama-queen TIFFANY CHANDELIER (Black/70) stands.

TIFFANY

Tiffany Chandelier! Pioneer of the TV Western genre. The first ebony hued actress to play a dance hall floozie!

Grumpy, crusty, BRENNAN WALTERS (80) slams a hand on the table, causing his slick, ill-fitting toupee to shift.

BRENNAN

Dammit! It ain't ebony hued!

TIFFANY

What do you know?

BRENNAN

It's Black, African American or person-of-color. Just pick one.

GRACE

Don't forget, you were also a whore.

TIFFANY

(mildly offended)

I prefer, enthusiastic seductress.

CLAUDIA

Alright, next.

Thin, wiry, energetic ROCK TAYLOR (80) stands.

ROCK

Rock Taylor! Stunt man extraordinaire! Hit me with a train, toss me off a roof, step on me with an elephant. I can take it! I still got my SAG card!

Brennan stands.

BRENNAN

Brennan Walters, best known as the original 'Lil Dab Will Do Ya man in the Brylcreem commercials.

TIFFANY

It's Brylcreem, you honker!

Kat looks around the room. Someone's missing.

KAT

There's supposed to be three more. The neighbors? Where are the...

Two Bodegan Thespians (35-40) disguised as Latino neighbors MARIA and LUIS SANCHEZ blunder into the room. Six-year-old RUBY, their daughter, casually follows shaking her head.

LUIS

Man, this is a big ship!

MARIA

We got lost in the food court.

The little girl speaks with an angry adult female voice.

RUBY

(angry adult voice)

Lost in the food court my ass! It's all you can eat taco day.

Kat looks at the little girl curiously.

KAT

Titania, is that you?

RUBY

(angry adult voice)

It's me! Live and in the flesh!

All the other thespians rise to give her a standing ovation.

BRENNAN

And in a cute pink dress.

The others laugh. Ruby glowers at Brennan.

RUBY

(angry adult voice)

Show some respect you old goat!

CLAUDIA

Bodega's greatest actor has accepted a supporting role as a little girl?

RUBY

They ran out of A-listers and had to settle for these two Simpleton Grades to play the role of the neighbors.

CLAUDIA

I'm flattered Titania but hopefully these two will surprise us. Give us your Earth character names.

LUIS
(Spanish accent)
We are Luis and Maria Sanchez.

MARIA
(Spanish accent)
I'm Maria.

RUBY
(sarcastic)
Surprised yet?

LUIS
We've worked hard for these roles and
have even studied Spanish.

MARIA
No me gustan las albondigas.

LUIS
(proud)
It means, I do not like the meatballs.

BRENNAN
Can you say, I *do* like the meatballs?

Maria and Luis look at each other. They don't know.

RUBY
I figured someone with a little more
experience can help carry the load.

KAT
That's fine but you're going to have
to do something about that voice.

RUBY
How's this?

Ruby sprays a mist in her mouth.

RUBY (CONT'D)
(sweets little girl voice)
I love you mommy and daddy.

Maria strokes Ruby's hair lovingly.

MARIA
We love you too honey.

RUBY
 (angry adult woman voice)
 Get your mitts off of me! You're
 getting salsa in my hair!

Everyone laughs.

CLAUDIA
 This is the house you'll be living in.

Photo of a fine middleclass home.

MARIA
 Somethings growing out of its head!

RUBY
 It's not a head, it's a roof and that
 thing is called a chimney, mommy.

Photo of Arnie and Irene appears on screen.

CLAUDIA
 This is Arnie and Irene Beta.

ROCK
 Wow. Those are robots?

RUBY
 Impressive.

CLAUDIA
 Once approved for the test, they'll
 move in, go to work and get the baby.

Image of Laticia appears on the screen. The actors murmur.

TIFFANY
 She's beautiful.

CLAUDIA
 If these two pass the test, robo-
 parents will be built to parent all
 the unwanted and they'll be moved to
 an alternate Earth-like planet.

KAT
 A far away from the Bias Virus as
 possible.

ROCK
 It's a beautiful thing.

PORKY

If we see's any signs of da virus does you want us to whack 'em?

CLAUDIA

Uh, no whacking. Just report it to me and we'll decide what to do. Clear?

KAT

Report to Transport Dock A immediately and get used to your new environments. When the prototypes arrive at their home and to their jobs I want you assimilated and settled in.

FADE

TRANSITION:

INT. FAMILY RESTAURANT PARKING LOT. DAY

SUV is parked outside of a Cracker Barrel-type restaurant. Miller and Monica in the front, Arnie and Irene in back.

IRENE

It feels good to have my body back.

ARNIE

I'm glad she has it back too if you get my drift, heh-heh.

IRENE

Oh Arnie, stop.

MILLER

Yeah, focus on your interview. The social workers name is Claudia Green.

MONICA

She's assigned to Laticia's case.

IRENE

Oh Arnie, I hope she likes us.

MILLER

You'll do just fine.

MONICA

Dr. Mucoso gave you a great recommendation.

IRENE

He's so sweet. You guys are great too.

ARNIE

Yeah, thanks for flying us down on that private jet.

MILLER

No biggie. Goggles has its own fleet.

ARNIE

Must be exciting working for Google.

IRENE

Have you ever met him, I mean, face-to-face?

MONICA

Met who?

IRENE

Mr. Google. (beat) I bet he's a very smart man.

ARNIE

Is there anything he doesn't know?

MILLER

Um, I think you better get in there.

MONICA

You don't want to keep her waiting.

ARNIE

Right. Good idea.

IRENE

Wish us luck!

Arnie and Irene leave the SUV. Monica and Miller stare.

MILLER

What the hell did he put in their heads?

MONICA

What the hell didn't he put in?

TRANSITION:

INT. CRACKER BARREL-TYPE RESTAURANT. DAY

Claudia sits at a table sipping coffee. A bagel on a plate in front of her. She looks up, see's Arnie and Irene.

ARNIE

Are you Miss Green?

CLAUDIA

You must be Arnie and Irene Beta.
Please, sit down.

Arnie and Irene sit. Claudia motions for a waitress.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

Care for coffee, something to eat?

Arnie looks over at Claudia's plate.

ARNIE

Is that a bagel?

The waitress arrives.

CLAUDIA

Yes, it is.

IRENE

(to waitress)
Coffee and rye toast.

ARNIE

(to waitress)
I'll have a coffee and a bagel, cream
cheese, capers and uh, um, what's the
name of that fish?

CLAUDIA

Smoked salmon.

ARNIE

No, that's not it.

WAITRESS

Lox?

ARNIE

Yes! That's it, lox!

The waitress furrows her brow and leaves.

ARNIE

(to Claudia)

My dad didn't care for Jews. I was 18 before I had my first bagel.

CLAUDIA

Really? Uh, what are your feelings about Jews?

ARNIE

Me? I don't care what church anyone goes to. Even if it's not a church, it's okay by me.

CLAUDIA

So, you're not religious?

IRENE

Oh yes! Arnie and I believe in the creator and in the golden rule!

ARNIE

You bet! Do unto others, I always say. Love they neighbor!

IRENE

Especially our neighbors.

CLAUDIA

Your neighbors?

ARNIE

We got this sweet three bedroom, two bath place in Canoga Park.

IRENE

Canoga Park. Sounds so dreamy.

ARNIE

We haven't moved in yet, but our neighbors are a Black family to our left, Muslim family to our right and a Latino couple with a little girl across the street.

IRENE

Like dying and going to woke heaven.

CLAUDIA

So, Irene tell me about your family.

IRENE

Well, my parents were hippies. I remember as a kid we had all kinds of people over. They smoked weed, dropped acid. On weekends they had bra burning parties. One of them use to make bombs in the garage.

CLAUDIA

(shocked)
You don't say.

ARNIE

But we don't make bombs or drop acid! Nooo, Irene and I are straight arrows.

IRENE

Have you seen bra prices these days? Who can afford to burn one?

The waitress returns with coffee, bagel and toast.

WAITRESS

Here you go. Two coffee's, rye toast and a bagel loaded.

Arnie inspects his bagel. Peels a slice of lox.

ARNIE

Yep, that's lox alright. Never cut corners when going kosher, that's what mom always said.

CLAUDIA

So, your mom didn't have a problem with Jews?

Arnie takes a big bite of bagel.

ARNIE

(mouth full)
Mom loved Jews! She just hated dad.

CLAUDIA

Okay, um, let's talk about your qualifications.

IRENE

(anxious)
Yes, lets!

CLAUDIA

Let's see. Financial and employment records check out. Mr. Beta, you're going to manage a restaurant, right?

ARNIE

That's right! Cap'n Crabby's. Home of the original shimp-monkey bisque.

CLAUDIA

Shrimp-monkey?

ARNIE

I'm told they're a cross between a shrimp and a sea monkey.

CLAUDIA

Ooo-kay. So, Irene, you'll be an in-house nurse at a retirement home.

IRENE

Barrymore House. Home of the Supernovas! That means, dying stars. They used to be big Hollywood celebrities.

CLAUDIA

Right. So, let's talk about the 800-pound gorilla in the room.

Arnie and Irene look around curiously. Claudia notices

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)

I'm talking about Laticia and the fact she's black.

Arnie and Irene exchange a curious glance.

IRENE

(whispers to Claudia)

I doubt if she weighs 800-pounds.

ARNIE

And referring to her a gorilla is, I think, inappropriate at the least and definitely politically incorrect.

CLAUDIA

Right, um, let's start over. You know, take a mulligan.

IRENE

So now we're beating up on the Irish?

CLAUDIA

Ooo-kay. The question I need answered is, will the baby's race, in any way, affect your feelings toward the child?

IRENE

No way! We'll love her as if she were our own.

ARNIE

Fact is, she could've been our own.

CLAUDIA

(surprised)

How's that Arnie?

ARNIE

Uncle Frank on my mom's side was Black.

IRENE

Really?

Arnie does a hand mime of something swimming.

ARNIE

If one of his little guys managed to swim to the finish line first...

Irene lovingly grabs Arnie's arm.

IRENE

I'm in an ancestral-racially mixed marriage! Isn't that wonderful?

Claudia silently stares at Arnie and Irene.

CLAUDIA

Will you excuse me for a minute?

Claudia leaves the table.

IRENE

You'd think a social worker would be a more racially sensitive.

ARNIE

Especially a Black one.

EXT. RESTAURANT PARKING LOT. DAY

Claudia leans into the window of the SUV.

CLAUDIA

What the hell's going on!?

MILLER

Something wrong?

CLAUDIA

Canoga Park's like dying and going to
Woke heaven?

MONICA

Sounds like Irene. She's a character.

CLAUDIA

A character? These two make the
Kennedy's look like John Birchers!

MILLER

You wanted no trace of prejudice.

MONICA

Absolute political correctness.

MILLER

And you got it.

CLAUDIA

Okay! I'll give 'em the kid but we'll
be watching them like a flock of
hawks!

MILLER

Understood.

Claudia leaves. Monica smiles, Miller's concerned.

MONICA

Well, Mucous did it!

MILLER

He might've over done it.

MONICA

What are you talking about? We're in!

MILLER

Yeah, in for a heap of trouble maybe.

FADE

TRANSITION:

INT. ARNIE & IRENE'S NEW HOUSE. DAY.

Living room furniture and stacks of unpacked boxes. Arnie unpacks. DOORBELL RINGS. Arnie answers. It's Luis, Maria and Titania (aka RUBY).

LUIS

Welcome to the neighborhood!

ARNIE

Oh, hi! You must be the Latinos!

RUBY

Uh, no, we're the Sanchez's.

LUIS

I'm Luis, this is my wife Maria and our daughter Ruby.

ARNIE

I'm Arnie Beta. Come in. The place is a real mess, we're still unpacking.

LUIS

Moving can be such a pain.

MARIA

We just moved in last week. We're from Bodega. I mean talk about your long distance relo's...

As Arnie sets a box down, Ruby stomps on Maria's foot.

A LOUD BANG & CRASH sound from upstairs. Arnie panics.

ARNIE

Oh my God! Irene!

Arnie runs up the stairs. Luis, Maria and Ruby follow.

INT. BABY'S NURSERY ROOM. DAY.

Irene's on the floor, her head has crashed into and crumpled a box. Arnie helps her up. Irene rubs her head.

ARNIE

Irene! You alright?

IRENE

I tripped and my head crashed into...

Irene looks down at the box she tripped over. It's crumpled.

IRENE (CONT'D).

Oh no! Look what I did!

RUBY

What's the matter?

IRENE

My busts are broken!

Irene cries on Arnie's shoulder. Maria jostles her breasts.

MARIA

They can break?

ARNIE

Irene, these are our neighbors.

IRENE

Oh, you must be the Hispanics!

ARNIE

No, they're the Sanchez's, Luis, Maria and Ruby, their daughter.

IRENE

Nice to meet you. Sorry about that. There's so much going on.

ARNIE

Irene and I are about to get a baby!

LUIS

Congratulations!

IRENE

We're going to be her foster parents.

MARIA

(whisper aside to Ruby)

Foster? I thought the kid's name was Laticia.

Ruby puts her finger on Maria's lips.

RUBY

Hushhhhh.

IRENE

I was going to put those busts of RFK and MLK on a shelf here in the nursery. You know, to surround her with love and racial tolerance.

ARNIE

They doubled as glow-in-the-dark Chia pets. Real collector's items.

MARIA

That's a shame. Luis, maybe Irene would like one of your Manny Machado bobbleheads.

Ruby sighs. Irene rubs her head. Arnie inspects the wound.

IRENE

It really hurts.

ARNIE

Yeah, that's a pretty nasty bump.

LUIS

Maybe you should see a doctor.

IRENE

No, I'll be okay...

Irene looks around the nursery, nods.

IRENE (CONT'D)

Arnie, I just had a thought. Whattaya think about watermelon theme wallpaper for the nursery?

Ruby casts a suspicious glance at Irene

ARNIE

What!?

IRENE

Everyone knows Black people love watermelon and since Laticia is...

ARNIE

Honey, I don't know. That might be a tad on the inappropriate side.

Irene shrugs.

IRENE
 Don't be silly. Watermelon wallpaper
 and maybe a cute little BBQ ribs
 mobile hanging over the crib.

ARNIE
 Irene? Are you okay?

IRENE
 I'm just thinking out loud.

RUBY
 Mom, dad, we should go.

MARIA
 Not now. I like talking redecorating.

RUBY
 (stern)
 I said, we gotta go. You and daddy
 will be late for your Mensa meeting.

LUIS
 (nervous)
 Maria, Ruby's right.

IRENE
 Let's get together later. Maybe
 tomorrow for dinner?

LUIS
 That sounds fine.

IRENE
 I'll show you to the door.

Irene escorts Luis, Maria and Ruby out of the nursery.

RUBY
 Good by Mr. Arnie.

LUIS
 See ya later.

ARNIE
 (hesitant)
 Yeah, sure, later.

Arnie, alone in the nursery, looks around nervously.

ARNIE (CONT'D)
 (to himself)
 Watermelon wallpaper?

He overhears something Irene says to the Sanchez's.

IRENE (O.C.)
 Do you people refry beans because you
 can't get it right the first time?

ARNIE
 What the hell's going on?

FADE

TRANSITION:

INT. MARIA & LUIS'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. DAY.

Maria, Luis and Ruby video conference with Kat and Claudia
 who hover on two separate floating screens.

KAT
 Have you established contact with the
 prototypes?

LUIS
 Yes. We just left the house.

CLAUDIA
 What's your initial impression?

MARIA
 She has some very creative ideas for
 the nursery.

RUBY
 (mature woman voice)
 Right. She wants to put watermelon
 theme wallpaper up in the nursery?

CLAUDIA
 What?

LUIS
 And she made a socially inappropriate
 remark about refried beans.

KAT
 Refried beans?

RUBY

She's got the virus, without a doubt.

CLAUDIA

That can't be! I interviewed her
myself! She was a regular bride of
Wokenstein!

LUIS

She hit her head pretty bad.

MARIA

(jostles breasts)
And broke her busts!

RUBY

It might've messed up her hard drive.

KAT

What do you recommend Titania?

RUBY

Abort the mission.

CLAUDIA

Abort the mission and let the Bias
Virus destroy the human race!?! No!

RUBY

Sorry Claudia, if it can even infect
the electronics, what can we do?

CLAUDIA

Kat, before you decide let me see her.
She thinks I'm the social worker
assigned to the baby. I'll tell her
I'm doing a PPRC.

KAT

A PPRC?

CLAUDIA

A Pre-Placement Residential check-up.

RUBY

How do you come up with this crap?

KAT

Maybe you've been on Earth too long
but what the heck, go ahead.

TRANSITION:

INT. BARRYMORE HOUSE ACTORS RETIREMENT HOME. LOBBY. DAY.

A once elegant place, now worn and shabby. Black and white photos of deceased Hollywood celebrities on the walls.

Grace, Tiffany and Brennan gather around a reception desk.

GRACE

(anxious)

She'll be here any minute. Where's Porky and Rock?

BRENNAN

Upstairs. Porky's helping Rock with something they call physical therapy.

GRACE

Okay, let's go over your parts.

BRENNAN

Enough with going over the parts!

TIFFANY

(snooty)

Yes Grace, there's no script, we're working off a synopsis.

BRENNAN

We're winging it.

TIFFANY

I believe the proper term in the trade is improvisation.

BRENNAN

Well excuse me miss high and mighty ebony-hued dance hall floozie!

Tiffany and Brennan look at each other with disdain.

DOORBELL RINGS.

GRACE

It's her! Okay, get into character! Remember, you're a pair of lonely old forgotten has-beens!

Brennan adjusts his greasy toupee. It SQUEAKS. Grace runs to the foot of the stairs. Calls up.

GRACE
Rock! Porky! She's here!

Grace scurries to the door. Primps her hair. Opens it.

GRACE (CONT'D)
(overacting)
Hello. Can I help you?

IRENE
I'm Irene Beta, your new nurse.

Grace smiles, teeth smudged with lipstick.

GRACE
Oh! How nice! I'm Grace Barrymore, I own Barrymore House. Come in.

Irene approaches Tiffany and Brennan.

GRACE
This is Tiffany Chandelier. Tiffany, this is Irene Beta, our new nurse.

TIFFANY
Delighted.

IRENE
Oh, it's my pleasure.

GRACE
And this is Brennan Walters.

BRENNAN
Nice t'meetcha Irene.

IRENE
Oh, I know I know you from somewhere!

BRENNAN
(sings)
Brylcreem, a little dab will do ya.

IRENE
(shocked)
The Brylcreem man! Dad loved Brylcreem!

TIFFANY
(disbelief)
He did?

IRENE

The fork was always slipping out of his fingers at the breakfast table. Uh, can I touch it?

BRENNAN

Be my guest.

Irene softly touches Brennan's toupee, sniffs her fingers.

IRENE

I feel like a 12-year-old again.

Rock and Porky appear at the top of the stairs.

ROCK

(calling out)

Just in time for my physical therapy!

GRACE

That's stuntman Rock Taylor and second-banana gangster goon Porky Lasagna.

PORKY

Youse ready Rock?

ROCK

Ready as I'll ever be Porky!

PORKY

Tree... two... one... blast off!

Porky gives Rock a shove. Rock tumbles down the stairs and lands with a loud crash on the floor. Irene rushes over.

IRENE

Oh my! Is he hurt?

PORKY

Whatta I know? Youse da nurse.

Rock's eyes pop open, he springs to his feet, acrobat-style.

ROCK

Rock Taylor's the name. I tumble but never stumble. Please to meet you. This is my friend Porky.

PORKY

Da pleasure's all mine.

IRENE
You look familiar.

PORKY
Youse probably recognized my shadow.

GRACE
Irene, come and see our Wall of Fame.

Grace takes Irene by the hand for a tour of the photos.

GRACE
My great-grandfather built Barrymore
House in 1923.

IRENE
Was he Lionel or John?

GRACE
Andrew. (beat) He was an inventor.

PORKY
He's da one who thunk up da turkey
baster bulb. Made a fortune.

GRACE
He built this place for his wife. Her
dream was to run her own brothel.

Irene checks out photos of old stars on the wall.

IRENE
Uh, were all these stars her clients?

GRACE
Uh-huh. According to her journal, Dan
Blocker was especially frisky and Don
Knotts surprisingly well endowed.

Tiffany points to a photo of Dale Robertson.

TIFFANY
(dreamy)
And Dale Robertson was very talented.
I appeared with him in six episodes of
Tales of Wells Fargo.

BRENNAN
Yeah, and the action didn't end when
they wrapped.

Irene looks a photo of Dale Robertson.

IRENE
But he's a White man.

TIFFANY
They don't get any Whiter, honey,

IRENE
(shocked)
You had relations with a White man?

GRACE
Is that a problem?

IRENE
Um, no. I guess that kind of stuff
happens in Hollywood all the time.

Grace and the others share looks of concern. Irene shrugs.

IRENE (CONT'D)
Well, time to check your vitals and
review meds. Who wants to go first?

The Supernova's look at one another. Brennan steps forward.

BRENNAN
I'll go. Your office is on the left.

Irene and Brennan walk away, the others watch (concerned).

PORKY
Whattaya suppose she meant by that?

TIFFANY
Me thinks this sister has issues.

TRANSITION:

INT. CAP'N CRABY'S RESTAURANT. DAY.

The place hasn't opened yet. Arnie, dressed as a store manager in a navy officer's uniform holds a clipboard and stands before the four young Thespian Division aliens dressed in Cap'n Craby sailor suits.

ARNIE
I'm your new manager, Arnie Beta. I
want you to know, I realize this isn't
really a ship.

CRYSTAL

Noooo!

ARNIE

And I'm not really a sea captain and none of you are really sailors.

NATHANIEL

We're not? (beat) Damn!

Arnie raises the clip board defiantly.

ARNIE

Another thing, I reviewed your personnel files and frankly I'm offended Cap'n Craby's corporate dares to inquire about how you identify yourselves!

Arnie reads from the clipboard.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

Steve Ward!

Steve snaps forward two steps and salutes.

STEVE

(military-like)

Yes sir!

ARNIE

Please don't call me that. It says here, you identify as an Incel.

STEVE

Yeah, Incel, that's me.

ARNIE

Shame on them for asking! I want you to know Steve that I won't think of you as an Incel! I'll think of you as a *proud* Incel!

STEVE

Proud Incel?

ARNIE

A man not willing to sleep with just any woman...

STEVE

I don't know about that.

ARNIE

A man who knows who he wants and
refuses to settle for less! God bless
you Steve and every Incel like you!

Arnie steps to Cheyenne, looks at the clipboard.

ARNIE

Cheyenne Lightfoot. Says here you're a
bisexual.

CHEYENNE

That's right.

ARNIE

How dare they pry the most intimate,
personal sexual preference details
from you. You're a switch-hitter! So
what? If they had to endure the plight
of the great American Indian Nations
maybe they'd be a little confused too.

CHEYENNE

Hm, never thought about it that way.

Arnie steps in front of Nathaniel. Reads from clipboard.

ARNIE

Nathaniel Sinclair. How much more can
your people take?! Sure, there's been
progress but obviously, not enough!
Here on your job application they ask,
'do you do drugs?' And you answer, I
want all of you to hear this, you
answer 'no'. Good for you damn it!

NATHANIEL

Uh, yeah, I guess I showed 'em.

ARNIE

Damn right!

Arnie pauses, gets emotional, wipes his eyes. Crystal leans
forward to comfort him.

CRYSTAL

Uh, Arnie, are you okay?

ARNIE

Yeah, yeah. I'm fine. It's just that my wife and I are about to become foster parents to a beautiful Black baby girl and it just pisses me off whenever I... never mind.

NATHANIEL

Yeah. You chill brother.

Arnie steps in front of Crystal, reads from clipboard.

ARNIE

Crystal Hornblower, of all those victimized by inappropriate hiring practices, your application takes the cake.

CRYSTAL

It does?

Arnie reads from the clipboard.

ARNIE

The application asks, 'any unusual hobbies?' You respond, 'Having sex with married men.' What right do they have to ask for that information!? How dare they?!

CRYSTAL

All they had to do was go to my Tik Tok channel and...

ARNIE

Does a woman not have the right to enjoy a man as much as a man a woman?

STEVE

I wouldn't know.

CRYSTAL

Uh, can I have sex with you?

ARNIE

Uh, no. It's only because of my total commitment to fidelity. But don't give up! Trust me. There are thousands of married men, right here in Canoga Park, who'd be honored at the chance to jump your bones.

CRYSTAL

That's good to know.

ARNIE

Okay, let's get started!

The stunned young workers watch curiously as Arnie approaches a large stainless-steel container, rolls up his sleeves, lifts the lid and is about to reach his hand in.

MONROE

Whoa there cowboy!

Arnie stops. The workers gather around him.

STEVE

You can't put your hand in there!

ARNIE

I'm getting a handful of shrimp monkeys, gonna make some bisque.

CRYSTAL

Have you ever seen a shrimp monkey?

ARNIE

Uh, no.

CHEYENNE

Stand back.

Cheyenne reaches into the container with tweezers. The water churns angrily. She fights it as if catching a big fish. Monroe gives Arnie the magnifying glass.

MONROE

Check it out.

INSERT: MAGNIFYING GLASS POV

"Magnified ferocious-looking shrimp-like creature with sharp fangs struggles against the grip of the tweezers. Faint sound of shrimp monkey GROWLING and GNASHING."

Steve dangles a carrot into the container. The water churns violently. He lifts the carrot out. It's mostly gone.

STEVE

That's why it's called, the bisque with a bite.

CHEYENNE

I'm pretty sure they're bi-polar.

CRYSTAL

We make the bisque the night before so we're good to go.

ARNIE

Oh, okay, so how do we get started?

CHEYENNE

I make the Craby slaw!

MONROE

I bake the Craby biscuits!

CRYSTAL

I work the Craby counter!

STEVE

I clean the Craby crappers!

ARNIE

I believe the nautical term is head.

CRYSTAL

Head? I thought you weren't interested?

FADE

TRANSITION:

INTERIOR. ARNIE AND IRENE'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM.

Irene hangs a framed photo Michelle Obama and Jackie Kennedy on the wall. DOORBELL RINGS. She answers. It's Claudia.

IRENE

Miss Green! What a nice surprise.

CLAUDIA

Hi Irene. I've come to conduct a PPRC.

IRENE

A pre-placement residential check-up?

Claudia's surprised Irene knows the acronym.

CLAUDIA

Um, yeah, uh may I come in?

IRENE

Can't very well conduct a PPRC from
out there!

Claudia enters, looks around. Still unpacked boxes.

CLAUDIA

You're making progress.

IRENE

Yeah, it's moving along. We'll be
ready for Laticia in a couple of days.

CLAUDIA

Can I see the nursery?

IRENE

Sure thing. It's upstairs.

Up the stairs they go.

IRENE (CONT'D)

When the doorbell rang, I thought you
might be the UPS guy. I ordered
something special for the nursery.

They reach the nursery. There's a crib with stuffed animals,
dresser, baby monitor, rocking chair and sturdy empty shelf.

IRENE

Here we are.

CLAUDIA

(impressed)
Very nice.

IRENE

Arnie helped a lot.

CLAUDIA

So, uh, have you plans for the walls?

IRENE

We've got some pictures, you know,
Winnie-the-Pooh, the Little Mermaid,
that kind of stuff.

CLAUDIA

Cute.

IRENE

I thought Snow White might be nice,
but Arnie thought it might be, you
know, somewhat racially insensitive.

Claudia side eyes Irene suspiciously.

CLAUDIA

You know Irene, one can get a little
over-the-top when it comes to
politically correct.

IRENE

Tell me about it! You know what I
thought might be a good idea?

CLAUDIA

What's that?

IRENE

Watermelon wallpaper! For a Black
baby's bedroom? Can you believe it? I
mean, where did that come from? (head
exploding mime).

CLAUDIA

Yep, that is kinda nuts.

IRENE

Anyway, Arnie talked sense into me.
Oh, and Maria, our neighbor is taking
me shopping tomorrow.

CLAUDIA

That's nice.

IRENE

Her and their daughter Rubie, the
cutest little Mexican this side of
Speedy Gonzales.

CLAUDIA

(concerned)

Um, Irene...

DOORBELL RINGS. Irene's excited and heads for the stairs.

IRENE

That must be the UPS guy!

Dials her cellphone. Waits. Leaves a message.

CLAUDIA

Miller, this is Claudia Green. We have a problem. Call as soon as you can.

SOUND of Irene coming up the stairs. Claudia puts phone away.

IRENE (O.C.)

They're here! They're here!

Irene rushes into the room carrying two boxes, all excited.

IRENE (CONT'D)

Wait 'til you see these!

Irene, like a kid on Christmas morning, tears at the boxes. Points to the empty, sturdy shelf.

IRENE

See that shelf over there?

CLAUDIA

Yes.

Irene has opened one box, she goes to work on the other.

IRENE

Well, I planned to put busts of two of the greatest champions of civil rights on that so Laticia could absorb the vibe of freedom and equality. But I fell and broke 'em with my head.

CLAUDIA

Ouch!

Irene has the other box open. Catches her breath.

IRENE

So, I needed something to replace them and I found these guys on Amazon!

Irene lifts two 3-foot tall Black lawn jockeys out of the boxes, holds them up proudly.

IRENE (CONT'D)

Lawn jockeys!

Claudia's jaw drops. Stunned silence. Irene holds the lawn jockey's closer so Claudia can see names engraved on each.

IRENE (CONT'D, CONT'D)
This one's Amos and this one's Andy.

CLAUDIA
Oh dear.

IRENE
I'll put 'em up on the shelf so she can absorb uh, um, I don't know. Maybe the possibilities of a future in the horse stable maintenance industry.

CLAUDIA
(stunned)
I have to go now.

Claudia puts the two lawn jockeys on the shelf.

IRENE
Arnie will be sooo suprised! I got two more for the front lawn. Their names are Frank and Justine.

CLAUDIA
Frank and Justine?

IRENE
Those are the names of our Black neighbors. I think they'll feel honored, don't you?

CLAUDIA
(stunned to numbness)
I really have to go.

TRANSITION:

INT. MUCOSO'S LAB.

Miller is on his smartphone talking to Claudia.

MILLER
I don't understand it, Miss Green!

Miller gives the others a "I dunno" shrug and continues.

MILLER (CONT'D)
She was fine when you interviewed... (beat) she bumped her head? (beat) I suppose it's possible that might affect the... (beat) yes Miss Green.

Miller makes a 'she's mad' face toward the others.

MILLER (CONT'D, CONT'D)
(beat) Yes Miss Green. We'll get right on it, Miss Green. Uh, outside of this how's everything else going?

Miller turns to the others.

MILLER (CONT'D, CONT'D)
That was Miss Green.

BENNY
She was a-pissed off?

MILLER
Apparently, Irene took a header and possibly suffered a mild concussion.

MUCOSO
Nonsense! My bots don't have concussions! Gas yes, concussions no!

MILLER
Well, something happened because according to her, Irene has turned into a Karen of the Year.

MONICA
It can't be all that bad.

MILLER
She's put lawn jockeys in front of the house engraved with the names of their Black next-door neighbors.

BENNY
Mama mia! That's a bold move.

MUCOSO
There can only be one explanation. Her Dormant Fascism software's been corrupted!

BENNY
She's a-sprung a leak?

MUCOSO
Precisely. We've got to replace her entire hard drive.

MONICA

But that would kill her, I mean she'd become a totally different person.

BENNY

But I-a like-a Irene. She's a-nice.

MUCOSO

We have no choice. Once activated, the DFS accelerates. Today's lawn jockey becomes tomorrow's MAGA hat. Before you know it, she'll be attending C-PAC conventions.

MONICA

They'll pull the contract.

MILLER

We won't make billions.

MUCOSO

Our race will be marginalized.

BENNY

(whimpering)

I won't a-be da president of-a da U.S. of A.

MUCOSO

Well Benny, let's whip up a new personality for Irene. A little less on the ditsy side this time.

BENNY

You got it boss.

MUCOSO

Monica, pack our bags and fire up a jet for an early departure.

MILLER

What about me?

MUCOSO

Tell Miss Green we're on the case and we'll resolve the issue pronto!

MILLER

Got it.

Monica cuddles Mucous, strokes his snow-white hair.

MONICA

Oh Muckey, I can't believe you're going to go to L.A. with all those people.

MUCOUS

One has to do what one must to ensure the supremacy of the race.

MONICA

When you talk like that it makes me want to squeeze your bun.

Monica grips Mucous's granny-bun of hair. His eyes roll.

MUCOUS

(moan)

Oh, Monica please, you know I can't control myself when you grab my bun!

MILLER

I'm outta here.

TRANSITION:

INT. BODEGAN SPACESHIP CONFERENCE ROOM.

All Bodegan actors are there. Kat and Claudia stand at the head of the table.

CLAUDIA

According to Miller Stevens, Dr. Mucoso is personally going to correct Irene.

RUBY

(mature womans voice)

That's not good enough.

KAT

What do you mean Titania?

RUBY

I've been around a while. I've seen what these earthlings are capable of.

PORKY

You suspect foul play?

RUBY

Suspect it? I'm sure of it.

Ruby in a pink dress stands on the conference room table and (as Titania) commands the room.

RUBY (CONT'D)
Irene was fine when Claudia interviewed her, check?

Ruby spins and points to Grace.

GRACE
(startled)
Check!

RUBY
I've studied this virus. I know how it works and doesn't work. The trees don't have it. The birds and fish don't have it. Shit, even the bugs don't have it.

PORKY
Except maybe for da ants.

RUBY
There's no way the Bias Virus can infect an electronic piece of highly sophisticated digital technology.

MARIA
Irene's nice but not so highly sophisticated.

RUBY
I suspect sabotage!

PORKY
We been double-crossed!?

RUBY
It's quite possible someone's out to foil Project Gen U.

GRACE
But who?

CLAUDIA
But we were the only ones who... wait a minute! Maybe it was him.

TIFFANY
Suspense is killing me. Who's him?

CLAUDIA
Mucoso. Who else could it be?

CHEYENNE
But why?

RUBY
(angry)
The virus dammit! There's always an excuse. Greed, lust, power, hate! All motivated to achieve the same thing.

BRENNAN
(nodding, thoughtful)
T'screw da other guy.

RUBY
Exactly!

CLAUDIA
What can we do?

RUBY
Simple. We abort the project. Get out of here and find something else to waste 100,000 years on.

The group protests. Some are against the idea, others for it. Kat raises her hand. In the palm there's a small electronic disk. A beam of light projects over the arguing Thespians. Arguing stops.

KAT
Ours is a civilization of understanding and understanding requires listening. So Titiania, help us understand why we should terminate Project Gen U?

RUBY
Hundreds of generations of Bogegans have dedicated their lives to saving these losers! How many more do we should we waste? See the writing in the sky? The virus can't be stopped!

The others murmur, lots of heads nod in agreement.

KAT
Now, will someone who feels otherwise speak to help us understand?

All the others look awkwardly at each other, hesitant. Rock begins to stand, Porky gently pushes him down and stands up.

PORKY
 (awkward/uncomfortable)
 Y'know, dey ain't da only ones wid a
 virus. We got one too!

The others mummer, confused.

PORKY (CONT'D)
 (more confident)
 Theirs makes dem think only about
 demselves. Ours makes us think about
 others.
 (to Ruby)
 Dem hundreds of generations of
 Bodegans were just being Bodegans.
 That's the way we are Miss Titania!

Ruby bows her head, nods with a touch of shame.

PORKY (CONT'D, CONT'D)
 Here's how I see's it. Dem whose
 already infected, da hell wid 'em. But
 dese babies, they're clean! If we
 leave 'em, what's gonna happen to 'em?

GRACE
 (crying)
 Mother of God.

PORKY (CONT'D, CONT'D)
 Dey got no moms, no dads, no family!
 Dey got nuttin' and no one! Da virus
 will eat 'em up!

RUBY
 Point taken Porky, well said.

PORKY (CONT'D, CONT'D)
 (eyes well)
 All dey got is us.

The others erupt in cheers. Excited positive emotion.

MARIA
 Oh goodie! That means I can go
 shopping tomorrow!

Sudden silence. All stare at Maria. Maria side eyes all.

MARIA (CONT'D)

Uh, can I get anyone anything?

TRANSITION:

EXT. ARNIE & IRENE'S STREET. DAY.

Maria and Ruby walk across the street towards Irene's house.

RUBY

(little girl voice)

Okay, the plan is to try and motivate her artificial intelligence to self-correct and rid itself of the virus.

MARIA

Uh-huh, uh, is there an app for that?

RUBY

(impatient)

No there's no app for that! Whenever she seems to slip up we correct her.

MARIA

Oh!

RUBY

This should motivate her algorithms to adjust and... oh never mind!

They come to a stop when they reach the porch.

INSERT: FRONT PORCH.

"Two Black lawn jockeys with the names Frank and Justine."

RUBY (CONT'D)

Oh shit!

A Black couple, FRANK and JUSTINE walk past pushing a baby carriage. They look toward the jockeys, shake their heads with disgust. Irene comes rushing out the door.

IRENE

Hey Maria, Ruby. I saw you coming...

Irene spots Frank and Justine and waves excitedly.

IRENE (CONT'D)

Hello Justine! Hello Frank! I'm still waiting on an answer about the BBQ!

Justine and Frank give Irene the finger. The baby cries.

IRENE (CONT'D, CONT'D)
They're such a lovely couple.

MARIA
Well, are you ready to go?

IRENE
You bet! Hey Ruby! Ready to shop 'til
you drop?

RUBY
I feel like dropping right now.

TRANSITION:

EXTERIOR. SHOPPING MALL. FRONT DOORS.

Irene and Maria come out with shopping carts loaded with
stuff. Ruby tags along with a pink balloon tied to her hair.

IRENE
You're saying the lawn jockey's might
upset the neighbors?

RUBY
Yes Miss Irene. My kindergarten
teacher is telling us all about
commercialized racist tropes.

MARIA
My goodness, the language children use
these days.

They reach the SUV. Back hatch opens. They load stuff in.

RUBY
Teacher says we must avoid overtly
grotesque icons...

Maria pulls out a corny giant sombrero. Puts it on.

MARIA
Don't you love it?

IRENE
It's darling!

RUBY
...that perpetuate ethnic stereotypes.

MARIA
Get a load of these!

Maria removes a set of castanets and launches into a flamingo dance. Irene claps to the dance.

MARIA
(dancing, castanets)
Viva! Viva! Viva Zapata!

RUBY
Miss Irene, would you close the hatch please?

MARIA
Sure honey.

As Irene is distracted with the hatch, Ruby kicks Maria in the shins and points to the driver's door.

TRANSITION:

INT. RENT-A-CAR. DAY.

Miller and Monica in the front, Mucous the back sitting next to an open bowling bag.

MILLER
I can't believe you brought Benny to L.A. in a bowling bag.

Benny's head inside the unzipped bowling bag.

BENNY
It's a nice-a bag - a Gucci.

MUCOUS
I had no choice, Benny insisted.

BENNY
I want to go to Musso & Frank.

MONICA
Musso & Frank?

MUCOUS
The code to activate the DFS is locked inside Benny's head.

MILLER
The secret's in his head?

MUCOUS

He can't very well put it in his pocket.

MILLER

Great. Nothing keeps a low profile like walking down Sunset Boulevard with the head of Benito Mussolini.

MONICA

Stop worrying. He'll blend right in.

MILLER

Okay, but he stays in the room until he's needed.

BENNY

I wanna go to Musso & Franks!

MILLER

We'll be at the hotel soon. Zip that bag up.

TRANSITION:

INT. MARIA'S SUV. DAY.

Maria and Irene in front, Ruby in a car seat in back.

IRENE

Thanks for helping me pick out that wallpaper for the nursery Maria.

RUBY

That wallpaper's not very nice.

MARIA

What do you mean? It's got lots of fun characters. The baby will love it.

RUBY

It's culturally offensive.

IRENE

What's offensive about it?

MARIA

It's from the Where's Senor Oswaldo Collection.

IRENE

He's hidden amongst all those little burro's and dancing beans.

MARIA

They're not dancing, they're jumping.

Irene and Maria laugh.

IRENE

She'll have hours of fun trying to find Senor Oswaldo!

Irene laughs. Ruby glares at Maria.

IRENE

Oh! And I love the little mobile.

MARIA

It was the last chihuahua pinata mobile in the store.

IRENE

It comes with a little plastic bat.

Ruby looks into the open sack at her side. Pulls out the little plastic bag. Looks at it. Contemplates.

IRENE (CONT'D)

If she hits the pinata just right it says puntuación uno para la bebé!

Ruby raises the bat to hit Maria on the head.

MARIA

That means, score one for the baby!

Irene and Maria laugh. The bat descends toward Maria's head.

TRANSITION:

INT. HOTEL CANOGA PARK. FRONT DESK. DAY.

Mucous, Monica and Miller are checking in. The bowling bag is on the counter. DESK CLERK searches on the computer.

DESK CLERK

Let's see, Means, Means, here it is!
One economy single for Mr. Stevens and
a master two-bedroom suite for Miss
Means and Mr. Mucoso.

MUCOSO
That's Dr. Mucoso.

MILLER
How come I get a shitty little room
and you get a suite.

MUCOSO
Benny needs a room.

MONICA
He can't sleep with us. Uh, that'd be
a little too kinky, even for me.

The Desk Clerk tries to follow the conversation.

BENNY (O.C.)
(inside the bag)
Don't a-forget da wifi password.

Desk Clerk eyes the bag suspiciously.

MONICA
(to the Desk Clerk)
Uh, my friend's a ventriloquist.

Awkward silence as the Clerk eyeballs Mucous and the bag.

DESK CLERK
(spooked)
The elevator's down the hall.

TRANSITION:

INT. CAP'N CRABY'S COUNTER AREA.

Crystal works the counter. Gillian Anderson (SCULLY) and David Duchovny (MULDER) wearing sunglasses and Hawaiian shirts approach.

CRYSTAL
Welcome to Cap'n Craby's.

MULDER
Hi, uh, we'll have two large shrimp
monkey bisque's, biscuits, coleslaw
and two medium Doctor Pepper's.

As Crystal enters the order, Scully hugs Mulders arm.

SCULLY

Oh Fox, this is so exciting!

MULDER

(annoyed)

Exciting?

SCULLY

You promised you wouldn't complain.

CRYSTAL

Um, you want cheesy biscuits or original buttermilk?

SCULLY

Oh, I don't know. I can't make up my mind. Fox, you decide.

MULDER

(eyeroll)

One of each.

SCULLY

You're so smart! Why didn't I think of that?

(to Crystal)

We're on our honeymoon!

CRYSTAL

You're honeymooning in Canoga Park?

MULDER

Don't look at me. It was her idea.

SCULLY

He wanted to go to Maui but I insisted on Canoga Park because it has the lowest per capita rate of alien abductions in America.

CRYSTAL

Really?

MULDER

She's astroxenophobic.

SCULLY

No! You have C.A.A.S. (to Crystal)
Compulsive Alien Abduction Syndrome.

Crystal side eyes them both and gives Mulder a receipt.

CRYSTAL
Wait for your number to be called.

Scully and Mulder step aside. Claudia steps forward.

CRYSTAL (CONT'D)
Hey Claudia.

CLAUDIA
Arnie and Irene are getting the baby
tomorrow. Spread the word.

CRYSTAL
Got it.

CLAUDIA
I'll tell the others at the home.

Crystal motions toward Scully and Mulder.

CRYSTAL
Do those two remind you of anyone?

INSERT: Scully and Mulder waiting.

Scully clutches Fox's arm lovingly. Looks to the side. She
watches Steve fill bowls with bisque.

SCULLY
That must be our order.

Steve spots a fly buzzing. His long reptilian tongue shoots
out and nabs the fly.

SCULLY (CONT'D)
(shocked)
Let's get out of here!

MULDER
What about our bisque?

SCULLY
Forget the bisque. Let's go to Maui!

Claudia and Crystal watch as Scully and Mulder dash out.

CLAUDIA
Nope. Don't recognize them.

TRANSITION:

INT. MONICA & MUCOUS'S SUITE. BATHROOM.

Monica's in the shower, very steamy.

MONICA (OC)

Oh Muckey! The shower's big enough for two! (beat) Did you hear me honey?

Shower door opens. Mucous's arm juts in holding Benny's head.

MUCOUS (OC)

Here!

Benny's robot-eyes boggle at the sight of naked Monica.

BENNY

Atsa nice! Atsa nice!

MONICA

Get him out of here!

MUCOUS (OC)

He's spent the whole day in a bowling bag. He needs a shower.

Monica holds Benny's head. Benny smiles, admires Monica.

BENNY

Mm, magnifico busto. Just-a like da Venus De Milo.

MONICA

(flattered)

Really? You think so?

BENNY

Oooo, if I had my torso right-a now.

MONICA

(shrugs)

Torso? Who needs a torso?

Monica lowers Benny's out of frame to her crotch area.

BENNY (OC)

Oh thats-a nice! Thats-a nice!

Monica maneuvers Benny's head. Stops. Eyes roll.

MONICA

Ohhh El Duce!

TRANSITION:

INT. BARRYMORE HOUSE. LOUNGE

Grace, the Supernova's, Luis and Maria gather in the lobby with Claudia.

CLAUDIA

The baby's being delivered to Arnie and Irene tomorrow morning and I'm meeting with Miller Stevens tonight. We need to find out what's going on.

GRACE

Be careful. He may be dangerous.

CLAUDIA

I can handle myself.
(looks around)
Where's Titania?

LUIS

She's keeping an eye on Maria. They're at the grocery store.

CLAUDIA

I hope she makes some progress. So far, Irene's artificial intelligence hasn't responded very well to our verbal countermeasures.

MARIA

We're supposed to measure counters?

All stare at Maria.

TRANSITION:

INT. SUPERMARKET. DAY.

Irene pushes a grocery cart down an aisle. Ruby, in the cart child seat, looks embarrassed.

RUBY

Miss Irene, can I walk please?

IRENE

You're safer in the baby seat. If anything happens to you your mother would kill me.

RUBY
My mommy couldn't kill a pint of
tequila.

Irene approaches a STOCK CLERK.

IRENE
Excuse me, um, I'm looking for the
Aunt Jemima syrup.

CLERK
We don't stock Aunt Jemima anymore.

IRENE
Why not?

CLERK
No one sell's Aunt Jemima. She's gone.

IRENE
(shocked)
Gone? (beat) Oh no! When did it
happen?

CLERK
Huh?

IRENE
I realize she was probably old...

RUBY
Miss Irene, Log Cabin's pretty good.

IRENE
(sobbing)
Another great Black trailblazer bites
the dust. When will it stop!!!?

A CUSTOMER takes notice. Tries to comfort her.

CUSTOMER 1
Take it easy lady.

IRENE
(sobbing)
I can't go on shopping like this!

Another customer steps up.

CUSTOMER 2
You know, Uncle Ben's still with us.

IRENE
Really?

CLERK
Aisle 6.

IRENE
Thank you! Thank you!

Irene grabs the grocery cart and rushes off.

IRENE (CONT'D)
Come on Ruby!

RUBY
God save us!

IRENE
Not now! We need to save Uncle Ben!

TRANSITION:

INT. CANOGA PARK HOTEL. BAR. NIGHT.

Miller at the bar. Claudia walks up.

CLAUDIA
Hello Miller, thanks for meeting me.

MILLER
Sorry for the trouble with Irene. Dr. Mucoso will have her right as rain in a couple of days.

CLAUDIA
So, what's he going to do?

MILLER
Upload a whole new hard drive.

CLAUDIA
I see, is that all?

MILLER
It's actually quite a process.

CLAUDIA
Can you tell me about it?

MILLER
You got your secrets, we got ours.

Bartender arrives.

BARTENDER
Care for a drink?

CLAUDIA
Tito's martini.

MILLER
Uh, three olives, right?

CLAUDIA
You remembered?

MILLER
You're a hard woman to forget.

CLAUDIA
So is Dr. Mucoso here in the hotel?

MILLER
He went to Musso & Frank with Monica
and Benny.

CLAUDIA
Right, Benny his robot friend. Who's
Monica.

MILLER
His girlfriend slash assistant. She's
a robot too but doesn't know it.

The Bartender returns with the martini. Claudia takes a sip.

CLAUDIA
A robot girlfriend? Kinky.

MILLER
Yeah, very.

Claudia gets chummy with Miller.

CLAUDIA
You know, Miller, when we met in
Washington I kinda got a feeling you
were, um, interested.

MILLER
Yeah, I guess you could say that.

FADE

TRANSITION:

INT. MUSSO & FRANK DINING ROOM. CORNER BOOTH.

Mucous sips champagne. Benny's head sits on a lazy Susan with the pillowcase over it. Monica's being lovingly attentive to Benny, puts a straw through a slit so he can drink champagne.

MONICA

It's called Dom Perignon, Benny-boo.

MUCOUS

I'm glad to see you've become friends.

BENNY

Oh yeah. Siamo amanti.

Monica takes a hair off of Benny's lip slit.

MONICA

(baby talk)

Benny got a curly on his lip.

MUCOUS

(whispers)

All these people are staring at me.

MONICA

Nobody's staring at you.

KEVIN BACON walks up to the booth.

KEVIN

Excuse me.

Mucous cowers.

MUCOUS

See!

KEVIN

I couldn't help but notice when you took that head out of the bowling bag and put it in the pillowcase that, well, this may sound crazy but, uh, is that Benito Mussolini?

BENNY

(proud/arrogant)

Take it off! (pillowcase removed) Si!
I am-a Benito Mussolini! Saluti!

KEVIN
I knew it! 'Kyra,' I said, 'that head
looks just like Benito Mussolini!'

BENNY
You can call a-me Benny.

Kevin Bacon dashes away.

KEVIN (O.C.)
Kyra! Kyra!

MUCOUS
(to Benny)
You idiot! You'll blow our cover!

Monica strokes Benny lovingly.

MONICA
If Benny's going to be president,
he'll have to come out of the bowling
bag and face the public.

BENNY
When I'm a-da boss, Monica's a-gonna
be la mia prima donna!

MONICA
(gasp)
Benny, is that a proposal?!

MUCOUS
Impossible. You can't marry Benny!

Kevin returns with a skeptical looking KYRA SEDGEWICK.

KEVIN
See! It's him!

KYRA
(doubtful)
Mussolini had a rounder face.

KEVIN
It's hard to tell without a torso.

MUCOUS
(worried)
Oh dear.

KYRA

Hm, it's possible he's the man responsible for genocide in Ethiopia. But it could be an imposter.

MONICA

You can't talk about Benny that way!

KYRA

Who are you?

BENNY

She's a-my fidanzata!

KYRA

You're marrying the head of the head of a fascist state?

MUCOUS

No, she's marrying me.

MONICA

(stunned)

What?

KEVIN

You're marrying Benito Mussolini's head and an old transvestite?

MUCOUS

I beg your...

KYRA

This is outrageous!

The WAITER (DR. PHIL) shows up with food.

DR. PHIL (WAITER)

Who has the veal parm?

KYRA

(incensed)

Veal parm!

KYRA

(irate)

You fascist loving, elderly abusing, veal eating polygamist!? Lady, you really are a piece of work!

MONICA

Screw you bitch! I ordered the filet!

Kyra Sedgewick gets in Monica's face.

KYRA

If you're looking for a selfie, forget it! Let's go Kevin!

Kyra pulls Kevin and they both storm away.

KEVIN (O.C.)

But he said I could call him Benny!

MUCOUS

(casual)

The veal's over here.

DR. PHIL (WAITER)

Very good sir.

MONICA

(to Mucous)

What's all this about me marrying you?

MUCOUS

There's something I must tell you
Monica. (beat) You're a robot...

A moment for the shock of the news to settle in.

MONICA

What!?! (beat) I'm a robot!!

DR. PHIL (WAITER)

Fettucine Alfredo?

BENNY

Datsa mine.

MUCOUS

I built you to service me.

MONICA

(shocked)

Service you!?

DR. PHIL (WAITER)

Filet with asparagus for the lady?

BENNY

Don't a-forget the hollandaise.

MUCOUS

I tried every dating site, even
 Craigslist to find a woman. But they
 were all so, ugh, human.

MONICA

(distressed)
 So, you built me!

MUCOUS

Anatomically perfect right down to the
 happy button.

MONICA

Oh no! Benny, what are we going to do?

DR. PHIL (WAITER)

Excuse me. I have some experience with
 this sort of thing. (to Monica) To
 suddenly find out you're a cyborg can
 be disconcerting but it's not the end
 of the world. Another robot, or at
 least the head of a robot, loves you.

BENNY

Love her from da bottom of a-my heart.

DR. PHIL (WAITER)

You have no heart, spleen or colon.
 But you have each other and you sir,
 appear to have a very talented tongue.

MONICA

He's right Benny! It's a fine tongue.

DR. PHIL (WAITER)

(to Mucous)
 As for you my lonely anthrophobic,
 self-impressed friend, simply build
 yourself a new she-bot but this time,
 with a less sensitive happy button.

MUCOUS

You're quite robo-wise for a waiter.

DR. PHIL (WAITER)

I'm not just any waiter. (beat) I'm a
 Musso and Franks waiter.

BENNY

I told you dis-a place was a-special.

DR. PHIL (WAITER)

Say, I've got a nice Fontodi Chianti
Classico 2013 with your name on it.

The group nods, smiles, applauds Dr. Phil. He leaves.

BENNY

Be sure to give-a dat guy a good tip.

Mucous raises his glass in a toast.

MUCOUS

To you and Benny, may your journey
together toward global domination be a
loving one.

TRANSITION:

INT. CANOGA PARK HOTEL. CLAUDIA'S ROOM.

Monica sits on the bed in lingerie. Miller stands in front of her in his boxer shorts. Before he can take them off, Claudia grabs his arm, sits him down next to her.

CLAUDIA

Y'know what I'd like to do first?

MILLER

(anxious/excited)
Anything, just name it.

CLAUDIA

Give you a deep, hot, passionate kiss.

Miller nods, he smiles.

MILLER

That sounds pretty good. I haven't
actually kissed a girl in a long time.

CLAUDIA

Oh, I bet you're a great kisser.

MILLER

Yeah, I'm sure I am.

CLAUDIA

Now, close your eyes.

Miller closes his eyes, parts his lips. Claudia's eyes narrow, turn green. As her lips approach Miller's, a long lizard-like tongue slides out and into Miller's mouth. She kisses him deeply. Miller's eyes open and roll with pleasure then start to ping-pong back and forth. Claudia lips slowly part from Miller's, the lizard like tongue slides out and across his lips. Miller's eyes open, in a trance.

MILLER
(orgasmic moan)
Ooooooh.

CLAUDIA
Miller, get under the covers.

MILLER
(mesmerized)
Under the covers.

Miller rolls to the center of the bed and gets under the covers. Claudia remains on top of the covers, leans over and strokes Miller's head.

CLAUDIA
Miller, what are you and Dr. Mucoso up to? What are your plans for Irene?

MILLER
Install DFS.

CLAUDIA
DFS? What's that?

MILLER
Dormant Fascism Software.

CLAUDIA
I see. And what does that do?

FADE

TRANSITION:

INT. ARNIE & IRENE'S HOUSE. NURSERY. NIGHT.

Arnie and Luis admire their wallpapering work.

ARNIE
Love the little burros.

LUIS
And look at those beans dance.

ARNIE
(squints)
I thought they were jumping.

They slide the crib in place. A dangling chihuahua pinata wobbles. Arnie hits it with the little bat.

CHIHUAHUA PINATA
Puntuación uno para la bebé! Arf!

ARNIE
I hope she likes baseball.

LUIS
You're gonna be a great dad Arnie.

ARNIE
Thanks, but I'm worried about Irene.
She's changed.

TRANSITION:

INT. ARNIE AND IRENE'S KITCHEN. NIGHT.

Ruby struggles to get out of a baby highchair.

RUBY
I wanna sit in a big person's chair!

Irene's stirring a skillet with meat and sauce. Maria is setting the table.

MARIA
Honey, it's for your own safety.

IRENE
The government requires children sit
in a safe-dining seat until their 12.
Uh, or is it 14?

MARIA
That's right Ruby. We don't want the
Feds to come and take you away.

Ruby glares at Maria.

IRENE

Maria, can you get some rice. It's in the cabinet.

MARIA

Which one?

IRENE

All of them.

Maria opens a cabinet. It's filled with boxes of Uncle Ben's rice. Opens another, same thing. Opens another, same thing.

MARIA

You must really like Uncle Bens rice.

IRENE

It's not about the rice, it's about the man. We can't afford to lose him like we did... (Sniffles, chokes up).

MARIA

Huh?

RUBY

Please, let's not go there.

IRENE

She's right. It's too painful to talk about. (beat) The Spanish rice is in the second cabinet, top shelf.

Maria takes the box off the shelf and reads it as she brings it to Irene.

MARIA

Uncle Ben's Spanish rice?

IRENE

I know, a Black guy making Spanish rice. Go figure.

RUBY

Actually, Uncle Bens is made by Mars.

Maria reads the box.

MARIA

She's right.

IRENE
 (confused)
 The candy bar people?

MARIA
 I went to Mars once. (thinks) I don't
 recall any Martian rice though.

Irene takes the box, pours the rice in water.

IRENE
 It's so hard to keep up with all this
 ethnic branding.

MARIA
 (thoughtful)
 Wait a minute! This must be *Martian*
 Spanish Rice!

RUBY
 (sarcastic)
 That clears that up.

Arnie and Luis walk in.

LUIS
 Well, the nursery's ready.

IRENE
 Thank you, Luis for helping and thank
 you Maria for walking me through how
 to make corned beef paella.

ARNIE
 I'm still not sold on the Mexican
 jumping bean wallpaper. Luis, don't
 you find that a little degrading?

LUIS
 I wouldn't put it my house.

RUBY
 Then why suggest such a demeaning
 cultural trope for theirs?

LUIS
 Tropes? Where did you learn that word?

MARIA
 In kindergarten!

LUIS

I can't say I approve of how they're grooming our children these days.

Maria strokes Ruby's hair.

MARIA

I dunno. I think her hair looks nice.

Roby spoon launches an olive, it hits Maria's head.

IRENE

Okay, let's eat and talk about the baby! She's coming tomorrow!

MARIA

I'm so excited for you!

RUBY

Yeah, it should be quite an event.

TRANSITION:

INT. CLAUDIA'S HOTEL ROOM. NIGHT.

Miller lays in bed, eyes open, mesmerized. Claudia is over at the desk teleconferencing with Kat on the floating screen.

KAT

Dormant racism software?

CLAUDIA

Their plan is to use robo-parents to brainwash all the unwanted children so they can rule the world!

KAT

Well, that tears it. We're out.

CLAUDIA

No, we can't!

KAT

Claudia, if they've reached the point where they can install the virus digitally, the ballgame's over.

CLAUDIA

(sarcastic)

Your grasp of earthly cliché's is impression.

KAT

Good! Then grasp this, pack your bag,
you're coming home!

CLAUDIA

Don't you see? This is our chance to
strike down the virus forever!

KAT

Claudia. It's over. No more chances.

CLAUDIA

What about the baby?

KAT

Obviously, it can't escape the virus
either. It's over Claudia, that's an
order.

CLAUDIA

I can't do it! I can't abandon them!

KAT

Then we'll have to abandon you.

The threat stuns Claudia.

KAT (CONT'D)

That's right Claudia. You'll be alone,
exiled from Bodegan civilization
forever. Understand?

CLAUDIA

Yes commander.

KAT

Is it still your choice to stay...

Kat's screen floats over, hovers over mesmerized Miller.

KAT (CONT'D)

... with them?

Claudia doesn't answer, appears conflicted.

KAT (CONT'D)

You have 24 hours to decide.

The screen floats back and directly into Claudia's face.

KAT
I'll contact Titania and the others to
be prepared to evacuate.

CLAUDIA
Yes commander.

KAT
24 earth hours, that's it.

FADE

TRANSITION:

INT. ARNIE AND IRENE'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. DAY

Arnie paces back and forth. Irene sits calmly on the sofa.

IRENE
Arnie, relax.

ARNIE
Relax? Are you kidding? (beat) How can
you be so calm? Our lives are about to
totally change!

IRENE
That's a silly question.

Arnie takes Irene hand.

ARNIE
It's just that lately, I dunno, you've
been different.

IRENE
Different? Different how?

DOORBELL RINGS. Irene jumps up.

IRENE (CONT'D)
(excited/nervous)
Oh my God! It's her!

The rush to open the door. It's Claudia with baby Laticia.

CLAUDIA
Hello Arnie and Irene. Here she is!

Claudia holds Laticia for Irene to take. Irene's petrified
with fear. Arnie looks concerned, smiles, takes Laticia.

ARNIE
Here, I'll take her.

CLAUDIA
Irene, is everything okay?

Irene's eyes are wide, frozen with fear.

ARNIE
She'll be fine. She's just a little
overwhelmed, that's all. Come on in!
Watch us change our first diaper!

CLAUDIA
I've got to get back to the office.

ARNIE
That's too bad. But you'll be dropping
by for a welfare check later?

No response. Claudia's fixated on Irene's paralysis.

ARNIE (CONT'D)
Um, Miss Green?

CLAUDIA
Uh, right. Well, bye for now and, uh,
congratulations.

ARNIE
Thanks, Miss Green for everything.
Honey, say goodbye to Miss Green?

Irene slowly gazes up at Claudia, has a pained expression and
runs up the stairs.

ARNIE (CONT'D)
Irene!

CLAUDIA
Are you sure she's okay?

ARNIE
(nervous)
Uh, yeah, she's just, you know, like I
said, a bit overwhelmed. Um, I better
go see to her.

CLAUDIA
Okay, bye.

Claudia walks away from the house shaking her head. Arnie goes up the stairs holding Latica and finds Irene in the nursery staring blankly at the wallpaper.

IRENE

Arnie? What's the matter with me?

ARNIE

I don't know honey.

IRENE

All of a sudden I hate this wallpaper?

Arnie doesn't respond, holds Laticia closer, tighter. Irene reaches over the crib and tears the mobile off and throws it violently across the room.

IRENE (CONT'D)

(angry)

And hate this stupid thing!

ARNIE

Do you hate me too?

IRENE

(eyes tearing)

Oh Arnie, of course not.

ARNIE

And Laticia? You hate Laticia?

Irene freezes. Stares at Laticia.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

Irene? Hold the baby.

IRENE

No, I can't.

Arnie steps closer to Irene.

ARNIE

(adamant)

Take your daughter in your arms and hold her! Now!

Irene takes a nervous gulp, looks at Laticia.

TRANSITION:

INT. MONICA AND MUCOUS'S HOTEL ROOM. DAY.

Monica sits on a small sofa with Benny's head propped on cushions, they're looking at potential honeymoon destinations on the laptop.

MONICA

I've always wanted to go to Ireland.

BENNY

That's a-no good! I refuse to spend a-my honeymoon in one of the allied nations! (beat) Um, how about Japan?

MONICA

I don't care much for sushi.

Mucous and Miller are at a table discussing plans using another laptop.

MUCOUS

Will you please put your honeymoon plans on hold for a moment? We need to go over our plan to upload Irene's new hard drive!

IRENE

Yes Doctor Mucoso.

MUCOUS

(To Miller)

Hear that? After twenty-years of being her beloved Mucous, suddenly I'm Doctor Mucoso!

Monica brings Benny's head over to the table and sits.

MONICA

Miller, know what Mucous told me last night? He told me I was a robot!

MILLER

I've always know you were a robot.

BENNY

Do did-a I.

MONICA

The woman's always the last to know.

MUCOUS

Never mind all that! Let's go over the plan again. Nothing must go wrong!

TRANSITION:

INT. BARRYMORE HOUSE. LOUNGE AREA. DAY.

All the Bodegans are gathered on the sofa and chairs in the lounge area. Claudia is holding court. Ruby sits cross-legged on the floor watch Spongebob Squarepants on TV.

CLAUDIA

As you all know, the commander has ordered our evacuation.

TIFFANY

I've never had a performance cancelled so quickly.

GRACE

I can't believe we're giving up.

Claudia looks to where Ruby is watching cartoons.

CLAUDIA

Dammit Titania, what are you doing?

Ruby appears to be captivated by the show.

RUBY

(mature adult voice)

I can't take my eyes off of it.

Grace clicks the remote. TV turns off.

RUBY

Thanks Grace. You saved my life.

CLAUDIA

Mucoso's going to replace Irene's hard drive with a new personality.

STEVE

That's digital murder!

CLAUDIA

And he's going to use all the robo-parents to brainwash all the unwanted children to accept the White Race as the master race!

TIFFANY

Well! We can't let that happen!

ROCK

I feel like I've been hit by a bus.

PORKY

You get hit by busses all da time.

ROCK

Yes, but it hurts.

RUBY

It's not our problem anymore. We have orders to pack up and leave.

CHEYENNE

They're always packing me up and making me go someplace.

BRENNAN

We've been cancelled?

RUBY

We haven't been able to kickstart Irene's AI into correcting the problem so the Prime Minister himself has ordered to abort Project Gen U.

CLAUDIA

I'm not giving up. I'm staying.

RUBY

Don't be a fool Claudia. You'll be banished from Bodega forever!

Nathaniel's looking out the window.

NATHANIEL

Hey! She's here!

GRACE

Who?

NATHANIEL

Irene! (beat) Arnie's with her! (beat)
And they got the baby!

The Bodegans go into a panic.

CLAUDIA
Quick, we have to hide!

ROCK
I'm going on the roof!

BRENNAN
Not you moron! You belong here!

PORKY
Quick! Youse guys can go in my room.

STEVE
Which one is it?

PORKY
It smells like marinara sauce. Just
follow your tongues.

Claudia and the Cap'n Craby crew flick their tongues out. All
tongues point in the same direction. They run. DOORBELL
RINGS. The others settle in. Grace answers the door.

GRACE
Oh Irene! What a surprise!

IRENE
Hi Grace. I want you to meet my
husband Arnie.

Grace smiles. The other elderly Bodegans gather behind Grace.

IRENE (CONT'D)
Arnie, this is Grace Barrymore. She
owns the place. These are my patients
and good friends, the Supernovas.

ARNIE
Nice to meet you all.

PORKY
Likewise, I'm sure.

IRENE
And this is Laticia.

The Bodegans lean across and look at baby Laticia.

INSERT: BABY LATICIA.

TIFFANY

Oh my, she's so beautiful.

IRENE

She's even prettier than that.

GRACE

Come in! Sit down!

ROCK

How's it feel to be a mom and dad?

ARNIE

We love it!

IRENE

To be honest, I was a little afraid.

ARNIE

A little afraid!? She acted as Laticia were Freddie Kruger in a onesie.

IRENE

I could barely look at her, never mind touch her.

ARNIE

I forced her to hold the baby!

IRENE

I'm glad he did. She squeezed my finger so tight.

BRENNAN

She's showing how much she needs you.

TIFFANY

Trusts you.

GRACE

Loves you.

ROCK

It's how she does unto you as she would have you do unto her.

PORKY

All da rest of da crap they gotta learn and mostly, da hard way.

ARNIE

Irene sat in the rocking chair with Laticia for over an hour and she even came up with a lullaby for her!

PORKY

Hey! Youse got a little ditty for da baby? Let's hear it!

IRENE

(bashful)

Oh, no, I don't think you want...

INSERT: HALLWAY.

Claudia, Ruby and the others peek around the corner.

NATHANIEL

We want! We want! Let's hear it!

TIFFANY

Oh my, I didn't realize this was going to be a musical!

IRENE

Well, okay.

Irene rocks Laticia and sings *How Could Someone Not Want Someone Like You?* Bodegan's listen with emotion.

IRENE (SINGING)

So many dreams, waiting for you. So many hopes, more than a few. So many laughs, so many tears, so many friends over the years. Places 'n faces, some old, some new. So many things, you're gonna do. How could someone not want, someone like you?

How could someone not want, that light in your eye? Feel that grip on their finger, see that look of surprise. Not want all you have, all you've got to give? Not want you to smile, to love or to live? To reach for the stars, feel joy and feel blue? How could someone not want, someone like you?

Claudia, Ruby and the others, watch unseen.

CLAUDIA
(whisper/emotional)
What are we gonna do?

RUBY
(stern mature woman voice)
Claudia, we have our orders.

FADE

TRANSITION:

EXT. ARNIE & IRENES NEIGHBORHOOD. NIGHT

CRICKETS. Sound of a COYOTE HOWL in the distance. A lone SUV is parked down the street from Arnie & Irene's house.

INT. MONICA'S SUV RENTAL. NIGHT.

Dressed like cat burglars, Monica and Mucous in front, Benny's head on the dashboard, looking back into the car. Miller in back. Mucous pulls a thumb drive out.

MUCOUS
I'll upload Irene's new personality!

Monica holds up a thumb drive.

MONICA
I'll disable Arnie during the upload!

Miller holds up a 9MM Glock pistol.

MILLER
I'll take care of any trouble!

BENNY
(surprised)
He's got a gun!

Monica and Mucous turn toward Miller.

MUCOUS
You fool! You can't shoot them! You might destroy all the circuitry.

MONICA
Aw Miller, why'd you bring a gun?

Miller pulls out another pistol and gives it to Monica.

MILLER

I brought two. Here, take one.

MUCOUS

Are you expecting armed resistance?!

MILLER

All I know is, if you're going to break into a house in the middle of the night, you bring a gun.

BENNY

Atsa good point.

MUCOUS

Oh alright, let's go.

INSERT: ARNIE & IRENE'S BEDROOM.

"Arnie & Irene sleep soundly"

INSERT: NURSERY

"Laticia sleeps soundly."

EXT. MIDDLE OF THE STREET.

Monica, Miller & Mucous walk to the house (Mucous carries the bowling bag). Three-armed evil VILLAINS (WHITE MALE, BLACK MALE, ASIAN FEMALE) wearing dark glasses join them.

MILLER

I got them for backup. They're three of the best Wiksters in Hollywood!

MONICA

Wiksters?

WHITE WIKSTER

We're John Wick movie assassins.

MUCOUS

Miller, you've lost your mind.

They pause in front of the house. Talk in whispers.

MUCOUS

Damn! They have a doorbell camera security system.

ASIAN WIKSTER

I'll get it.

The Asian Female does acrobat cartwheels across the lawn, onto the porch, pops a lens from her dark glasses and affixes it to the doorbell camera. Gives the others a thumbs up.

MONICA

Hm, they may come in handy after all.

MUCOUS

Indeed. Okay, you and Miller look through the front windows, make sure the coast is clear on the inside.

MONICA

Got it!

MUCOUS

I'll take Benny and the other two Wiksters, enter through the rear. and let you in.

BLACK WIKSTER

Whose Benny?

Mucous unzips the bowling bag, shows Benny's head.

BENNY

Buonasera!

WHITE WIKSTER

Isn't that Benito Mussolini?

BLACK WIKSTER

Mussolini was more jowely.

MUCOUS

No need to rush. Silence is the key.

They break off into two groups. Mucous, the bowling bag and two Wiksters creep around the back of the house. They pause near the back door. They talk in whispers.

MUCOUS (CONT'D)

(to Black Wikster)

You, the Black one, try the door.

BLACK WIKSTER

Me? Why me?

MUCOUS
It'll arouse less suspicion!

WHITE WIKSTER
He's got a point.

The Black Wikster nods and creeps up the stairs, stumbles.

MUCOUS
Take off those glasses you fool! It's
two in the morning.

The Black Wikster hesitates, takes off glasses.

BLACK WIKSTER
(hesitant)
I've never done this without dark
glasses before.

EXT. SIDE OF HOUSE.

Miller creeps up under a window, raises to look into it and is startled at the sight of Crystal staring back. Crystal opens the window.

CRYSTAL
Hi there, hot stuff. Wanna party?

MILLER
Who are you?

CRYSTAL
The girl of your dreams.

MILLER
Really?

CRYSTAL
That's right, goodnight.

Rock comes falling out of the sky on top of Miller.

ROCK
Owww!

CRYSTAL
Rock! You okay?

ROCK
The roof was higher than I thought.

Porky walks up, picks up Miller's unconscious body.

PORKY
Y'want I should dump 'em in da river?

CRYSTAL
No. Let's put him behind the shed.

ROCK
Got it.

Crystal climbs out of the window and the 3 of them take Miller away.

BACK OF HOUSE

The Black Wikster fumbles with the back door. Mucous and the White Wikster wait.

MUCOUS
What's taking you so long?

BLACK WIKSTER
I'm an assassin not a burglar!

MUCOUS
Oh for goodness sake!

Mucous walks up to the door, turns the knob, it opens.

BLACK WIKSTER
Don't they lock doors in Canoga Park?

MUCOUS
You come with me.
(to the White Wikster)
You stay here and keep a lookout.

Mucous with the bowling bag and the Black Wikster enter.

EXT. SIDE OF HOUSE

Monica creeps around side of the house, looking for Miller.

MONICA
Miller! Miller!

Asian Wikster rappels down from the roof. Startles Monica.

ASIAN WIKSTER
There's an open window!

It's the window Crystal crawled out of.

MONICA

He must've crawled in. I'll go in and take care of Arnie. You wait by the front door for Mucous and Benny. When they show up, let them know I'm in.

ASIAN WIKSTER

Got it.

The Asian Wikster leaves doing cartwheels and backflips. Monica crawls into window.

INT. KITCHEN.

Bowling bag is open, Benny's head on the table. Mucous peeks through a door. The Black Wikster stares at Benny.

MUCOUS

It's Monica! She's in!

BLACK WIKSTER

Hey! You are Benito Mussolini!

BENNY

The one and only El Duce!

MUCOUS

Never mind that! You stay here with Benny, I must intercept Monica.

Mucous exits, enters the living room.

MUCOUS

Monica! Stop!

EXT. BEHIND THE SHED.

Crystal, Rock and Porky tie up Miller. Porky finds the gun.

PORKY

He's got a gat!

Crystal and Rock are busy with Miller, not looking.

ROCK

A what?

PORKY

A rod! A heater!

Crystal looks, is stunned.

CRYSTAL

A gun!

PORKY

Youse can really hurt someone wid one
of dese.

INT. HALLWAY. BASE OF STAIRS.

Mucous and Monica conspire in whispers.

MUCOUS

So far so good. Benny's in the
kitchen.

TOP OF STAIRS

Claudia, Steve, Cheyenne and Nathaniel are listening.

MONICA (O.C.)

Did you get the code from Benny?

MUCOUS (O.C.)

Not yet. Let's go upstairs to get the
lay of the land first.

CLAUDIA

I'll take the nursery, watch the baby.
Nathaniel, you take Arnie and Irene's
room. Cheyenne, Steve, you cover the
center from the guest room. Set palm
rays on stun.

They split up. Mucous and Monica creep up the stairs.

EXT. BACK OF HOUSE.

The White Wikster stands guard. Ruby runs into the scene.

RUBY

Help me! Help me!

WHITE WIKSTER

What's the matter little girl?

RUBY

A witch and a dirty old man with a rat
on his head are trying to get me?

The Black Wikster opens the back door.

BLACK WIKSTER
What's going on?

WHITE WIKSTER
A witch and dirty old man with a rat
on his head are after this kid.

BLACK WIKSTER
Oh year, we'll see about that!

The two Wiksters join forces to protect Ruby. Brennan and Tiffany rush up.

BRENNAN
Where is she?

RUBY
That's them!

WHITE WIKSTER
We don't like people who mess with
little kids.

TIFFANY
She's our daughter!

WHITE WIKSTER
Not a chance.

BLACK WIKSTER
Whattaya mean, 'not a chance'?

WHITE WIKSTER
Look at 'em! No way those two have a
cute little Hispanic kid?

BLACK WIKSTER
Why? Because one's Black and the
others White!

WHITE WIKSTER
Huh?

Black Wikster shoves White Wikster.

BLACK WIKSTER
You're just a part of the problem man!

WHITE WIKSTER
Watch who you're pushing around bro!

BLACK WIKSTER
I'm not your bro!

RUBY
Before you fight you gotta see this!

WHITE WIKSTER
What?

Brennan and Tiffany raise a hand. A small, electronic disc is in the palm of each. A light ray emits from the discs. The Black Wikster falls to the ground. The White Wikster starts doing the Twist.

WHITE WIKSTER (CONT'D)
What the hell's going on.

TIFFANY
Idiot! Set it on stun, not dance!

Brennan fumbles with his palm ray.

BRENNAN
Damn thing never works right!

Ruby raises her palm ray and knocks the White Wikster out. Crystal, Rock and Porky rush in.

PORKY
Hey! Dese guys is packin' Roscoes!

RUBY
What?

CRYSTAL
They have guns!

INT. KITCHEN.

Benny's head sits on the kitchen table. Luis and Maria walk in wearing robes and pajamas.

LUIS
I'm hungry.

MARIA
Me too. Let's make enchiladas.

BENNY
Enchiladas at two in the morning?

LUIS
Who are you?

BENNY
You can call me Benny. Who are you?

LUIS
Luis and Maria Sanchez. We live here!

BENNY
We're inna da wrong house!?

Crystal, Ruby, Tiffany, Brennan, Rock, Ruby and Porky enter.

TIFFANY
Luis, Maria, they have guns!

BENNY
Who are you?

Ruby fires a palm ray at Benny. No effect. Benny laughs.

RUBY
Everybody! Stun him!

They all aim palm rays at Benny and fire. No effect.

BENNY
(laughs)
You can't a-hurt El Duce!

TIFFANY
It's a robot!

BRENNAN
What are we going to do?

Porky grabs Benny's head, stuff's it in the bowling bag.

BENNY
No! No! Notta da bowling bag!

PORKY
I'll take care of this mook!

Porky runs out the door with the bowling bag.

EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE.

Grace wanders aimlessly, like a confused senior citizen up the front path toward the Asian Wikster on the front porch.

GRACE

Excuse me. Is this El Segundo?

ASIAN WIKSTER

El Segundo?

GRACE

Oh my, I'm afraid I've gotten lost again. The doctor says I have...

ASIAN WIKSTER

Sorry, I'm a Wikster assassin and helping lost little old ladies is a violation of EAG guidelines.

GRACE

EAG?

ASIAN WIKSTER

Evil Actors Guild.

GRACE

Oh, that makes doing this easy for me.

Grace stuns the Asian Wikster with a palm ray.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET. NIGHT.

Porky, with the bowling bag, opens the back of a van with markings: *Cap'n Craby's Catering*. Inside the van there's a large drum marked: *Live Shrimp Monkeys*. Porky removes Benny's head from the bag and dangles it over the open drum. The water starts to churn violently.

BENNY

Hey! Hey! Whattaya doing?

PORKY

Time to go for a little swim chump.

BENNY

No! No!

Porky drops Benny's head into the shrimp monkey drum.

The water swirls and churns. Electronic sparks shoot out.

INT. ARNIE AND IRENES HOUSE. UPSTAIRS HALLWAYS.

Mucous and Monica are at the top of the stairs.

MUCOUS

We're all set. You go in and disable
Arnie. I'll go down and get Benny.

MONICA

Got it!

The door to Arnie and Irene's bedroom opens. It's Nathaniel.

NATHANIEL

Not so fast.

Monica pulls out the gun.

MONICA

Get out of the way, whoever you are.

Arnie and Irene appear in the doorway, sleeping-eyed.

ARNIE

What's going on?

IRENE

Monica? Is that you?

Mucous starts to run down the stairs but stops at the sight
of Ruby, Tiffany, Brennan, Luis, Maria and Grace waiting.

MONICA

Get back in the room.

Nathaniel raises his palm ray.

NATHANIEL

Drop the gun lady or I'll...

Monica fires. Nathaniel falls to the floor.

IRENE

Monica! That's murder!

The guest room door opens. Cheyenne and Steve appear.

STEVE

What's going on?

Monica shoots Cheyenne and Steve. They go down.

MONICA

Mucous! Who are all these people?

Mucous stares at the Bodegans standing at the bottom of the stairs, all with their hands up aiming palm rays.

MUCOUS

These people aren't people?

Claudia exits the nursery holding Laticia.

CLAUDIA

That's right Dr. Mucoso, we're not.

Monica turns the gun on Claudia.

ARNIE

Monica don't! You might hit the baby!

Mucous rejoins Monica at the top of the stairs.

MUCOUS

She not only might. Any trouble from any of you and she will.

MONICA

I will?

MUCOUS

Of course, you will. You're programmed to defend me.

RUBY

Programmed? You mean, she's a robot.

MUCOUS

One of my finest. So's Benny. He's waiting for us in the kitchen.

Porky joins the others at the bottom of the stairs.

PORKY

No, he ain't.

MONICA

What?! Where's Benny?

PORKY

Benny sleeps with da shrimp monkeys.

Monica, stunned, screams.

MONICA

We were going to be married!

MUCOUS

Sorry dear. I'll make you a new lover.
Maybe you'd prefer Joe Stalin next
time or possibly Atilla the Hun?

Monica turns the gun on Mucous.

MONICA

You bastard! I loved him!

MUCOUS

You can't shoot me, you'll corrupt
your own hard drive. It'd be suicide.

MONICA

I don't care!

IRENE

Wait! I remember you now. Arnie, don't
you remember this man?

All eyes turn to Arnie and Irene.

ARNIE

Uh, no?

IRENE

That's Dr. Mucoso. He made us.

ARNIE

Made us?

Irene walks closer to Monica and Mucous.

IRENE

That's right. And she helped him.

Irene spins toward Arnie.

IRENE (CONT'D)

Arnie! We're not real! We're robots!

ARNIE

(stunned)

We are?

Claudia, holding Laticia, walks toward stunned Irene.

CLAUDIA

That's right Irene, you and Arnie are robots and I, I mean we, paid these two to build you.

IRENE

But why!?

CLAUDIA

We needed a perfect pair of parents to raise Laticia by the rule.

The others come up the stairs.

PORKY

The idea being dat if youse two did a good job, we'd make more like you to raise all da unwanted kids.

GRACE

And put you on another planet so the human race could survive.

MUCOUS

Another planet?

MONICA

(laughing)

Jokes on you Mucous! You and your dream of ruling the world! (laugh) You had the wrong world! (laugh)

Mucous grabs the gun, points it at Laticia in Claudias arms.

MUCOUS

Get back! All of you, get back! Give me the baby!

Arnie stands between Mucous and Laticia.

ARNIE

You can't have her.

MUCOUS

Get out of the way Arnie! I'll shoot.

ARNIE

Go ahead. I don't care. You're not taking Laticia.

Seeing he's surrounded, Mucous drops the gun. Ruby runs by.

Ruby hovers the palm ray over Nathaniel and he stirs to life.

ARNIE
Will he be okay?

RUBY
Yes, they all will.

Irene goes to Claudia who holds Laticia.

IRENE
Can I hold her one last time?

Claudia hands Laticia to Irene who smiles at her.

IRENE (CONT'D)
(to Laticia)
It was nice being your mom for a
couple of days.

Arnie steps in.

ARNIE
Yeah kiddo, I'm gonna miss you.

The Bodegans look on sympathetically. A screen floats in with Commander Kat on it and hovers over them all.

KAT
Claudia! The Prime Minister walks to
talk to you. To all of you!

CLAUDIA
The prime minister?

All the Bodegans look concerned.

MONICA
Prime Minister of what?

A second screen floats in with an image of the PRIME MINISTER
(MALE/ANY AGE AND RACE).

PRIME MINISTER
Claudia, you and the others defied a
direct order!

CLAUDIA
Yessir, I take full responsibility.

RUBY
 (mature womans voice)
 Not true! I was as much to blame.

TIFFANY
 How dare you try and steal my mea
 culpa scene!

PORKY
 No one takes a hit for me! I did it
 boss! I did it!

The Bodegans argue amongst themselves.

PRIME MINISTER
 Silence! As far as I'm concerned
 you're all responsible!

The Bodegans lower their heads in shame.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D)
 Responsible for saving the life of
 this child.

The Bodegans look up, smile.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D, CONT'D)
 Responsible for saving the human race
 from the dreaded Bias Virus.

The screen hovers down to face Arnie, Irene and Laticia.

PRIME MINISTER (CONT'D, CONT'D)
 Arnie and Irene, we'd be honored to
 have you and Laticia be the first
 family of a new world.

IRENE
 We can keep Laticia!?

PRIME MINISTER
 Of course, she's your daughter now.

MUCOUS
 What's to happen to me?

PRIME MINISTER
 As for you Dr. Mucoso. You and your
 robo-friend will come with us. You'll
 be mesmerized into building more robo-
 parents like Arnie and Irene.

MUCOSO
And if I refuse!

PRIME MINISTER
You be put on a planet where you'll be
the only White man.

MUCOSO
Oh. (beat) In that case, I accept.

Split hovering screen with Commander Kat.

PRIME MINISTER
Commander Kat, prepare a shuttle craft
to evacuate and break the set.

KAT
Yes sir Prime Minister! My pleasure!

IRENE
Hear that Laticia, we're going to be a
real family!

ARNIE
We're gonna be better than real Irene,
way better.

RUBY
Amen to that.

CLAUDIA
Okay everyone, it's a wrap!

All the Bodegans cheer and celebrate. The group vaporizes and
disappears.

Closing credits with theme music with full verse version of
How Could Someone Not Want Someone Like You.

THE END