OPULENCE

Written by

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FADE IN

INT. PENITENTIARY JAIL CELL

Under the flickering fluorescent light of a 10 x 12 feet prison cell, FATHER DANIEL (55) pale skin, black hair, glasses, sits on the lower deck of a bunker bed, reading THE BIBLE.

FATHER DANIEL (V.O.)
"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

SFX LOUD SOUND OF WOODEN STICK DRAGGING ON JAIL BARS

FATHER DANIEL (V.O.)
He makes me lie down in green pastures;

SFX A LOUD SOUND OF A WOODEN STICK ACROSS THE BARS

FATHER DANIEL (V.O.)
He leads me beside still waters;
He restores my soul.

Custodian stands in front of the Father’s cell, starring at him.

CUSTODIAN
Get up Father, get ready, you’re getting out now.

Father Daniel puts the Bible on the side.

FATHER DANIEL (V.O.)
He leads me in right paths For His Name's sake

Father Daniel stares at the custodian confused.

CUSTODIAN
That’s right, there must be a God out there looking out for you (beat) They got nothing on you, Father.

Father Daniel slowly stands up, changes to his habit gown and collar.
SFX LOUD RUSTY JAIL CELL UNLOCKS

FATHER DANIEL (V.O.)
“Even though I walk through the
darkest valley, I fear no evil;
For you are with me;
Your rod and Your staff - they
comfort me”

The inmates peek out, cheering as Father Daniel as he walks out of the corridor.

INSERT - TEXT ON SCREEN - SIX MONTHS EARLIER

INT. ESPERANZA HIGH SCHOOL

MAGNOLIA (27, long brown hair, white skin, hazel eyes) rearranges the uncomfortable wooden chairs, erases green chalkboard with her bare hand and sighs.

MAGNOLIA
I don't think this is going to be ready any time soon.(beat) What about private sponsorship, Father?

Magnolia desperately turns to Father Daniel and he remains in a hopeful spirit.

FATHER DANIEL
I asked the clergy for support.
You’ll see, the church takes care of its own.

Magnolia shows Father Daniel her cellphone screen and both sit down on wobbly wooden chairs.

MAGNOLIA
Look, these non profits help the Catholic church’s causes. If we don’t get money on time, we won’t be able to open the school on time, and let down many people especially the children that depend on us.

Father Daniel interested in the information scrolls down the screen.

FATHER DANIEL
Where do they get the money if they are non profits?

MAGNOLIA
The same way we do, through donations but they get bigger ones.
Magnolia hands an envelope to Father Daniel.

**MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)**
Oh, this came in the mail for you today, Father.

Father Daniel picks the envelope up and opens it anxiously.

**FATHER DANIEL**
Fancy envelope for a check. Let's see.

**MAGNOLIA**
Let’s make of Esperanza High a private Catholic School. They’re so pretentious and expensive. I know, I was in one.

Magnolia laughs jokingly while Father Daniel gasps insulted.

**FATHER DANIEL**
I could never do that. How can we charge our community for education?

Father Daniel anxiously walks around the classroom.

**FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)**
(to Magnolia)
We must reinforce faith, or the church is going to be as empty as this classroom.

Father Daniel sits on a squeaky chair, opens the elegant envelope curiously and reads the letter.

**FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)**
(whispers)
Thank You God...

Father Daniel makes the sign of the cross.

**MAGNOLIA**
Good news, Father?

**FATHER DANIEL**
Better.

Magnolia awaits anxiously for the answer.

**MAGNOLIA**
So, what is it?...

**FATHER DANIEL**
Bishop Jude has invited me to visit.
Father Daniel puts his hands together and bows his head.

MAGNOLIA
How come? I mean, do you know the purpose of the invitation?

Father Daniel curiously laughs at Magnolia’s sarcasm.

SFX LOUD DOOR KNOCK

Magnolia opens the door and worried faced, MARIA (45), short, curvy brunette, rushes towards Father Daniel.

MARIA
Forgive me, Father.

Maria respectfully salutes Father Daniel by kissing her wooden crucifix. Father Daniel bows down his head and Magnolia stands next to him.

FATHER DANIEL
God Bless you Maria, how are you today?

Desperate Maria, get closer to Father Daniel, as a confidential demeanor and Magnolia walks away.

MARIA
Father Daniel, I need to talk to you, about Solomon, my son. (beat) You don't understand, he’s obsessed with his computer.

Father Daniel calmly, clasps Maria’s hands in between his.

FATHER DANIEL
Don't worry Maria. There is nothing impossible for God. We'll have this conversation when I get back. I will pray for him.

Maria cries, Father Daniel comforts her and she walks away.

DISSOLVE TO:
EXT. BISHOP JUDE CATHEDRAL - DAY

As Father Daniel steps out of the taxi, he looks at the cross on top of the cathedral, walks up the marble steps to the big main wooden doors, and makes the sign of the cross.

Father Daniel kneels down in front of the altar, placing his luggage on the side of the wooden seats, when a mysterious DEACON (20’s, brown hair and eyes, dressed in a brown robe) approaches.

DEACON
Father Daniel? Follow me, please.

As Father Daniel follows Deacon, he admires the stained glass windows, the saints sculptures and the marble floors.

DEACON (CONT’D)
Bishop Jude is expecting you.

Father Daniel smiles.

DEACON (CONT’D)
There is a welcome dinner tonight at six o’clock sharp.

Father Daniel gracefully nods.

FATHER DANIEL
Do you know the reason for my visit?.

Deacon smiles suspiciously.

DEACON
Yes I do, Father. Make sure you’re ready on time, I will come for you.

Father Daniel sits on his bed.

INT. BISHOP JUDE DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Deacon opens the door and walks in, followed by Father Daniel. BISHOP JUDE (60), white silk gown, glasses and has right eye twitch, is sitting down at the head of a long wooden table, surrounded by other clergymen.

BISHOP JUDE
Father Daniel, thank you for finding the time to grace us with your presence.
Bishop Jude smirks, giving Father Daniel an humiliating gaze, then turns around seeking for looks of approval from the clergymen as they all laugh out loud with him.

Father Daniel bothered, fixes his collar and clears his throat.

FATHER DANIEL
Thank you Bishop Jude, this invitation, came as such surprise. I am sure you would like to discuss the Sacred Heart’s improvement...

Bishop Jude interrupts Father Daniel.

BISHOP JUDE
Please enjoy God’s delights first.

Bishop Jude points at the food displayed on the table.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
No business tonight.

Father Daniel confusedly smiles, they start to eat like degenerates with their hands.

FATHER DANIEL
(Sarcastic)
Such step up from oatmeal and soup.

Bishop Jude laughs.

BISHOP JUDE
This is just dinner. You haven't been here for the Holidays. It's a feast.

Father Daniel disappointedly smiles and takes small bites.

FATHER DANIEL
This is so much food. So, what do you with the leftovers?

Bishop Jude mockingly laughs hard, spitting a piece of chicken that later hangs from the side of his mouth.

BISHOP JUDE
Leftovers? Oh, I don't know.

The other members of the clergy laugh out loud too. Father Daniel ashamed of the clergymen behavior, lowers his head, and wipes his lips.
FATHER DANIEL
May I be excused, Bishop Jude? I think I will head back to my room now.

Bishop Jude pauses for a moment, looks at the clergymen and burst into laughter, while toasting their cup of wine.

BISHOP JUDE
(Sarcastic)
May God be with you.

Father Daniel returns to his room disappointed in them.

INT. FATHER DANIEL’S ROOM - NIGHT

Father Daniel prays kneel down in front of the crucifix that’s hanging on the wall.

FATHER DANIEL (V.O)
Dear God, I pray for those who are starving...

FADE TO BLACK.

Father Daniel walks out of the room, into the dark hall, following a light that comes from an unlocked door, he opens the door.

INT. BISHOP JUDE’S DUNGEON - NIGHT

A small brownstone wall room, candlelight illuminated, old chains hanging from the walls and rare wood instruments.

Father Daniel finds clergymen standing against the wall, with arms stretched out, and two boys on their knees performing oral sex.

FATHER DANIEL
Good Lord!

Father Daniel begins to walks back to the room, pauses, takes a deep breath, places his back against the wall, and slides down until he’s seated on the floor.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
What’s going on in here?

He covers his face with his hands and begins to pray.
INT. BISHOP JUDE OFFICE –DAY

Bishop Jude is entertained reading a letters when Father Daniel walks in with his head low.

FATHER DANIEL
Good morning, Bishop Jude, you wanted to see me?

Bishop Jude lowers his glasses and extends an invitation to sit.

BISHOP JUDE
Please, have a seat.

Father Daniel sits down slowly.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
Are you familiar with the case of Father Camilo Torres in Colombia?

Father Daniel looks at Bishop Jude, confused.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
Or the case of Father Hector Gallegos in El Salvador?

Bishop Jude fixes his glasses.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
They were young, passionate and idealistic priests like you...

Father Daniel pays great attention and sits more comfortably.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
They helped the poor and fought injustice.

Bishop Jude sighs heavily and reclines in his seat.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
They're all dead.

Bishop Jude laughs sarcastically. Father Daniel shakes his head surprised.

FATHER DANIEL
We must live the life of Jesus.

Bishop Jude tries to intimidate Father Daniel, getting on his face.
BISHOP JUDE
Can you multiply fish? Well, can you? (beat) Jesus was the flesh and blood of God.
He could talk to His Father directly the same way as I'm talking to you.

Father Daniel takes a step back.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
Can you talk to God?, Can you hear Him talking to you, Father Daniel?

Father Daniel dares him back with a stare.

FATHER DANIEL
With all due respect Bishop Jude,
The answer is YES. Regardless, of how you feel about faith or God.

Father Daniel, looks disappointed at Bishop Jude.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
I came here hoping you help could help my Church, like you say, hoping you help me multiply fish.

Bishop Jude laughs hard until he starts to coughs causing Father Daniel laugh too.

BISHOP JUDE
You are one ambitious man, Father Daniel. You think you’re some sort of miracle man.

Father Daniel distrusting of Bishop Jude’s reaction.

FATHER DANIEL
No, not at all Bishop Jude. We can use support from the clergy to restore Esperanza High school, and, we also have other projects in mind for the community.

Bishop Jude distracts himself as he sighs heavy. Father Daniel looks at him attentively.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
I tell the community that we take care of our own, so we must set an example.
Father Daniel expects an answer impatiently with his arms crossed.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Bishop Jude, you never explained the reason why you invited me here.

Deacon knocks at the door and peeks his head interrupting.

DEACON
Excuse me, Bishop Jude, Father Daniel, lunch is ready...

Bishop Jude raises his hand and deacon leaves shutting the door behind him. Father Daniel looks intensively at Bishop Jude.

BISHOP JUDE
I personally would like to inform you that we are eliminating unnecessary expenses, that is why you must find your own funds.

Father Daniel disappointed, places his hands over his head. Suddenly, he looks at Bishop Jude with a big smile.

FATHER DANIEL
Will the Church allow me to seek for private funding?

Bishop Jude rolls his eyes at Father Daniel.

BISHOP JUDE
Don’t forget where you come from. People recent you if you raise high expectations and don’t deliver.

Father Daniel frowns.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
You don't want to get too greedy (beat) Lunch is waiting...

Bishop Jude smiles.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE– DAY

Father Daniel walks in the office with a defeated attitude and surprises Magnolia who is working on the her laptop.

MAGNOLIA
Father! Why are you back so soon? What happened?
Father Daniel sighs hard.

FATHER DANIEL
Oh Magnolia, we have so much to do.

Magnolia stares at Father Daniel and scratches her eyebrow.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Let’s focus on your private funding proposal.

Father Daniel and Magnolia laugh out loud.

MAGNOLIA
Are you serious?... Let’s do it.

Magnolia quickly start to type websites on her laptop.

THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE - DAY

As Father Daniel enters in the office, MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY (35), ambitious, pulled back blonde hair, pencil skirt, white blouse, stands up to greet him.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
Good morning Father Daniel!

Father Daniel looks at her confused.

FATHER DANIEL
Oh I'm sorry, I didn't know I had an appointment this morning. Good morning!

Magnolia comes running through the door and out of breath.

MAGNOLIA
My apologies Father, Ms. Launtry.

Magnolia catches her breath while Father Daniel extends his hand to Ms. Launtry.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
Father Daniel, this is Ms. Monique Launtry. She will organize an event to raise the funds to reopen the school in a timely matter.

Ms. Launtry extends her hand, smiling to Father Daniel and shake hands.
MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
My name is Monique Launtry, I have many years of experience in fund raising and I'm here to help you. Please, feel free to ask me any questions, I'm at your service.

Father Daniel turns to look at Magnolia pleased and respectfully bows down his head keeping eye contact with Ms. Launtry.

FATHER DANIEL
Thank you so much Ms. Launtry. Our community is in great need, the children deserve to start classes in a well equipped school. Don't you think?

Ms. Launtry agrees.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
When do you wish to finish the school?

Father Daniel clutched his hands together.

FATHER DANIEL
The school must reopen in less than a month, let's say three weeks.

INT. FANCY HOTEL LOBBY - DAY

Ms. Launtry greets Father Daniel and Magnolia as they walk in the hotel lobby. Father Daniel smiles and shakes her hand.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
I'm so glad you came, Father Daniel, Magnolia.

Father Daniel mesmerized looks at the luxury of the hotel, Ms. Launtry and Magnolia stare at him smiling.

FATHER DANIEL
I wasn't expecting this.

Ms. Launtry walks them over to the Grand Ballroom.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
Let me run a series of ideas by you.

Magnolia follows but she’s more attentive at her cellphone.
INT HOTEL GRAND BALLROOM - DAY

Ms. Launtry opens the door to a huge, empty ballroom with an elegant chandelier hanging in the middle. Father Daniel impressed looks around as Ms. Launtry points with her finger.

    MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
    This room fits two hundred tables,
    five people per table, at five
    thousand dollars a plate, we're
    talking about five million in one
    night.

Ms. Monique Launtry proudly seeks for approval in Father Daniel’s eyes of and smiles.

    FATHER DANIEL
    Five thousand dollars a plate?
    What’s in that plate?

Magnolia and Ms. Launtry laugh out loud.

    MAGNOLIA
    (Sarcastic)
    It's called tax deduction.

Ms. Launtry looks at Magnolia from the corner of her eye and she smirks returning to her cell phone screen.

    MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
    If that’s your point of view. I
    understand you have funds to raise.

Father Daniel acts hesitant as Ms. Launtry walks them out towards the lobby of the hotel.

INT. FANCY HOTEL LOBBY - DAY

Father Daniel approaches at Ms. Launtry distressed.

    FATHER DANIEL
    Where am I going to find two
    hundred people? I don't know people
    with this kind of money.

Ms. Launtry confidently smiles at Magnolia and Father Daniel.

    MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
    You don't have to worry about that.

Father Daniel attentively looks at Ms. Launtry.

    (MORE)
I'm collaborating with E.V.L Global Corporation, a developer company, that help small communities and churches.

Father Daniel nods his head surprised.

FATHER DANIEL
That's good news.

Ms. Launtry smiles and continues without hesitation.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
They offered to invite their portfolio of investors to the event.

Father Daniel confused folds his arms.

FATHER DANIEL
Have they ever been to our church before?

Ms. Launtry nods her head and smiles.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
I'm afraid I can't answer that question, Father Daniel.

Magnolia stands in between Ms. Launtry and Father Daniel with a nervous smile, she puts her cellphone away and tries to gesture to Father Daniel to be quiet.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY (CONT'D)
(to Father Daniel)
I will send you the fund raising details, Father.

Father Daniel smiles pleasantly and nods in agreement.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY (CONT’D)
To continue with my services, we must sign a contract. One more thing, E.V.L wishes to rebuild Esperanza High School.

Father Daniel and Magnolia look surprised at each other.

FATHER DANIEL
Amen. Please, let the E.V.L Corporation know that we accept their generous donation.
Ms. Launtry confused, politely laughs out loud for a second.

Ms. Monique Launtry
I'm sorry Father, I think there has been a misunderstanding here. The E.V.L Global Corporation wishes to be contracted for the school remodeling job.

Magnolia annoyed interrupts.

Magnolia
They basically demand to be our contractor, Father.

Father Daniel disappointed stands close next to Magnolia.

Father Daniel
Oh I'm sorry, sometimes I forget that everything in life has a price. We were going to fix it ourselves.

Ms. Launtry interrupts Father Daniel.

Ms. Monique Launtry
Don’t forget that you will raise five millions dollars. You can now afford to hire professionals to complete the job in timely manner.

Magnolia locks eyes with Ms. Launtry as she nods in agreement.

Magnolia
She's right, Father.

Int. The Sacred Heart Church - Night

Father Daniel is praying in front of the altar, facing the wooden crucifix and holding a rosary with his hands clutched together.

Father Daniel (V.O.)
Lord, give me the wisdom to discern between the honest hearts of these donors, and any other earthly purposes that do not worship your name. Amen.
INT. HOTEL BALLROOM - NIGHT

Elegantly decorated ballroom, black tie event attire, contemporary jazz band plays saxophone tunes, bottles of wine in every table.

Magnolia enters the room with Father Daniel, wears his daily religious habit attire. Ms. Launtry elegantly walks up to them wearing a tight burgundy dress.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
Ready to conquer this room? They're all waiting for you.

Father Daniel nervously blushes.

FATHER DANIEL
Oh, I wouldn't know how to impress a crowd like this.

Magnolia looks at Father Daniel and pats his shoulder softly. Ms. Launtry scans up and down at Magnolia’s little black dress and pauses at her open toes shoes then gazes at her in the eyes with arrogance but Magnolia ignores her.

MAGNOLIA
You don’t have to impress them, Father, you just be yourself and talk about the community.

Ms. Launtry raises her eyebrow to Magnolia.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
(to Father Daniel)
You just talk about the school you want to rebuild.

Magnolia snaps her fingers and starts to look in her purse, pulling out a memory stick.

MAGNOLIA
I made a video about the school. I thought we could play it tonight.

Father Daniel smiles proudly at Magnolia.

FATHER DANIEL
Wonderful Magnolia, you always have good ideas.

Ms. Launtry rolls her eyes, and takes Father Daniel by the arm and walks away with him. a man comes walking towards them STEPHEN KINNEY (50) thin, glasses, knows how to work the crowds and stops in front of them.
MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
There is someone I like you to meet, he is the CEO of E.V.L Global Corporation.

Father Daniel turns to Ms. Launtry humbled and extends his hand to him.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY (CONT’D)
Father Daniel, this is MR. STEPHEN KINNEY a.k.a S. KINNEY

Father Daniel and Mr. Kinney shake hands. Ms. Launtry proudly looks at them.

MR. KINNEY
Nice to meet you Father Daniel. Ms. Launtry has told me about your work in the community.

Father Daniel proudly smiles.

FATHER DANIEL
I'm just a servant of God who tries to follow the life of Jesus, by helping others.

Mr. Kinney gently nods.

MR. KINNEY
How thoughtful. That's too much responsibility for one man. Let me ask you Father, why charge five thousand for plate when you can ask for twenty thousand?

Father looks at Ms. Launtry embarrassed and she gently touches his arm.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
Father Daniel already feels that five thousand dollar per plate is too much, so I assume, he will feel uncomfortable if we ask for more.

Father Daniel ashamed blushes.

MR. KINNEY
I asked because my investors are used to donating up fifty thousand dollars a plate for these kind of events but I'm glad we can help.(beat) You got to start somewhere.
Father Daniel respectfully bows his head, and shakes hands again with Mr. Kinney.

FATHER DANIEL
Thank you for all your help, Mr. Kinney.

Ms. Launtry takes Father Daniel by the arm, and shows him his table, next to Magnolia and Ms. Launtry.

DISSOLVE TO:

INSERT ON SCREEN TEXT- ONE MONTH LATER

INT. ESPERANZA HIGH SCHOOL REMODELING OFFICE -DAY

Magnolia is reading receipts with Father Daniel. The construction foreman is sitting in the other desk dealing with the workers who are constantly entering through the door.

FATHER DANIEL
The power of prayer is strong Magnolia. That's why we must work to keep our faith every day.

Magnolia insecure looks at Father Daniel from the corner of her eye and smirks.

MAGNOLIA
Okay... Father, what is it now?

Father Daniel laughs.

FATHER DANIEL
I feel thankful for these donations that are haven sent.

Magnolia holds the receipts up in the air and laughs.

MAGNOLIA
These blessings are almost gone after we paid our dues.

Deacon arrogantly slams the door open surprising Father Daniel.

DEACON
Good Morning Father Daniel, Bishop Jude, is outside inspecting the site.
Magnolia annoyed turns to Father Daniel who is surprised.

FATHER DANIEL
Oh, there is no need for a surprise visit, I could have taken Bishop Jude for a walk through when the school was finished.

Bishop Jude enters the office with an arrogant demeanor.

BISHOP JUDE
I heard the ambitious Father Daniel, raised millions to rebuild a school for his community.

Father Daniel proudly smiles but Magnolia face turns red from anger.

MAGNOLIA
Most of the donations are spent now, Bishop Jude.

Bishop Jude looks at Magnolia indifferent from the corner of his eyes and turns to Father Daniel.

BISHOP JUDE
How do you allow women speak directly to you, and manage important financial information?

Father Daniel angered looks straight in the eyes at Bishop Jude, Deacon laughs nervously, while Magnolia insulted stands wit her arms crossed.

FATHER DANIEL
Magnolia made these donations possible and I respect all community members equally, Bishop Jude.

Bishop Jude walks a couple of steps back.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Now, what’s the motive of your delightful visit?

Bishop Jude defiantly stare at Father Daniel.

BISHOP JUDE
Exodus 14:6, You have received Manna from heaven. The clergy has decided that you must share your blessings, specially in such times of need.
Magnolia interrupts hysterically.

MAGNOLIA
What? Do you want us to give you our donations after you denied Father Daniel support?

Both Bishop Jude and Father Daniel turn to Magnolia.

BISHOP JUDE
Do you see what I mean, Father?

FATHER DANIEL
Magnolia, please!

Magnolia angered storms out of the room. Father Daniel turns to Bishop Jude.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
It doesn't mean she’s wrong. We’ve paid all our commitments, and barely have enough to finish rebuilding Esperanza.

Bishop Jude sits down in Magnolia’s chair and Deacon stands next to his right.

BISHOP JUDE
Father Daniel, I come as a messenger of the clergy, and as your superior, to fully demand your cooperation.

Father Daniel swallows thick.

If and only IF, you refuse to cooperate, the clergymen will consider closing down a few dioceses for lack of funds, including yours.

Father Daniel hyperventilates, overwhelmed with impotence, the room starts to spin in his head while staring at Bishop Jude.

INSERT FLASHBACK

INT. BISHOP JUDE’S DUNGEON - NIGHT

A small brownstone wall room, candlelight illuminated, old chains hanging from the walls and rare wood instruments.
Father Daniel finds clergymen standing against the wall, with arms stretched out, and two boys on their knees performing oral sex.

END OF FLASHBACK

FATHER DANIEL
Are you talking about the same clergymen that I met when I attended your dinner when I visited your Archdiocese?

Bishop Jude turns to Deacon and both smirk suspiciously.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
These clergymen are threaten to close dioceses if I don’t pay up? I see, the responsibility falls upon me.

Father Daniel undignified lowers his head

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
This doesn’t makes sense to me.

Father Daniel with tears in his eyes looks at Bishop Jude.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
The Lord gave this to me and only He knows what to do with it.

Father Daniel courageously stares at Bishop Jude.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
One more thing Bishop Jude, what you and the clergymen are doing to the children is affecting their future. So I suggest you start thinking like a man of God.

Bishop Jude pauses to think and mockingly laughs.

BISHOP JUDE
I will donate these funds on your behalf to the Clergy. You can’t unbend a crooked tree, is its nature.

Father Daniel defeated, surrenders and sits down, sighing hard.
INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH -DAY

Father Daniel and Magnolia stand by the door of the Sacred Heart Church, staring at the tall ceilings fans blow dusty air to their faces.

MAGNOLIA
Why didn’t we get an air conditioning system for the church when we had the money?

Father Daniel and Magnolia both frustrated laugh.

Father Daniel and Magnolia relax by the altar when LA SIR (65), wild eyed, old fashioned transsexual with manly features, storms inside limping, dressed in colorful rags, with messy hair, looking back paranoid like if someone is chasing her.

LA SIR
I’m locked out of my apartment, and Pat Sully is chasing me again. Help me, Father, I have no where to go.

Father Daniel tries to control La Sir, but she keeps panicking.

Magnolia runs outside to make sure she’s no being followed.

MAGNOLIA
I don’t see anyone out here. Pat Sully isn’t here.

La Sir walks in circles trying to remember mumbling something to herself.

LA SIR
(Whispers))
Did I didn’t lock myself out or Did I got evicted?

Father approaches La Sir compassionately and sits her down.

FATHER DANIEL
Have you taken your medications today? Have you had a bite to eat?

La Sir disoriented looks at Father Daniel then gets distracted but he carefully gains back her attention.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Where were you before you came here?
La Sir enthusiastically stands up and euphorically smiling at Father Daniel, she says loudly.

**LA SIR**
What is the point? SEVEN is the point! I was at the casino, Father. That’s where I borrowed money from Pat Sully and now he’s after me.

Slowly from the door, **PAT SULLY** (60’s, irish, big nose, dirty jeans and punk t-shirt), sneaks upon La Sir and stares at her in the eyes. Father Daniel laughs.

**PAT SULLY (IRISH ACCENT)**
That’s right, you owe me money, you old “tranny” bag. Give me, me money!

Father Daniel stands in front of Pat Sully, showing him the door.

**FATHER DANIEL**
Please mister, there’s no need for name calling, remember that this is a place to worship God.

La Sir runs and hides behind Father Daniel’s back.

**LA SIR**
You heard him, leave. You can’t hurt me here.

Pat Sully aggressively point at her.

**PAT SULLY (SCREAMS)**
Ask her why she owes me money?(pauses) Because she’s a gambling buzzer, that’s why.

La Sir goes around Father Daniel trying to punch Pat Sully with her big hands and her long nails but he stops her.

**LA SIR (SCREAMS)**
No, I’m not. He’s lying. I’m a local diva, ask around.

**INSERT FLASHBACK**

1979-

**YOUNG LA SIR** wearing luxurious gowns, long flat hair, by the arms of young marine’s men at the casino, drinking champagne.
END OF FLASHBACK

Pat Sully scratches his balls and laughs. Magnolia angrily turns red.

    PAT SULLY (IRISH ACCENT)
    Ludopathy is a sickness, you know?

La Sir begins to cry.

    LA SIR
    (screams)
    Bastard!

Magnolia blocks Pat Sully and he harasses her with lustful look from head to toe, making her push him hard.

    MAGNOLIA
    You, that’s enough.

Father Daniel demands order with his hand.

    FATHER DANIEL
    Remember where you at.

Maria walks fast towards Father Daniel with SOLOMON (20) black hair and eyes, jeans, t- shirt “crtl –z”.

    MARIA
    (talks fast)
    Father Daniel, I couldn’t wait any longer to bring Solomon. He doesn’t talk to me anymore because he’s always with his computer.

Solomon laughs at Maria. Father Daniel stares sweetly at Solomon trying to find a resemblance as he looks back and forth at Maria.

    SOLOMON
    Hi Father Daniel, mother speaks so highly of you. Trust me, it’s not how she paints it to be.

Father Daniel laughs. Magnolia raises her arm to inquire silence in the room.

    MAGNOLIA
    Shh....

Father Daniel laughs turns at La Sir, Pat Sully, Magnolia, Maria and Solomon
FATHER DANIEL
So nice to meet you. You look just like you mother, Solomon.

Maria and Solomon look at each other intrigued.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
We have so much going on right now, we are trying to help La Sir and we just lost the funds to rebuild the school., and we are back to square one.

Solomon curious turns to Magnolia.

SOLOMON
What do you mean?

Magnolia disgusted rolls her eyes at Solomon.

MAGNOLIA
Argh... You don’t want to know.

Father Daniel laughs.

FATHER DANIEL
God works in mysterious ways.

Pat Sully very entertained, sits back with his arms crossed and legs open wide.

PAT SULLY (IRISH ACCENT)
You know what you need to do, you need to rob a casino.

La Sir laughs out loud

LA SIR
Yeah, that would do.

Solomon’s has a great idea but he can’t confess it just yet. Pat Sully is already plotting in his head, so he laughs.

PAT SULLY
Yeah, I have the man for the job.
The very own Joe “The Dog”, Simonovich, I’ll call him, but God only knows if he still alive.

Father Daniel is bothered by Pat Sully comments.
FATHER DANIEL
What are you rambling about there, Sully? “Thou shall not steal”, remember?

Solomon laughs and sits aside with Father Daniel.

SOLOMON
(Sarcastic)
You might not have to rob a physical casino, Father.

Solomon launches a wise ass smile and Father Daniel uncomfortable, changes posture on the chair.

FATHER DANIEL
Tell me son, is there any reason why your mother should be worried?

Solomon seriously denies any motives.

SOLOMON
No, Father. She expects me to live my life offline when my life is online with the exception of my girlfriend who is always with me.

Father Daniel interested, scratches his chin.

FATHER DANIEL
I think your mother is only asking you to spend more time with her in the real world, Solomon.

Solomon challenge Father Daniel by staring deep into his eyes.

SOLOMON
Define REAL world.

Solomon smirks and Father Daniel nervously clears his throat.

SOLOMON (CONT’D)
Your so called REALITY is powered by computers and software that people like ME program inside these four walls.

Father Daniel blushing and Solomon point out to the street.

SOLOMON (CONT’D)
Look outside Father, at the traffic lights, they need programming or it will be chaos.
Solomon points at the streets billboards.

SOLOMON (CONT’D)

Who designs the billboards on the streets? Graphic designers. And I’m just covering the basics. Just think Online banking, ATM’s...

Maria walks towards them, find them talking and sits next to them.

MARIA
I hate when he talks like that, sometimes I feel like he thinks he’s Jesus with a computer.

Solomon laughs out loud and Maria disappointed starts to cry.

MARIA (CONT’D)
Father, help my only boy.

Father Daniel compassionately holds Maria by the shoulder. Solomon moved looks at both of them.

SOLOMON
I’m right here, you keep talking like I’m lost in cyberspace.

Father shakes Solomon’s hand bowing down his head respectfully.

FATHER DANIEL
Take your mother home, come back next week.

Solomon bows his head respectfully.

SOLOMON
Thank you Father Daniel. I will bring my girlfriend Angel, she attended Catholic school.

Maria looks at Solomon with disapproval, Father Daniel catches Maria and laughs, after they leave, Father Daniel walks towards Magnolia.

MAGNOLIA
I found a temporary place where La Sir can stay for a few nights.

Magnolia stares at her cell phone screen worried and Father Daniel looks relieved.
FATHER DANIEL
How come we didn’t think of a homeless shelter before or a senior center?

Magnolia steps back moving her index finger in circles.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE—DAY

Magnolia hangs up a call violently, throws the phone on the desk and intercepts Father Daniel who is walking towards his office.

MAGNOLIA
That was Ms. Monique Launtry on the phone, she called to show her concern in our current situation with Esperanza High School.

Father Daniel reacts at Magnolia confused and surprised.

FATHER DANIEL
I'm not sure what that means.

Magnolia mad continues talking very fast.

MAGNOLIA
Well, she says E.V.L. Global Corporation might sue us for A: Intentionally Misleading their Investors, if we don’t finish the school,

Magnolia puts her hands on her waist.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
and B: Bridge of Contract, if we don’t cancel the remaining 50% for the total of the remodel.

Father Daniel worried, walks in circles with his head down.

FATHER DANIEL
We cannot afford another set back.

SFX LOUD SOUND OF CHURCH DOORS SLAMMING OPEN WIDE

Ms. Launtry struts down her high hills and designer lady suit the office door. Father Daniel and Magnolia look at her surprised.
MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
I had to come to see you in person, Father Daniel, man of the hour, just to make sure the message is delivered correctly.

Both Magnolia and Father Daniel uncertain in expectancy.

FATHER DANIEL
How can I be at your service?

Ms. Launtry confidently continues, staring directly at Father Daniel’s eyes.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
Well Father Daniel, I need an explanation of what happened with the funds?

Ms. Launtry winks to Father Daniel.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY (CONT’D)
You know you can trust me and tell me what did you do with the money if the total cost of the remodel did not exceed the full amount that was raised.

Magnolia insulted looks at Father Daniel then jumps in between Ms. Launtry and him.

MAGNOLIA
I tell you, after we paid you and your staff. We cancelled E.V.L, for the initial 50% for remodel.

Ms. Launtry follows Magnolia each and every word with a sarcastic doubtful smirk. Magnolia angry and frustrated at her raises her voice.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
Bishop Jude, collected the rest of the funds, threatening to shut us and other churches down.

Ms. Launtry smirks and turns to Father Daniel.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
So, that’s it, Father? You could have called me.

Father Daniel looks at Ms. Launtry ashamed.
Here’s the spin: “Father Daniel helps fellow churches thrive”. You know this is what I do, right?

Magnolia relieved turns to Father Daniel smiling but Ms. Launtry bothered moves closer to Father Daniel.

I’m a woman of my word, and I’m not going to ruin my image or my reputation over this, Father. Do you understand?

Father Daniel understanding agrees with her respectfully. Magnolia looks at Father Daniel nervously.

You heard “Money Laundry”, Father!

Solomon enters the church holding hands with Angel (20), brunette, olive skin, blue eyes, computer hacker. They walk towards the altar and sit on the wooden chairs.

You brought your friend today. Welcome!

Solomon points at Angel excited.

This is Angel, my girlfriend.

Angel smiles and extends her hand to Father Daniel.

Nice to meet you Father Daniel, Solomon has a lot to say about you.

Angel looks at Solomon with admiration and care. Father Daniel salutes her when Magnolia walks out from the office to greet them. Magnolia click a stare with Angel and both share a big smile and quickly turns to Solomon.

Hey cyber boy! You brought a friend.

Yeah, Cyber Girl!
Angel winks flirtatiously at Magnolia and they all laugh. Father Daniel stares at Magnolia serious.

FATHER DANIEL
What did I say about name calling?.

Magnolia laughs and shrugs.

MAGNOLIA
Father Daniel is in a bad mood because E.V.L Global, is suing us.

Angel concerned turns to look at Father Daniel.

ANGEL
Wait, Isn’t that owned by that devious man... what’s his name, S. Kinney?

Father Daniel surprised turns to Solomon.

FATHER DANIEL
Yes, how do you know him?

Solomon brings out his laptop computer.

SOLOMON
I can dig out dirt from him and his company too, in no time.

Solomon starts to type real fast and Angel looks at him very proud.

ANGEL
Yeah, he can do magic with his fingers. He knows his ones and his zeroes.

Solomon focuses on the laptop screen, turns to Magnolia smiling and he launches a wise crack smirk to Father Daniel.

SOLOMON
Got it, E.V.L Global Corporation, pass as a legal construction company with ongoing projects all over the world.

Father Daniel seems surprised and Magnolia distracted looks at her cellphone screen.

(MORE)
BUT, their seed money comes from drug traffickers looking to launder dirty money with philanthropic work.

Magnolia frustrated sighs heavy.

MAGNOLIA Yeah well, how can you prove that?

Father Daniel disappointed puts his hand over Magnolia shoulder.

FATHER DANIEL We just don’t get involved.

Magnolia shrugs.

MAGNOLIA Too late, we’re already in bed with the devil, and he is going to sue us if we don’t play.

Solomon puts the laptop aside, stands up and claps his hands.

SOLOMON Perhaps, we can help.

Father Daniel surprised looks at Solomon.

FATHER DANIEL I prefer if you don’t get involved. Maria is very worried about you and I don’t want to get you in trouble.

Solomon continues to type in the computer ignoring Father Daniel. Angel sits next to Magnolia, both stare at Magnolia’s cellphone screen surfing the web.

SOLOMON What if you ask for your money back?

Father Daniel desperately laughs.

FATHER DANIEL To Bishop Jude? That would be impossible.

Magnolia puts her cellphone down.

(MORE)
FATHER DANIEL (CONT'D)
It was a donation from the Sacred Heart to help other churches and I cannot take it back.

Magnolia angrily looks at Father Daniel raising her voice.

MAGNOLIA
Coercion is not the same as donation (beat) Donation is voluntary, Father.

Father Daniel lowers his head and voice.

FATHER DANIEL
The night before the fund raising event, I prayed for a sign.

Magnolia lowers her head.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT'D)
I asked God to help me discern, if the funds came from a good place or to take them away if they were cursed.

Magnolia defeated, lowers her voice.

MAGNOLIA
God listened to you Father. So, what do we do?

Angel takes Magnolia’s cellphone from her hand gently and reads from the screen.

ANGEL
Well Father, Bishop Jude receives financial support from the Institute for the Works of Religion a.k.a the Vatican Bank and trust me, they have plenty, to at least, rebuild a school.

Solomon agreeing with Angel smiles, returns to his computer typing really fast.

SOLOMON
You’re my Angel. Do you know that?

Angel blows a kiss to Solomon, Father Daniel and Magnolia laugh.
They all stare at the screen wondering what is Solomon doing but Father Daniel is worried for Solomon’s impulsiveness.

MAGNOLIA
Enlighten us, Solomon!

Solomon looks at Magnolia real quick then turns to Father Daniel and points a text on the screen.

SOLOMON
Look, this says in here that the Vatican Bank strives to serve the global mission of the Catholic Church, by protecting and growing the patrimony of the church and providing worldwide payment services to the Holy See.

Father nods his head back and forth thoughtfully.

FATHER DANIEL
I see.

Solomon looks at Father Daniel briefly and looks back at the screen.

SOLOMON
This extends to related entities, religious orders, other Catholic institutions, clergy, employees of the Holy See.

Solomon pulls down the screen of his laptop to look directly in the eyes at Father Daniel.

SOLOMON (CONT’D)
I suggest you write an e-mail to the Vatican Bank explaining your situation with Bishop Jude.

Magnolia interrupts.

MAGNOLIA
Tell them what he did to us.

Angel laughs along with Magnolia.
FATHER DANIEL
No, Magnolia. I must ask the Lord
to enlighten me with the rights
words.

EXT. LOCAL BEACH – DAY
Magnolia is sitting on the sand, scrolling up and down the
screen of her cell phone, when Angel comes towards her
smiling.

MAGNOLIA
Hey, you came!

Angel sits next to Magnolia and leans over to look directly
to her eyes.

ANGEL
Well, yeah. I left Solomon at home
obsessing over algorithms.

Angel and Magnolia laugh together.

MAGNOLIA
Now it's time to wait and let God
do the rest.

Angel and Magnolia stare at the surfers on the beach. Angel
turns to look in detail at Magnolia’s face while she’s
distracted.

ANGEL
Are you from St. Mary’s or La
Salle?

Magnolia turns to Angel surprised.

MAGNOLIA
No way, you recognize me? Amazing!

Angel laughs.

ANGEL
What can I say?,

Magnolia thoughtfully nods her head and puts her index finger
on her lower lip.

ANGEL (CONT’D)
Anyway. So, I want to dig more dirt
out from E.V.L.

Magnolia stares at the horizon then looks back at Angel
smiling.
INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE—DAY

Father Daniel disappointed reads out loud to himself the reply from the Vatican Bank:

FATHER DANIEL (V.O.)
"Bless you Father Daniel, for the honourable work you do for your community, and thank you for reaching out to us. We consider Bishop Jude’s actions towards the donations you shared with your fellow dioceses are completely acceptable. His duty is to provide the custody and administration of funds transferred to the Institute designated for religious works or charity."

INSERT TEXT ON SCREEN

HIGHLIGHTED

We cannot provide you, or your dioceses with any financial support at this moment. Thanks for your inquiry."

END TEXT ON SCREEN

Father Daniel sits back, demoralized, and takes his glasses off. Magnolia walks in with Angel and Solomon.

MAGNOLIA
Look Father, what the cat dragged in?

Solomon notices Father Daniel’s sad face.

SOLOMON
What happened, Father?

Father Daniel lowers his head, and shows his computer to Solomon, Magnolia and Angel, start to read from the screen.

MAGNOLIA
They got each other’s back. See, I wasn’t expecting this one.

Solomon opens his laptop.

SOLOMON
I was. Listen Father, I was doing some digging, and I found this.
Angel looks at Magnolia proud.

SOLOMON (CONT’D)
The bank serves the global mission of the church, by safeguarding their assets. BUT, according to a police statements, they found millions of euros in FALSE DONATIONS from offshore companies.

Magnolia looks at Father Daniel.

MAGNOLIA
Not so holy, Father.

Angel laughs and Solomon continues reading from his laptop.

SOLOMON
Another bank manager was under investigation for money laundering charges.

Magnolia supportive, touches Father Daniel shoulder.

MAGNOLIA
Oh Father Daniel, what are we going to do now? On my way back from the beach, I ran into La Sir, she only has two more days in that temp place. We are running out of time.

Solomon desperately laughs.

SOLOMON
(Sarcastic)
Why don’t we infect their computer to take back what belongs to us? It’s only right.

Angel hugs Solomon from behind and talks sweets to him.

ANGEL
(sweet talk)
Ah baby payback, send them a worm. I’m sure the VATS are not going to notice.

Magnolia takes them seriously.

MAGNOLIA
I’m down.

Father Daniel gets serious, not really understanding the situation but fearing for Solomon.
FATHER DANIEL
I’m not sure what that means, but stealing is one deadly sin.

Solomon nervously smiles.

SOLOMON
It’s not stealing if it already belongs to you. I’m retrieving.

Father Daniel storms out of the office and Solomon laughs.

EXT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH - DAY

Father Daniel stands alone, outside the church, looking away, lost in his thoughts.

INSERT FLASHBACK

EXT. LOCAL BEACH - DAY

Young Father Daniel (5) skinny boy, dressed in rags, poor appearance, walks around the beach, pick pocketing tourists, eating left over food from the cafe tables that is sitting outside on the sidewalk next to the beach. A local priest is saves him from getting arrested.

INT. LOCAL ORPHANAGE - DAY

Young Father Daniel is at orphanage, with other children eating oatmeal in one big table, learning the Word, in one cramped up classroom.

EXT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH - DAY

Magnolia joins Father Daniel outside the church.

MAGNOLIA
Solomon has the best intentions the best way he knows how.

A barefooted boy approaches Father Daniel with his mother.

BOY
When can we go back to school, Father Daniel? I like to have breakfast in the mornings.

The mother ashamed, starts to cry for a second then wipes her tears.
MOTHER
When is the school going to be ready? He likes to have breakfast in school with the other kids before class, Father.

Father Daniel lowers his head in shame.

FATHER DANIEL
We are doing our best.

The lady walks away with her kid. Father Daniel eagerly walks back towards the office.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE– DAY
Father Daniel enters the office and offers a seat to Solomon.

FATHER DANIEL
How can we recuperate our funds without hurting the dioceses?

Solomon smirks and Father Daniel wipes the sweat off his forehead.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SOLOMON’S BATHROOM
Solomon turns the light on and looks at his reflection. He is wearing a nun habit outfit, white base make up, exaggerated purple mascara. Angel is applying an over the top blue eye shadow and red lipstick. Solomon stares at the mirror again.

SOLOMON
Behold... Sister Rosario Karma, tonight!

Angel cleans the borders of his lips with tissue.

ANGEL
So much hotter than Robin Hood.

Angel peeks out the door. She is wearing a sweater and sweat pants.

MARIA (SCREAMING)
Lock the door if you are going out and don’t stay out too late.
Solomon and Angel giggle as they run out the door. Angel changes the sweater and sweat pants to a leather mini skirt and a blue neon tube matching her eye color make up, that she wears underneath.

EXT. LOCAL BEACH RAVE – NIGHT

Full moon, starry night, Deejay playing electronic music on the beach, candy kids with glow sticks and people in costumes. Angel twirls around on the sand when she spots Mr. S. Kinney, dressed with tight leather shorts and directs Solomon to him.

ANGEL
Isn’t that... Mr. E.V.L., in the flesh?

Solomon grins and starts to dance close to him.

SOLOMON
Oh yes, and I’m Sister Rosario Karma!

Solomon dances closer to Mr. Kinney, he continues to dance along, and Angel dances behind Mr. Kinney, in trance. Angel takes pictures of Sister Rosario, freaking Kinney in costume. Solomon put his index finger in Mr. Kinney’s face pushing his face back. Mr. Kinney looks desperate at Angel’s flashing cell phone.

MR. KINNEY
What are you doing? Put that cellphone cam down. Delete those pictures now.

Solomon takes Sisters Rosario persona and claps his hands together and politely gets on Mr. Kinney’s face.

SOLOMON
I hear you’re messing with my friends, down at The Sacred Heart.

Mr. Kinney confused shrugs.

MR. KINNEY
We had a deal.

Solomon makes him a sign of the cross all over S. Kinney’s face with a rosary, distracting him, when Angel takes another close up picture, and the flash blind their faces.

ANGEL
Karma is a bitch!
Solomon and Angel run together, holding hands and laughing towards the thumping electronic music, dancing crowd.

INT. SOLOMON’S ROOM

Solomon is sitting on a contemporary desk chair working on the laptop computer while Angel lies down on his bed.

   SOLOMON
   Father Daniel seems hesitant, but after seeing Kinney (beat) I’m going to make sure he gets justice.

Angel yawns and then agrees.

   SOLOMON (CONT’D)
   I’m going to set up two account in case we get busted.

Angel stands behind Solomon facing the laptop screen.

INSERT COMPUTER SCREEN CLOSE UP

Www.MINEBIT.COM user: OPULENCE password: SacredHeart

   ANGEL
   Oh, I see what you’re doing.

Solomon looks up at her directly in the eyes.

   SOLOMON
   He needs to mine his funds.

   ANGEL
   Yeah well, his community is always going to need something.

Solomon nods his head in agreement.

   SOLOMON
   Yeah but this account is our secret, (beat) I don’t want Bishop Jude taking away his funds again.

Angel bites her nails.

   ANGEL
   Like a contingency account?.

   SOLOMON
   Touche, so I’m rerouting the funds to small unnoticeable quantities account.
Angel proudly gives Solomon the thumbs up.

ANGEL
Just like that?

Solomon rethinks his operation for a second.

SOLOMON
You’re right, these people swim in opulence, in luxury, in greed. It’s time for them to give back in the name of God. Don’t you think?

Solomon focuses on the laptop screen, and keeps typing.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE– DAY

Solomon struts confident in the office of Father Daniel as he reads the Bible.

SOLOMON
Father Daniel, I have good news for you.

Father Daniel puts the Bible down on the desk and listens carefully.

FATHER DANIEL
What is it, son?

Father Daniel sighs heavy. Solomon looks at him proudly.

SOLOMON
I fixed Sacred Heart’s problems.

FATHER DANIEL
How did you do it?

Solomon prepares to deliver the good news but Father Daniel afraid, is hesitant to listen.

SOLOMON
Well, I infiltrated the online banking mainframe system of the Vatican Bank, which it wasn’t easy you see, they have difficult security protocol, being an international worldwide bank, guarded by God and his partners in crime.

Father Daniel wipes the sweat off from his forehead.
FATHER DANIEL
Oh dear, we need to move this conversation to the confessional.

Solomon excited, looks at Father Daniel in the eyes and laughs.

SOLOMON
It gets better Father. I was able to retrieve the funds Bishop Jude took from Sacred Heart, but the money will come back slowly.

Father Daniel overwhelmed turns to Solomon.

FATHER DANIEL
God works in mysterious ways but this, I won’t allow.

Solomon accomplished tilts his head smiling.

SOLOMON
Too late, it’s done (beat) this is our Hail Mary, Father.

EXT. SIDEWALK UNFINISHED ESPERANZA HIGH SCHOOL - DAY
Anxious parents and children gather on the sidewalk, Father Daniel and Magnolia keep a serious and calm demeanor.

FATHER DANIEL
Good morning and thank you for coming. Esperanza High School was supposed to reopen today but as you can see, we’re still remodelling.

SFX CROWD NOISE.

Magnolia annoyed stares at the rowdy crowd.

MAGNOLIA
Oh come on people, give Father Daniel a break. I know you little ones want to start class today, but we want to give you a kick ass school.

Father Daniel looks at Magnolia seriously, but she smiles and continues.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
So please wait for a couple of weeks and you will be amazed. Okay?
Father Daniel interrupts.

FATHER DANIEL
What Magnolia is trying to say, is that a silent donor has blessed us with the funds to finish the school. So please be patient, and enjoy a longer vacation.

Magnolia smirks at Father Daniel.

MAGNOLIA
Clever Father, I couldn’t have done it better.

Father Daniel blushes.

FATHER DANIEL
Please set a meeting for me with Mr. Kinney, immediately somewhere neutral.

INT. CAFE GALAXYA – DAY

In a colorful vintage sci-fi cafe, Father Daniel and Mr. S. Kinney, sit by the window next to the sidewalk.

MR. KINNEY
What a lovely surprise Father Daniel. You seem to have angels all over town.

Father Daniel confusedly smiles.

FATHER DANIEL
What do you mean, Mr. Kinney?

Mr. Kinney bows his head and looks directly to Father Daniel’s eyes.

MR. KINNEY
Let’s cut the small talk and please tell me, what’s the purpose of this meeting today, Father?

Father Daniel bows his head respectfully.

FATHER DANIEL
As we can both agree, you are a very busy man.

Mr. Kinney clears his throat.
MR. KINNEY
Proceed...

Father Daniel places his hands slowly over the table and Mr. Kinney glances at them with detail.

FATHER DANIEL
We have been fortunate to acquire a silent partner that has promised to donate the funds to finish Esperanza High School’s remodel.

Mr. Kinney interested pays attention.

MR. KINNEY
Sounds good...

Father Daniel takes his hands off the table.

FATHER DANIEL
We would be receiving the funds in several small donations until the completion of the total amount.

Mr. Kinney leans back on his seat.

MR. KINNEY
And you are telling me this because...

Solomon and Angel enter Galaxya Cafe, order a cup of coffee. Angel turns around and points at Father Daniel and whispers to Solomon then he turns around and smiles.

SOLOMON
(Whispers)
Did you know he was molested by his mother’s boyfriend when he was boy?

Solomon looks at Angel from the corner of his eye.

ANGEL
(Whisper)
Still, it doesn’t give him the right to “GHB” all his powerless lovers.

Solomon nods in agreement. Angel looks at Kinney with anger.

FATHER DANIEL
I’m sharing this information with you because I would like you to finish remodelling the school.
Mr. Kinney notices at Angel, zooming in with detail with her cellphone camera and impatiently tries to ignore her.

**MR. KINNEY**
I still need to cover the cost of material and labor. I can extend you a line of credit, but there is only so much we can do, for the love of God.

Father Daniel worried lowers his eyes and scratches his head.

**FATHER DANIEL**
We will cover the cost entirely but we’ll pay you as soon as the funds come in.

Angel and Solomon approach Father Daniel and Mr. Kinney.

**ANGEL**
Oh Father, what are you doing in Galaxya?

Father Daniel laughs surprised.

**FATHER DANIEL**
Well you know. Magnolia made the reservation.

They all laugh. Angel looks directly at Mr. Kinney.

**ANGEL**
Is this Mr. Kinney from E.V.L. Global?

Mr. Kinney nervously smiles

**MR. KINNEY**
That would be me.

Solomon looks at Father Daniel.

**SOLOMON**
Oh yeah, so I read, E.V.L Global is so well known for their philanthropic work. They help churches... Do you know Sister Rosario Karma?

Mr. Kinney nervously shakes his head in negative, with his eyes wide open, and Angel takes an up close photo with her cell phone. Father Daniel looks very confused at them.

**FATHER DANIEL**
What are you doing? Who?
Solomon and Angel leave holding hands together. Mr. Kinney smiles at Father Daniel, nodding his head.

MR. KINNEY
I don’t see why we can’t help with Esperanza High School. (beat) It’s for the children anyway.

Father Daniel thankfully bows his head.

FATHER DANIEL
I knew you were a man of reason.

MR. KINNEY
Just speak to my CPA, in regards to payment plans.

Mr. Kinney stands up, to leaves in a rush.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE- DAY

INSERT ON SCREEN TEXT -THREE MONTHS LATER

Magnolia shifts her attention from receipts to the computer. Father Daniel sits in front of her smiling.

MAGNOLIA
I just sent out our last payment to E.V.L Global Corp.

Father Daniel sighs relieved.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
I rather have Solomon inspect the computer and language lab setup, just to be on the safe side.

Father Daniel nods in agreement.

FATHER DANIEL
I’m sure Solomon won’t mind.

La Sir opens the office door with blood smeared in her hands, face and head shaking uncontrollably.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
For the love of God, what happened to you? Why are you covered in blood?

Magnolia runs to console her.
LA SIR
The Shadow of Pat Sully chased me out the Casino when a bicycle ran me over... and that’s all I remember, Father.

Magnolia hands La Sir a wet cloth and she wipes off the blood from the hands and face. Father Daniel searches for a deep wound in La Sir’s head.

FATHER DANIEL
You have to go to the hospital, this could be serious.

La Sir hysterically opens her eyes wide.

LA SIR
No, I can’t go, I don’t have insurance.

Magnolia brings a first aid kit.

FATHER DANIEL
Magnolia is going to help you.

Father Daniel looks at Magnolia seriously.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Sacred Heart must begin the new projects, as soon as more funds come in.

Magnolia types a text message on her cellphone, while Father Daniel is talking, minutes later Solomon shows up, and Magnolia relieved smiles.

SOLOMON
Magnolia said you needed me, Father.

Father surprised welcomes him.

MAGNOLIA
Father Daniel would like to begin new projects with the funds from our “silent donor”.

Magnolia air quotes with her finger, and smirks, Father Daniel wipes off his sweat, and Solomon nods in agreement.

SOLOMON
Sure, I don’t see why not.

Magnolia puts her index finger over her lips and walks La Sir out of the office.
SOLOMON (CONT’D)
After the payback is completed, you will receive, automatic wires of 10% from the total of every transaction, the bank makes. That should cover your future costs.

Magnolia smiles and Father Daniel dries the sweat from his forehead.

FATHER DANIEL
This is not what Jesus would have done.

Magnolia laughs.

EXT. SIDEWALK OUTSIDE ESPERANZA HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

The children rush inside the school main entrance. Father Daniel stand on the sidewalk, admiring the finished school with Magnolia, as Mr. Kinney walks towards them and shakes Father Daniel’s hand.

MR. KINNEY
A deal is a deal, Father.

Father Daniel gracefully points at the happy children.

FATHER DANIEL
Children are the future. Education and faith are the key to success.

Mr. Kinney again shakes Father Daniel’s hand and smiles.

MR. KINNEY
Your heart and head are in the right place Father Daniel. E.V.L. Global, is pleased to support your upcoming projects.

FATHER DANIEL
Thank you, Mr. Kinney.

Magnolia sighs heavily.

MAGNOLIA
We are finally done with him.

Father Daniel laughs.
INT. CONFESSIONAL, SACRED HEART CHURCH - DAY

enters the confessional the 2 X 2 feet wooden confessional, MRS. MOONEY (45) curvy, black haired woman, wears excessive jewelry over exposed cleavage.

FATHER DANIEL
In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

Mrs. Mooney makes the sign of the cross.

MRS. MOONEY
Sorry Father, for what I have sinned. I don’t remember my last confession.

Their faces are separated through the confessional screen.

FATHER DANIEL
God forgives, if you truthfully feel repentance.

Mrs. Mooney holds a rosary between her fingers.

MRS. MOONEY
Oh, Father, but I don’t feel bad for what I’m about to do.

Father Daniel chokes in cough, and Mrs. Mooney pauses for a second.

MRS. MOONEY (CONT’D)
Are you okay there Father?

Father Daniel clears his throat, and catches his breath.

FATHER DANIEL
I’m okay, please continue.

Mrs. Mooney wipes sweat from in between her breast.

MRS. MOONEY
I’m a victim here and I’m still trying to do right by it.

Mrs. Mooney gets closer to the confessional screen.

MRS. MOONEY (CONT’D)
(whisper)
My husband is giving away the Lotus Hacienda, and I had to sleep with his accountant to find out.
Father Daniel moves away from the confessional screen to wipe sweat out from his forehead.

FATHER DANIEL
This is adultery.

Mrs. Mooney sits back and laughs.

MRS. MOONEY
I have a plan and that’s where you can help me, Father. (beat) Is too hot in here, let’s discuss the details outside?

Father Daniel makes the sign of the cross.

FATHER DANIEL
This is where you confess your sins to me and not involve me in them, but you’re right, it’s too hot in here.

MRS. MOONEY
Don’t be so Holy, Father, this is good for the church, you want to hear this, trust me.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH CONT’D

Mrs. Mooney and Father Daniel exit the confessional and sit on the wooden chairs. Father looks at Mrs. Mooney confused.

FATHER DANIEL
This is a first and only exception.

Mrs. Mooney laughs. Father Daniel looks directly to her eyes.

MRS. MOONEY
Don’t worry Father. (beat) I want to donate Lotus Hacienda to the Sacred Heart Church. I know you can use the property for something good.

Father Daniel gracefully smiles.

FATHER DANIEL
Thank you for thinking of us, but isn’t this going to be a issue with your husband?

Mrs. Mooney snaps her fingers in the air.
MRS. MOONEY

Leave that to me, I will take you to see the hacienda next week and have the attorney prepare the papers, of course.

Father Daniel impressed accepts bowing his head.

FATHER DANIEL

You are an angel in disguise Mrs. Mooney, but you still need to pray seven Hail Marys, for what you confessed.

Mrs. Mooney rolls her eyes and smiles.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE–DAY

Father Daniel excited, rushes into the office smiling and sits down.

FATHER DANIEL

Great news. Mrs. Mooney donated the Lotus Hacienda property yesterday, and she will take me next week.

Magnolia happily jumps up smiling. Solomon doubtfully stares.

SOLOMON

We’ll save the rental expense.

Father Daniel enthusiastically agrees.

FATHER DANIEL

That’s correct. It’s a blessing.

Magnolia suspiciously looks at Father Daniel and Solomon.

MAGNOLIA

Mrs. Mooney? As in Tita Mooney, Mr. Mooney’s wife?

Solomon pulls out his laptop computer and searches for her.

SOLOMON

It has to be. Let me look into “Lotus Hacienda” first.

Father Daniel bothered rushes out the door.

MAGNOLIA

I mean we need to know who we’re dealing with.
Solomon nods his head in agreement.

EXT. LOTUS HACIENDA GATE - DAY

Mrs. Mooney struggle to open the lock, it’s a heavy iron gate, has a big sign on top of the gate that reads LOTUS HACIENDA. Father Daniel and Magnolia stand aside to watch Mrs. Mooney juggle the lock.

MRS. MOONEY
I hate this lock.

Mrs. Mooney struggles some more and Father Daniel unlocks it easily and opens the wide gate.

SFX LOUD RUSTY GATE OPENS.

FATHER DANIEL
Patience, Mrs. Mooney, patience.

Mrs. Mooney rolls her eyes.

EXT. LOTUS HACIENDA - DAY

They enter into an acre of a green open field, with three separate big houses in the back, and a turned off water fountain in the center.

MRS. MOONEY
There you have it, Father. This is what my insane husband was going to give away.

Father Daniel looks around mesmerized.

FATHER DANIEL
Once again, I don’t want to impose.

Magnolia taps Father Daniel’s shoulder.

MAGNOLIA
Let her do what she has to do, Father.

Mrs. Mooney laughs.

MRS. MOONEY
I saw what you did with Esperanza High, Father. I’m sure the church has better plans for this property I have the papers in the car.
Magnolia thankfully smiles at Mrs. Mooney.

MAGNOLIA
Thank you so much Mrs. Mooney, for thinking of us, and to your husband for messing up.

Mrs. Mooney and Magnolia laugh sarcastically.

MRS. MOONEY
I guess everything happens for a reason.

Father Daniel places his hand on Mrs. Mooney’s shoulder and with a sweet tone.

FATHER DANIEL
If everything happens for a reason, I will accept your donation with the condition that you come volunteer with us.

Mrs. Mooney pleasantly smiles.

MRS. MOONEY
Okay Father, but look at these nails, no heavy lifting.

Father and Magnolia laugh.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE—DAY

Father Daniel is sitting at his desk when Magnolia walks in.

FATHER DANIEL
I need our bank statements (beat) do you know how much we have coming in this month?

Magnolia shrugs her shoulders and shakes her head.

MAGNOLIA
Enough for the remodelling.

Father Daniel sits back on his chair. Door opens wide and Pat Sully walks in.

PAT SULLY (IRISH ACCENT)
You wanted to see me, Father?

Father Daniel crosses his arms, offers Pat Sully a seat.
FATHER DANIEL
What kind of work do you do?

Pat Sully’s hands slightly shake.

PAT SULLY (IRISH ACCENT)
I do construction, I paint (beat) heck, I do everything...

Father Daniel smiles.

FATHER DANIEL
So, you do more, than terrorize La Sir.

Pat Sully gets defensive.

PAT SULLY (IRISH ACCENT)
That old trick, needs to pay her dues.

Father Daniel laughs nodding his head.

FATHER DANIEL
I have a proposal for you. We need to do some minor remodelling work in a property, and we would like your help.

Pat Sully crosses his arms and sits back with arrogance.

PAT SULLY (IRISH ACCENT)
What’s in it for me? You’re going to pay me, right?

Father Daniel stands up, walks around, and stand behind Pat Sully’s chair.

FATHER DANIEL
Well, for one, you know the type of work we do.

Pat Sully turns to look at Father Daniel.

PAT SULLY (IRISH ACCENT)
I got to eat, and have my obligations too...

Father Daniel keeps walking around.
FATHER DANIEL
That’s correct. That’s why I was thinking, you could stay on site, until the remodel is finished, and we will cover your food expenses, as well.

Pat Sully arrogantly follows Father Daniel with his eyes.

PAT SULLY (IRISH ACCENT)
Where and what is this place?

Father Daniel sits down.

FATHER DANIEL
Lotus Hacienda, is not so far from here. You will help with your construction skills, to remodel and activate three projects. What you have to say?

Pat Sully doubtfully agrees, smiling.

CUT TO:

INT. SOLOMON’S ROOM. NIGHT

Solomon and Angel are sitting in bed, with the laptop on Solomon’s lap.

SOLOMON
I don’t know if I should mention to Father Daniel or Magnolia, that Mr. Mooney has a drug lord reputation.

Angel shakes her head and rolls her eyes.

ANGEL
Maybe he knows, but doesn’t need to hear it. Sometimes I feel like we’re these little demons whispering on his shoulders, making him do things.

Solomon laughs.

SOLOMON
The worst is, Lotus Hacienda is one of his properties that is currently under investigation by the Fed’s.

Angel puts her hand over his mouth.

DISSOLVE TO:
EXT. LOTUS HACIENDA DAY

Father Daniel arrives with La Sir, he inspects the three houses that have construction material outside, and meet with workers who are being directed by Pat Sully.

FATHER DANIEL
This is where we’re going to have the Senior center.

La Sir admires the area and follows instructions submissively.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Pat Sully is in charge of the remodel, so you all need to get along.

La Sir points at Pat Sully.

LA SIR
Tell him not to bother me.

Father Daniel laughs and Pat Sully disgusted looks at her.

FATHER DANIEL
I won’t be here, you better learn how to work together.

Pat Sully walks towards Father Daniel, and stares at La Sir, then shakes his head in disagreement, ignoring her.

PAT SULLY (IRISH ACCENT)
We fixed minor damages, to get the walls ready for the paint.

Pat Sully points at the walls and Father Daniel looks around.

SFX LOUD A CAR ENGINE SOUND.

A black SUV drives up to them and MR. MOONEY (60) grey hair, tall, medium built, gold chain, gets out of the car with attitude.

MR. MOONEY
What are you doing in my property? Who’s in charge?

Father Daniel confidently, walks towards him extending his hand.

FATHER DANIEL
I am Father Daniel, from the Sacred Heart, and you must be Mr. Mooney?
Mr. Mooney arrogantly yet confused, stands with his arms crossed and looks around.

    MR. MOONEY
    You’re damn right, I am. What makes you think, you can do as you please with my property?

Father Daniel feels threatened for a second.

    FATHER DANIEL
    Mrs. Mooney donated this property to the church, to facilitate a Senior center, a homeless shelter and a gambler rehab center.

Mr. Mooney looks intrigued.

    MR. MOONEY
    All that in one place?

Father Daniel smiles, and tours Mr. Mooney around house no. 1

    FATHER DANIEL
    We will be having a Senior Center in here (beat) This is where La Sir is going to help out.

La Sir dramatically claps her hands together and smiles at Mr. Mooney.

    LA SIR
    Please, don’t take this away from Father Daniel, he is doing the best he can.

Mr. Mooney looks at La Sir weird but respectfully smiles, Father Daniel takes him to the next house.

    FATHER DANIEL
    This will be the main house, the diner and homeless shelter.

Pat Sully walks towards Mr. Mooney to shakes his hand.

    FATHER DANIEL (IRISH ACCENT) (CONT’D)
    This is Pat Sully, me right hand in this remodel. He’s Irish.

Mr. Mooney laughs.

    FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
    And last, but not least, the gambler rehab center.
A car parks in front of a property, and Mrs. Mooney opens the door of the car.

MRS. MOONEY (SCREAMING)
What are you doing here? Don’t you mess it up for them now!

Mr. Mooney runs out and gets in her face and starts to yell back to her.

MR. MOONEY
This is what you do with my shit!

Mrs. Mooney gets out of the car and walks towards Father Daniel.

MRS. MOONEY
Your shit? I rather give to the Church than have you give it to Her, besides, have you seen what they’ve done with this?

Father Daniel gets in between and raises his arms.

FATHER DANIEL
Please, the last thing we want is a discrepancy over this property. We have so much to do in here, in fact, why don’t you both volunteer?

Mr. Mooney reacts surprised and agrees.

MR. MOONEY
Yeah, you have a lot to do, because you’re thinking small. This place is going to get too small for you, and too soon.

Father Daniel shamed agrees.

FATHER DANIEL
Well, there you go, ideas. Use your energy to help us out, instead. We need passionate people like you.

Mr. Mooney feels useful and gets cocky.

MRS. MOONEY
Join us instead of giving us hell.

Father Daniel receives a cell phone call.
FATHER DANIEL
Sorry I have to go back to church.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE- DAY

Magnolia is at the office door, rushing Father Daniel to hurry up inside. Bishop Jude is sitting, reading the bank’s statements and the accounting books in Father Daniel’s desk. Father Daniel kisses Bishop Jude’s ring when he walks in.

FATHER DANIEL
Bishop Jude, what a surprise!

Bishop Jude bows his head.

BISHOP JUDE
Bless you, Father Daniel

Bishop Jude arranges his glasses.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
The Institute for the Works of Religion, have inexplicable discrepancies in their numbers. The funds you donated, suddenly vanished.

Father Daniel completely ignorant of the situation, shakes his head.

FATHER DANIEL
I don’t understand where does this come from? I have no idea, didn’t you make the donation, Bishop Jude.

Bishop Jude crosses his arms. Father Daniel concerned points at the books.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Why are you going through our books, bank statements? Isn’t it illegal?

Bishop Jude leans back on the chair.

BISHOP JUDE
Too many questions, Father. Are you nervous?

Father Daniel laughs nervously.
FATHER DANIEL
Not at all. I just don’t understand why would you accuse us of such thing.

Bishop Jude leans over the desks and looks closer at him.

BISHOP JUDE
A young ambitious priest, finished a school, and now is starting three more projects, don’t you learn? You still care for the dirty ungrateful.

Father Daniel aggravated, stands up.

FATHER DANIEL
People are people, and these are my people.

Bishop Jude smiles.

BISHOP JUDE
The question is: where do you get your wealth?

Father Daniel looks directly in Bishop Jude’s eyes and walks towards the door to open it.

FATHER DANIEL
I’m a man of faith, who believes in God, don’t you?

Bishop Jude walk towards the door.

BISHOP JUDE
The Sacred Heart is under investigation.

Father Daniel angrily looks away.

FATHER DANIEL
You do what you have to do.

Bishop Jude arrogantly catches Father Daniel’s sight.

BISHOP JUDE
I will be taking a copy of your books and bank statements with me.

Bishop Jude looks at Magnolia whose standing at the door.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
I’m going to need the copies now.
Magnolia looks at Bishop Jude hard.

MAGNOLIA
The kind of documents you are requesting are confidential, sorry.

Bishop Jude turns to Father Daniel enraged.

BISHOP JUDE
Your actions today will be reported. I will personally see that this investigation escalates.

Bishop Jude leaves the office fast.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH

Solomon rushes in the church, with a tablet in the air, meets Father Daniel who is cleaning the altar, and looks surprised at him.

SOLOMON
Look Father. It’s all over the news.

Father Daniel stops cleaning the altar and pays attention to Solomon.

FATHER DANIEL
What is it, Son?

Solomon shows a video on the tablet.

SOLOMON
News from the Vatican Bank streaming online.

From an online video news site.

NEWS REPORTER(V.O)
According police statement, The Institute for the Works of Religion investigates millions of euros in "false donations".

Father Daniel sits on a wooden chair and sadly looks at Solomon.

FATHER DANIEL
Bishop Jude is investigating us.

Solomon looks for information from his laptop. Angel comes running inside.
ANGEL
I heard the news. Are you okay?

Solomon gracefully smiles.

SOLOMON
The news talk about “false donations”, and we have nothing to do with that.

Father Daniel prays in silence with the Bible open. Magnolia walks out of the office, over towards Angel smiling effusively with her cell phone in hand.

MAGNOLIA
Long time no see... thank you for gifting us with your presence Angel.

Angel flirtatiously laughs with Magnolia. Solomon and Father Daniel both serious.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
What’s with the long face?

Angel laughs but neither Solomon or Father Daniel react.

ANGEL
Oh so, did you know The Vatican Bank is under investigation? It’s all over the Net.

Angel and Magnolia check their cell phone. Solomon continues to search online while Father Daniel reads the Bible.

MAGNOLIA
Check this tweet: “Another Institute for the Works of Religion manager, is under investigation for money laundering charges”.

Angel scroll down her screen.

ANGEL
That’s inside job, it has nothing to do with us.

Solomon sneakily smiling.

SOLOMON
There’s no way they can trace us.

Father Daniel stands up with the Bible in hand.
FATHER DANIEL
I’m a man of God, I need a clear conscience.

Father Daniel holds the Bible with both hands, puts it away and confidently announces with his head up high.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
I need to pay for my sins.

Solomon shuts down his computer. Angel impulsively replies.

ANGEL
You’re going to take us all down.

Solomon desperately looks at Father Daniel.

SOLOMON
You haven’t done anything wrong, Father. You have nothing to worry about. Don’t do that.

Magnolia smacks Father Daniel’s shoulder.

MAGNOLIA
Okay Father Daniel, you want to go to the Vatican and be a snitch? Fine. But, this is what you’re going to do: You tell them how Bishop Jude cut our funds, and when you raised yours he stole them.

Angel claps her hands and winks at Magnolia. Father Daniel wipes the sweat off his forehead.

ANGEL
You can also mention the projects you have accomplished in the community, Father.

Solomon stands and gets next to Father Daniel.

SOLOMON
They’re right Father Daniel, besides, I don’t think you can explain in detail what we did.

FATHER DANIEL
I promised your mother, that I look after you.

Magnolia scrolls down the screen of her cell phone and opens her eye wide.
MAGNOLIA
Look, another update: “People were arrested by the Italian police on suspicion of corruption and fraud”

Solomon smiles, looks at Father Daniel.

SOLOMON
God is telling you to stay where you are. He is taking care of you, Father.

Father Daniel gets close to Solomon’s face and whispers.

FATHER DANIEL
(Whisper)
You know what we did.

Father Daniel moves away shaking his head.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
I need a reservation to Vatican City, Magnolia. Pack me the bank statements and the books too.

Magnolia nods in agreement.

MAGNOLIA
(Sarcastic)
No wonder your name is Daniel, Father, now go fetch the lions.

Angel rolls her eyes and smirks.

FATHER DANIEL
Magnolia, see if you can get me the red eye flight, after Sunday night’s mass.

Magnolia immediately starts to efficiently research. Angel terrified turns look at Father Daniel.

INT. SOLOMON’S ROOM NIGHT

Solomon is eating a pizza, Angel worried, walks in the room.

ANGEL (SARCASTIC)
You’re eating pizza like if the world isn’t about to turn upside down on us.

Solomon takes one last bite, wipes his hands with towel paper and grabs his laptop computer.
SOLOMON
What, do expect me to do, freak out? Not my style.

Angel sits on the bed in front of him.

ANGEL
So... are you ready to go to jail? What’s going to happen to your mom, to me? Do you have a plan B?

Solomon laughs.

SOLOMON
I don’t think Father Daniel is going to tell on us, besides, our bank account is fine, thank you very much.

Angel lies down seductively in bed slowly keeping eye contact with Solomon.

ANGEL
Okay... tell me more...

Solomon smiles cocky looking deeply at Angel.

SOLOMON
The political scandals and pictures we leaked, the websites we hacked, all that pays well. People, have paid well.

Angel touches Solomon in between legs with her foot and he closes his eyes smiling.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE- DAY

Magnolia places the Sunday mass readings, in every wooden chair all over church. As she passes by the confessional, a hand roughly pulls her inside covering her mouth.

ANGEL
Shh....shh...

Magnolia surprised, scared yet turned on, opens her eyes wide to see Angel pressing her body against her in the confined space.

MAGNOLIA
(Whisper)
Are you crazy? Why are you doing this? You scare me.
Angel has her arms around Magnolia and talks with her lips close to her lips.

ANGEL
Listen to me, you do NOT, but do
NOT let Father Daniel leave to
Vatican City. I’m not going to
jeopardise my life, over someone’s
guilt trip, you hear me?

Magnolia agrees starring at her eyes while Angel looks at
Magnolia’s lips intensively and kisses her cheek softly.

ANGEL (CONT’D)
Now, GO!

Magnolia slowly turns around and smoothly leaves the
confessional smiling as Angel watches her by the door.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH - NIGHT

Sunday mass, the church is packed, when Father Daniel raises
the Holy Communion.

FATHER DANIEL
This is the body of Christ.

Deacon shows up at the door, with cops, pointing at Father
Daniel.

DEACON
(Out loud)
That’s him!

The policemen rush to cuff Father Daniel at the altar, to
walk him out the door slowly, where Bishop Jude awaits.

BISHOP JUDE
Can’t scape the justice of God.

The parishioners scandalously look back, and start to
whisper. Magnolia runs after Father Daniel and Ms. Launtry
follows.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
Why are they taking Father Daniel?
What’s this about Magnolia?

Magnolia turns quickly to Ms. Launtry.

MAGNOLIA
I don’t know, I don’t understand.
Let me find out.
Ms. Launtry pulls her cell phone out.

Ms. Monique Launtry
Okay, let me know if I can help.

Bishop Jude arrogantly smiles at Magnolia, and she frustrated turns to the policeman next to her.

Magnolia
Why are you taking Father Daniel, can’t you see he’s in the middle of the “Holy Communion”?

The policeman (30) brown skin, black hair, with bad attitude pushes Magnolia away.

Policeman
I can’t provide that information at this time. You will have to come to the station.

Magnolia annoyed kicks the pavement. Father Daniel disappointed turns to Bishop Jude.

Magnolia
What?

Bishop Jude
How does it feel?

Father Daniel
Jude... betrayed Jesus for helping the people just like I’m trying to help this community.

Bishop Jude and Deacon laugh.

Father Daniel (Cont’d)
I did not raise the money for big holiday feasts or in luxurious decorations.

Magnolia follows the police car in a cab.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Father Daniel is inside of an investigation room. On one side of a desk is a detective (40), very masculine Italian, catholic, hesitant to question Father Daniel.

(MORE)
FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
(DETECTIVE (BROOKLYN
ACCENT)
Why don’t you want to cooperate in
an investigation, Father?

Father Daniel frustrated sighs hard.

FATHER DANIEL
Oh, so this is what it’s about?

The detective pulls the chair closer, and stares at Father Daniel closer.

DETECTIVE (BROOKLYN
ACCENT)
Why don’t you make our lives easy?
Tell me what I need to know, and
we’re all good to go home.

Father Daniel cooperatively is about to confess, and Magnolia walks in the door.

MAGNOLIA (SCREAMING)
Don’t say another word, Father Daniel.

The detective stands up and stops Magnolia.

DETECTIVE
Who you think you are to come
screaming like that? Do you know
where you are?

Magnolia rolls her eyes ignoring the detective and sighs.

MAGNOLIA
I’m his assistant, you just can’t
barge in, and arrest people. What
are you charging him for?

DETECTIVE
Obstruction of justice.

Father Daniel looks confusedly at the detective.

FATHER DANIEL
There is a misunderstanding because
what really happened was...

Magnolia interrupts by raising her voice.

MAGNOLIA
Bishop Jude steals our donations
but he accuses Father Daniel of
theft and fraud to cover his track.
Father Daniel nods head in agreement.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
Maybe you should help Father Daniel instead.

Detective seems confused.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
Father Daniel was voluntarily on his way to the Vatican to cooperate and clarify this financial misunderstanding (beat) but your men arrested him.

Bishop Jude walks in the police Station with Deacon.

BISHOP JUDE
Father Daniel can’t just show up at the Vatican. He can’t jump over me.

Detective concerned looks at Bishop Jude.

DETECTIVE
I don’t see why not, if he has a clear conscience.

Deacon points at Father Daniel.

DEACON
Why don’t you arrest him already?

Magnolia looks at her cell phone and types a text message.

MAGNOLIA
Let’s hope you don’t miss your flight.

Detective respectfully looks at Bishop Jude.

DETECTIVE
Bishop Jude, you are a man of God, and you came to me seeking justice.

Bishop Jude carefully pays attention.

DETECTIVE (CONT’D)
You want to see this financial issue resolved with the Vatican Bank, correct? Then you need to trust the goodness of Father Daniel.

Bishop Jude freezes starring at Father Daniel while the detective addresses Father Daniel.
DETECTIVE (CONT’D)
(to Father Daniel)
You must go to the Vatican to end
this misunderstanding

Father Daniel thankfully bows his head.

FATHER DANIEL
I need to clear my name.

Father Daniel looks at Bishop Jude, and he bangs the
detective’s desk hard.

BISHOP JUDE
You are the most negligent
detective I’ve seen. You’re about
to set a criminal free. You will be
receiving a law suit from the
Clergy soon.

INT. VATICAN BANK AUDITORY- IOR - DAY

Father Daniel’s footsteps echoes on the marble floor, as he
walks in the office, of SIR EDGARD GOLIO (50), italian, black
haired, combed to the side, who effusively shakes his hand.

FATHER DANIEL
You must be the auditor, do you
speak English?

Sir Golio laughs, offers a seat to Father Daniel.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO (Italian
accent)
English is an universal language
and famous among our clients. We
usually don’t receive walk-ins, but
how may I help you Father?

Father Daniel relived, looks at a crucifix on the wall.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Why is the Sacred Heart Church
under investigation?

Sir Edgard Golio a little lost, switches on his desktop
computer.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO
We managed Sacred Heart’s assets up
to last year when, Bishop Jude
became the regional financial
representative.
Father Daniel pays with attention the information.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO (CONT’D)
Therefore, the bank was not be able
to trace his monetary footprints.

Father Daniel fixes himself on the chair.

FATHER DANIEL
Did you NOT receive the funds
Bishop Jude donated on our behalf?

Sir Edgard Golio types in the computer, pauses, looks at
Father Daniel in detail, pauses again, types some more and
Father Daniel starts to sweat.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO
I don’t see any donation under your
name, or the Sacred Heart’s name.

Father Daniel wipes his sweat off.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO (CONT’D)
Wait... a second, I know who you
are. (pause) You are that small
town, humanitarian priest, everyone
is talking about.

Father Daniel smiles tapping his fingers on his crossed legs.

FATHER DANIEL
I like to live by example.

Sir Edgard Golio places his hands over his desk, and crosses
his fingers.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO
So Father, how do you manage to
help your community without Bishop
Jude’s financial help?

Father Daniel shyly smiles.

FATHER DANIEL
Volunteers and haven sent
donations.

SFX SOUNDS OF STRUGGLE AND ARGUMENT FROM OUTSIDE THE DOOR.

Bishop Jude pushes inside the office.

BISHOP JUDE
Here you are, Father Daniel.
Playing the innocent sheep.
Father Daniel jumps out of his chair surprised. Sir Edgard Golio looks at Bishop Jude intensively.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO
With all due respect Bishop Jude, you can’t interrupt our meeting as you please. Wait outside, please.

Bishop Jude violently points at Father Daniel.

BISHOP JUDE
Father Daniel, handles millions in that shack, he calls a church, and I don’t know where he gets it from. Ask him, how he got a new property “Lotus Hacienda”.

Father Daniel nervously looks at both.

FATHER DANIEL
Like I said, they’re donations.

Sir Edgard Golio types in his computer.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO
The donation was made under Bishop Jude’s name, that’s why I couldn’t find it, but I need to speak with you privately, Father Daniel.

Bishop Jude disappointed looks at Father.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO (CONT’D)
Excuse us for a moment, Bishop Jude.

Bishop Jude enraged, walks out and slams the door.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE– DAY

Magnolia is sitting on Father Daniel’s desk, taping her fingers on the laptop continuously. Solomon and Angel enter the office.

MAGNOLIA
Hey...

Solomon sets his laptop computer on the other side of the desk as Angel stands behind Magnolia.
SOLOMON
I wasn’t able to replace the actual money but I tricked the machine to mirror the same numbers from a different account to “digitally” replace the amount.

Solomon air quotes with his fingers the word “digitally”.

MAGNOLIA
Now, let’s hope they buy it.

INT. VATICAN BANK AUDITORY- IOR

Sir Edgard Golio types in his laptop computer and looks confused at Father Daniel.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO (Italian accent)
Somehow, I keep receiving the same message when I try to access the donation account.

Father Daniel coughs and clears his throat.

FATHER DANIEL
What message do you get?

Sir Edgard Golio focuses on the screen and types more codes.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO (Italian accent)
Here, let me try this code.

Father Daniel fixes his collar.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Has this happened before?

Sir Edgard Golio picks up the phone, starring at Father Daniel.

INT. VATICAN BANK CORRIDOR - DAY

Father Daniel and Sir Edgard Golio walk through the echoing marble floors corridor, passing hardwood doors.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO (Italian accent)
I needed to elevate this case to the superintendent. She will further investigate the matter.
Father Daniel respectfully understands and Sir Edgard Golio stops in front of a wooden door, shakes his hand and opens the door for Father Daniel.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO CONT’D
May God be with you and seek justice to your defence.

Father Daniel smiles.

FATHER DANIEL
Amen!

Father Daniel walks through the door carefully.

INT. VATICAN BANK SUPERINTENDENCE - IOR - DAY

Father Daniel slowly walks up to VIVIENNE LEON (35), pulled back blonde hair, librarian glasses, elegant demeanor, as she finishes typing in her laptop computer and stand up to greet Father Daniel.

Vivienne Leon walks back to her chair, and sits down.

VIVIENNE LEON (french accent)
Please sit down, and explain to me in detail about this donation of yours.

Father Daniel sits down, clears his throat and looks at her directly in her eyes.

FATHER DANIEL
Bishop Jude made a donation with the funds of the Sacred Heart under his name, and Sir Edgard Golio can’t access the donation.

Vivienne Leon types on the laptop computer looking serious.

VIVIENNE LEON (french accent)
How did he get a hold of your funds?

Father Daniel tilts his head.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Bishop Jude implied the funds were to prevent the closure of fellow dioceses, including ours.
Vivienne Leon trying to understand the scam, sighs hard.

VIVIENNE LEON
This account doesn’t have any funds left. Do you know why?

Father Daniel very concerned, he leans forward.

FATHER DANIEL
No, I don’t. How is that possible? You may question Bishop Jude on that regard.

Vivienne Leon picks up the phone.

VIVIENNE LEON
(Whisper)
I.T. Please... I need a follow up on an account. I’ll send you ticket right away. This is for immediate response.

Vivienne Leon confidently reassures Father Daniel with a smile, as he wipes off his sweat.

VIVIENNE LEON
Don’t worry Father, they usually respond fast back to me when I put a rush on things.

Father Daniel nods his head.

SFX LOUD DOOR KNOCK

Vivienne Leon answers the door when someone hands her a piece of paper, she reads it as she walks towards her desk.

FATHER DANIEL
Is everything okay?

Vivienne Leon puts the piece of paper down, looking disappointed.

VIVIENNE LEON (French accent)
Father Daniel, the account was hacked.

Father Daniel confused.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Hacked?

The security guard comes in to handcuff Father Daniel.
FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Shouldn’t you look into Bishop Jude instead?

VIVIENNE LEON
The registered I.P., belongs to an area near the Sacred Heart.

Father Daniel ashamed lowers his head.

FATHER DANIEL
I can explain. I had to rebuild a school for my children.

Vivienne disappointed interrupts in disagreement.

VIVIENNE LEON
Father Daniel, please!

Father Daniel desperately continues.

FATHER DANIEL
Bishop Jude coerced our funds away, in the name of the Clergy.

The security guard keeps struggling to handcuff Father Daniel until he gives up and Vivienne asks him to relax.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
I requested financial support to the Vatican Bank, after Bishop Jude retrieved our funds, but it was denied.

Vivienne looks at Father Daniel with compassion.

VIVIENNE LEON
Computer Hacking, it’s a crime, a fraud, Father.

Father Daniel cries.

FATHER DANIEL
Someone needs to know the entire story.

Bishop Jude walks in screaming, as the security guards take Father Daniel away.

BISHOP JUDE
(Screams)
He think he’s Jesus making miracles but he’s a fraud.
Father Daniel calmly gets in Bishop Jude’s face.

    FATHER DANIEL
    This is a personal vendetta.

Father Daniel stares at his eyes and with a firm voice.

    FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
    It has nothing to do with money,
    Esperanza High School or the Sacred
    Heart.

Vivienne Leon looks hard at Bishop Jude.

    FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
    You know who you are and where you
    come from.

Vivienne Leon gets close to him.

    VIVIENNE LEON (french
    accent)
    Only a thief recognizes another.
    I’m on to you, Bishop Jude.

INSERT FLASHBACK

EXT. LOCAL ORPHANAGE - DAY

YOUNG MARIA (17) flower dress, long black hair, serves a bowl of soup over a wooden table and smiles at YOUNG FATHER DANIEL (20), skinny, combed back hair with gel, who mingles with other young kids, in the orphanage patio.

YOUNG BISHOP JUDE (18), chubby, black- haired, thick reading glasses, reads the Bible with the Priest inside of a room, he peeks out and anxiously stares at Maria and the Priest slaps his hand with a ruler.

END OF FLASHBACK

EXT. LOTUS HACIENDA

Outside house No.1, Pat Sully and La Sir paint the exterior together, while Magnolia observes. Magnolia cell phone rings and she answers.

    MAGNOLIA
    Hello, Father Daniel?
Magnolia walks around with her head down.

INT. VATICAN JAIL - PAY PHONE - NIGHT

Father Daniel has facial hair, looks distressed, makes a phone call on the jail pay phone under a flicking fluorescent light.

FATHER DANIEL
Hello Magnolia, I don’t have much time. I’m temporarily in detention, they traced the I.P. number back, but remember that God works in mysterious ways. Please don’t worry about me, just keep everything running smoothly.

EXT. LOTUS HACIENDA

Magnolia worried stares at her cell phone screen.

MAGNOLIA
Don’t be a hero, Father Daniel. I’m coming get you, okay? Bye.

Magnolia hangs up the call.

INT. LOTUS HACIENDA - HOMELESS CENTER CONT’D- DAY

Mr. and Mrs. Mooney arrange the main dinner table together, as Magnolia dials a number on her cell phone.

MAGNOLIA
Hello Angel, is Solomon there with you? I need you to put me on speaker.

(is on speaker)
The VATS got Father Daniel arrested, they traced the I.P. number back to you, so find out how to sort this out.

Solomon interrupts Magnolia.

SOLOMON
I can change I.P. numbers like underwear, don’t worry about it.

ANGEL
What did I tell you Magnolia?
MAGNOLIA
Look, I have to go now. Hey, Solomon, would it be possible to transfer a mil to Mrs. Mooney? We need to finish Lotus and save funds for Father Daniel when gets out.

Solomon giggles out loud.

SOLOMON
Sure, thing.

Magnolia hangs up the phone and walks towards Mrs. Mooney.

MAGNOLIA
Thank you so much for your work here, in Lotus Hacienda.

Mrs. Mooney off her working gloves.

MRS. MOONEY
This brought me and my husband closer together, so thank you.

Magnolia in emergency mode looks serious at her.

MAGNOLIA
Father Daniel and The Sacred Heart are going through a rough time, and I would like to ask you for an important favor. I want you to manage the funds until the completion of this project.

Mrs. Mooney claps her hands together and laughs.

MRS. MOONEY
Why, why me?, But where will you and Father Daniel be?

Magnolia impulsively snaps ignoring her question.

MAGNOLIA
I will transfer one million dollars, to your account. You and your husband, as business people with big hearts, will help finish this project. If you have any questions, you can call me. There’s Pat Sully and La Sir to assist you. Deal?

Mrs. Mooney briefly agrees.
MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
Father Daniel needs our help right now. In a few weeks you will understand more. I have to go.

Magnolia turns around and leaves the room.

INT. SOLOMON’S ROOM
Solomon plugs in an USB.

COMPUTER SCREEN CLOSE UP
Create New File: Hail Mary and copy files to Hail Mary

SOLOMON
This is going to save our payers

Angel looks over his shoulder while bitting her nails.

SOLOMON (CONT’D)
Now, let me transfer the million to Mooney and mine the rest for now

COMPUTER SCREEN CLOSE UP WWW.MINEBIT.COM USER:OPULENCE PASS:SACREDHEART
Solomon transfers one million dollars to Mrs. Mooney’s bank account and converts twenty seven millions in bitcoins.

ANGEL
Is this from the 10%s? Is this how much we got so far, twenty seven millions? Nice.

Solomon nods.

INT. VATICAN BANK SUPERINTENDENT – IOR –DAY
Magnolia is sitting with her legs crossed, next to Sir Edgard Golio, in front of Vivienne Leon, who holds a golden pen in between her fingers and carefully listens to Magnolia.

MAGNOLIA
We originally raised five million dollars, in a fund-raising event.

Vivienne Leon attentively follows in understanding.
VIVIENNE LEON
(French accent)
This was to fix the school, correct?

Magnolia nods her head smiling, and Sir Edgard Golio looks at them seriously.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO
(Italian Accent)
Bishop Jude had to advice Father Daniel in how to wisely operate his assets, instead of withdrawing his remaining.

Vivienne Leon nods her head in agreement, and Magnolia’s face turns red.

MAGNOLIA
A donation is voluntary. We were coerced, we are the victims here.

Vivienne Leon puts the golden pen down.

VIVIENNE LEON
Even if Father Daniel has a good heart, he committed a felony, a crime and it needs to be punished.

Magnolia looks desperately at Vivienne Leon. Sir Edgard Golio empathetic, looks at Vivienne Leon.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO
I doubt that he worked alone in this. He doesn’t know much about computers.

Magnolia guilty smiles, Vivienne Leon suspiciously looks at her.

VIVIENNE LEON
No, My I.T. Department, tells me, the hacker replaced the same amount of the missing donation.

Sir Golio sarcastically laughs.

SIR EDGARD GOLIO
A rebellious act of revenge, if you ask me.

Magnolia insulted looks at Vivienne Leon.
MAGNOLIA
We can return the amount, just give us enough time to raise the funds.

Vivienne impatiently sighs, rolling her eyes. Magnolia seriously stands up, looking at both.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
Father Daniel deserves to be treated with respect and justice.

Vivienne Leon stands up.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
When can I see him? And if worse comes to worst, will I be able to take him back to our local prison?

Vivienne extends her hand to Magnolia.

VIVIENNE LEON
We still need investigate more and question Bishop Jude.

Sir Golio opens the door for Magnolia, and she exits.

INT. SOLOMON’S APARTMENT – DAY

SFX LOUD DOOR KNOCK

After the loud noise, Maria answers the door, policemen barge in the apartment and she nervously steps back.

Solomon comes out of the room with Angel, and the policeman look at him seriously.

POLICEMAN
Are you Solomon Reyes?

Solomon hesitantly nods. Maria scared looks at Solomon.

MARIA
What did you do now? Does it have anything to do with that computer? I told you, it was the devil.

The policeman enters Solomon’s room, pushing Angel to the side.

ANGEL
What are you looking for? Do you have a warrant? This is illegal.
Maria interrupts Angel pulling her by the arm, next to her.

    MARIA
    Don’t you get us in trouble, with that mouth of yours.

The policeman confiscates Solomon’s laptop

    POLICEMAN
    Is this your laptop computer?

Solomon hesitantly nods in agreement.

    SOLOMON
    Wait, don’t take it.

The policeman puts it in a plastic bag.

    POLICEMAN
    Do you have more computers here?

Solomon walks in circles.

    SOLOMON
    NO, I don’t.

All policemen walk towards the door.

    MARIA
    Do you mind telling us, what do you want my son’s computer, officer?

Solomon stare deeply at the policemen.

    POLICEMAN
    You should be thankful son, they only requested me to bring your computer in for investigation.

Maria crosses herself, looks at Solomon mad, then looks at the policeman.

    MARIA
    What investigation?

Policeman looks at Maria.

    POLICEMAN
    We’re not in the liberty to disclose that information.

Policeman gets close to Solomon’s face.
POLICEMAN (CONT’D)
You must have an angel out there, son, because no one is pressing charges against you.

Angel jumps up, mocking the cop.

ANGEL
Yeah, that’s me. I’m Angel.

Maria holds Angel back by the arm, and the policemen leave the apartment slamming the door.

SFX LOUD DOOR SLAM

INT. LOCAL PRISON

SFX JAIL CELL LOCK OPENS

A CUSTODIAN (20), short, black-haired and muscle built, walks in front of Father Daniel, on the jail corridor, he is wearing an orange jail suit. The prisoners stare at Father Daniel as he passes by.

CUSTODIAN
They say, you’re a priest? If you’re one of those kids molesters, you’re going to have problems around here.

Father Daniel looks at him sweetly.

FATHER DANIEL
Do you know the Sacred Heart?

The custodian takes a better look at Father Daniel and nods.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
If you are a pedophile, you’re going to have problems with me.

The custodian laughs out loud with Father Daniel.

CUSTODIAN
Yeah, I see, you’re cool, Father. You have a visitor.
INT. PRISON’S VISITING ROOM

Inside the 4 X 4 feet glass room, Father Daniel communicates through a phone with MRS. HERNANDEZ, (55), salt- peppered hair, light skin and wears reading glasses, and reads his case file.

MRS. HERNANDEZ
I’m Mrs. Hernandez. I will be representing your case, Father.

Father Daniel surprised looks at Mrs. Hernandez, and respectfully nods his head.

FATHER DANIEL
May the good Lord be with you.

Mrs. Hernandez opens the case file.

MRS. HERNANDEZ
We need to find the computer hacker mastermind and focus on him.

Father Daniel abruptly interrupts.

FATHER DANIEL
No, I’m responsible for my acts and I will do my time.

Mrs. Hernandez disappointed disagrees.

MRS. HERNANDEZ
Don’t cover for him, Father, The Sacred Heart needs you.

Father Daniel stubborn avoids eye contact.

INT. PONTIFICAL OFFICE - VATICAN CITY - DAY

Bishop Jude walks to the end of the room, towards a big empty wooden chair and confusedly seeks.

BISHOP JUDE
Hello, is anybody in here?

SAN FRANCISCO (69), bald, has reading glasses, wears white cotton gown and Converse tennis shoes), is sitting down across the room in a much smaller chair, laughing at Bishop Jude.

SAN FRANCISCO
Opulence, the eccentricities I get. Who needs a throne? Silk gowns, Italian leather shoes?
Bishop Jude arrogantly raises his eyebrows.

SAN FRANCISCO (CONT’D)
Our mission is to evangelize the Word. Do you agree, Bishop Jude?

Bishop Jude clears his throat.

BISHOP JUDE
In deed, You Holiness.

San Francisco walks closer to Bishop Jude, and stares deeply into his eyes.

SAN FRANCISCO
What can I do for you today, Bishop Jude?

Bishop Jude nervously blushes.

BISHOP JUDE
I came to talk about Father Daniel, from the Sacred Heart Church. He committed a crime against the Institute for the Work of Religion.

San Francisco walks in circles with his head down.

BISHOP JUDE (CONT’D)
He raised millions, stole properties from devotees, because he thinks he’s the new day Jesus, he’s delirious.

San Francisco suddenly stops to stare at Bishop Jude.

SAN FRANCISCO
How did you let this happen? Where is Father Daniel now?

Bishop Jude arrogantly puts one arm on his waist.

BISHOP JUDE
He’s in prison back in his hometown.

San Francisco walk towards the door, and he asks Bishop Jude to walk along with him.

SAN FRANCISCO
Every story has two sides. Look around, us Catholics, tend to embellish.
San Francisco points at the sculptures of the saints on the walls.

EXT. PRISON YARD – DAY

Father Daniel is reading the Bible on a bench by himself, when THREE GANGSTERS (20), tattoos, blue bandanas, plain white t’s, approach him, looking hard at him, as they walk with swag.

GANGSTER 1
(Mexican accent)
So, you are a priest?

Father Daniel closes the Bible, and smiles at him.

FATHER DANIEL
Yes, I am.

Gangster 1, nods at gangster 2, and all three, approach Father Daniel.

GANGSTER 1 AND 2
So, you do confessions, and shit?

Father Daniel calmly laughs and nods his head in agreement. The three gangsters turn to their people from across the yard, who are watching at them carefully, and they get in line, in front of Father Daniel.

GANGSTA 1
(Mexican accent)
You know Father, we have done some bad shit, terrible shit, around here. This is confidential, right?

Father Daniel laughs, tilting his head, nodding in agreement.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE– DAY

Magnolia is sitting on Father Daniel’s desk, and Mrs. Launtry enters the office, wearing a tight dress and high heels.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
Good morning, I heard the news, and I come to help, of course.

Magnolia sends a text message on her cell phone and puts it away.

MAGNOLIA
Sorry, Mrs. Monique Launtry but we don’t have you budgeted.
Mrs. Launtry sarcastically laughs.

      MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
      You could never afford me, but here
      I am, loyal to the cause. Before,
      this goes out to media, we should
      have a plan.

Magnolia embarrassedly laughs.

      MAGNOLIA
      Media? This is a small town church.

Mrs. Launtry raise her eyebrows.

      MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
      Who messed with the major leagues,
      the high rollers. Father Daniel ate
      the lions. A modern day Robin Hood.

Magnolia laughs.

INT. PRISON’S VISITING ROOM

Father Daniel enters the small visiting room, and sees Maria
on the other side, with messy hair, desperately urging him to
pick up the phone. Father Daniel sits down and answers the
phone.

      FATHER DANIEL
      God bless you Maria. How are you
today and how is Solomon doing?

Maria hysterically speaks to phone.

      MARIA
      The police took his computer the
other day. What did he do? He won’t
tell me. I’m afraid for him, you
promised to protect him.

Father Daniel tries to calm Maria down but she won’t stop
fidgeting.

      FATHER DANIEL
      He didn’t do anything wrong. He
just got caught up in a
misunderstanding.

Maria frustrated, starts to cry.
MARIA
If it’s a misunderstanding, how come Angel’s nervous? You promised you take care our boy.

Father Daniel calmly puts his hand on the glass screen.

FATHER DANIEL
Put your hand over mine and let’s pray.

Maria places her hand over Father Daniel’s and bows her head.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
Oh Lord Jesus Christ, to Your most Sacred Heart, I confide Solomon.

MARIA
Amen. You keep your word to our son, and come back to us.

Father Daniel sweetly smiles at Maria. The custodian gives Father Daniel the time out, and he stands up to leave.

SFX LOUD CELL LOCK

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR
Fluorescent lights flicker, prisoners noise background while Father Daniel distracted walks.

INSERT FLASHBACK

EXT. LOCAL BEACH

YOUNG FATHER DANIEL (20), skinny, combed his hair back with gel, buttons down shirt and old blue jeans, stares at the horizon when YOUNG MARIA (17), flower dress, long black hair, walks towards him crying, and touching her belly.

They kiss on the lips, as he sweetly touches her belly, and both sit down holding each other, until she stops crying.

END OF FLASHBACK
INT. SOLOMON’S ROOM – DAY

Solomon extends a tiny suede black box, to Angel when she enters the room, and she takes a step back surprised.

ANGEL
What are you doing with that Solomon?

She nervously smiles, and Solomon gets on his knee, and a ring proposing to her.

SOLOMON
Let me do this right. Angel, my dear Angel, will you marry me, and be my eternal partner in crime?

Angel kisses Solomon and he places the engagement ring on her finger.

ANGEL
Yes, yes, yes and a million times yes!

Solomon laughs and kisses Angel passionately.

SOLOMON
I hope this fits, I got it made for you. You see, my mother never married, so I didn’t have a family ring to give you.

Angel happily laughs.

ANGEL
I love it. I love you.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE- DAY

Angel flaunts her ring hand out in the air, and Solomon points at it to Magnolia, who sits in the desk smiling.

MAGNOLIA
Congratulations. Really?

Magnolia noticed the engagement ring, as Angel stares deeply with a grin at her.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
Spending money now, that we’re under investigation.

Magnolia shames Solomon and he lowers his head.
SOLOMON
This is a good thing, isn’t it?

Magnolia cracks a smile.

MAGNOLIA
In deed, but I’m just saying, you should be more careful.

Angel pulls Solomon by the arm.

ANGEL
Come on, let’s go. She’s just jealous.

Magnolia stands up, gets in between both, and hugs them.

MAGNOLIA
I’m actually very happy, for both of you!

Angel and Solomon leave the office, overwhelmed.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE- NIGHT

Magnolia is sleeping over the desk with her mouth is wide open.

DREAM SEQUENCE - SACRED HEART CHURCH

Magnolia lies in bed surrounded by lit candles in front of the altar, when Angel slowly crawls on top of her, from in between her legs, to kiss her lips as she slowly opens her eyes.

END OF DREAM SEQUENCE

Magnolia wakes up abruptly, wipes off the drool from her mouth, makes the sign of the cross, laughs it off.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE- DAY

As Magnolia wakes up, Your Holiness, San Francisco, is standing over her, staring at her, and she’s surprised.

MAGNOLIA
Your Holiness! I’m sorry, this is unexpectedly early. Can I get you a cup of coffee?

San Francisco amused sits on a chair patiently.
SAN FRANCISCO
You must be Father Daniel’s assistant.

Magnolia devastated, smiles.

MAGNOLIA
Yes I am.

San Francisco gets comfortable con the chair, and fixes his glasses.

SAN FRANCISCO
I came personally to speak with Father Daniel, and to see more of his work.

Magnolia stands up and grabs a set of keys.

MAGNOLIA
Allow me to take you on a private tour.

San Francisco delightfully agrees, and Magnolia sends a text message real quick, as they walk out of the office.

INT. ESPERANZA HIGH SCHOOL- DAY

Magnolia and San Francisco, walk through the white corridors of the school.

MAGNOLIA
This school has been recently remodelled, these walls are freshly painted

San Francisco admires the surroundings.

SFX HIGH HEELS SOUND, FAST PACING, ON PORCELAIN FLOOR.

Mrs. Launtry struts towards them, catching her breath.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
Oh, I’m so glad, I caught up on you here.

Mrs. Launtry respectfully bows down her head, to San Francisco.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY (CONT’D)
Your Holiness.
San Francisco bows his head and smiles. Magnolia looks at San Francisco and points at Mrs. Launtry.

**MAGNOLIA**
Your Holiness, this is Mrs. Monique Launtry, she is our appointed Public Relations representative and she also helped us raise the funds to remodel this school.

San Francisco enchanted, tilts his head smiling.

**SAN FRANCISCO**
Your help has been a blessing for both, Father Daniel and the children of this community.

Mrs. Launtry presumes humility.

**MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY**
My pleasure, Your Holiness. Father Daniel is a humble man, whose priorities centers in the well being of his people.

**INT. ESPERANZA HIGH SCHOOL - COMPUTER ROOM - DAY**
Magnolia opens the door, San Francisco enters to the fully equipped computer room.

**MAGNOLIA**
It is important to see our students thrive in this competitive world. That’s why we prepare them with an up to date technology.

San Francisco nods his head in agreement.

**MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)**
We also have a language laboratory.

Magnolia proudly smiles.

**SAN FRANCISCO**
Progressive thinking.

Magnolia walks them out the door.

**EXT. ESPERANZA HIGH PARKING LOT - DAY**
Mrs. Launtry waits outside, in a black SUV.
MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
I will be transporting you to the Lotus Hacienda, Your Holiness.

San Francisco looks at Magnolia confused.

SAN FRANCISCO
Lotus Hacienda?

Magnolia laughs while she opens the door of the SUV.

MAGNOLIA
Yes, Your Holiness, don’t you want to see all of Father’s Daniel labour of love? Lotus Hacienda, is one of them.

EXT. LOTUS HACIENDA

The black SUV pulls over by the water fountain, San Francisco gets out of the car, and the Mooney’s come outside to greet them. Mrs. Launtry looks around smiling, and Magnolia points San Francisco to the Mooney’s.

MAGNOLIA
This is Mr. Mooney and Mrs. Mooney, Your Holiness.

The Mooney’s take a step back surprised, and bow their head.

MRS. MOONEY
Welcome, Your Holiness.

Mr. Mooney bows his head again.

MR. MOONEY
Welcome to Lotus Hacienda, Your Holiness.

San Francisco respectfully bows his head, and smiles.

MAGNOLIA
Let me show you around.

Mrs. Launtry interrupts.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
You don’t mind if I take pictures, do you? This is good PR for Sacred Heart. It could help Father Daniel’s case, I think.

San Francisco politely agrees.
SAN FRANCISCO
Please, do what you have to do.

Magnolia turns around and gives Mrs. Launtry the thumps up, and keeps walking with San Francisco towards the Senior Center.

INT. SENIOR CENTER - DAY

San Francisco enters directly to the recreation room, where seniors are playing cards and board games, others are watching TV and La Sir walks up to them.

LA SIR
Are you the new priest?

Magnolia ashamed, interrupts La Sir.

MAGNOLIA
No, this is Your Holiness San Francisco.

San Francisco laughs.

LA SIR
I see. You have to know, that Father Daniel, saved our lives when he built this center, because no one cares about us any more.

San Francisco walks towards the back, to the rooms, and returns to the recreation room, satisfied.

SAN FRANCISCO
Father Daniel have served well to his community.

Mrs. Mooney walks in towards Magnolia and San Francisco.

MRS. MOONEY
Come to the diner, lunch is ready.

They all exit the door.

INT. HOMELESS SHELTER- DINER- DAY

San Francisco sits on a large wooden table, to eat lunch with the homeless, Magnolia, Mrs. Launtry and La Sir.
MRS. MOONEY  
All vegetables come from our sustainable, organic garden, the children of Esperanza High School and us helped harvest.

Magnolia nods her head.

MRS. MOONEY (CONT’D)  
We wanted to tell you before Magnolia, but my husband I donated the rest of the remodel, in gratitude to Father Daniel, for helping us save our marriage.

San Francisco delighted bows his head smiling.

SAN FRANCISCO  
How so?

Mr. Mooney walks in the room, and stands next to Mrs. Mooney.

MR. MOONEY  
He made us work together, until we worked things out back to love, and for that, we owe him this much.

Mrs. Launtry gets up to take pictures of San Francisco eating in community.

Bishop Jude walks in the diner, with his head up high.

BISHOP JUDE  
(to San Francisco)  
You shouldn’t lower yourself to these standards, Your Holiness.

San Francisco puts his utensils down abruptly, and looks annoyed at Bishop Jude.

SAN FRANCISCO  
These people have treated me with nothing but respect, and have showed me the care, Father Daniel and they feel towards their community, Bishop Jude. Please show some humility.

Bishop Jude rolls his eyes and Magnolia stands up.

MAGNOLIA  
What are you doing here, Bishop Jude?

Bishop Jude looks directly at her eyes.
BISHOP JUDE
Don’t worry, I will be sending you a replacement soon, if not I will personally see that the Sacred Heart temporarily closes doors.

San Francisco wipes the corner of his mouth with napkins.

SAN FRANCISCO
...And why would you do any of that, Bishop Jude? I wonder, what else Father Daniel, could have achieved with your support?

San Francisco curiously looks at Mrs. Launtry.

SAN FRANCISCO (CONT’D)
I will not leave without having a word with Father Daniel.

Bishop Jude enraged sends a text message.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
I will find out if it’s possible to see him today.

INT. PRISON’S VISITING ROOM

Deacon hands the guard a fat roll of dollar bills.

SFX DOOR UNLOCKS

A black prisoner, with gang tattoos, sits in front of Deacon, looking at him hard. Deacon writes the name of Father Daniel on a piece of paper, and folds hundreds of dollars bills with the piece of paper. Deacon slowly slides the roll to the prisoner, he reads the note and leaves.

SFX DOOR LOCKS

EXT. PRISON YARD

Father Daniel is gathered in circle with a group of inmates reading the bible, when the prisoner for hire, comes from behind.

SFX KNIFE STAB SOUND

DISSOLVE TO:
EXT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH - DAY

Bishop Jude answers his cell phone.

BISHOP JUDE
It’s done? Okay.

Bishop Jude arrogantly smiles.

INT. THE SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFICE - DAY

Magnolia receives a phone call when she is sitting with San Francisco and Ms. Launtry at the office.

MAGNOLIA

San Francisco worried, stands up.

SAN FRANCISCO
Are they are going to let a woman inside a prison? I can deliver a message for you, if you like.

Magnolia desperately ignores San Francisco.

MAGNOLIA
Let’s get going now, Your Holiness.

INT. LOCAL PRISON

Ms. Launtry speaks with the lady in information.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
We received a call saying that Father Daniel got injured. We’re with The Holiest San Francisco, who wishes to see Father Daniel.

The custodian comes out.

CUSTODIAN
Father Daniel got stabbed, teaching Bible studies. He’s in the infirmary and lost a lot of blood.

Magnolia interrupts the custodian.

MAGNOLIA
This is the Holiest San Francisco, he’s next to Jesus.
The Custodian stares at San Francisco respectfully as he calmly expects answer.

CUSTODIAN
We don’t allow visitors during non-visitations hours but we can make an exception in your case.

San Francisco thankfully bows his head and claps both of his hands.

INT. PRISON’S INFIRMARY

Father Daniel is in a bed, connected to the i.v., and wrapped in bandages. He opens his eyes surprised, when San Francisco walks in smiling. San Francisco blesses Father Daniel.

SAN FRANCISCO
In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. May God heal your wounds with His precious Blood.

Father Daniel extends his hand to San Francisco and he hold it tight. Father Daniel speaks with difficulty.

FATHER DANIEL
What a surprise, Your Holiness.

San Francisco respectfully nods.

SAN FRANCISCO
I had to see with my own eyes, what Father Daniel has done with his gifts.

Father Daniel laughs with difficulty.

FATHER DANIEL
What do you think?

Father Daniel coughs, and starts to choke. The nurse rushes in.

NURSE
He’s losing too much blood. We need AB blood type.

Father Daniel opens his eyes.
FATHER DANIEL
Your Holiness, please ask Magnolia to contact, Solomon. He can donate, He’s my flesh and blood.

San Francisco understanding nods his and leaves the room.

INT. LOCAL PRISON - WAITING ROOM

San Francisco rushes to Magnolia.

SAN FRANCISCO
Father Daniel asks to contact Solomon to donate because he has the same blood type match.

Magnolia non hesitant dials Solomon.

MAGNOLIA
Hello, Solomon, hurry up, Father Daniel needs you here ASAP.

San Francisco impatiently nods in agreement. Magnolia worried, puts her cell phone away and sits next to San Francisco.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
He was already on his way here.

SAN FRANCISCO
I need to return to the Vatican, soon.

Magnolia aggravated looks at San Francisco.

MAGNOLIA
Of course, Your Holiness. I hope you could appreciate our work, and cleared Father Daniel’s name.

San Francisco satisfied turns to Magnolia.

SAN FRANCISCO
Father Daniel is a charismatic man, dedicated to his community. We need more disciples like him who follows the life of Jesus.

Magnolia smiles and Solomon who rushes in the door, breathless. Maria in tears stands next to Magnolia.

MARIA
How’s Father Daniel?
SOLOMON
I was already on my way here with mom, but the supporters outside held me back.

MAGNOLIA
Supporters? He’s inside waiting.

Solomon pulls out his cell phone, and shows a video of people holding up “Get well soon Father Daniel” and “We are praying for you” signs. San Francisco peeks at the video too.

MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
I was going to say, you’re faster than a ray of light. Hurry up, Father Daniel is losing blood and you are his only blood type match.

Magnolia crying out loud, surprised looks at San Francisco.

SOLOMON
The ONLY match?

Maria makes the sign of the cross. Solomon surprised looks at Maria as she nervously smiles.

MARIA
Go help your Father Daniel, all these people are concerned, praying for his health.

Ms. Launtry intensely smiles.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
I’m going to need a copy of that video.

San Francisco holds Solomon’s hands, surprising him.

SOLOMON
Your Holiness!

San Francisco makes the sign of the cross, respectfully bows his head and holds Magnolia hand.

SAN FRANCISCO
Let us pray!
In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. I pray for the well being of Father Daniel. May the Blood of Christ, bind all evil and deliver health to his body, soul and mind. Thank you Lord. Amen.
The custodian walks in the waiting room with a few signed paperwork in his hand.

CUSTODIAN
Ready for the transfusion?

Solomon looks at the papers, hesitantly looks at the custodian.

CUSTODIAN (CONT’D)
Oh no, these are signed petition the inmates signed to release Father Daniel without bail, since he teaches Bible studies, and teaches them how to read. He’s basically a saint.

Ms. Launtry approaches the custodian close.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
Can I take a picture of the petition?

The custodian imperatively disagrees.

CUSTODIAN
Sorry, you can’t use this material or publish these names, for PR stunts.

Ms. Launtry seductively smiles at the custodian.

MS. MONIQUE LAUNTRY
May I just mention the inmates’ goodwill to start a petition for Father Daniel?

The custodian slightly agrees and Ms. Launtry smiles. Solomon looks at Magnolia.

SOLOMON
Can we release Father Daniel with bail?

Magnolia slightly motivated but distrusting.

MAGNOLIA
Father Daniel wants to do the time. He didn’t let me post his bail. He said, it was the right thing to do.

The custodian rushes Solomon inside. San Francisco proudly turns to Magnolia.
MAGNOLIA (CONT’D)
His life is at stake now.

San Francisco gets serious.

SAN FRANCISCO
I need to return now.

EXT. LOCAL PRISON – DAY

Father Daniel’s supporters gather around the black SUV, with “Get well soon Father Daniel” and “We are praying for you” signs. San Francisco gets out of the car, to salute and pray with them while Ms. Launtry records it on video and takes pictures.

INT. PRISON’S INFIRMARY

Solomon enters to the infirmary, to find Father Daniel laying down, wrapped around in gazes, with a pale face and connected to an i.v.

SOLOMON
Who did this to you, Father?

Father Daniel looks at him, and slightly smiles.

FATHER DANIEL
Solomon, you came! Don’t worry about this, I deserve this.

The male nurse sits Solomon next to Father Daniel and prepares the transfusion.

MALE NURSE
We better hurry, he lost too much blood already.

Solomon nervously agrees.

SOLOMON
We’re all worried for you, even Your Holiness.

Father Daniel raises his eyebrows and smiles.

FATHER DANIEL
Come closer, son.

Father Daniel gestures with his other hand to Solomon, as he gets close to him.
FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)
(Whispers)
Fix this, son, replace to money.
This church is built in sin.

Father Daniel softly touches his wounds, he painfully moans and the male nurse separates them.

SOLOMON
Is it true? Are you really my father? Why didn’t you tell me before?

Father Daniel painfully smiles and nods his head in agreement.

SOLOMON (CONT’D)
You need to get well and get out of here, because I asked Angel to marry me.

Father Daniel strongly shakes his hand, staring deeply into Solomon’s eyes with tears in his eyes.

INT. PONTIFICAL OFFICE - VATICAN CITY

San Francisco is standing by a colorful tinted glass window, when Vivienne Leon enters the office slowly.

SAN FRANCISCO
Good Morning Ms. Leon, please enter, no need to be shy.

Vivienne Leon laughs, picking up the pace.

VIVIENNE LEON
Good Morning, Your Holiness. How was your travels?

San Francisco thoughtfully stares and sweetly smiles.

SAN FRANCISCO
I visited the Sacred Heart, and I must say, that I admire the dedication and effort, Father Daniel puts towards his community, and his church.

Ms. Leon surprised raises her eyebrows and smiles.

VIVIENNE LEON
What about the fraud charges?

San Francisco walks slowly leans on his desk.
SAN FRANCISCO
I believe he used desperate measures, in desperate times. He’s paying for it, but I think we need to investigate Bishop Jude, instead.

Vivienne Leon pays close attention to San Francisco.

He eagerly harassed me during my visit, seeking Father Daniel’s punishment.

Vivienne Leon smiles, finding validation, she bows her head.

VIVIENNE LEON
Following my instinct, I already began a detailed investigation.

San Francisco walks towards the door, opens it, and Vivienne walks out.

SAN FRANCISCO
God knows we need more Father Daniel’s.

San Francisco shuts the door.

INT. VATICAN BANK SUPERINTENDENT - IOR

Vivienne Leon picks the phone.

VIVIENNE LEON
Your Holiness, I just received news from computer department, the misplaced funds from the Sacred Heart, have just been found. It’s what you call- an act of God.

Vivienne Leon satisfied smiles and hangs up the phone.

INT. PONTIFICAL OFFICE - VATICAN CITY

San Francisco shakes hands with arrogant Deacon in his office. They both sits down as arrogant Deacon opens Bishop Jude’s accounting books to San Francisco and Edgard Golio.

INT. PENITENTIARY JAIL CELL

Under the flickering fluorescent light of a a 10 X 12 feet prison cell, FATHER DANIEL sits on the lower deck of a bunker bed, reading THE BIBLE.
FATHER DANIEL (V.O.)
"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

SFX LOUD SOUND OF WOODEN STICK DRAGGING ON JAIL BARS

FATHER DANIEL (V.O.)
He makes me lie down in green pastures;

SFX A LOUD SOUND OF A WOODEN STICK ACROSS THE BARS

FATHER DANIEL (V.O.)
He leads me beside still waters;
He restores my soul.

Custodian stands in front of the Father’s cell, starring at him.

CUSTODIAN
Get up Father, get ready, you’re getting out now.

Father Daniel puts the Bible on the side.

FATHER DANIEL (V.O.)
He leads me in right paths For His Name's sake

Father Daniel stares at the custodian confused.

CUSTODIAN
That’s right, there must be a God out there looking out for you (beat) They got nothing on you, Father.

Father Daniel slowly stands up, changes to his habit gown and collar.

INT. SACRED HEART CHURCH - DAY

Magnolia and Angel are setting up foldable tables, Maria and Mrs. Mooney are unfolding chairs and Ms. Launtry is serving drinks in plastic cups.

MARIA
I can’t believe Father Daniel will be finally back, with us soon.
Mrs. Mooney impatiently looks around.

MRS. MOONEY
The Hacienda is a lot bigger than this, besides Father Daniel, hasn’t seen it lately.

Magnolia rolls her eyes.

MAGNOLIA
There will be time for that Mrs. Mooney. We don’t want to overwhelm Father too soon.

Angel gets next to Magnolia.

ANGEL
Solomon must be waiting outside, let’s go get him now.

EXT. LOCAL PRISON PARKING LOT- DAY

SFX RUSTY PRISON DOOR UNLOCKING LOUD / RUSTY DOOR OPENS

Father Daniel slowly walks out, wearing his religious habit. Solomon flickers the lights of a blue sedan.

DISSOLVE TO:

TV SCREEN SHOT

Female TV news anchor reports, a video on the right, of people protesting outside the local prison with signs “Free Father Daniel”.

TV NEWS ANCHOR
Local Catholic Church leader, Father Daniel, has been released from prison. He was accused of fraud, but nothing has been proven. (beat) After six months in prison, and a visit of Your Holiness, himself, Father Daniel, today is a free man of God. Many of his supporters stood by him all along the way.

Father Daniel stands waving his hand, as the car pulls over slowly, he gets in the car.
INT. BISHOP JUDE OFFICE

Bishop Jude is getting handcuffed by policemen and escorted out of his office. He fights back and finally walks out with his head low.

INT. SOLOMON’S CAR

Solomon proudly looks directly at Father Daniel eyes.

SOLOMON
Ready, Father? This is the first day, of the rest of your life.

Magnolia excited jumps from the back seat, to kiss Father Daniel, on the cheek.

MAGNOLIA
We’re on a roll, Father, we’re on a mission from the above.

They all laugh.

SOLOMON
I have a surprise for you.

Solomon shows his tablet to Father Daniel.

TABLET SCREEN CLOSE UP

Solomon types www.minebit.com, enters User Name: Opulence, Password: SacredHeart

SOLOMON
I made you a wallet.

Father Daniel ignorantly and wickedly laughs.

SOLOMON (CONT’D)
Okay that means that I made you a bitcoin account, a non regulated digital currency account. Remember the 10% of every transaction the VATS made?, Well that amounted to this:

ON SCREEN CLOSE UP - TOTAL IN ACCOUNT: 777,000,000.00

Father Daniel raises his eyebrows, and scratches the back of his head. Solomon laughs out loud proudly.
SOLOMON (CONT’D)

Don’t worry, you won’t get busted
this time.

Solomon proudly looks at them all.

SOLOMON (CONT’D)

Do you believe in miracles, Father
Daniel? This is our church, taking
care of its own.

Father Daniel shocked, shakes his head.

ANGEL

I have a list of worldwide
charities we should help.

Father Daniel pauses, looks at Magnolia and then turns to
Solomon with a big smile.

FATHER DANIEL

Even if your intentions are to take
care of others. I learned the hard
way, that we also need to start to
take care of ourselves too.

Solomon turns on the engine of the car.

FATHER DANIEL (CONT’D)

I’ve been away from your life and
Maria’s.

Solomon looks at Father Daniel from the corner of his eye
confused and smiles.

SOLOMON

I still don’t know why she never
told me. I’ve taken care of her.

Father Daniel thoughtfully stares in at Solomon’s face.

FATHER DANIEL

If these digital bitcoins is our
way to give back to humanity, I
will have to say: Amen!

The car drives off fast.

SFX LOUD CAR ENGINE SOUND

–The End–

FADE OUT