



"The Son of The Highest, 2.0" (Pilot)

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. LAS VEGAS BLVD/WEST FLAMINGO RD (LAS VEGAS) - NIGHT

A PARKED CAB, its HAZARD LIGHTS ON, "Three Wise Guys Taxi" LOGO on its doors, is boxed-in by POLICE VEHICLES.

TWO POLICEMEN TEND to a VOMITING JOSÉ SALOMÓN (20s) as TWO other POLICEMEN TRY to CALM his in-laws, ANA and JOAQUÍN NATÁN (50s), and his father, SANTIAGO SALOMÓN (50s). OTHER POLICEMEN set up a PERIMETER, keeping PEOPLE, most in HALLOWEEN GARB, at a respectable distance.

INT. PARKED CAB - BACK SEAT - CONTINUOUS

JÉANNE LE BAPTISTE (30s) TENDS to MARÍA NATÁN-SALOMÓN (20s). No time to get to the hospital -- the baby is coming now!

EXT. LAS VEGAS BLVD/PARKED CAB - MINUTES LATER

Suddenly, a WHITE BEAM OF LIGHT HITS THE CAB FROM ABOVE. EVERYONE REACTS, astonished, as the LIGHT OVERTAKES THEM.

BEGIN FLASHBACK SEQUENCE

INT. SALOMÓN APARTMENT (LAS VEGAS) - BEDROOM - MORNING

José SNORES in bed. PHOTOS of him and María on end table:

-- in KINDERGARTEN

-- as a BOY SCOUT and a GIRL SCOUT: his SASH is CLEAN; her SASH is LOADED with BADGES

-- MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR: she holds a 1st Place TROPHY for her WATER RECYCLING PROJECT; he holds a PARTICIPATION RIBBON for his MOLDY BREAD PROJECT

-- JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL PROM: she is the PROM QUEEN; he is the COURT JESTER

-- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION: with Ana and Joaquín, and Santiago; María is valedictorian

He awakens, sees the pictures, smiles, TUMBLES OUT of bed.

INT. THREE WISE GUYS TAXI (LAS VEGAS) - GARAGE - LATER

In a "slack·en·i·tis (catch it)" T-SHIRT, José enters to find BALTHAZAR, CASPAR, and MELCHIOR GIUDIA (30s) - the stout owners of Three Wise Guys Taxi - and a MECHANIC (30s) standing at the open hood of a CAB. They notice him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MELCHIOR

(Brooklyn accent)

Why, Señor Slacker! How kind of you to grace us with your presence!

BALTHAZAR

(Brooklyn accent)

What did you do to this thing? It won't start!

José grins, grabs the CAR KEYS from the mechanic, closes the hood, walks to the driver's side, BANGS on the fender, opens the door, gets in, STARTS IT, DRIVES OUT.

CASPAR

(Brooklyn accent)

I knew there was a "logical" explanation.

INT. ANA AND JOAQUÍN'S DELICATESSEN (LAS VEGAS) - LATER

A FLAG of CUBA and a STAR OF DAVID hang on a wall.

Ana RINGS UP a buy for an ELDERLY LADY. Joaquín SERVES BREAKFAST to an ELDERLY GENTLEMAN. María re-fills a coffee cup for regular MRS. GILBERT (80s).

ELDERLY GENTLEMAN

(re: the flag)

So... y'all from Cuba?

The mere mention of "Cuba" gets Joaquín agitated. Ana turns to the Elderly Gentleman.

ANA

(Cuban accent)

Don't get him started.

Door opens/José enters. Joaquín looks at him with disdain.

JOAQUÍN

When are you going to grow up? Get a real job? Take responsibility? Stop mooching off your poor father? If --

He reads José's t-shirt.

JOAQUÍN (CONT'D)

"slack-en-i-tis" was a religion, you would be its patron saint!

ANA

Not now, Joaquín.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOAQUÍN
Yes, Ana, now! If not now, when?

JOSÉ
And a very pleasant good morning to
you, future Papí.

José kisses Ana on the cheek, comes to María. She returns the carafe to the coffee maker, fetches her purse on a wall hook, opens it, comes to him with a PAPER. He smiles.

JOSÉ (CONT'D)
Your certification.
(over-the-top)
Today, the Clark County Water
Reclamation District. Tomorrow, the
world! No bowel movement will be safe!

She SMACKS him; he laughs.

MRS. GILBERT
Why are you laughing, young man? What
María is doing ought to be commended.

MARÍA
Pay no attention to José, Mrs. Gilbert.
He's just being his stupid, silly self.

She SMACKS him again; he laughs. Suddenly, María gives a CRY as she grabs her stomach/DOUBLES-OVER.

JOSÉ
María!

Ana and Joaquín race to María as José guides her to the nearest chair. The other CUSTOMERS also come to her.

ANA
María! What is the matter?!

Mrs. Gilbert opens her purse.

MRS. GILBERT
I'm calling nine-one-one!

José signals Mrs. Gilbert to "stop".

JOSÉ
No! I can take her to the hospital.

María SIGNALS José to "stop".

MARÍA
I don't need to go to the hospital.

She then HURLS forward. You can guess what happens next.

INT. UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA (UMC) -
EMERGENCY/WAITING ROOM - LATER

PACKED. María, feeling like crap, sits with a very-
concerned José, Ana, Joaquín -- and the customers. Intern
CHIANG YEE (20s) enters, clipboard in hand.

YEE
María Natán?

Ana and Joaquín wave at him. He walks over.

YEE (CONT'D)
Miss Natán? I am Doctor Yee.

Everyone nods, nervous. He smiles.

YEE (CONT'D)
Let me be the first to congratulate you.
You are pregnant.

He expects them to react with joy. They don't.

MARÍA/ANA/JOAQUÍN/JOSÉ
What?!

Joaquín jumps to his feet, grabs José by the collar of his
shirt/lifts him UP.

JOAQUÍN
You good-for-nothing piece of --

He SLAMS José INTO the nearest wall as everyone RACES to
them, including Yee and a couple of BURLY MEN.

MARÍA/ANA
No!

Joaquín lets him go, turns to María.

JOAQUÍN
Who is the father?! Tell me!

MARÍA
There is no father! There must be a
mistake!

ANA
What do you mean "there must be a
mistake"?! You don't think they don't
know when somebody is pregnant?!

JOSÉ
I know what happened.

Everyone turns to him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOSÉ (CONT'D)
 She got knocked-up by some drunken
 lesbian whose brother is the man she is
 secretly in love with!

To say everyone is mortified is an understatement.

EXT./EST. ANA AND JOAQUÍN'S - LATER

OVER the deli is an APARTMENT.

INT. NATÁN APATMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

María stands before Ana, holds a PREGNANCY TEST: POSITIVE.

ANA
 How many more tests are you going to
 take?! You're pregnant!
 (freaked)
 You're pregnant, you're pregnant,
 you're pregnant!

An equally-miffed Joaquín watches DESI ARNAZ ON TV REHERSE
 with his ORCHESTRA ("I LOVE LUCY").

JOAQUÍN
 I am going to kill that drunken lesbian
 -- whoever he is!

Desi suddenly BREAKS "the 4th wall", looks at Joaquín.

DESI ARNAZ (ON TV)
 (Cuban accent)
 María Natán?

Joaquín is too-shocked to react. Desi points at him.

DESI ARNAZ (ON TV) (CONT'D)
 You are not María Natán.
 (beat)
 I hope.

Desi notices Ana and María, GESTURES at them to come to the
 TV; they do. He points at Ana.

DESI ARNAZ (ON TV) (CONT'D)
 María Natán?

A shocked Ana points to an equally-shocked María. Desi
 smiles at María, READS from his music sheet:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DESI ARNAZ (ON TV) (CONT'D)
 "María, blessed art thou among *mujer*,
 for thou hast found favor with *Dios*.
El Espíritu Santo has come upon thou,
 and thou has conceived in thy womb, and
 thou shalt bring forth a *Hijo*, and thou
 shalt call *Su Nombre* '*Jesús*'. He shall
 be great, and shall be called '*El Hijo*
de La Más Alta, Dos-Punto-Oh', and *El*
Señor Dios shall give unto Him *El Trono*
de Su Padre, David, and He shall reign
 over *El Casa de Joaquín* forever; and *Su*
Reino, there shall be no end".

María, Ana, and Joaquín are beyond stunned.

JOAQUÍN
 So... there is no drunken lesbian?

Desi gives him a look of disbelief. María raises her hand.

MARÍA
 Uh, Señor Arnaz? I have a question.
 (long beat)
 Why me?

DESI ARNAZ (ON TV)
Su familia are descended directly of
Natán, Hijo de David y Betsabé, hence,
 cousins of *Nuestro Señor y Salvador, El*
Hijo de La Más Alta, Uno-Punto-Oh.

MARÍA/ANA/JOAQUÍN
 (surprised)
 Oh.

DESI ARNAZ (ON TV)
 And of all the twenty-somethings in all
 of the *Américas - Norte, Centro, y Sur*
 - you alone remain pure and chaste.

MARÍA/ANA/JOAQUÍN
 (really surprised)
 Oh!

Joaquín raises his hand.

JOAQUÍN
 Señor Arnaz? Sir? May I ask: what is
 it like in Heaven?

DESI ANAZ (ON TV)
 It is not *Paraíso* for nothing, Señor.
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DESI ARNAZ (ON TV) (CONT'D)
 (beat)
 Every day is a siesta. And you can eat
 all the *Moros y Cristianos* you want.
 Only thing is... there is no *quimbar*.
 (beat)
 Me and the missus, we can hold hands
 and mambo and *babalú* up a storm.
 (beat)
 But no *quimbar*.

María, Ana, and Joaquín nod in empathy.

DESI ARNAZ (ON TV) (CONT'D)
 There is always a *carnaval*.

MARÍA/ANA/JOAQUÍN
 (in empathy)
 But no *quimbar*.

INT. SALOMÓN APARTMENT - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

José and Santiago eat dinner. The 1960 film "OCEAN'S 11"
 PLAYS ON TV.

SANTIAGO
 (Costa Rican accent)
 A drunken lesbian?

JOSÉ
 Makes sense to me.

Santiago shakes his head. Long pause.

MAN (O.S.)
 Joe Solomon?

José and Santiago share a LOOK: "Did you hear that?".

MAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 Yeah. You heard me, brother.

They turn to the TV. FRANK SINATRA has BROKEN "the 4th
 wall", GESTURES AT them. They get up slowly, walk to the
 TV. Frank points at Santiago.

FRANK SINATRA (ON TV) (CONT'D)
 You Joe Solomon?

A shocked Santiago points to an equally-shocked José. Frank
 sneers a bit, READS from a blueprint:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FRANK SINATRA (ON TV) (CONT'D)
 "Joseph, fear not to take Mary unto thee as thine wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His Name 'Jesus', for He shall save His People from their sins. He shall be great, and shall be called 'The Son of The Highest, Two-Point-Oh', and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His Father, David, and He shall reign over the House of Joachim forever; and His Kingdom, there shall be no end".

José and Santiago don't know how to react.

SANTIAGO
 So... there is no drunken lesbian?

Frank gives him a look of disbelief. José raises his hand.

JOSÉ
 Uh, Mr. Frank, sir? I have a question.
 (long beat)
 Why me?

FRANK SINATRA (ON TV)
 You're the direct descendant of Solomon, son of David and Bathsheba, ergo, the cousin of Our Lord and Savior, The Son of The Highest, One-Point-Oh.

JOSÉ/SANTIAGO
 (surprised)
 Oh.

FRANK SINATRA (ON TV)
 And of all the twenty-somethings in North, Central, and South America, you and Mary are the only ones fool enough to be saving yourselves for marriage.

JOSÉ/SANTIAGO
 (really surprised)
 Oh!

Now Santiago raises his hand.

SANTIAGO
 Mr. Sinatra? Sir? May I ask: what is it like in Heaven?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FRANK SINATRA (ON TV)
 Beats the hell out of the alternative.
 (beat)
 Every day's a vacation. And I can eat
 all the Veal Milanese and Eggplant
 Parmigiana I want. Only thing is...
 there's no getting jiggy with it.
 (beat)
 We got chess. Shuffleboard. Me and
 Sammy, we crush it at charades.
 (beat)
 But no getting jiggy with it.

José and Santiago nod in empathy.

FRANK SINATRA (ON TV) (CONT'D)
 There's always some hip happening.

JOSÉ/SANTIAGO
 (in empathy)
 But no getting jiggy with it.

EXT./EST. LITTLE WHITE CHAPEL - DAY

A Las Vegas institution. And as tacky as it gets.

INT. LITTLE WHITE CHAPEL - CONTINUOUS

As an ELVIS IMPERSONATOR prepares to conduct a wedding, Ana, Joaquín, and Santiago stand to one side, not happy.

ANA
 Before you say anything, we cannot
 afford a proper ceremony.

SANTIAGO
 I have money.

JOAQUÍN
 You are the only honest car salesman in
 town. How could you have money?

Santiago shakes his head, insulted. Balthazar, Caspar, and Melchior Giudia now walk up to them.

MELCHIOR
 Hey, how are ya doing? Melchior Giudia.
 My brothers Balthazar and Caspar.
 Owners of Three Wise Guys Taxi.

Melchior shakes Ana's, Joaquín's, and Santiago's hands as Balthazar doles out BUSINESS CARDS to them and "Elvis".

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MELCHIOR (CONT'D)

In case you are wondering, we're named after the Three Wise Men, ergo, "Three Wise Guys Taxi".

Ana, Joaquín, and Santiago are unsure how to react. Pause.

JOAQUÍN

Joaquín Natán. My wife, Ana. Mother and the father of the bride.

SANTIAGO

Santiago Salomón. Father of the groom.

CASPAR

You're José's pop?! We're his bosses!

SANTIAGO

Small world.

Everyone smiles/nods politely. Pause.

BALTHAZAR

So, uh, where are you from?

JOAQUÍN

We are from Cuba.

ANA

Don't get him started.

SANTIAGO

My late wife and myself, we came from Costa Rica.

BALTHAZAR

We're from Bensonhurst.

The brothers strike a POSE.

BALTHAZAR/CASPAR/MELCHIOR

Brooklyn!

Again, everyone smiles/nods politely. Pause.

SANTIAGO

Did José tell you about the wedding?

BALTHAZAR

No, he didn't tell us nothing.

The brothers now look around to make sure no one is within earshot.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CASPAR

This is gonna sound crazy. You just
ain't gonna believe it.

Ana, Joaquín, and Santiago give them a LOOK: "Try us". The
brothers each take a deep breath, then:

INSERT: TV SCREEN (INT. GIUDIA TOWNHOUSE - DEN - NIGHT)

MARLON BRANDO, as his CHARACTER from "THE GODFATHER", talks
TO THE CAMERA.

MARLON BRANDO (ON TV)

"And she shall bring forth a Son, and
she shall name Him 'Jesus'. He shall
be great, and shall be called 'The Son
of The Highest, Two-Point-Oh', and the
Lord God shall give unto Him the throne
of His Father, David, and He shall
reign over the House of Joachim forever;
and His Kingdom, there shall be no end".

He points to his left.

MARLON BRANDO (ON TV) (CONT'D)

And you --

He points to his center.

MARLON BRANDO (ON TV) (CONT'D)

And you --

He points to his right.

MARLON BRANDO (ON TV) (CONT'D)

And you shall be His Godfathers.

THE BROTHERS

sit on a cushy couch, stare at the TV, dumbfounded.

BACK TO SCENE

Ana, Joaquín, and Santiago take that in.

ANA

Did you ask Mr. Brando what is it like
in Heaven?

The brothers shake their heads, sad.

BALTHAZAR/CASPAR/MELCHIOR

No sex.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. UMC - WAITING ROOM - DAY

CROWDED. José and María sit together, in thought. Their plain gold WEDDING RINGS seem to GLOW.

MARÍA

I am scared, José.

JOSÉ

You're scared? I have to grow up. Get a real job. Take responsibility. Stop mooching off my poor father. You're scared? I'm terrified!

She bursts into tears. He takes her hand, now realizing this is way-more than about him.

MAN (O.S.)

Fear not, María.

They look at each other, then at the other PATIENTS, then at the TV suspended above them. Sure enough...

ON TV: A DOS EQUIS COMMERCIAL

GOD - as "The Most Interesting Man in the World" - is SPEAKING TO THEM. José DROPS to his knees. María remains seated. Both fold their hands in prayer. The others - who ONLY SEE THE ACTUAL COMMERCIAL - REACT to this.

GOD (ON TV) (CONT'D)

He will heal the sick, and feed the hungry, and shelter the poor, and bring hope to those without. For He shall become a taxicab driver.

José laughs. María shoots José a scornful look.

GOD (ON TV) (CONT'D)

Sorry. Couldn't resist.

The other patients are now convinced that José and María are stark-raving bonkers.

GOD (ON TV) (CONT'D)

María and José, I say again: fear not, for He shall be loved as you shall love Him and as He shall love you. He shall be great, and shall be called 'The Son of The Highest, Two-Point-Oh', and I shall give unto Him the throne of His Father, David, and He shall reign over the House of Joachim forever; and His

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GOD (ON TV) (CONT'D)
 Kingdom, there shall be no end. And He
 shall vanquish the Tempter. And He
 shall bind all humanity, and He shall
 teach the world to --
 (SINGS "I'd Like to Teach
 the World to Sing")
 "sing in perfect harmony. I'd like to
 buy the world a Coke, and keep it
 company..."

He TRAILS OFF as a NURSE comes up to them, perplexed.

NURSE
 Uh... Mr. and Mrs. Salomón?

José and María look at her, grin sheepishly.

INT. UMC - JÉANNE LE BAPTISTE'S OFFICE - MINUTES LATER

On the walls: PHOTOS of NEWBORNS, MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES
 work; FLAG of ST. LUCIA; signed PHOTO of JOHN WAYNE.

José stares at a boatload of "sheepskin" on the fourth wall:

-- diploma from BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL

-- diploma from HARVARD COLLEGE IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENTAL AND
 REGENERATIVE BIOLOGY

-- diploma from HARVARD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL

-- Residency Completion Certificate in Obstetrics and
 Gynecology from MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

-- Certificate from the AMERICAN BOARD OF OBSTETRICS AND
 GYNECOLOGY

-- Medical License from the COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

-- Medical License from the STATE OF NEVADA

MARÍA

lays on a gurney, examined by Jéanne Le Baptiste, attended
 by the Nurse who fetched them. José turns to them.

JOSÉ
 How did a brain like you wind up in a
 place like this? I mean, no offense,
 but Harvard-this and Harvard-that?

Jéanne points at the photo of John Wayne.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JÉANNE
 (Saint Lucian Creole accent)
 My father. He loved John Wayne and the
 Old West.

Pause. She finishes the exam.

JÉANNE (CONT'D)
 Mrs. Salomón, I believe that I can
 predict with great certainty when you
 will deliver.

JOSÉ/MARÍA
 Christmas?

JÉANNE
 No, no, you are more further along.
 You will deliver at the end of October.

JOSÉ/MARÍA
 Halloween?

Jéanne smiles/nods, then a strange FEELING suddenly comes
 over her.

INT. UMC - HALLWAY - DAY

Jéanne, PAPER in hand, is at a door; on its NAMEPLATE: "Dr.
 Luqa Sakib, Director, OB/GYN". She KNOCKS.

MAN (O.S.)
 (Jordanian accent)
 Come in.

INT. UMC - LUQA SAKIB'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

DR. LUQA SAKIB (60s) is at his desk doing paperwork. She
 enters. He rises/smiles.

SAKIB (CONT'D)
 Doctor Jéanne Le Baptiste.
 (beat)
 There are only two people in the entire
 universe who intimidate me: my
 chemistry professor at Yale, and you.
 Harvard-this and Harvard-that.

They chuckle.

JÉANNE
 Doctor, I need your counsel.

He reads the paper, then looks at her, baffled.

INT. UMC - EXAM ROOM - DAY

José, Jéanne, and a NURSE watch as María, who lays on a gurney, is examined by Sakib.

SAKIB

I would like to draw a second sample to test for chromosomal abnormalities. No cause for alarm. This sort of thing happens all the time.

INT. UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA-LAS VEGAS - LABORATORY - DAY

Sakib examines under an INVERTED MICROSCOPE the specimen he took from María. His face WHITENS as sees the results.

INT. UMC - SAKIB'S OFFICE - DAY

Joined by Jéanne, Sakib, at his desk, consults with an anxious José and María, sitting before him.

JOSÉ

Can I tell you something, Doctor?

He glances at Jéanne.

JOSÉ (CONT'D)

Doctor?

He turns back to Sakib.

JOSÉ (CONT'D)

It's gonna sound crazy! You're not gonna believe it!

Sakib and Jéanne give him a LOOK: "Try us". José takes a deep breath, then:

JOSÉ (CONT'D)

Desi Arnaz came to María and her parents, and Frank Sinatra came to me and my father, and they told us María is pregnant with The Second Coming of Jesus, Two-Point-Oh!

Sakib and Jéanne look at each other, then at them.

SAKIB

Well... that would explain it.

INT. UMC - MAIN LOBBY - MINUTES LATER

José and María walk out as quickly as they can.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARÍA
Do you think they believe us?

JOSÉ
I don't believe us!

INT. UMC - PATHOLOGY DEPARTMENT - DAY

A REPAIRMAN closes the back of a CO2 INCUBATOR, turns to the JUNIOR LAB TECHNICIAN (20s) standing near him.

REPAIRMAN
Nope. Not a thing wrong with it.

A SENIOR LAB TECHNICIAN (50s) walks over. The Junior Lab Technician walks to his cubicle, grabs a REPORT, walks back to the Senior Technician.

JUNIOR LAB TECHNICIAN
Doctor Sakib said the results must have been due an incubator malfunction.

He hands the Senior Technician the report. The Senior Technician reads it, stunned.

INT. UMC - MARK GIORDANO'S OFFICE - DAY

MARK GIORDANO (50s), Chief Executive Officer of UMC, sits at his desk. Sakib and Jéanne stand before him.

SAKIB
Doctor Le Baptiste had the first CVS run here. I ran the second CVS myself at UNLV. The results were identical: a perfectly-healthy fetus with just twenty-three chromosomes.

GIORDANO
And when were you planning on sharing this with the rest of the class?

SAKIB
We hoped to keep it quiet. The last thing the mother needs right now is attention.

Jéanne fidgets.

JÉANNE
My mother wishes for me to inform her of the moment the Baby "pops out" so He can mend the crick in her neck.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sakib looks at her: "You're kidding?". She shrugs.

JÉANNE (CONT'D)
I had to tell somebody!

After a pause, Sakib raises his hand, conceding.

SAKIB
I told my priest. He nearly fell out
of the confessional.

Jéanne chuckles.

SAKIB (CONT'D)
And my wife, who promptly told her jack
-hole of a son.

GIORDANO
And Jack-Hole-Of-A-Son has blabbed it
all over cyberspace.

Sakib shakes his head.

SAKIB
Damien knows that if he tweets "The
Second Coming is coming", his fellow
God-haters will crucify him.

Giordano does a double-take.

GIORDANO
"The Second Coming"? As in Jesus?
(floored)
Holy Moly.
(long beat)
And who are our lucky contestants?

JÉANNE
María and José Salomón.

GIORDANO
Mary and Joseph. Of course.

SAKIB
Well, who were you expecting, Mark?
Bert and Ernie?

Jéanne cracks up in spite of herself as Giordano raises his
hands: "I'm not going there!".

EXT. GIUDIA TOWNHOUSE (LAS VEGAS) - PATIO - NIGHT

POSTER for GIUDIA'S PIZZERIA (Brooklyn!) hangs on a wall.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BABY SHOWER, Giudia-style: Balthazar TOSSES DOUGH as Caspar SHOVELS A PIE into a wood-burning BRICK OVEN, and Melchior SERVES María, her GIRLFRIENDS, Ana, and Mrs. Gilbert a fresh-from-the-wood-burning-brick-oven PIZZA. The ladies each grab a slice, eat/REACT with delight.

MELCHIOR

I bet you The Son of The Highest, One-Point-Oh never had pizza like this!

The others turn to María and Ana, baffled. María and Ana GESTURE at them: "It's nothing".

EXT. GIUDIA TOWNHOUSE - PATIO - LATER

María finds herself SURROUNDED by: a PRAM; a CRIB; a CAR SEAT; a RICER; a CARRIER; a MONITOR; BABY BOTTLES; BLANKETS; tons of TOYS, and BABY CLOTHES. Balthazar takes PICTURES on his SMARTPHONE as Melchior hands her an ENVELOPE.

MELCHIOR

Last, but not least, the Godfathers' gift to you.

María opens it, removes a card, reads.

MARÍA

Two years of diaper service.

The ladies REACT with delight.

MELCHIOR

I bet you The Son of The Highest, One-Point-Oh didn't have diaper service.

Again, the others turn to María and Ana, baffled. María and Ana GESTURE at them: "It's nothing". Pause.

MRS. GILBERT

You are such fine gentlemen. May I ask why none of you are married?

A sickening LOOK cross the brothers' faces.

MELCHIOR

I like to tell people my wife croaked. But fact of the matter is... she left me for Brad Pitt.

The ladies are stunned.

MELCHIOR (CONT'D)

You think that's harsh?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He GESTURES to Caspar.

MELCHIOR (CONT'D)
Tell 'em, Cap.

CASPAR
My wife left me for Angelina Jolie.

The ladies SHRIEK in reaction.

MELCHIOR (CONT'D)
(seethes)
I hate Brad Pitt.

CASPAR
You'd think I'd hate Angelina Jolie.
But I don't. Crazy ho did me a huge
solid!

Balthazar points to himself.

BALTHAZAR
I, however, have learned from my
brothers' misfortune.

CASPAR
His girlfriend left him for Tom Cruise.

The ladies SHRIEK again as Balthazar turns on Caspar.

BALTHAZAR
Shut up!

Caspar waves a hand at the ladies/smiles.

CASPAR
Just kidding, just kidding.
(beat)
His boyfriend left him for Caitlyn
Jenner.

BALTHAZAR
Shut up!

The ladies SHRIEK again as Melchior laughs, and Balthazar
THROTTLES Caspar.

EXT. CLARK COUNTY WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT - TREATMENT
POOL - DAY

A SUPERVISOR watches María draw a water sample. A queasy
FEELING then comes over her. You can guess what happens
next.

INT. BABY STORE - LATER

A depressed María browses. She then sees something which stuns her: José working a floor-buffing machine.

MARÍA

José? What are you doing here?

He sees her, smiles, turns OFF the buffer as she walks over.

JOSÉ

I am growing up. I am taking responsibility. And I am going to find us a place to live. No more mooching off my poor father.

(beat)

What are you doing here?

MARÍA

I have been placed on leave. For some reason, the CCWRD doesn't like people vomiting into their treatment pools.

JOSÉ

And the bowel movements breathe a collective sigh of relief.

She SMACKS him; he laughs. Just then, the Mechanic who checked out José's cab enters with his PREGNANT WIFE and their TWO CHILDREN; they see María.

MECHANIC

(Greek accent;
overwhelmed)

Theotokos! The One who gives life to God, Two-Point-Oh!

They race over, drop to their knees before her, and PRAY IN GREEK. María looks down at them, stunned, then at an equally-stunned José.

INT. SAKIB HOUSE - DEN - LATER

Sakib, at his desk, holds a smartphone, checks his Twitter feed. His eyes bug out. He looks up, enraged.

SAKIB

Damien!

EXT. UMC - MAIN ENTRANCE - DAY

MEN, WOMEN, and CHILDREN of every race and creed have GATHERED; most carry RELIGIOUS ITEMS. NEWS VANS have set up in the PARKING LOT. REPORTERS stand before CAMERAS.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

REPORTER #1

Sources at University Medical Center confirm to Eyewitness News that doctors are treating a Clark County Water Reclamation District engineering intern, whom, they believe, is pregnant with The Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Apparently, an event which occurs once every two-thousand years.

REPORTER #2

UMC CEO Mark Giordano issued a statement denying a CCWRD intern is a patient. He also countered claims of a Second Coming by noting that humans are born with forty-six chromosomes. Were God to "father" a baby, that baby would have just twenty-three chromosomes. And a baby having just twenty-three chromosomes is, well, inconceivable.

REPORTER #3 holds up his SMARTPHONE: a YOUTUBE VIDEO of José and María PRAYING to the TV in the waiting room PLAYS.

REPORTER #3

Meanwhile, a video of an unidentified couple in a UMC waiting room praying to "The Most Interesting Man in the World" has gone viral. Make of that what you will.

INT. UMC - BOARDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Giordano stares-down his peeved BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

TRUSTEE #1

"Kudos", Mark. "Worked" like a charm.

TRUSTEE #2 PLAYS the José and María VIDEO on his SMARTPHONE.

TRUSTEE #2

Newsflash! This is a hospital, not a goddamn tent revival!

TRUSTEE #3

Now, you go down there, and tell those demented fundies to go to Hell!

Long pause. Giordano remains calm.

GIORDANO

Carla. Bob. Ross. Why are you here?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They look at him, puzzled, as do the others.

GIORDANO (CONT'D)
 Seriously, why are you here? Is it
 because thought of sitting on this
 board gives you a thrill up your leg?
 It sure as hell isn't because you give
 a rat's ass!

(long beat)
 You think we're here due to a bunch of
 happy coincidences? A Big Bang? Fine.
 Last I checked, it was a free country.

He points out the window to the PEOPLE BELOW.

GIORDANO (CONT'D)
 But they believe. And I believe, no, I
know. Every single day - through my
 doctors, my nurses, my specialists, my
 staff, through every single patient and
 every single employee - I watch God
 perform miracles. Every single day.

(beat)
 You don't want to be a part of that?

He points at the open door.

GIORDANO (CONT'D)
 It's a free country.
 (long beat)
 Now, if you will excuse me, I have a
 "goddamn tent revival" to run.

He leaves, leaving them flabbergasted.

INT. ANA AND JOAQUÍN'S DELICATESSEN - EARLY MORNING

The struggling deli suddenly has more BUSINESS than it can
 handle! Even Santiago and the REGULARS - including Mrs.
 Gillespie, the Elderly Lady, and the Elderly Gentleman - are
 HELPING Ana and Joaquín tend to CUSTOMERS.

TAYLOR BARNUM, slick (20s), hounds Ana like stink-on-stink
 as she moves from table to table.

BARNUM
 What we are prepared to offer your
 family, Mrs. Natán, will make Bill
 Gates, Warren Buffett, and Mark
 Zuckerberg wet their pants and cry for
 their mommies!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANA

I know not what of you are speaking.

BARNUM

Mrs. Natán, you can deny it all you want. Your husband can deny it all he wants. Your daughter can deny it all she wants. And when the baby starts talking, he can deny it all he wants! But there's no denying it!

She STOPS, turns to him.

ANA

Mr. Barnum, Our Savior came to redeem the world, not to profit by it. And His Riches were greater than you or any of those gentlemen could ever hope to accumulate.

As she turns away, the Elderly Gentleman plops a Bible into the now-stunned Barnum's hands.

MONTAGE: JOSÉ AND MARÍA GO APARTMENT-HUNTING

A) INT. THREE WISE GUYS TAXI - EMPLOYEE LOUNGE - MORNING

José eats a candy bar as he reads the classifieds.

B) INT. NATÁN APATMENT - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

María eats an egg/bean/cheese burrito and drinks a green smoothie as she surfs the internet on her laptop.

C) INT. CONDO - DAY

A MANAGER shows José and María around. His ASSISTANT then enters, shows him the VIDEO of José and María on his TABLET. The Manager looks at them, shakes his head: "Sorry".

D) EXT. BUNGALOW COMPLEX - DAY

"For Rent" SIGN on grounds. The OWNER (60s) is happy to see José and María -- until her DAUGHTER (40s) walks out their bungalow to her, then points at María. The Owner YANKS the "For Rent" sign out of the ground.

E) EXT. VICTORIAN HOUSE - DAY

Meticulous. "Studio for Rent" SIGN on grounds. As José and María walk toward the house, the front door opens. Barnum and Trustee #3 step out. They aren't just repulsed by the sight of them, each makes a "VAMPIRE CROSS" AT them.

END OF MONTAGE

INT. SALOMÓN APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

An exhausted José and Santiago watch TV, pet their cat.

SANTIAGO
We could not find housing after we
married. Do you know where we lived?

José shakes his head.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)
At my employ. Do you know where I was
employed?

Again, José shakes his head.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)
The Melia Cariari Country Club. Do you
know what I was employed as?

Once again, José shakes his head.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)
A diver. It was my task to find the
balls which had been shot into the
lakes.
(beat)
Do you why we came here?

One more time, José shakes his head.

SANTIAGO (CONT'D)
As Las Vegas is in the desert, we
assumed they had no damn golf!

The phone at the end table rings. Santiago picks up.

SANTIAGO (ON TELEPHONE) (CONT'D)
Hello?

After a pause, a SCREAM COMES OVER THE LINE. Father and son
look at each other: it can mean only one thing.

EXT. ANA AND JOAQUÍN'S/NATÁN APATMENT - MINUTES LATER

Ana carries a travel bag, a blanket, and two pillows as
Joaquín CARRIES María down the side staircase. José's CAB
PULLS UP; José and Santiago get out.

José helps Joaquín as Santiago helps Ana. Santiago opens
the back door. Joaquín and José lay María in the back seat;
Ana gets in the back as everyone TALKS OVER EACH OTHER.

INT./EXT. JOSÉ'S CAB/LAS VEGAS BLVD - MINUTES LATER

HEAVY TRAFFIC. José SEES Joaquín and Santiago VIA his REAR VIEW MIRROR FOLLOWING them in Joaquín's CAR.

María - laid across the back, covered with the blanket and propped up by the pillows - SCREAMS as Ana TRIES to comfort her. A freaked-out José hands Ana his MOBILE.

INT. LE BAPTISTE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Middle-class. A MUTT slobbers all over Jéanne as she SPEAKS to Ana on the telephone.

JÉANNE (ON TELEPHONE)

Dial nine-one-one again. Have Mr. Salomón pull over and turn his hazard lights on.

(beat)

Now, listen very carefully. Instruct Mrs. Salomón to take short breaths. When she feels a contraction, she is to push gently. Do not attempt to force the baby out, whatever you do. Do you understand?

ANA (OVER MOBILE)

Yes, Doctor!

JÉANNE (ON TELEPHONE)

Good. I am on my way.

She ends the call, dials a number.

JÉANNE (ON TELEPHONE) (CONT'D)

Eve, Doctor Le Baptiste. Mrs. Salomón has gone into labor. Notify maternity, and contact Doctor Sakib.

She hangs up as her TWINS, AMÉLIE and ÉTIENNE (6), both in HALLOWEEN COSTUMES, race in, trailed by her mother, ÉLODIE LE BAPTISTE (60s).

AMÉLIE/ÉTIENNE

Mère! Mère! Est-ce le Bébé Jésus, Deux-Point-Oh?!

JÉANNE

Oui, chéris.

The twins race into the adjoining OFFICE, excited.

ÉLODIE

(Saint Lucian Creole accent)
Alléluia! He come to fix my neck!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JÉANNE

Stop it!

The twins race back in with her MEDICAL BAG. She takes it.

JÉANNE (CONT'D)

I will return as soon as I am able.
Look after *Mémère*. Hog-tie her, if
you must!

ÉLODIE

Since when do Harvard teach S-and-M?

The twins LOOK at Jeanne, confused; she GESTURES to them:
"Forget it". She hugs/kisses them, pets the mutt, kisses
Élodie on the cheek, leaves. Élodie calls AFTER her.

ÉLODIE (CONT'D)

Make *Père* and The Duke proud!

EXT. LAS VEGAS BLVD/WEST FLAMINGO ROAD - MINUTES LATER

José's CAB is PARKED, HAZARD LIGHTS ON, boxed-in by POLICE
VEHICLES. POLICEMEN TRY to calm Ana, Joaquín, and Santiago
as OTHER POLICEMEN set up a PERIMETER, keeping PEOPLE, most
in HALLOWEEN GARB, at a respectable distance.

EXT. LAS VEGAS BLVD/WEST TROPICANA AVE - CONTINUOUS

TRAFFIC JAM. Jeanne pulls her car over, PARKS, puts its
HAZARD LIGHTS ON. She gets out, grabs the medical bag,
closes/locks the car doors.

A POLICE OFFICER (30s) on HORSEBACK approaches. She shows
him the UMC ID tag around her neck.

JÉANNE

Doctor Jeanne Le Baptiste. UMC.

She points ahead of her.

JÉANNE (CONT'D)

The woman in that taxicab is my
patient!

EXT. LAS VEGAS BLVD - MOMENTS LATER

The Police Officer has the HORSE GALLOP NORTH. Jeanne sits
behind him, holds onto his jacket for dear life.

EXT. LAS VEGAS BLVD/WEST FLAMINGO ROAD - MINUTES LATER

Jéanne and the Police Officer arrive/he STOPS. She gets down, thanks him/pats the horse, runs to the cab.

EXT. CAB - MOMENTS LATER

Jéanne shows the POLICEMEN her ID. They move aside. She crawls into the back seat as best she can.

INT. CAB - BACK SEAT - MOMENTS LATER

José, MORE-WOOZY by the second, holds María's hand. Both are relieved to see her.

JÉANNE

Mrs. Salomón, you are doing wonderfully.

MARÍA

It hurts! It hurts so much!

JÉANNE

I have twins. I know.

The women chuckle. Jéanne opens her bag, removes a DELIVERY SET, puts on GOGGLES and a HEADSET/turns ON its LIGHT. She folds over the blanket to get a look, lays a pad under María, cleans her hands with Purell, puts on latex gloves, prepares a SYRINGE, "NOVOCAINE" printed on the VIAL.

JÉANNE (CONT'D)

Mrs. Salomón, we are going, as you Americans like to say, "old school".

Jéanne swabs María's backside, INJECTS the Novocaine into each cheek. POLICE OFFICER #2 looks in.

POLICE OFFICER #2

Anything we can do, Doctor?

Jéanne motions with her head AT José.

JÉANNE

You may wish to tend to Mr. Salomón.

He and his PARTNER RUN around the cab. They ASSURE José as they remove him gently.

Jéanne grabs a pair of EPISIOTOMY SCISSORS. She senses María panicking.

JÉANNE (CONT'D)

Just a small incision to allow the baby to pass.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

María nods. Jéanne PERFORMS the EPISIOTOMY. Pause.

JÉANNE (CONT'D)
Now, Mrs. Salomón... push.

María pushes/YELLS as Jéanne grabs a pair of WRIGLEY'S FORCEPS.

END FLASHBACK SEQUENCE

EXT. LAS VEGAS BLVD/WEST FLAMINGO ROAD - NIGHT

Police Officer #1, still on the horse, watches the cab with POLICE OFFICER #3. Suddenly... a WHITE BEAM OF LIGHT HITS THE CAB FROM ABOVE.

The horse BUCKS. The men TRY to calm the horse as EVERYONE around them REACTS, astonished.

POLICE OFFICER #3
Tell me that's coming from the Luxor.

POLICE OFFICER #1
Uh, I don't think so.

THE BEAM

GOES UP... through the CLOUDS... through the TROPOSPHERE... through the STRATOSPHERE... through the MESOSPHERE... into the PURE-WHITE VORTEX of...

HEAVEN

where God and a few ANGELS look AT THE CAB THROUGH THE BEAM. The Supreme Being gives a slow smile. It's all good.

FADE OUT.

END