

The Last Racist on Earth©

By

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Episode 101: A Change Is Gonna Come

Part I

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PART ONE

INTRO

Scene opens a montage of people from backgrounds and ethnicities one by one. Each person vows the same message one by one...

MESSAGE

I'm not racist.

INT. UNCLE SOL'S FALLOUT SHELTER - DAY - 1993, FLASHBACK

Note: This is a flashback in the form of a dream. Our anti-hero, Cal Friarson is recalling the time his Uncle Sol made him shoot his dog.

Located in the backyard of the Friarson home, we enter a fallout shelter built in the 1970s. This is the ultimate Bigot's mancave. This shelter is garnished by empty beer bottles, newspapers, racist images. The kind of space void love and a woman's touch.

A television airs the 1993 K9 Advantix Commercial, "There ain't no bugs on me"...

The entrance is propped open as sunlight beams into the shadowed entryway.

From the outside, the loud barking of a dog echoes in the empty room.

The barking gets louder and louder.

UNCLE SOL(O.S.)

DO WHAT I SAY DAMMIT!

The barking persists, until BANG! A loud gunshot from a rifle is heard. A body can be heard tumbling to the ground. The barking stops.

The sound of soft footsteps and a child crying is heard, followed by the echo of a beer bottle cap dancing across a table.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

UNCLE SOL (O.S.)

Now Cal, you may not agree with what
I just made you do, but it's for your
own good...

Enter, CAL "YOUNG CAL" FRIARSON (11, scared) sits on top of a
bar stool. He's heartbroken and alone. His dog and his parents
just passed away...

UNCLE SOL (O.S.) (CONT'D)

These are the things that turn little
boys into men! That pooch would have
turned on you, like it did me. Trust
me!

Cal sits atop the stool with his head in his hands, he's
devastated. A large confederate flag surrounds him in the
background.

Enter, SOLOMON "UNCLE SOL" FRIARSON (40s, redneck) towers over
Young Cal holding a cigarette and beer bottle in his bandaged
hand.

UNCLE SOL (O.S.)

(Drags cigarette) Wipe those tears!
You listen to your old Uncle Sol and
you might learn a thing or two about
life.

Cal snuffles and tries to shove his feelings down. The smoke
from Sol's cigarette fills the screen...

UNCLE SOL (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Let's start with square one... Now
Cal, there are two kinds of men...

A slideshow opens with images of historically famous
Caucasian men of power and influence. The images reflect
Uncle Sol's white supremacist ideology.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

UNCLE SOL (O.S.) (CONT'D)

There are men, strong white men like you and me that are born with the right to prosper and do great things! Men that they write about in those books you read at school. Powerful men born that do great things in name of progress...

Cal has never heard anyone talk in this way, but Uncle Sol piques his curiosity.

UNCLE SOL (O.S.) (CONT'D)

...and then there are the *other ones*. The one's that act weak and desecrate what this country stands for. These people act like the world is owed to them and don't know their place as progress is being made... Am I making sense?

Cal sits in fear, but he's curious...

YOUNG CAL

(Stutters) Who are the *other ones*?

UNCLE SOL (O.S.)

Don't worry boy, I'm gonna teach you what's right...

The crackles from the long drag of a cigarette intensifies.

A slideshow begins, displaying famous "minority" men and women of power and influence. It contradicts Sol's viewpoint...

UNCLE SOL (O.S.) (CONT'D)

(Exhales smoke) I'm talking about the *Niggers, Kikes, Commies*, and anyone else that tries to get in the way of that progress. These people are only a part of the process and must know their place.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Cal is in shock and taken back from what he just heard. He was not raised to see the world like his Uncle. Uncle Sol is unapologetic for anything he's said so far. Rightfully so... He's racist.

UNCLE SOL (O.S.)

Oh... Did I offend you?

Cal works up the courage to speak. He recalls life lessons from his parents...

YOUNG CAL

Uncle Sol... My parents didn't raise me to think like that. They always told me that everyone should be loved and treated with respect no matter who or what you are...

SLAM! The beer bottle slams against the table and Cal jumps in fear. This will be the first time that you see Uncle Sol's face...

Uncle Sol is one tough customer, the kind of guy that doesn't like anyone. He is Vietnam veteran that never left stopped fighting...

UNCLE SOL

You see where thinking like that got them?! Like that mutt I just made you shoot, if they had the nerve to do the same with those niggers that broke into their store, they would still be here. But they're not, and I'm all you got now.

YOUNG CAL

(Whimpers) I miss my parents...

Cal's world grows smaller and smaller with each heartbreaking thought of his parents, and even worse, he was just forced to shoot his dog.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Uncle Sol feigns whatever compassion in him as he tries to console Young Cal. He now attempts being gentle with his nephew...

UNCLE SOL

I know you do son. And I'll promise you this, I'm gonna show you how to be a strong white man and make sure that NO ONE gets in the way of your progress... Deal?

YOUNG CAL

Deal...

Uncle Sol face begins to fade away in a dreamy sequence.

Everything goes dark.

END FLASHBACK.

CAL'S NIGHT TERRORS - Flashes of Cal's past quickly run across the screen. Images of his parents before and after they were killed in a structure fire during the time of the Rodney King riots.

BANG! BANG! BANG! A barrage of gunshot flashes fills the darkness followed by screams and a lightshow of flashing police lights. Everything goes black. This is the end of Cal's night terrors.

INT. CAL FRIARSON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

CAL FRIARSON (30s) lies asleep restless in bed. The night terrors are haunting his slumber. The booming voice of SLY MCCAIN (50s) echoes through his thoughts...

SLY (V.O.)

WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU DONE?!

Cal with eyes wide open, he jumps out of his sleep covered in sweat. He sits himself up to the side of the bed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Cal opens his nightstand to grab a box of pills. A rebel flag-decorated flask laying on top of the nightstand falls on the floor.

Cal kicks his head back taking the pills. He picks up the flask from the ground to wash them down.

Cal lights a cigarette and slouches forward, feeling broken inside. He is overwhelmed from his thoughts. He has a lot of confusion and pain inside.

He begins to cry.

(Open Credits)

END INTRO

ACT ONE**INT. BETTYE COLVIN'S HOUSE (MARIO'S BEDROOM) - DAY**

Mario's room is every free-thinking, music lover's dream. Surrounded by nothing but influence. Positive affirmations on the walls and a sound system fit for a king. "The Heart Pt. 2" by Kendrick Lamar fills the room with the vibes Mario needs...

MARIO BROWN (19), turns the volume up on his radio at his desk. Today is Mario's graduation day. This kid is on top of the world right now and nothing else matters.

Mario is a total sneaker-head, searching for the perfect pair of shoes. A graduation cap & gown hangs on the headboard.

Mario is jamming to the music as he spins a world globe in the middle of his room with great energy.

Mario has been saving money to leave the country with his girlfriend after graduation. He lets fate choose their first stop...

MARIO

(To self) Turkey??? Hell yeah... We're on our way babe!

Mario holds picture of his girlfriend, BIANCA (20). As a young man intoxicated by love, Mario kisses the picture like she's there.

Knocking is heard followed by the sound of the bedroom door timidly opening...

OSCAR (O.S.)

Why are you so excited about a Turkey?

Enter, OSCAR BROWN (10) standing in the doorway. Oscar is that annoying little brother-type, but he loves being around his brother, Mario as much as possible...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mario turns around to find Oscar waiting for permission to enter the room. Mario is preoccupied on getting ready but no matter what he's doing, he always makes time for Oscar..

MARIO

Hey Boogerhead! What's up?

Oscar hates the nickname "Boogerhead", it really gets under his skin...

OSCAR

I hate when you call me that!

Mario enjoys getting under Oscar's skin...

MARIO

I know Boogerhead... Turkey is a country by the way.

Oscar is self-conscious when he says the wrong thing around Mario. He's afraid of sounding dumb, but he's young. He gets defensive...

OSCAR

I know that... I'm not dumb.

MARIO

Oscar... There's nothing wrong with not knowing something. That's how you learn!

Mario rubs Oscar on the noggin in reassurance. He's always there for Oscar... Always! Their mother passed away and their father is in prison.

Oscar warms up to his brother's assurance, but he's feeling better. He knows that Mario meant no harm.

MARIO

Alright... You can kick it in here with me until I get ready to leave...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Oscar walks over to sit at Mario's desk, you can tell he wants to start touching anything on the desk.

MARIO (O.S.)
(Firm) DON'T. TOUCH. ANYTHING!!!

Oscar leans away from the desk. Mario continues preparing for graduation.

Oscar watches Mario as he finishes getting ready. Oscar doesn't want Mario to graduate. He feels like Mario is abandoning him.

Mario gets more excited and is in a zone of optimism.

Oscar notices a small jewelry box on his desk. His curiosity is piqued as he attempts to see what's inside.

OSCAR
Mario... What's this??? Is this a
wedding ring?! (Gasps) Is this for
Bianca???

Oscar begins to pry the box open, but before he can reveal the big surprise, Mario grabs the box and stuffs it in his pocket. Oscar has worn out his welcome and the loving big brother has left the building..

MARIO
Bruh! What'd I tell you?!

Mario grabs Oscar by his shirt and ushers him out of the room.

OSCAR
Wait Mario! I'm sorry! But...

MARIO
Naw! Get your "butt" out of here!
C'mon Boogerhead... I have to finish
getting ready.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Oscar is shoved out of the room, but he has something else to say...

OSCAR

But wait! I wanted to...

Before Oscar could finish, Mario shuts the door in his face...

OSCAR (CONT'D)

...ask you something.

INT. BETTYE COLVIN'S HOME - DAY

BETTYE COLVIN (60s, Matriarch) is in the living room and decorating the house for Mario's graduation. "People Get Ready" by Curtis Mayfield, plays from her antique lo-fi record player.

The common areas of her home are like stepping back in time to the 1970's, but with a modern touch. The walls of her home are decorated with pictures of Bettye's family and her posing with famous civil rights leaders.

Bettye is a woman on a mission as she prepares for Mario's graduation party...

INT. BETTYE COLVIN'S HOME (KITCHEN) - DAY

A timer in the kitchen goes off.

Bettye walks to the kitchen to check on the pots cooking on the stove. She stops what she's doing to look for Oscar...

BETTYE

OSCAR! Will you come down here?!

Oscar slowly walks downstairs. With each step he takes, he grumpily kicks the air...

OSCAR

Yeah?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Bettye stops what she is doing. She is the type of person to put up with bad manners. Bettye is not pleased with Oscar's attitude...

BETTYE

"Yeah?" You want to try that again??

The look on Bettye's face alone makes Oscar correct his attitude...

OSCAR

Yes ma'am...

BETTYE

That's better! C'mon scalawag, help your Nana finish getting things together for your brother's party.

OSCAR

Okay

As Bettye turns to get back to the task at hand, she senses something is wrong with Oscar. He mopes as he walks into the living room, he clearly has something on his mind.

Bettye stops what she's doing, and walks over to stop Oscar from walking.

BETTYE

What's wrong sugarbaby?

OSCAR

Nothing Nana...

Bettye is too intuitive to believe Oscar. She always knows that something is up. She owns a strong but affectionate personality...

BETTYE

Speak your truth! What's on your mind baby?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Oscar fidgets as he searches for the words.

Bettye sees Oscar struggling to speak his mind as she picks his head up for him.

BETTYE

Look at me! You know I raised you to
always be upfront.

Oscar takes a deep breath to build the courage to speak...

OSCAR

Nana... I'm sorry. I just don't Mario
to leave us to go see a Turkey.

BETTYE

Boy! What are you talking about?

OSCAR

(Deep breath) I heard Mario talking
about how he wants to move to a
country with a bunch of turkeys. I
don't want him to leave. Can't he
just go to the store if he wants to
see a turkey?!

Bettye is touched by Oscar's innocence and can't help but to
chuckle. Oscar is sensitive when he feels laughed at...

Mario makes his way downstairs and overhears Bettye and Oscar
speaking in the kitchen. He sneaks behind the kitchen door to
listen...

OSCAR (CONT'D)

I'm for real Nana! I don't want him
to leave like Daddy did.

Clutching a heavy feeling in her heart, Bettye kisses Oscar
on the forehead as she embraces him. Bettye recalls the exact
moment when Oscar's father was arrested. She was there.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BETTYE

Aww baby! What happened to your father is NOT going to happen to your brother!

Mario stands on the other side of the kitchen door. He feels bad that he kicked Oscar out of his room after understanding what he wanted.

BETTYE (CONT'D)

Mario has lot of things he wants to do with is life, and I'm sure you are a big part of that. You know your brother would never leave you behind.

Oscar looks up at Bettye. He receives her words easily. Oscar wants to tell Bettye about what he found in Mario's room.

Before Oscar can speak, Mario walks in to interrupt...

MARIO

Good Morning Nana! What's going on down here? You having a party or something?

Bettye looks at Mario like a shining star. She's sees him with his cap & gown in hand and can't help but to hug him.

Oscar stands behind Bettye like a human shield...

OSCAR

I don't want you to leave home to go live in a country with turkeys! That's what!

He's still on this? Mario shakes his head and laughs at Oscar...

MARIO

Bruh... Really?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OSCAR

Yeah! You're gonna leave and never come back... Then I'm not gonna have anyone here but Nana.

Bettye playfully pushes Oscar away...

BETTYE

Well then... You can go live with "the turkeys" too!

Oscar didn't mean any harm and rushes to correct his statement...

OSCAR

I'm sorry Nana! Didn't mean it like that! I love being here with you, but I'm going to miss him.

Mario is disarmed by Oscar's words, and walks over to create a warm family moment...

MARIO

Dang! You make it sound like I'm leaving forever after I graduate. We still have plenty of time to hang out before the end of the Summer.

OSCAR

But what about you marrying Bianca???

Bettye is on alert as she pulls away from the touching moment. Her body language is pensive as she focuses on Oscar...

BETTYE

Excuse me? Come again?

OSCAR

Yeah! He's got a ring and everything!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mario is shocked and disappointed this his little brother just tattled on him.

Mario's cellphone rings. It reads *Bianca* on the screen. Bettye is still staring at her grandson in disbelief. She believes that Mario is too young to get married. Mario's phone rings...

MARIO

Speak of the angel! Bianca's here!
Looks like I gotta get going! I'll
see you after graduation, yeah?

Mario makes a quick exit as he quickly kisses Bettye on the cheek to avoid getting smacked. From the look on Bettye's face, she really wanted him to have it...

BETTYE

Might be a funeral after the
graduation! We're not done here Mario
Brown...

Bettye turns around to continue cook. Mario is walks out, he looks at Oscar and punches him in the arm for running his mouth.

Oscar rubs his arm as he quietly moans in pain as Mario races to the door...

MARIO

LOVE YOU!

INT. CAL FRIARSON'S HOME - DAY

Note: Cal inherited his Uncle Sol's home after he passed away a few months back. Cal retreats to the fallout shelter after having night terrors.

Sunlight flows through the inside of the Friarson home. Aged and worn-down furniture sits dull in the sunlight cluttered and unloved.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A car pulls up to the driveway. JOSIE ADAMS (20s, sassy) gets out of the car and rages towards the front door.

Josie is Cal's girlfriend. A spoiled daddy's girl. She's dressed in club-style clothes from the night before. Looks like she had a fun night... Without Cal.

Josie bangs on the door, and she is not happy to be there...

JOSIE
(Screaming) CAL! CAL! OPEN THE
GODDAMN DOOR!

Josie bangs repeatedly on the door. She looks to see Cal's truck is in the driveway, and realizes that he may be in the fallout shelter...

INT. FALLOUT SHELTER - DAY

The fallout shelter is cluttered with old take-out bags, medication boxes, and empty beer bottles. The walls are lined with Dixieland decorations and a large tattered confederate flag covering one of the walls.

Cal is passed out on the floor recovering from a combination of night terrors and self-medicating. His drinking flask lays open on his chest.

Cal slowly gets up. He can barely support his weight as he stumbles to find balance.

EXT. FRIARSON HOME (BACK PORCH) - DAY

Josie is walking towards the fallout shelter entrance... She stops. She hates the fallout shelter.

Cal shoves the hidden doorway open and sloppily falls out of the doorway onto the lawn.

Cal does not look thrilled to be awake or to see the angry girlfriend for that matter...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CAL

(hungover stumbling towards Josie)
Josie... What are you doing here?

Gravity is not Cal's friend right now as he leans on a post to catch himself. He lights a cigarette.

JOSIE

CAL! I've been calling you all morning!

Cal pats himself down as he searches for his phone. He does this mockingly, and Josie is not amused.

Cal tries to turn on the charm but still looks sloppy...

CAL

Oh shit! It's morning already?
(Checks Josie out)
Well, don't you look nice...

JOSIE

Yeah, well... I decided to go out last night.

Cal is discombobulated from his hangover, as he pays closer attention to Josie...

CAL

With whom may I ask?

Josie gives Cal a "wouldn't you like to know" look rolling her eyes. Their relationship has been in shambles for a while and now Josie is cheating on Cal, but Cal doesn't know that yet...

JOSIE

With... Friends. Not like you'd care anyway.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Josie folds her arms and turns away from Cal. Cal grabs Josie by the arm and turns her around...

CAL

I'm gonna ask you again! Who'd you
go out with last night, goddammit?!

Cal's grip tightens on Josie's arm, she punches him in the face. There's an indentation on the bottom of Cal's jaw from her ring...

JOSIE

Don't you ever put your hands on me
like that again! My daddy will
crucify you!

Cal keeps his distance, rubbing his jaw...

CAL

He wants me to marry you. If he
found out that his "little girl" was
whoring around town, he'd lay your
sweet little ass right next to me.

Cal is sobering up to his original self. Arrogant and
bullish. He wants to have another go at Josie.

Josie stands her ground, she picks up some hedge clippers
hanging near the back porch.

JOSIE

Cal, if you take one step closer, I
will cut your balls off and lock
them in that crusty-ass bomb
shelter!

Cal puts up his hands and steps away. This isn't the first
time that Josie has threatened him like this...

CAL

Whoa there, girlie!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Josie hates being called "girlie". It makes her skin crawl...

JOSIE

Eat shit! I should have stayed where
I was.

CAL

And... Where were you?

Josie dismisses Cal's question...

JOSIE

Wherever you wanted me to be
sweetie...

Cal is no longer entertained by Josie's attitude as he rushes
towards Josie. He does not mean well.

Josie's phone rings and she hurries to answer. The phone
reads... "PAPA BEAR"

JOSIE

(shows screen to Cal and answers
phone) Hey Papa Bear!

Cal stops immediately and gets uncomfortable. Cal just
realized that he needs to be at work and his girlfriend is on
the phone with her father, POLICE CHIEF STANTON ADAMS (60s)
who is also Cal's boss.

Josie stays on the phone as she sticks her middle finger up
to Cal. She gets bubbly as she speaks with her father...

JOSIE (CONT'D)

Oh, I'm doing just great daddy, I
had a REALLY GREAT TIME last night...
So much fun!

Cal is so furious about not knowing what Josie did last
night. He tightens his fist...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOSIE (CONT'D)

Where's Cal?

(looks Cal in the eyes)

Ooh! I don't know, but I've been
trying to reach him all morning, but
he's not answering.

Screaming can be heard through the phone. Cal begins to get
anxious as he waits for Josie to end the phone call.

JOSIE

Now calm down daddy! Remember to
take a breath. I'm sure he's gonna
turn up REAL SOON. When I see him, I
will let him know you're looking for
him. OK? I love you papa bear! Talk
to you soon.

Josie puts her phone away and turns her back to walk away
from Cal and leave. Cal jumps in front of her path...

CAL

Well???

Josie has a case of amnesia...

JOSIE

Yes?

CAL:

Are you gonna tell me what he said?

JOSIE

(Sarcastic) What who said? Oh yeah,
that's right! Daddy...

Josie doesn't finish and walks away.

Pissed at her disregard, Cal tries to put his hand on Josie's
shoulder attempting to pull her back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Josie pulls away from Cal and pulls out her phone as a warning.

Cal throws his hands up in submission. Josie makes her way towards her car.

Josie opens the car door and intensely stares at Cal. His eyes are begging her to tell him what she heard on the phone with her father, and Josie is ready to tell him so much more..

JOSIE

(Bubbly) So, Daddy's pissed that you're late for work... Again! Something about people protesting and wanting to sue you? He can't wait for you to get there because he REALLY wants to kick the living shit out of you!

(steps into car)

Oh! And... I've been fucking someone else! And he's black!

Cal is beyond angry and runs towards Josie's car. She really hit him where it hurts. He does not take the news well...

JOSIE (CONT'D)

I just thought that you should know.
(closes car door)

In a fit of rage, Cal jumps onto the hood of the car. Josie throws the car in reverse and speeds off. Cal tumbles to the ground.

CAL

(Screams) YOU GODDAMN BITCH! I'LL
FUCKING KILL YOU!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Cal is disoriented as he falls back down. He crawls his way back up to his house. Today is not his day...

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

An assembly of people stand outside of the station in protest, armed with picket signs and chants of police reform. The tension is high with opposition from the police officers guarding the front door.

Media outlets from around the town are there. Including reporter, CASSANDRA GARNER (20s, inquisitive)

A group leader (Female, Early 20s, passionate) holds a bullhorn in her hands as she leads the crowd of protestors.

LEADER

KENNY PAAK, WE GOT YOUR BACK!

INT. POLICE STATION (CHIEF ADAMS' OFFICE) - DAY

CHIEF STANTON ADAMS (50s, Intimidating) is having a heated discussion in his office with HEATHER HAWKINS (Late 20s, persistent) and her husband, SAM HAWKINS (30s, Strong).

Chief Adams does not appear to be enjoying this conversation. He has a "good ole boy" mentality and is indifferent with ethnic communities. He's perturbed standing in front of an interracial couple that wants to sue him.

Heather is an attorney on a mission. With a pregnant tummy and a tenacious attitude, she holds a manila envelope in her hands. She opens the manila folder to reveal pictures, and reviews them before she begins to vehemently speak with Chief Adams...

HEATHER

Chief Adams! I have multiple witnesses that saw your officer use excessive force with no regard for my client's physical safety.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Chief Adams is not amused with the intensity of Heather's strong personality. He begins to stare Heather down...

Heather, unafraid of Chief Adams body language, throws the pictures down on his desk.

The images reveal KENNY PAAK (19) bloodied and beaten. The pictures are graphic and slightly out of focus.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

Look at him! How is this okay?! You are meant to protect and serve the people but all your officers have done is target innocent people and keep them in fear! This is bullshit and you know it!

CHIEF ADAMS

Now, you watch your mouth in my station missy...

Heather is infuriated by the disrespect, as Sam interrupts the chief...

SAM

Her name is... HEATHER HAWKINS!

Sam leans in with threatening body language as officers in the area charge towards the Chief's door.

Chief Adams opens his body language to show Sam know he's not threatened...

CHIEF ADAMS

Excuse me son?

Heather notices the surrounding officers keeping a close eye on them. She places her hand on Sam's chest...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HEATHER

Sam, Honey... I got this.
(to Chief Adams)
My name is Heather Hawkins... Attorney
Heather Hawkins, and you will refer
to me as such.

CHIEF ADAMS

Well Heather Hawkins, you Better put
a muzzle on your dog here before he
gets himself in trouble.

Chief Adams stands with an indignant with an indignant posture. He takes an unspoken offense to Heather & Sam's presence in his office...

CHIEF ADAMS (CONT'D)

I don't know how you were raised,
but if you were my daughter you
wouldn't have lasted long with any
of that disrespect in my house.

Heather and Sam have dealt with people like this their entire lives. It brings them closer together. It shows by how they show the same look of disapproval to Chief Adams.

HEATHER

Well thank God for huge blessings! I
feel sorry for your daughter and
your wife.

Chief Adams scrutinizes every detail of Heather and Sam standing in front of him. From their matching wedding rings all the way to Heather's pregnant tummy. He holds back an unspoken tension from his disdain for race-mixing...

CHIEF ADAMS

I feel sorry for that baby you and
your boy are trying to bring into
this world.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sam isn't the type to jump to anger, but he is quick to chide someone without warning...

SAM

I feel sorry that people that think
like you still exist! Shouldn't
Peckerwoods extinct by now?

Chief Adams sticks his chest out in arrogance at Sam's advance. He grows empowered from the other officers surrounding his office...

CHIEF ADAMS

Watch yourself son... A Peckerwood is
a strong tree. I don't think you
have what it takes to chop it down.

Officers swarm to stand outside of Chief Adam's office and this time they aren't going anywhere.

The officers stare intently into the office, like hungry dogs outside waiting for someone to make the wrong move.

Two officers, PETER ROY (30s, Male) & CHARLES OLIVER (40s Male) make their way through the small crowd of officers to enter the office. They are Chief Adams' go-to guys.

Heather stands her ground as she stares down her adversary...

HEATHER

You know what Chief? You should save
all of that "good ole boy" talk for
when we take you ass to court!

Chief Adams' patience is growing short...

CHIEF ADAMS

You're throwing idle threats at the
Chief of Police little lady! Look
around...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sam is always protective of Heather and ready to take on the world for her, but Heather can hold her own...

HEATHER

It's not idle Chief... It's a promise!
We'll see you in court!

Heather & Sam pick up the photos and begin to leave the office. Chief Adams has to say something to save his face...

CHIEF ADAMS

Oh no... We'll be seeing you! Now get
the hell out of my office!

Chief Adams' pride is satisfied as he watches Sam and Heather maneuver through the sea of police officers surrounding them.

As Sam escorts Heather out the station, he sees Chief Adams speaking to Officers Roy & Oliver. Sam doesn't know what he's saying but he has a good assumption and never loses focus of Chief Adams...

CHIEF ADAMS

Goddammit! I remember in my day when
those people weren't so damn uppity.

Chief Adams looks up to find Sam staring him down as the couple makes their way out of the station.

CHEIF ADAMS (CONT'D)

I feel like this is going to be a
problem.

OFFICER ROY

You want us to put eyes on them?

CHIEF ADAMS

Just keep your eyes open... Aight?!
And somebody tell me where the hell
is Cal?! I am going to kick the
living shit out of him!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Enter, Cal gingerly enters the police station from the LOCKER ROOM. The atmosphere is dead silent. All eyes are on him.

CAL

Hey fellas! Sorry I'm late. So,
what'd I miss?

Chief Adams is not happy to see Cal and shoves past Officers Roy & Oliver.

Cal is getting briefed by another officer and turns around.

It's too late. Chief Adams is already charging at Cal and pushes him to the ground, dragging him into the locker room.

The other police officers stare awkwardly as the door to the locker room slams shut.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO**EXT. CITY AUDITORIUM PARKING LOT - DAY**

Mario and his girlfriend, BIANCA JASSO (Early 20s, "Hippy"), sit in the parking lot.

Bianca passionately gazes into Mario's eyes right before she leans across the seat to kiss him. The atmosphere is filled with young love.

Bianca leans back to catch some air.

BIANCA

So... Turkey?

MARIO

Yup! That's the first stop!

BIANCA

What did Miss Bettye have to say about that?

MARIO

You know what? I didn't really get a chance to ask her before I left. And then, Oscar...

Mario cuts himself off and stares out the car window attempting to change the subject.

MARIO (CONT'D)

I wonder if Sly's made it yet?

BIANCA

Wait! Oscar what?

MARIO

Nothing babe... He's just being Oscar.

Bianca isn't falling for it. She can sense when Mario is hiding something from her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BIANCA

Mm hmm... I can tell you're hiding something from me. You know how you are with keeping secrets around me.

MARIO

Speaking of secrets... I have a surprise for you!

Bianca loves surprises...

BIANCA

OOH! What is it?!

MARIO

Nope! You gotta wait until after graduation.

Bianca gets impatient and is going to guess as best as she can until she gets her way...

BIANCA

Is it a puppy?

MARIO

Nope!

BIANCA

Is it... A guitar??

MARIO

Cool! But no...

BIANCA

Is it... Idris Alba???

Mario acts jealous, but he knows that Bianca is messing around with him.

MARIO

Dafuq?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BIANCA

You know I'm just playing!

Bianca changes the mood and kisses Mario in assurance as she plays with his hair.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

I don't care what it is, as long
it's from you. I'm so proud of you!
You've come so far. I love you,
Mario!

MARIO

Thanks babe! I love you too...

Another car parks in the space adjacent to Mario. It's SLY
MACAIN (50s, eccentric)

MARIO

Cool... Sly's here!

Sly stays in his car as he playfully mocks the young couple
next to him with "kissy" faces.

Mario and Bianca immediately laugh uncontrollably. Sly has
known these kids long before they were in a relationship. He
almost feels as though he's the reason that they are
together.

BIANCA

That is one silly man...

MARIO

Gotta love him! Alright, I gotta get
going.

Mario grabs his belongings as he gets out of the car, Bianca
gently grabs Mario's Mario. Mario didn't want to leave her
anyway...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BIANCA

Wait! Before you go... I have a
surprise for you too!
(stares at Mario)
Unlike some people, I'm not going to
torture you with by making you wait.

Bianca reaches in the backseat to grab her bag and pulls out
a long jewelry box.

Mario's eyes light up with excitement, this is no ordinary
gift. He must get back at Bianca for making that comment
about Idris Alba though...

MARIO

Is it... Rhianna???

Bianca shoves the box back into her bag.

BIANCA

NO! Now it's for Oscar!

MARIO

Babe, you know I'm just kidding!

Bianca wasn't mad, but she does get jealous. She rolls her
eyes as she pulls the box back out her bag and hands it to
Mario.

Mario opens the box to reveal a roped necklace with an amulet
encrusted with rare stones. The reflection from the necklace
shines a bright illumination across Mario's face.

MARIO

Bianca! This is beautiful! Where did
you get this?!

BIANCA

Happy graduation! We don't have
time, go graduate first! I'll tell
you later.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mario puts the necklace on. Sly knocks on the window to gesture Mario to roll down the window.

SLY

I hate to interrupt you two love birds, but Mario... You can't graduate from the parking lot.

MARIO

I know... Here I come. (To Bianca)
This is amazing! I love it! See you after graduation.

Mario leans across the seat to kiss Bianca and hurries out of the car.

Bianca watches as Mario and Sly walk away. Mario is so stoked about his new gift as he shows it to Sly.

INT. SPENCER RICHARDS' ELECTRONIC STORE - DAY

Spencer Richards (Male, business) walks around his store, giving a careful eye to the operations.

Employees of the store are seen helping customers and Spencer is happy to see that his business is active.

Spencer sees a FEMALE CUSTOMER (50s) by herself inspecting a television. He takes every opportunity to make a sale.

Spencer approaches the customer with a coolheaded demeanor. He is known in the community for his can-do attitude...

SPENCER

Howdy! Is there anything that I can help you with ma'am?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CUSTOMER

Hello! Well... I was interested in buying this TV, but I am afraid that the price may be a little outside of my budget.

Spencer inspects the sticker on the television and turns back towards the customer. He reads that she budget-sensitive and uses it to his advantage...

SPENCER

You know what? We want our customers to feel valued at Spencer's Electronics. How about I offer you a deal?

CUSTOMER

Really?

Spencer looks over his shoulders to ensure no one hears him. He makes the customer feel like she is in on a secret.

SPENCER

I normally don't do this, but I would like to offer you our "friends and family" discount if you walk out with this TV today. Do we have a deal?

The customer eyes light up with excitement, she feels like she just got the hook up. That's what Spencer does best.

CUSTOMER

Oh my God! Yes! We have a deal!

The customer reaches to shake Spencer's hand...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CUSTOMER (CONT'D)

I knew I had a good feeling about this place. You sure do know how to take care of people...

SPENCER

I wouldn't be in business this long if I didn't.

Spencer pulls a pamphlet out of his pocket and writes on it.

SPENCER (CONT'D)

Now here's what I am going to do. I am going to tell Ronnie over there (points at Ronnie) to set you up with free delivery and I will also throw in a Blu-ray player as an added gift. How's that sound?

CUSTOMER

Oh wow! Thank you so much! I promise that I will only shop here from now on.

SPENCER

No... Thank you! I hope to see you again soon!

CUSTOMER

You can count on it!

Spencer walks away from the happy customer, and speaks to RONNIE AGASSI (20s)...

SPENCER

Ronnie, you see that lady over there?

RONNIE

Yes sir?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SPENCER

When she comes to check out, make sure that she gets the "Friends & Family" discount, with a Blu-ray player as a gift.

RONNIE

Absolutely! You really know how to work with people.

SPENCER

It's all about understanding what the customer needs my friend! I'm going to head to my office to review the sales.

Ronnie acknowledges the customer with a wave. The customer waves excitedly in the direction of Spencer.

Spencer matches the customer's energy with a wave.

Spencer pats Ronnie on the back and makes his way to his office.

Spencer enters his office to play with his phone and monitor the store activity from the security cameras above his desk.

The store's doorbell has heard. Spencer looks up at the security monitor. He exhales in disdain from the sight of the customer entering...

Enter, MALCOLM IBBRAHIM (40s, educated). He is looking around for something special.

Ronnie notices Malcolm and immediately walks over to address him.

RONNIE

Hello sir! My name is Ronnie. Is there something that I can help you with?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALCOLM

I'm just looking around right now
but thank you.

Ronnie returns to the check-out counter to assist other customers.

Spencer scornfully watches the interaction from his office.

Malcolm browses through the television section of the store.
Spencer is keeping a close eye on him from the security feed.

Ronnie finishes assisting customers and returns to speak with Malcolm...

RONNIE

I see you have your eye on our
newest 60-inch smart TV. It has a
lot of features and is set up to be
the greatest addition to any home.

Spencer walks out of his office to observe the interaction...

MALCOLM

Yes... It is nice, but I am not sure
about the price.

RONNIE

Well sir...

MALCOLM

Malcolm Ibrahim... Just call me Mac.

Ronnie reaches to shake Malcolm's hand.

RONNIE

Well Mr. Ibrahim, if you were to
sign up with our in-store credit
card, we could take off 10 percent
with 6-month financing. It's a great
deal!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALCOLM

That does sound great Ronnie, but I would rather see if you would match the price I found at another store.

RONNIE

Let me see speak with my boss to see if there's anything more that we can do for you.

MALCOLM

That would be great. Thank you, Ronnie!

Ronnie sees that Spencer is back on the floor and approaches him, but Spencer is already anticipating that Malcolm is trying to negotiate, and begins to grow cold with Ronnie..

SPENCER

What's going on Ronnie?

RONNIE

Hey Mr. Spencer! Mr. Ibrahim over there is really interested in that 70-inch smart TV, and he brought in a price match from a competitor.

SPENCER

(Sarcastic) Ibrahim? Really? That's a surprise..

Ronnie is unprepared for Spencer's response. This isn't the same Spencer from a moment ago..

RONNIE

Well... Can we help him?

Spencer sighs. Ronnie can't help but to notice that Spencer has a problem with Malcolm before he's even met him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SPENCER

I'll see what I can do. Go ahead and help the other associates.

Spencer walks up to Malcolm in a priggish way. Malcolm senses that Spencer has a problem, but he doesn't jump to conclusions...

SPENCER

What can I do you for, buddy?

MALCOLM

Yes sir. I was speaking with Ronnie and I would really love to buy this TV for my family. I am on a limited budget, and I was hoping you could do a price match. I was curious to see if we could come to an agreement?

Spencer disregards Malcolm, he walks past him to inspect the tag...

SPENCER

We have some of the lowest prices in town. It wouldn't make sense for us to go any lower.

Malcolm is taken back by Spencer's negative energy and realizes that Spencer has a problem with him. Malcolm is not easily triggered into anger, so he stays on topic...

MALCOLM

Even if a competitor is offering less for the same model?

SPENCER

Looks like you should have stayed where you were at. I'm not one for haggling.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALCOLM:

And I'm not one for this sort of disrespect. I just wanted to support a local business. Apparently, my money is no good here...

SPENCER

Oh! Your money is good here... You just need to pay what we ask for. This isn't some shady marketplace, this is an American-owned store. Get it?

Malcolm angrily sticks up his thumb at Spencer out of offense.

The other customers and employees are interrupted from shopping to watch the exchange. Ronnie is disturbed from what he's witnessing.

MALCOLM

Oh, I got it! Good day! Salaam alaikum.

SPENCER

Thank you, come again!

Malcolm sticks his hand in Spencer's face. He storms out of the store.

Spencer walks back over to Ronnie standing in the middle of the showroom. Ronnie is dumbfounded from what he just seen.

SPENCER

Can you believe that guy? Word to the wise Ronnie, you can't trust people like him

RONNIE

People like that? Mac looked very offended. He even flipped you off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Spencer looks confused. He didn't see a middle finger.

SPENCER

How?

RONNIE

Well... My father is Paki and he only sticks his thumb up like that when he is telling someone to "fuck off".

SPENCER

Paki? Like Pakistan?? But aren't you're white!

RONNIE

Yeah... On my mother's side.

Ronnie can see now that he's working for the wrong person, and what respect he has for Spencer is diminishing each second.

Ronnie prepares his exit as he sticks his thumb up at Spencer in the same fashion as Malcolm, takes off his nametag, and throws it on the counter.

The customers and employees watch as Ronnie walks away.

Ronnie exits the store. A television is on...

[On Television] LANA GRETCHENS (30s, Stern), BILLY KINCAID (40s, Arrogant), and STEVE ANSEL (50s, Relaxed). The three anchors are seated on a couch in a television studio preparing for the show...

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - DAY

Lana sits confidently in her seat as Billy alternates his focus between her legs and the camera.

Steve is oblivious to the interaction smiling gleefully into the camera.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Lana deals with a high-level of chauvinism and ignorance daily. She ignores Billy and begins the show.

LANA

Welcome everyone to another episode of 'Wolf & World'. We hope that you are having a beautiful day..

Billy can't help himself, he interrupts Lana.

BILLY

I'll tell you what's beautiful about my day today folks... Lana's dress! C'mon everybody, doesn't Lana look great? I'm sure that our viewers will agree.

Steve chuckles along even though he can see that Lana is uncomfortable...

STEVE

Absolutely! I couldn't agree more!

Lana doesn't lose her cool. She continues with the show...

LANA

Moving on... Today, swarms of protestors stand outside of a local police station. Cassandra Garner reports live from the scene.

(ON MONITOR) Cassandra is displayed in front of the police station. She heard Billy & Steve's comment as she holds a tight upper lip. She wants to confront but doesn't want to risk her job...

BILLY (O.S.)

Wow! She looks great too! We sure know how to pick 'em fellas!

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Cassandra stands near the protestors in front of the police station with her news team and gets ready to report...

CASSANDRA

This is Cassandra Garner reporting on location outside the police station where people stand in protest for 19-year-old Kenny Paak. Paak was allegedly assaulted by 10-year police veteran, Cal Friarson. There is speculation of trial from Paak's representatives, but those details have not been confirmed by representatives of Officer Friarson...

INT. POLICE STATION (LOCKER ROOM) - DAY

NOTE: The news report from Cassandra will continue in this scene, but it will be inaudible. The altercation will be revealed in "Part II".

A television in the locker room displays Cassandra continuing the news report.

Cal sits on a bench as Chief Adams looms over him. Chief Adams seethes and doesn't take his eyes off Cal...

CHIEF ADAMS

Cal... You really screwed the pooch this time!

Cal cringes hearing that phrase...

CAL

C'mon Chief, you know how much I hate that saying...

CHIEF ADAMS

And I could give a shit! You got my balls in a real vice right now!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CAL

Over some half-breed slope? The kid was smoking pot in front of a corner store!

CHIEF ADAMS

Doesn't matter! You beat the hell out of that slope kid, and they have damning evidence against you!

CAL

That sonofabitch had it comin'... His mouth wrote a check his ass couldn't cash.

CHIEF ADAMS

I don't care! Because now you have our asses in the hot seat!

CAL

Chief... I used standard procedure and he got out of line. He resisted, and I did what I had to do.

CHIEF ADAMS

Did you have to break his goddam jaw?

Cal reflects on what he's done and lowering his posture. Chief Adams notices something is off with Cal. He sits next to Cal but avoids eye-contact. He's still pissed, but he shows Cal empathy...

CHIEF ADAMS

Look Cal, I know it's been hell for you since your Uncle's passing. It hasn't been easy for any of us around here. He showed me the ropes when I was a "rook" and got me to where I am today.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Cal looks at Chief Adams with a somber expression as he sulks into his seat...

CAL

What are we going to do?

CHIEF ADAMS

We're going to work it out, but I need you to keep your nose clean during the days ahead. We can't do things like we used to. These are sensitive times we're in right now.

Chief Adams puts his hand on Cal's back in support...

CHIEF ADAMS (CONT'D)

Look... What I want you to do is take the day off. I'm putting you on paid leave while we get this mess sorted out. Why don't you and Josie go somewhere nice for the weekend? You're probably going to need this time to get your head right.

Cal recalls the conversation from Chief Adams' daughter, Josie earlier. He reluctantly agrees to Chief Adams' request...

CAL

Yessir.

Chief Adams pats Cal on the back in assurance while rising from the bench.

CHIEF ADAMS

Alright then! I'll let you know what's gonna happen next. It's going to be okay son.

Chief Adams approaches the door and stops as he puts his hand on the door-handle. He turns his head to speak to Cal. He has one last thing to say...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHIEF ADAMS (CONT'D)

Cal, I can't keep covering for you
like this too much longer. Don't
fuck up again!

Cal nods as Chief Adams walks out of the door.

Cal exhales a breath of relief. He gets up and walks out of
the police station.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE**INT. FRIENDS BAR - DAY**

Loud country music is playing from the jukebox. This isn't the type of bar for just anyone as a large confederate flag hangs behind the bar counter.

An assortment of men and women are socializing at the bar. Some patrons are playing bar games. Some patrons are loud and rowdy.

Enter bartender, MATT LARAMIE (30s, charismatic) is serving drinks and schmoozing with the bar guests. He's the type of person that can really work a room.

Enter, MICHELLE (20s, seductive) who immediately walks in Matt's direction with a flirty look in her eyes. She really likes this guy and it shows...

MICHELLE

Hey stranger...

Matt fakes as though he's happy to see Michelle, but he's not really attracted to Michelle.

MATT

Hey Michelle... How you doin' sweetie?

Michelle wants Matt to want her as much as she wants him, but he's just not that into her.

MICHELLE

I'd be doing a lot better if someone would return my calls... You're gonna make a good woman give up on you if you keep it up.

Matt teases Michelle with charm, but it's what he does with all women. He's a closeted gay man hiding behind the guise of a womanizer...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MATT

I'm sorry darlin'. I had a lot going on, but you know how much you like it when I "keep it up"...

Michelle recalls the last night that her and Matt spent together and gets flushed...

MICHELLE

MATT!!!

A male patron adjacent to Michelle is nursing his drink as he pretends to be invested in what's on the TV screen, but he is entertained as he focuses on the private conversation...

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Yes! But that's not the only thing a girl needs in her life. I thought we had a connection.

Michelle tries to put her hand on Matt's hand sitting on top of the bar. Matt notices Michelle's advance and quickly diverts his attention to something else.

MATT

Look sweetie! I need you to understand that I'm not looking for anything serious right now. I got too much going on with my life and can't really make room for any kind of relationship right now.

MICHELLE

That's not what you said when you had your dick in my mouth the other night!

The male patron does a horrible job at eavesdropping; he chokes on his drink and coughs uncontrollably.

Matt and Michelle look in the male patron's direction.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The male patron tries to block attention from himself.

MALE PATRON

I'm alright! Drink just went down
the wrong pipe...

Matt grabs a napkin and hands it to the patron to clean up.

Matt turns back to Michelle, who's energy has shifted from desire to regret very quickly. She is furious as her hands tighten into fists on top of the bar.

MICHELLE

You know what? I can see that you
were clearly just using me to get
your rocks off. I don't deserve this
shit!

MATT

C'mon babe, you know we both had a
great time.

Matt leans across the bar again to put his hand on Michelle's closed fist.

MATT (CONT'D)

Let's get together and talk about
this later?

Michelle doesn't let Matt put a hand on her. She's done with his bullshit at this point.

Frustrated, Michelle slams her hands on the bar as she leans forward into Matt's face.

MICHELLE

You can go to hell later! Why don't
you get back to your little redneck
shithole bar! It's clear, you're not
interested in me and I can do better
than you!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Matt is no longer entertaining Michelle with charm...

MATT

Remember darlin'... You came here! I didn't call for you honey.

MICHELLE

Fuck you Matt!

MATT

Oh yeah! I forgot to say thank you for that! You were alright...

The male patron is obviously listening. The other patrons of the bar can't help but to listen in as well. The men look on in false admiration for Matt. The women share glances expressing disappointment with Matt.

Embarrassed and hurt, Michelle slaps Matt and makes her exit.

Matt appears unaffected from the confrontation and keeps up the "asshole" routine...

MATT

(Yells) Call me!

Michelle sticks her middle finger up as she shoves the door open to leave.

The patrons watch the dramatic exit and turn their attention to Matt who tries to change the awkward atmosphere...

MATT

Alright folks! Show's over! Drama-free happy hour specials all around... First round on me!

The patrons in the bar cheer in excitement and return to their activities. As Matt goes back to tending the bar his charm has faded away and he is at odds with himself after hurting Michelle's feelings.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The male patron notices the conflict in Matt's demeanor and his curiosity is piqued to find out why...

MALE PATRON

Man! That girl was smoking hot! I would have given her whatever she wanted. What's wrong with you???

Matt puts his hand on the male patron's shoulder...

MATT

The thing is bud... They're just a good time for me and nothing more.

The male patron wants to share his wisdom with Matt...

MALE PATRON

You say this now but wait until you're surrounded by loneliness.

MATT

Meh... Wasn't really my cup of tea.

MALE PATRON

If you say so... I know a good woman when I see one. A girl like that could be anyone's cup of tea.

Matt is annoyed with the male patron at this point...

MATT

You go after her then!

MALE PATRON

Oh no! I'm married.

Matt condescends the male patron and the thought of marriage...

MATT

Oh well... That sucks!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The male patron wants to respond but before he can respond the entrance door opens. Matt's face glows with excitement.

The male patron notices Matt's expression as he turns to see who walks in the door...

Enter, Cal. Cal looks stressed from the shitty morning he's had so far. He finds refuge in going to FRIENDS BAR to talk to Matt and sneak a drink while on duty.

Matt is excited to see Cal and the male patron is getting the feeling that Matt was may be attracted to men. His son had the same conflict but before he can finish his thought...

MATT

(To Cal)

Hey Cal! What can I get ya?

(to male patron)

Hey bud, would you mind going back to your seat? Gotta make room for my friend.

The male patron returns to his original seat and begins to think about something else. How Matt reminds him of his son.

CAL

Let me get the "High noon special".

MATT

One high noon coming up!

NOTE: The "High noon Special" is code for a large mixed drink and pain pills packaged discreetly. Cal struggles with substance abuse and Matt enables him.

INT. CITY AUDITORIUM - DAY

NOTE: This is Mario's graduation commencement ceremony.

Large crowds of people are entering the auditorium to attend the graduation, and seats are filling up quickly.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Enter, Bettye and Oscar making their way into the auditorium. They are searching for Bianca, who is saving their seats.

Bianca notices Bettye and Oscar, she waves to catch their attention.

Bianca is happy to see them as she extends to give them hugs. Bettye is salty from hearing that Mario is planning on marrying Bianca. Bettye loves Bianca, but she believes that they are too young to take that next step..

BIANCA

Hey Miss Bettye! Hey Oscar! I saved you a seat!

Oscar rushes gives Bianca a huge hug. He has a crush on her...

OSCAR

Hey Bianca! I missed you!

BIANCA

I saw you yesterday, but I missed you too little man!

BETTYE

(To Bianca) Hey sugar... You doing alright today?

BIANCA

Yes ma'am! I couldn't be better!

Bettye embraces Bianca and the trio take their seats. Two seats are available next to Bettye...

BETTYE

That's good... Heather and Sam are on their way too.

BIANCA

Great! I can't wait to see them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

More people enter the auditorium, seating begins to become scarce.

Enter Heather & Sam, they are searching for Bettye. Oscar jumps out of his seat and flails his arms to get their attention.

Heather waves at Oscar. She and Sam walk over to their section.

Oscar is still standing as he dances and making a scene for Bianca. Bettye pulls Oscar down to his seat. She hates when he shows out...

BETTYE

Sit down! Do you have ants in your pants?

OSCAR

Maybe...

Bettye stares at Oscar and sees that she means business...

BETTYE

I can fix that for you if you want?

Oscar doesn't want to find out what Bettye meant by that, so he sits politely in his seat.

Enter, Spencer Richards and his wife, REBEKA RICHARDS (Late 30s, Sweet). They have been searching for a seat for a while. Spencer has already had a difficult day with what happened at his store earlier in the day.

Spencer and Rebeka to the row that Bettye, Bianca, and Oscar are sitting. They notice two empty seats next to them.

Bettye tries to catch Spencer's attention, but he doesn't want to acknowledge her. He barely wants to sit next to her...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BETTYE

Excuse me sir... We are saving these seats for my daughter and her husband.

Spencer already had a feeling that Bettye was trying to steer him away from the seats. He has reached his boiling point...

SPENCER

It's a free country ain't it?! I'm sorry your people didn't make it on time, but there's nowhere else to sit.

Oscar watches the interaction and gets uncomfortable. Bianca puts her arm around him in comfort.

Rebeka notices Oscar's distress. She gently grabs Spencer's arm and tries to escort him away from the seat.

REBEKA

Come on Spencer, they are saving these seats... Let's can find somewhere else.

Spencer isn't having it and pulls away. He's only focused on his rough day...

SPENCER

I don't care! I have had a long day! I am tired of walking around this damn auditorium and I just want to take a seat to watch our daughter graduate! There's nowhere else to sit! What's so hard to understand about that?

HEATHER(O.S.)

Excuse me! My mother was saving those seats for us.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Spencer turns around to see Heather and Sam standing in the aisle. He is stunned that Heather is white...

SPENCER

You've gotta be kidding me! This... Is
your mother?

Spencer almost examines Heather and Sam standing behind him. Sam looks at Spencer like he's the most ignorant man on the planet.

BETTYE

(To Spencer) I sure am!

Heather feigns weakness and plays the "pregnancy card"...

HEATHER

So please sir... I'm pregnant. Would
you mind letting me sit next to my
family, please?

Rebeka grabs Spencer by the arm again to pull him away from the group before he says anything else to embarrass her. She hates when he's rude with people...

REBEKA

Look! There's plenty of seats over
there. Let's hurry up before they're
all gone.

HEATHER

Thank you!

Rebeka and Spencer walk away. Spencer doesn't get how people from other races can co-exist. He lives in a world with a small scope...

SPENCER

Unbelievable!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Heather and Sam greet the rest of the family. Bettye adopted Heather when she was a teen and they have a close relationship...

HEATHER

Hey mama! I'm sorry about all that.

BETTYE

Oh baby, don't worry about him.
It'll take more than one salty man
to ruin my day. I hope he finds a
seat.

SAM

It may be hard for him to sit with
that stick up his butt.

Bianca and Oscar love Sam's quick wit. Bettye loves Sam as she gives him a playful tap on the arm. The couple take their seats.

The graduates begin to enter the auditorium. Mario is among them.

Sam pulls out a camera to take a picture of the commencement...

SAM

I'm hope I can find Mario.

Oscar points to where Mario is sitting. He has a special connection with his brother...

OSCAR

There he is Sam!

SAM:

Wow! Great eye Oscar!

Sam turns his lens to where Mario is located.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

I wish I could get a good shot but
he's just looking down at the
ground.

BETTYE

What in the world is he looking at?

Mario sits amongst the other graduates. He ignores the
ceremony because he is hypnotized by his new necklace.

OSCAR

He's probably thinking about
turkeys...

HEATHER

What?

OSCAR

I heard him talking about taking
Bianca to go see some turkey.

BETTYE

Oscar! Hush!

BIANCA

(To Oscar) So you found out about
Turkey too, huh?

OSCAR

That's not all I found out... Oww!

Bettye pinches Oscar to keep his mouth shut about Mario
proposing. She realizes that Bianca doesn't know what he's
talking about...

BETTYE

Let's watch the ceremony!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Bianca is suspicious from Oscar's comments, but she keeps her attention to the ceremony as the graduates begin to enter the stage.

Sly stands on the stage and shaking the hands of each of the graduates, but he's waiting for Mario especially. The Chancellor takes pictures with each student.

Mario is waiting in line to get his degree as he puts his necklace on.

The announcer calls Mario's name. Everyone sitting on Bettye's row applaud louder than anyone else in the entire auditorium.

Mario points to the section his family is sitting and does a celebratory dance.

OSCAR

He sees us! How did he know where we
were sitting?! And what's that
around his neck?

BIANCA

I almost gave it to you...

Sly stands in the middle of the stage the has his expression grows excited.

Mario walks across the stage and is handed his degree. He shakes the chancellor's hand.

Sly is standing on the other side of chancellor and grabs Mario to give him a big hug. The audience cheers!

Mario and Sly hold up the graduation line. The Chancellor is getting irritated.

SLY

(Whispers to Mario) I always knew
you would make it!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARIO

Thank you Sly! I couldn't have made
it without you!

SLY

Yes you would have! I'm just blessed
to be a small part of the great
things ahead for you!

Bettye tears up from the stands as Heather and Oscar both
embrace her.

Mario turns the tassel on his cap and jumps off the stage in
exhilaration.

His friends are wait for him in the graduate area as they
celebrate with him.

The graduation ends as the new graduates throw their caps in
the air.

OSCAR

Why did they throw their hats up
like that? They're gonna be lost
forever...

HEATHER

You'll understand when it's your
turn little bro.

Oscar shakes his head in disagreement.

OSCAR

I'm buying two hats...

BETTYE

Boy... That mouth runs a mile a
minute. Let's go outside so we can
find Mario.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The audience makes their way out of the auditorium to be with their graduates.

EXT. CITY AUDITORIUM - DAY

Everyone that attended the graduation are embracing their graduates. The energy is high with joy.

Mario is searching through the crowds of people to find his family. Bettye sees him first...

BETTYE

Hey sugarbaby!

Mario runs over to hug Bettye. She gives him a big kiss on the cheek. Bianca, Heather, Sam, and Oscar surround Mario and Bettye for a group hug.

Sly runs over to be a part of the group hug. So much love in this moment.

OSCAR

How'd you see us in between all those people?!

MARIO

I'll find you no matter where I am!

Bettye puts her arm around Mario. She she's so proud of him...

BETTYE

Well let's go! We have a graduation party to get to!

MARIO

Nana, I told you I didn't want to have a big party.

BETTYE

Well, let's call it a "get together". Feel better?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mario gives up trying to argue. It's a fight that he won't win...

BETTYE (CONT'D)

Good! Because you don't really have a choice in the matter.

MARIO

Is it okay if CC and Benny come? I wanted gonna ride back with them.

BETTYE

Of course! We're celebrating for all of you!

Bettye puts her arm around Bianca...

BETTYE

You sure you want to leave your boo all alone?

BIANCA

It's okay Miss Bettye. I'll let him ride with his boys. I'll just come help you get ready.

Mario leans over to kiss Bianca on the forehead. Bettye feels the authentic love Mario has for Bianca...

BETTYE

Thanks a million baby! I could use the extra hands. Heather, do you and Sam have time to stop by?

HEATHER

Mama, that's not even a question! We always have time for family!

BETTYE

Good! It wouldn't be the same without you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SLY

Is it okay if I invite myself?

BETTYE

That's not up for debate Sly! You better be there!

SLY

Great! I have to wrap up some things here. I'll be right behind you!

MARIO

Cool! We'll see y'all back at the house then!

Enter, BENNY DOBBS (19, hipster) and CC (19, stoner). They are Mario's best friends and they love being around his family.

BENNY

(To Mario) You ready?

MARIO

Yeah! Let's roll!

Mario leaves with CC and Benny as everyone else head to their vehicles.

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR**INT. FRIENDS BAR - DAY**

Cal and Matt are talking at the bar. The scene opens in the middle of their conversation. Cal is telling him about his confrontation with Josie earlier in the day.

MATT

No she didn't?!

CAL

She sure the hell did! Yelled it in front of God and all the squirrels in the trees.

MATT

What'd you do?

CAL

The bitch jumped into the car before I could give her the "what for"?

MATT

That's some bullshit... We'd be better off if these bitches didn't even exist!

CAL

But if they didn't, we'd just be a bunch of fags running around grabbing each other by the dicks. I'd rather just have a woman that knew her place.

Matt doesn't really take well to Cal's remarks, so he finds a glass to clean and changes the subject...

MATT

Amen brother! You're right about that. They're only good for one thing anyway.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CAL

If they could cook, then they'd be
good for two!

The two men share a boisterous laugh.

Men around them laugh and encourage the conversation.

The women in the bar share awkward looks.

CAL

Hey man, let me get going. I got
some work to do.

MATT

Hey! Let me grab that "high noon
special" for ya! I put a little
cherry on top.

Matt reaches behind the bar and pulls out a large styrofoam
cup and hands it to Cal...

CAL

Thanks man...

MATT

Of course! We're best friends. I
hope it helps!

CAL

See ya later!

MATT

Not if I see you first.

Cal gets up to walk out. The male patron is still sitting at
the bar.

Matt watches Cal's as he walks out. The male patron watches
Matt's eyes scan Cal's body... He knows something is up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Matt realizes that the male patron is looking at him and redirects his gaze from Cal's exit to address the male patron.

MATT

(To male patron) You need another drink boss?

MALE PATRON

No, but maybe you do to cool off.

Matt gets enraged at the male patron's response and confronts him...

MATT

What the hell is that supposed to mean?

MALE PATRON

I don't mean any harm... I just understand.

Matt knows what the male patron means, he sees that he's attracted to other men. This only makes Matt more upset...

MATT

You don't understand shit! If you're done, why don't you get out of my bar before I help you understand my foot in your ass!

The male patron feels that he has overstayed his welcome and throws his hands up in submission as he exits the bar.

A FEMALE PATRON (20s, wholesome) walks into the bar after the male patron's exit.

Matt changes his attitude after the male patron leaves and goes into a "sexual hunter" mode...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MATT

Hey! How you doin' sweetheart?

The female patron blushes and flashes a smile at Matt.

Matt begins to flirt with the female patron. He's at it again.

INT. BETTYE COLVIN'S HOME - DAY

Music fills the house with an upbeat energy. The house is garnished with graduation decorations and pictures of Mario.

Bianca is helping with the finishing touches. She kisses one of the pictures with Mario.

Bettye approaches Bianca while she's setting one of the tables...

BETTYE

Have you heard from Mario?

BIANCA

No ma'am, but he should be here soon.

The doorbell rings.

The first round of guests arrive as Bettye opens the door to let them enter the home. Bettye is getting concerned but she doesn't show the guests...

EXT. BENNY'S CAR - DAY

The three new graduates (Mario, Benny, and CC) are speeding down the road.

MARIO

Bro! Slow down! I don't know what's gonna kill me first... Your driving or my grandma for being late!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BENNY

Sorry bro, just trying to get us there.

CC is sitting in the backseat and he's rolling up some weed.

Mario looks in the backseat to see what CC is doing. He's vexed...

MARIO

Bruh! You gotta roll that right now?
We're on the way to my house.

CC

I just want to make sure we're ready
for the after party!

MARIO

Why don't you do that shit *after*
then!

C.C.

Because I already started before you
said anything...

Mario gives up on reasoning with CC and turns back around.

BENNY

Don't worry! We're gonna get there
on time.

MARIO

Just keep your eyes on the road
bruh.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET - TWILIGHT

NOTE: Cal is drunk and in his feelings about everything that he experienced throughout the day. He's not in a clear state of mind.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Cal sits inside the police cruiser drowning his feelings in the styrofoam cup and takes one of the pills Matt gave him. He sloppily looks down at his phone.

Cal belligerently talks into the air slurring his words.

CAL

Stupid cunt! Cheating on me with
some fucking nigger! When I see her,
I'm going to fucking end her!

Cal takes another sip of his drink.

CAL (CONT'D)

Fuck it! I'm going to find that
bitch now!

Cal leans over the center console and drops his drink.

CAL

Goddammit!

Cal accidentally takes his foot off the brake and the car slowly pulls forward into the intersection.

Cal hurries to bring the car to a stop. The half of the cruiser blocks the intersection.

CAL:

Son of a bitch!

The car that Benny is driving is speeding down the street and almost collides with Cal's cruiser nicking the nose of the car.

MARIO

Dude! You almost hit that cop!

BENNY

He pulled out of nowhere! I barely
saw him!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARIO

That's because you're driving like
an asshole!

Cal turns on his sirens and pursues Benny's car!

C.C.

Oh shit! He's behind us!

CAL

You motherfuckers picked the wrong
one today!

Benny pulls over to the side of the road. It's a very tense
situation in the car...

BENNY

Shit! Shit! Shit! What do I do?!

MARIO

Bro! Just chill... Be cool and do what
he says. Just do what he says. CC!
Hide that weed!

C.C. scrambles to put the weed he was rolling back in the
bag. Anxiety sets in for C.C.

Cal pulls up behind Benny's car and stumbles out, he pulls
his gun from his holster.

CAL

PUT YOUR HANDS UP AND GET OUT OF THE
FUCKING CAR! NOW!

Benny sits frightened in the car.

BENNY

Oh fuck!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARIO

Just be cool man! Stay in the car,
keep your hands on the wheel, just
be cool.

Cal carefully walks to the car and taps on the window with
the gun.

CAL

(Forcefully) You struck my vehicle!
Turn off your engine and get the
fuck out!

BENNY

Sir! I'd rather stay in the car! I
don't feel safe.

MARIO

(Whispers)
He's not going to shoot you, just
keep your hands on the wheel and
don't fucking move!

Cal maneuvers away from the car with his gun pointed at
Benny's window. He opens the door...

MARIO

Why didn't you lock the door!!!

Cal puts his gun back in the holster and pulls Benny out of
the car.

BENNY

OH SHIT!!!

Cal slams Benny on the ground and begins to put handcuffs on
him with his knee on his back.

CAL

Stop resisting!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BENNY

Sir! You're hurting me!

C.C. sits in the back seat as he watches Cal restrain his friend. He wants to get out but he's terrified..

C.C.

That asshole is hurting Benny man!
Mario! What are we going to do?!

MARIO

Stay in the car!

Mario puts his hand on the door handle...

C.C.

Bro! Don't get out the car!

Mario gets out of the car and cautiously walks to the front hood with his hands visible.

C.C. pulls out his cellphone to record the situation.

MARIO

Sir! Please stop! You're hurting
him!

Cal keeps his knee on Benny's back as he puts his hand on his gun holster to address Mario.

CAL

What you say to me boy?

MARIO

Please! Just stop hurting him! We
didn't know we hit your car!

Cal adds more pressure on Benny's back as Benny struggles for relief..

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARIO

Sir! Please stop!

CAL

Don't tell me how to do my job boy,
just get back in the fucking car
before I shoot your black ass. I'll
deal with you in a minute!

BENNY

Please! I can't breathe...

Cal digs his knee into Benny's back. Benny's ribs are
cracking from the pressure.

Benny is fighting for air...

BENNY

I can't breathe...

Mario can't take it anymore and tries to get closer to stop
Cal from hurting his friend. His amulet emits a unique glow
in the sunlight.

MARIO

STOP!

Out of the corner of his eye, Cal sees a reflection and
notices Mario walking towards him. He gets off of Benny
struggling on the ground.

Cal reaches for his taser and clumsily drops it to the
ground, and reaches for his gun.

In less than three seconds, Cal fires his gun eight times.
Bullets riddle Mario's legs and chest.

Mario falls to the ground slowly holding his torso.

Frantic, C.C. drops his phone in terror...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

C.C.

WHY DID YOU DO THAT?! WE JUST
GRADUATED!!!

As the smoke clears from Cal's gun, he slowly gets off Benny emotionally catatonic.

Sly is on his way to Bettye's house. He sees Cal's cruiser in the distance, with a crowd of people standing on the sidewalks spectating.

As Sly gets closer, he sees Benny's car.

Sly sees Benny laying on the ground in pain. He is in a state of shock seeing Mario lying in a pool of blood.

Sly brings his car to a screeching halt and jumps out of the car.

Cal gets off his knees and slowly gets up, stumbling towards Mario.

SLY(O.S.)

WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU DONE?!

Sly pushes Cal out of the way as he runs over to Mario to try and revive him. It's no use... Mario is dead.

Sly lays on the ground with Mario on his lap as he rocks him back and forth with tears running down his face...

SLY

MARIO! MARIO! WAKE UP! STAY WITH ME!
YOU'RE OKAY SON! JUST KEEP YOUR EYES
OPEN! Please...

Cal walks over to address Sly...

CAL

Sir, I'm going to need you to move
away from the suspect...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sly shoves his hand in Cal's direction as if he's creating a forcefield to keep Cal away...

SLY

GO TO HELL! You're going to have to
shoot me too! Do you know what
you've done?!

Cal radios for support as he goes to sit on the hood of his car. He's still drunk.

INT. BETTYE COLVIN'S HOME - TWILIGHT

The houseguests are socializing and having a good time. No one is aware that the person that's being honored has just been killed.

The doorbell rings...

BETTYE

(To party) Oh, that must be Mario...

Bettye opens the door. She is petrified from what she sees on the other side...

Sly is standing on the porch. His clothes are covered in blood, and tears are running down his face...

END ACT FOUR

END PART ONE