THE LAST GOODBYE

by

Rick McCormick

2322 Aralia Street Newport Beach, CA 92660 rickmick_99@yahoo.com

FADE IN:

INT. TRAVIS'S STUDIO APARTMENT - DAY

The cold, dark, nearly empty, studio apartment looks like it hasn't been cleaned in years. Spider webs have a stranglehold on the window blinds which are all closed.

The walls are blank except for a black and white, eight by ten photo of a young husband and wife, and their little girl on a tricycle in front of a typical house built in the nineteen fifties.

A kneel pillow rests on the floor before a crucifix on the wall.

The fragile, pale occupant, TRAVIS HOSMER (60), white, quiet, extremely distant, unkempt, always dressed in black, reads his Bible under a dim light in his worn, La-Z-Boy chair.

Travis sets his Bible down and heads over to a window. He pulls the blind slightly away from the large window, stretching a cobweb and blasting sunshine into his squinting eyes. The window has steel bars on the outside.

A busy boardwalk, loaded with skaters, pedestrians, and bicyclists, separates Travis's apartment from the beach.

Travis looks past the boardwalk activity at SARAH BARROW (55), a shy, beautiful, homeless woman who always dons the same stylish, wide brim hat.

Several, large trash bags, with all her possessions, surrounds Sarah. A smile grows on Travis as he admires her.

Travis pushes the blind up against the window frame to not allow any sunlight through.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

SALESMAN (30), RINGS Travis's doorbell.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

Travis freezes. He stares at the front door which is laden with cobwebs. He bites his fingernails as he paces the room.

Travis meanders to the front door. He anxiously peeks through the peephole.

KNOCKING. Travis covers his ears. He nervously takes a seat in his worn La-Z-Boy chair. He stares at the door.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

Salesman leaves.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

Travis HEARS Salesman leaving down the front steps. He LOUDLY EXHALES.

Travis pulls slightly on the window blind. He stares at Sarah with a gentle smile.

Travis gets up and strides toward the front door. He freezes. Travis sits down in the chair. Travis nervously rubs his hands together. He stares uncomfortably at the door.

Travis marches toward the door. He puts on a hat and sunglasses. Travis grabs a large trash bag. He peeks through the door peephole. He takes a DEEP breath and cracks open the door.

EXT. BOARDWALK - DAY

Travis checks up and down the street to make sure no one is near. He slips out the door, pulls his cap down, and creeps toward Sarah.

Travis stops. He looks around nervously before scurrying back to his apartment.

INTERCUT - TV STUDIO/RECTORY/VARIOUS HOMES

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

The stage is good size. The seating capacity is three hundred.

AUDIENCE

An EMPLOYEE (20), passes out packets of Kleenex to the somber audience. This will not be a fun TV game show.

BACKSTAGE

The TV show producer, KEN SHOEMAKER, 55, well-respected, and the TV show hostess, his gorgeous daughter, CHRISTIE SHOEMAKER, 25, kind, conscientious, give last minute advice to guest, FORMER MOVIE STAR, 80, frail, wheelchair-bound.

Ken massages Former Movie Star's shoulders like a boxing coach warming up his boxer before a fight.

KEN

Thank you for coming.

CHRISTIE

I'm sure you'll do fine.

KEN

Don't let Corey give you any sass.

Across the stage, behind the curtain, the TV show host, COREY DOZIER, 50, cynical, nasty, rapidly punches the air like a boxer warming up for a fight.

Corey shoots a sinister grin at Ken who's not happy.

KEN

Just do your best.

STAGE

A standard foldup chair rests next to a lectern. Next to the chair is a much larger, La-Z-Boy chair.

A WORKER, just off stage, jumps up and down CLAPPING his hands to excite the audience. The audience ecstatically CLAPS and WHISTLES.

CURTAIN MAN pulls a rope which opens a curtain at the back of the stage.

TV SHOW ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Welcome to The Last Goodbye Show! Here's your host, Corey Dozier!

Corey strides out with a wide grin under the bright lights.

COREY

Wow! Thank you very much! Welcome to America's favorite television show...The Last Goodbye Show...the show where you get to see the guaranteed last interview of famous celebrities!

BACKSTAGE

Worry lines cut deeply into Ken's and Christie's face.

KEN

Good luck.

ON STAGE

Christie rolls the elderly lady onto the stage like an antelope being dropped off in front of a lion.

COREY

Now let's meet this week's guest, former movie star...

INT. RECTORY MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

A TV plays "The Last Goodbye Show." Bowls of chips and pretzels, and bottles of beer rest on a poker table.

FATHER JOSEPH TRAN, 40, Vietnamese, DOCTOR BRIAN MAYBIN, psychologist, secularist, resourceful, and OTHERS exchange money for poker chips.

A priest peers into the room with a look of utter disgust as Father Joseph shuffles the cards.

ON TV

COREY (V.O.)

You were very lucky that we could bring you musician Ben Cadis on last week's show as he just passed away yesterday.

INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - DAY

Travis reads the last page of the Bible. He closes the book. He labors to get up, and walks to the large window.

Travis slightly pulls the blind away from the large window, stretching a cobweb and blasting a ray of sunshine into his squinting eyes.

Travis sees Sarah next to a shopping cart loaded with large trash bags. He smiles.

INT. DEBBIE DOWNS' HOME - NIGHT

The same black and white, eight by ten photo of the husband and wife, and their little girl on a tricycle that was in Travis's apartment, is on a wall.

Travis's daughter, DEBBIE DOWNS, 35, white, leery, guarded, her husband, RICK DOWNS, 38, friendly, and their daughter, REBECCA DOWNS, 12, curious, adorable, enjoy popcorn as they watch "The Last Goodbye Show."

INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Travis kneels in front of the crucifix.

He makes the sign of the cross, gets up, and reclines in his La-Z-Boy. He opens his Bible to page one and reads.

LATER

Travis sets his Bible on the nightstand.

KITCHEN

Travis cringes with every empty cupboard he opens. He disappointedly opens his last empty cupboard. He grimaces, and then looks towards the front door.

Travis peeks outside the window which overlooks the boardwalk. The sunny day has attracted several beachgoers. He slowly closes the blind. He stares uncomfortably at the front door.

Travis gets up and moves toward the door. He stops on a dime. He scurries back and sits down in the chair. He stares frighteningly at the door.

Travis gets up and creeps toward the door without taking his eyes off of it. He quickly returns to the chair, GASPING for air. Travis shakes his head as he stares at the door.

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

Former Movie Star BLUBBERS on Corey's shoulder. Corey pushes her back and uses his hand to brush the tears off his suit.

COREY

Alright, we've heard enough about your mediocre career. It's time to sign off on the agreement.

Christie walks glumly out on stage with a document and pen. She hands them to Former Movie Star who signs the document and CRIES LOUDLY.

BACKSTAGE

Curtain Man pulls the rope.

ON STAGE

The curtain opens at the back of the stage. Corey yanks the document from her.

COREY

Thanks for coming.

The audience APPLAUDS as Christie wheels waving and BLUBBERING Former Movie Star off.

Christie turns Former Movie Star's wheelchair so she faces the audience. Former Movie Star takes her very last bow.

Christie backs the wheelchair up. The curtain closes in front of them.

COREY

Remember, if you'd like to request a celebrity to be on our show, please let us know.

INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Travis reads his Bible. KNOCKING. Travis panics. He stares at the front door.

PIZZA DELIVERY BOY (O.S.)

Pizza delivery!

Travis slowly approaches the door with a twenty dollar bill and a note which reads, "PLEASE LEAVE PIZZA AT DOOR. KEEP THE CHANGE." KNOCKING.

PIZZA DELIVERY BOY (O.S.)

Pizza!

Travis checks the peephole. He sees PIZZA DELIVERY BOY.

PIZZA DELIVERY BOY (O.S.)

Pizza!

EXT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The twenty dollar bill and the note slide out from under the door. Pizza Delivery Boy picks up the bill and note. An odd look comes over him. He leaves the pizza box at the door.

INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Travis looks through the peephole. The SOUND of a CAR STARTING and LEAVING.

TRAVIS slowly opens the door while carefully keeping watch on his surroundings. He picks up the pizza box and immediately closes the door.

LATER

Travis uses a napkin to wipe his mouth. There are two pieces of pizza in the box.

Travis heads to the kitchen with the pizza box. He's about to open the refrigerator. He stops.

Travis moves to the window. He slightly pulls the blind. He sees Sarah.

Travis places the two pizza slices on a paper plate. He places the plate in the microwave.

Travis heads toward the front door with the plate and a towel. He stops. He sits down in his chair. Travis squirms in his chair. He stares at the front door.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APT. - NIGHT

Travis slips out the front door looking all around. He heads toward the boardwalk. He slows when he sees Sarah.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Travis mouths words and makes gesticulations, practicing what he will say to Sarah.

Travis slows down as he approaches Sarah from behind. His hands shake. He stops. His legs shake.

Travis apprehensively places the plate of pizza on the towel behind Sarah. He races back to his apartment.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - NIGHT

Travis hastily moves to the window overlooking the beach. He pulls the blind slightly out.

Travis sees the plate still behind Sarah.

Seagulls SWARM the plate. Sarah runs away SCREAMING. The birds devour the pizza.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

Travis checks his old, dirty wall clock. It reads 6:01 a.m. He moves the window blind and peeks outside the window. The boardwalk and beach are empty.

Travis sits nervously in his La-Z-Boy chair. He stares at the door.

Travis gets up and moves toward the door. He sits down in the chair. He stares at the door.

Travis peeks outside the window. No one is on the beach or boardwalk. He stares at the door.

Travis moves toward the door. He puts on a hat and sunglasses. Travis grabs a large trash bag. He peeks through the door peephole. He takes a DEEP BREATH.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

Travis carefully checks his surroundings. No one is around. He walks along the boardwalk.

A woman approaches from the opposite direction.

An uncomfortable Travis shuffles over to a large, beach trash can. He pretends to rummage through the trash can. The woman passes. Travis continues along the boardwalk.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Travis slips in through the back door, checking to make sure no one is around. He dips his fingers into a holy water bowl and makes the sign of the cross. He quietly enters the cavernous church.

Travis kneels in the back, dark pew. Only a few gray or blue haired ladies, including GLADYS PERKINS, 70, black, generous, sit in the front pews. Travis pulls out a rosary and prays.

LATER

Travis listens as PRIEST (60), gives a sermon.

PRIEST

Your life is your gift from God, and what you do with your life is your gift back to God.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Travis puts several canned goods and ramen noodle packages into his shopping basket.

Travis notices Halloween promotion signs and candy. He hesitates. Travis sweats. He places a couple of the bags into his basket.

Travis pays for the merchandise with a hundred dollar bill. The CASHIEIR eyes Travis. She holds the bill up to the light, and inspects it from every angle while Travis bags his groceries using his own large trash bag.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

Travis eats Halloween candy as he reads his Bible. KNOCKING. A startled Travis stares frighteningly at the door.

GLADYS (O.S.)

Hello! It's Gladys, the Eucharist Lady!

Travis heads slowly toward the door.

GLADYS (O.S.)

Hello! Are you in there?

Travis peeks through the peephole. He sees Gladys. He slowly opens the mail slot in the door.

GLADYS

The body of Christ.

A black hand passes a Eucharist wafer through the mail slot.

TRAVIS

Amen.

Travis takes the wafer, places it in his mouth, and makes the sign of the cross.

TRAVIS

I'm...I'm sorry.

GLADYS

That's alright. See you tomorrow.

Travis closes the mail slot.

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

The audience CLAPS WILDLY. Corey walks out on stage under the bright lights.

COREY

Wow! Thank you very much! Welcome to America's favorite television show...The Last Goodbye Show...the show where you get to see the guaranteed last interview of famous celebrities!

A black man, LAMONT PRESLEY, 60, humble, paces between Ken and Christie.

COREY

Let's meet this week's special guest, former baseball player and member of the Hall of Fame, Lamont Presley!

Christie escorts Lamont out on stage. Lamont waves to the audience. He shakes hands with Corey. The two men take their seats.

INTERCUT - TV STUDIO/TRAVIS'S APARTMENT/VARIOUS HOMES

INT. RECTORY MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

A TV plays "The Last Goodbye Show." Bowls of chips and pretzels, and bottles of beer rest on a poker table. Father Joseph deals the cards to Dr. Maybin, and the other players.

INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Travis eats Halloween candy as he reads his Bible. There are numerous empty candy wrappers on the light stand.

INT. DEBBIE DOWNS' HOME - NIGHT

Several floral arrangements adorn the family room.

REBECCA

Will I get to meet Grandpa at the funeral?

The Downs family watches "The Last Goodbye Show."

DEBBIE

I doubt he'll be there.

REBECCA

Didn't he love Grandma?

DEBBIE

Of course, but he just isn't himself anymore.

REBECCA

Will I ever meet Grandpa?

FRANK

We don't know where he is, honey.

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

Corey and Lamont take their seats. Next to Lamont's seat is the lectern.

COREY

We know your treatments aren't going so well, so, thanks for coming.

LAMONT

Thanks for having me. No, they're not. They found tumors in my liver.

COREY

That's common with anabolic steroids.

LAMONT

Yeah.

Lamont's eyes well with tears.

COREY

My understanding is it's spread to other areas.

LAMONT

It's spread to my brain.

Lamont's voice CRACKS.

LAMONT

They say I've got less than three months.

The audience GASPS. Some dry their eyes with handkerchiefs.

COREY

I'm sorry to hear that. Thanks for letting us hear your story under these circumstances.

LAMONT

Yeah.

COREY

I heard you recently shook hands with a Great White shark.

The audience is surprised.

LAMONT

It's something I always wanted to do...see a Great White. I've been knocking off one thing at a time off my bucket list.

COREY

But you touched one?

LAMONT

Yup, hands down, greatest thrill of my life. It got close enough to the cage that I could reached out and shake it's arm.

COREY

Weren't you afraid it would bite it off?

LAMONT

Heck, yeah, but I figured, what the heck, I'm not going to be around much longer.

The audience LAUGHS.

LAMONT

I asked the captain's mate how many people had touched a Great White. He said maybe five hundred.

COREY

And how many Great Whites have touched humans...but those humans are no longer with us?

BACKSTAGE

Ken and Christie cringe and shake their heads.

ON STAGE

COREY

We're just receiving word that Angela Hosmer, wife of movie star legend Travis Hosmer, has passed away.

The audience is saddened.

LAMONT

I'm sorry to hear that. What ever happened to him?

COREY

He became a recluse. No one's heard from him in years. Now, you had a history of DUIs, drug abuse.

LAMONT

Yeah.

COREY

And the arrests for drug sales, spousal abuse.

LAMONT

I'm not proud of that. I got help for both, and I pray everyday for forgiveness.

COREY

You believe there's a God?

LAMONT

Oh, yes, there's a God's. Don't you believe?

COREY

No. Let's open it up to our audience.

A HEAVY MAN, 60, stands at a microphone.

HEAVY MAN

I caught your six hundredth home run at Wrigley. When I turned to show it to my son, he threw it back on the field because you were on the other team.

The audience LAUGHS.

HEAVY MAN

You heard about it, got the ball, signed it, and gave it back to me. I just wanted to thank you.

LAMONT

I remember you. It was my pleasure.

A BEARDED MAN steps up to the microphone.

BEARDED MAN

What made you finally give up drugs?

LAMONT

I had a lot of friends and colleagues who died from drugs. My wife and kids suffered because of my bad choices. God had given me a special body, a special gift to play professional baseball. I didn't want to ruin it.

COREY

Lamont, we're at the point of the show where it's time to do your 'Last Shout Of Your Life.'

With watery eyes, Lamont tries to gather his thoughts.

LAMONT

I never thought, growing up in Mississippi, that I'd have the life I've had. I thank God for this. I'm so thankful for you, the fans, for such wonderful support.

SNIFFLING in the audience.

LAMONT

You put up with me through the ups and downs, and I hope God has, too.

Corey has a questioning look.

LAMONT

Know that no matter how bad you've been, God will always forgive you.

Corey is not buying this.

LAMONT

If you're going down the wrong path, turn around. The longer you go down the wrong path, the harder it is to get back on track, but know that you always can, because he's always with you and will always forgive you.

Many in the audience dry their eyes with their shirt sleeves and handkerchiefs.

LAMONT

Do what is right and you'll never go wrong.

COREY

We're just about out of time. Good luck with the last three months.

Lamont's eyes well.

LAMONT

Thank you.

The audience APPLAUDS ECSTATICALLY.

Christie comes out with a document.

COREY

Christie has your agreement to sign.

Corey takes pleasure in seeing Lamont sign the document on the lectern with tears streaming down his cheeks.

BACKSTAGE

Curtain Man holds the rope.

ON STAGE

Christie escorts Lamont to the back of the stage. Lamont waves to the standing, CHEERING audience. Many CRY and BLOW their noses.

Lamont blows kisses and mouths the words "THANK YOU" repeatedly. Lamont takes his final bow. The curtain is slowly lowered in front of him.

COREY

Remember, if you'd like to request a celebrity to be on our show, let us know at the address on your screen.

INT. TV STUDIO OFFICE - DAY

A stunned Ken supervises several CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES answering phones RINGING off the hook. Corey enters.

COREY

Travis Hosmer?

KEN

Yup.

COREY

We've looked all over...his relatives, his former agent. No one knows where he is!

KEN

We've got a detective going to his wife's funeral.

COREY

If he didn't show up at the hospital when she had cancer, he won't show up at her funeral.

KEN

He's gotta be somewhere.

COREY

He could've bought a remote island and died in the jungle.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Private Investigator RAQUEL WARD, 45, determined, eyes the arriving mourners, including Debbie, Rick, and Rebecca.

Debbie looks all around her for Travis. A look of disapproval is etched on her face when she can't find him.

LATER

The last mourners head to their cars. Raquel tosses a rose onto the gravesite.

INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - DAY

Travis reads his Bible in his worn La-Z-Boy under a dim light. Lots of empty candy wrappers strewn across the light stand.

Travis reaches into the candy bowl, only to find it empty. He jerks his neck to the side. He stares at the door. He checks the clock on the wall which reads 6:03 a.m.

Travis slightly pulls the blind away from the large window, stretching a cobweb. The beach and boardwalk are empty.

Travis heads toward the door. He sits down in the chair. He stares at the door.

Travis moves toward the door. He puts on a hat and sunglasses. Travis grabs a large trash bag. He peeks through the door peephole. He takes a DEEP breath, and leaves.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

It's nearly empty except for the usual gray and blue haired ladies. Travis prays with his rosary in the last pew.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

A few bags of Halloween candy are on the checkout counter.

Travis hands the cashier a one hundred dollar bill. The cashier eyes Travis, then inspects the bill from every angle. Travis bags his own groceries using his large trash bag.

INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - DAY

Travis eats Halloween candy while reading his Bible. KNOCKING. Travis nervously stares at the door.

GLADYS

It's Gladys with the Eucharist!

Travis cautiously steps toward the door. He checks the peephole. He opens the mail slot. A black hand comes through the slot with a Eucharist wafer.

GLADYS

The body of Christ.

TRAVIS

Amen.

Travis makes the sign of the cross.

TRAVIS

I'm sorry.

GLADYS

That's alright. See you tomorrow.

Travis closes the mail slot. He checks the peephole.

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

The audience CLAPS LOUDLY.

COREY

Now let's meet this week's guest, comedian Carol Schafer!

The curtain opens. Out saunters comedian CAROL SCHAFER (70), heavy, amusing, cheerful, wearing a poncho. The audience ROARS.

INTERCUT - TV STUDIO/VARIOUS HOMES/TRAVIS'S APT.

INT. DEBBIE DOWNS' RESIDENCE - NIGHT

The floral arrangements are wilting at the Downs home. Rebecca, Rick, and Debbie Downs enjoy popcorn.

Corey and Carol take their seats.

COREY

Are you expecting a food fight?

CAROL SCHAFER

I didn't want you crying on my nice clothes.

Audience LAUGHS. Carol takes off her poncho.

COREY

Like that'd happen. I expect you'll be crying a river.

CAROL SCHAFER

I don't cry. I'm a comedian. It's bad for business.

LAUGHTER.

COREY

I was so sorry to hear you got cancer.

CAROL SCHAFER

No, you weren't. You were thinking, I'm going to lock up the last interview with her.

Audience LAUGHS.

CAROL SCHAFER

Probably licking your chops, drooling all over. We know you, Corey.

Audience CHUCKLES.

COREY

What have you been doing with your life?

INT. PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR WARD'S RESIDENCE - NIGHT

P.I. Ward TAPS computer keys. She scans the website "Friends of Travis Hosmer."

CAROL SCHAFER

I've gotten into running and biking.

COREY

At your age?

CAROL SCHAFER

Thanks, Corey. Yeah, we old people can't do anything, except, eat, sleep, and drool.

The audience CACKLES.

COREY

I know you can, but...

CAROL SCHAFER

How many out there ride bikes?

Several hands in the audience go up.

CAROL SCHAFER

You're may be the dumbest people on Earth.

The audience CACKLES.

CAROL SCHAFER

Let's ride two or three wide in a tiny bike lane while SUVs whiz by at seventy miles an hour.

The audience WHOOPS.

CAROL SCHAFER

If we ride single file, we can't talk to each other. Next thing you know, they'll allow tricycles on the track at the Indy five hundred. Any runners out there?

Several hands go up.

CAROL SCHAFER

You're the second dumbest.

The audience LAUGHS.

INT. RECTORY - NIGHT

Father Tran, Dr. Maybin, and the other poker regulars play cards with the TV playing "The Last Goodbye Show."

CAROL SCHAFER

Let's run in the street with traffic when there's a safe sidewalk right next to you. Half you guys could fit into a straw.

More LAUGHTER.

CAROL SCHAFER

I've never understood you guys. For pete's sake, enjoy life and have ice cream once a year on your birthday. You run even if there's an eighty mile an hour wind and rain in your face.

CACKLING.

CAROL SCHAFER

BAM! Hit by a truck. All that exercising and watching what you eat out the window. Hey, but at least you got to talk to the other bikers...find out what they had for dinner the night before.

Audience BUSTING UP.

INT. PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR WARD'S RESIDENCE - NIGHT

P.I. Ward scans the IMBD website showing Travis's agent's name and phone number.

COREY

Let's turn it over to the audience.

A TALL MAN (50), stands behind the microphone.

TALL MAN

Tells us about your episode with the Secret Service.

CAROL SCHAFER

It wasn't more than an hour after my show that two agents knocked on my hotel door. Seems they thought I went a little too far with my

CAROL SCHAFER cracks about the President. One of the two was a tall, dark, handsome, young man. No one I'd be interested in.

LAUGHTER.

CAROL SCHAFER
Probably his first day on the job.
The older one orders the young one
to frisk me. Thank, God. I
wouldn't have minded if he had
gone a little too far with me.
Next time, I'll threaten the
President. That oughta get me a
good frisking.

LAUGHTER.

CAROL SCHAFER
Yeah, that's it. A little more to
the right. As they left, the
young one secretly whips out my
eight by ten glossy and asks for
my autograph. I signed it, and
gave him my phone number.

The audience BUSTS UP.

CAROL SCHAFER Never heard from him.

A BEAUTIFUL REDHEAD (40), stands behind the microphone.

BEAUTIFUL REDHEAD Tell us something that we don't know about you.

CAROL SCHAFER
Everyone thinks we just do this
for the money. Nothing could be
further from the truth. It's very
competitive. There are no
guarantees.

Carol's eyes well.

CAROL SCHAFER
Maybe something you don't know is
that I really, really love you,
more than anything. You keep me
going when I'm down.

Carol chokes up.

CAROL SCHAFER

I don't get as many letters as before. I miss that.

Carol sees the many sad faces in the audience.

CAROL SCHAFER

Don't make me put my poncho on.

The audience LAUGHS.

CAROL SCHAFER

Maybe after this show I'll get more. If you do write, you better do it fast 'cause I might not be around a whole lot longer. You probably shouldn't snail mail it.

The audience LAUGHS.

CAROL SCHAFER

To get a letter from a fan...it lifts you to a whole new level.

She has the audience's attention.

CAROL SCHAFER

Some celebrities get caught up in the life...let their egos run wild. They think they're better than others. It's what many fans wish they were a part of. The life you have is the life God wants you to have.

Smiles appear on the faces of the audience, but Corey's not buying it.

CAROL SCHAFER

What we need to do in return is to have a life that makes God proud. Helping others that aren't as fortunate. Hopefully, I've made other people's lives happier, and made God proud.

The audience appears in a trance.

COREY

Okay, Carol. It's time to have you sign your agreement.

GROANS. Christie walks over with the document.

Carol looks over the crowd with tears streaming down her face and quivering lips.

Carol and the audience wipe away tears.

COREY

Remember, this is your last interview ever.

CAROL SCHAFER

I understand.

Carol signs the document on the podium.

A gloomy Carol walks to the back of the stage. The audience CLAPS.

Carol takes her final bow to THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE. She waves. The audience BLUBBERS. The curtain closes in front of her.

COREY

We've been receiving a lot of e-mails requesting Travis Hosmer on our program. We haven't been successful in locating him, but we'll keep trying. Thank you, and good night everyone.

Corey exits from the stage.

END INTERCUT

TV STUDIO OFFICE

The phones are RINGING off the hook. Corey enters with a look of disbelief. The customer service representatives try to keep up with the calls.

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

Christie escorts a BLUBBERING CELEBRITY off the stage. The celebrity cries profusely as she waves, takes her bow, and heads off stage. The curtain closes.

A "Did that just really happen?" look comes across Corey.

COREY

We're still receiving lots of requests for Travis Hosmer.

INTERCUT - TV STUDIO/VARIOUS HOMES/RECTORY

Photos of what Travis could look like today are shown on TV.

COREY

We could use your help in finding Travis. Here are some artist renderings of what he may look like today. Next week we will have his co-star in many of his movies, Frank Phelps, as our guest. See you next week.

INT. NATHAN ERLIN'S HOME - NIGHT

NATHAN ERLIN, 45, computer geek, studies the time enhanced photos of Travis.

Corey strolls off stage.

Corey and FRANK PHELPS, 60, friendly, kind, are seated on stage.

COREY

When was the last time you saw Travis?

FRANK

Twenty-four, twenty-five years ago. We did a benefit for Children's Hospital.

INTERCUT - DEBBIE DOWNS HOME/RECTORY

Debbie, Rick, and Rebecca enjoy popcorn and watch "The Last Goodbye Show."

COREY

That's about the last anyone saw of him. What happened with him?

FRANK

He just avoided everyone.

COREY

Why? He was an outgoing actor.

FRANK

He had APD.

Father Joseph, Doctor Maybin, and the rest of the players play poker.

COREY

APD?

FRANK

Avoidant Personality Disorder. People who won't go outside.

COREY

Didn't know there was such a thing. They don't go outside?

FRANK

Hard to imagine.

COREY

Might as well be on the moon. Do you think he's still alive?

Frank's eyes get watery.

FRANK

I sure hope so.

COREY

Let's turn it over to the audience.

OLD MAN (80), curmudgeon, stands with a cane.

OLD MAN

What do you think caused his APD?

FRANK

I don' know. Travis was working long, hard hours. He slowly developed an overwhelming anxiety and severe depression.

COREY

Oh, no. He never contemplated...

FRANK

I don't think so. I hope not.

COREY

But he could have and we'd never know it, say, if he drowned in the ocean?

GRUMBLING from the audience.

FRANK

He would stay in bed long hours.

COREY

So you visited him?

FRANK

Yeah. His room would be pitch black. We'd try to get him out for walks in the sun--

COREY

Who's we?

FRANK

His wife, Angela, his agent, heads at the studio, and I. We tried to get him help. He'd say, Frank, I just can't get out of bed. I just can't do it.

The melancholy audience looks on.

COREY

That's awful.

FRANK

The studios finally had to let him go.

COREY

So the bit about the argument with the studio exec--

FRANK

Made up to hide the depression.

COREY

Wow.

YOUNG MAN (20), stands at the microphone.

YOUNG MAN

Where was his last known address?

FRANK

Newport Beach. He loved the ocean.

YOUNG MAN

Do you think that's where he might be?

FRANK

I don't know. I searched for years down there and the surrounding area.

Frank's lips quiver. He drops his head and covers his face with is hands.

The audience is saddened.

COREY

We're going to take a break. Be back after these words.

Christie brings out a box of Kleenex and bottle of water. Frank dries his eyes with a Kleenex, and drinks the water. Corey relishes Frank's pain.

COREY

(Whispers to Christie)

Great TV, huh?

A disgusted Christie storms off.

COREY

We're back now with Travis Hosmer's co-star of many films, Frank Phelps.

A YOUNG LADY (20), stands behind the microphone.

YOUNG LADY

Does he have any relatives, and if so, have you been in contact with them.

Rick sees Debbie perk up.

FRANK

I haven't spoken with them in years. He recently lost his wife, as you know. He has one daughter and a granddaughter he's never met. The daughter and he had a falling out.

Debbie's eyes get moist.

COREY

Why?

FRANK

I think the APD thing was too much for her.

Debbie's eyes well with tears.

COREY

So they disowned him?

FRANK

It's a tough thing. Imagine, living with someone who won't leave the house.

Tears roll down Debbie's cheeks. Rick comforts Debbie.

LATER

Christie brings out the documents. The audience APPLAUDS.

Frank signs the documents with tears streaming down his face. He walks off waving and takes his final bow. The curtain comes down before him.

END INTERCUT

INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - DAY

Travis takes a DEEP breath at the front door. He turns the doorknob and cracks the door. He peeks outside. He exits in his urban camouflage.

EXT. CHURCH - DAY

Travis pulls his hat low on his head. He scurries down the church steps, holding his large trash bag.

EXT. BOARDWALK - DAY

Travis moves quickly alongside the beach.

Nathan walks in the opposite direction toward Travis.

Travis spots Nathan. He moves onto the beach. Nathan keeps an eye on suspicious Travis.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Travis picks up empty water bottles and places it into his large trash bag while keeping on an on Nathan out of the corner of his eye.

Nathan saunters closer to Travis. He picks up an empty soda can and heads toward Travis.

Travis sees Nathan heading towards him and moves back toward the boardwalk. Nathan cuts him off and gets a good look at nervous Travis. Nathan is surprised.

EXT. BOARDWALK - DAY

Nathan trails Travis from a distance. He watches Travis avoid a passerby by going out of his way onto the beach around the passerby, and then get back onto the boardwalk.

Travis turns around. Nathan quickly ducks out of sight behind a palm tree. Travis continues on. Nathan follows him.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - DAY

From a distance, Nathan watches Travis enter his apartment.

INT. TV STUDIO OFFICE - DAY

Christie has a phone to her ear. Ken is next to her.

CHRISTIE

Thank you very much. We'll look into it.

Christie hangs up.

CHRISTIE

A guy thinks he saw him...in Newport Beach.

KEN

Let's go.

They immediately head for the door.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - DAY

Ken and Christie stand at the front door. Ken KNOCKS.

INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - DAY

Travis stares frighteningly at the door. KNOCKING.

KEN

Mr. Hosmer! Are you in there?

A terrified Travis shakes uncontrollably.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - DAY

Ken and Christie head down the front steps. Christie sees a NEIGHBOR gardening in their front yard.

CHRISTIE

Who lives here?

GARDENING NEIGHBOR

Some homeless guy. He never comes out.

KEN

A homeless guy? Lives here? How old would you say he is?

GARDENING NEIGHBOR

I don't know, sixty-five, seventy?

Ken hands the neighbor his card.

KEN

Please let me know if you see him.

Ken and Christie get into their car, and drive off.

INT. P.I. WARD'S CAR - DAY

Private Investigator Ward stakes out Travis's apartment from across the street.

- P.I. Ward sees Travis's door open, slightly. She sees Travis in his homeless, urban camouflage disguise exit his apartment.
- P.I. Ward stealthily exits her car. She follows Travis from a distance, along the boardwalk.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Travis sits in his usual last pew. P.I. Ward furtively keeps an eye on him.

EXT. CHURCH - DAY

P.I. Ward stands behind a tree. She sees Travis exit the church. She walks toward him. Travis keeps his head down and moves at an angle to avoid close proximity to P.I. Ward.

A frustrated P.I. Ward can't make out an identity because of Travis's hat and sunglasses.

PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR WARD

Mr. Travis Hosmer!

She sees Travis perk up and then walk briskly away. She trots after him.

PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR WARD Mr. Hosmer, I have to speak with you!

Travis breaks into a trot.

P.I. Ward runs ahead of Travis. Travis stops. P.I. Ward stops.

INT. TRAVIS'S APARTMENT - DAY

Ken, Christie, and Travis's agent, JIM PARKER, 60, pushy, stand uncomfortably as they look at the filthy apartment.

A scared Travis is seated in his La-Z-Boy recliner.

JIM

My client is not in the best of shape.

Christie turns on a light. She sees lots of cob webs.

Ken notices the Bible on the light stand. He spots the kneel pillow and the crucifix on the wall.

KEN

We understand that, but we've had a lot of requests for you on our show.

JIM

This could help your career, Travis.

TRAVIS

I'm done acting.

KEN

Actually, the host makes the guest sign an agreement stating they'll never do another interview, so this may be perfect.

JIM

I'd like to see a copy of the agreement.

KEN

We'll get one right over to you. Thank you, Travis. Thank you, Jim.

Ken hands his card to Jim. Ken and Christie leave.

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

Corey is beaming.

INTERCUT - DEBBIE DOWNS' HOME/RECTORY

Debbie watches The Last Goodbye Show with Rick and Rebecca.

COREY

Please join us again next week when we'll have movie star great Travis Hosmer. That's right! We finally located him.

The audience APPLAUDS.

Debbie stops chewing her popcorn. Rick and Rebecca watch Debbie get up off the sofa and disappear into a bedroom. The door SLAMS.

INT. RECTORY - NIGHT

Fr. Tran, Dr. Maybin, NUN (60), tough cookie, and the other usual poker players play poker. The Last Goodbye Show plays on a TV in the background.

ON TV

FATHER JOSEPH

Let's get tickets!

DR. MAYBIN

Count me in!

A cigarette dangles from Nun's mouth as she rearranges her playing cards.

NUN

Count me out. I've gotta life.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Travis prays in his usual last pew.

TRAVIS

Please give me the strength to do the interview.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - NIGHT

The bowl of Halloween candy is by the door. A nervous Travis peeks outside the blinds to the boardwalk. He sees trick or treaters walking down the boardwalk. Travis races to the door. He flips the light switch next to the door.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APT. - NIGHT

Travis's front door light, covered with cob webs, goes out.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - NIGHT

Travis takes a DEEP BREATH.

Travis finds a black marker and a sheet of paper. He writes TAKE ONE, PLEASE on the paper. He attaches the paper to the bowl of candy.

Travis peeks outside the door. He places the bowl of candy in front of the door. He turns on the outside light, and closes the door. He pauses.

Travis opens the door and brings the candy back inside. He turns off the light. He takes a DEEP breath. He pauses.

Travis flips the light switch on. He pauses. He turns the light switch off. He pauses. He turns it on. Off. On. Off.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APT. - NIGHT

A BROTHER TRICK OR TREATER (8), macho, and his SISTER TRICK OR TREATER (6), smart, see the lights flickering on and off.

BROTHER TRICK OR TREATER

A scary house!

SISTER TRICK OR TREATER I'm not going up there.

BROTHER TRICK OR TREATER C'mon, chicken.

He pulls his unwilling, younger sister by the arm.

They see the cob webs which have a stranglehold on the light.

They RING the doorbell.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - NIGHT

Travis jumps back from the door.

BROTHER TRICK OR TREATER (O.S.)

Trick or Treat!

Travis listens with his ear against the door.

SISTER TRICK OR TREATER (O.S.)

Trick or Treat! No one's here. Let's get out of here!

BROTHER TRICK OR TREATER (O.S.)

Not until I get my candy.

Travis paces the room.

Travis rips the sheet off his bed. He puts the sheet over his head to appear as a ghost. He STUMBLES into a nightstand. He feels around for the candy bowl.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APT. - NIGHT

Brother Trick or Treater and Sister Trick or Treater HEAR CRASH SOUNDS. They look at each other with confused looks.

The door slowly opens. Travis appears as a ghost. Brother Trick or Treater takes off down the stairs and down the sidewalk. Sister Trick or Treater smiles at Travis.

SISTER TRICK OR TREATER

Trick or Treat!

Confused, Travis puts some candy into her pillow case.

SISTER TRICK OR TREATER

How 'bout some for my chicken brother?

Travis puts more candy into her pillow case.

SISTER TRICK OR TREATER

Thank you.

Travis watches Sister Trick or Treater skip down the front steps.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - NIGHT

Travis closes and locks the door. He turns the outside light off. Travis leans back against the front door and takes a DEEP BREATH.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

A shiny, black Lincoln Town Car pulls to the curb in front of Travis's apartment.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

Travis checks his closet. Hanging inside the closet are various casual shirts and pants. A suit, dress shirt, and tie hang alone in the corner. Travis reaches for the suit and tie, but then reaches for a casual outfit.

KNOCKING. A nervous Travis sneaks up on the front door like a lion sneaking up on a gazelle. He checks through the peephole. He sees a MAN (40), in a black suit and black tie. He sees the black car at the curb.

TRAVIS

Be out shortly.

He sees the man move down the steps to the car. Travis EXHALES.

EXT. TV STUDIO - DAY

The black car pulls up to the front of large, glass tower.

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

From his plush office, Corey watches the chauffeur get out, and open the door for Travis. Ken and Christie stand nearby.

Fans try to get a glimpse of Travis.

A shy Travis takes some coaxing from the chauffeur, but finally comes out.

A devious, Snidely Whiplash smile comes over Corey.

EXT. TV STUDIO - DAY

The chauffeur keeps a fan back.

KEN

Welcome, Mr. Hosmer! This is my daughter, Christie.

Christie escorts Travis toward the building.

BEHIND THE STUDIO

The excited audience lines up.

Father Joseph and Dr. Maybin stand in line.

FATHER JOSEPH

I wonder what he looks like.

DR. MAYBIN

What's he been doing all this time?

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

HAIRDRESSER ROOM

Travis is seated in a barber chair. HAIRDRESSER (30), female, offers to give Travis a shave and haircut.

HAIRDRESSER

Don't you want a shave and haircut? It's free.

TRAVIS

No.

Hairdresser combs Travis's hair.

GREEN ROOM

A WORKER arranges sodas on ice. Worker places cookies and sweets on a table.

Travis waits impatiently. He HEARS approaching voices. Travis quickly stands and fills his hands with cookies and a soda.

Ken and Corey enter. They are a little stunned at Travis's appearance. They can't shake hands with Travis as his hands are full.

KEN

Hello, Mr. Travis.

Travis nods.

KEN

Let us know if we can get you anything.

Ken, Corey, and Worker exit.

HALLWAY

COREY

(To Worker)

Get rid of that junk and get healthy things in there...fruits, waters.

Worker hustles off.

COREY

We gotta make sure he makes it through the interview.

Hairdresser races over.

HAIRDRESSER

He didn't want a haircut or shave.

BACKSTAGE

Christie, Ken, Travis's agent Jim Parker, and nervous Travis wait behind the curtain.

KEN

Take a deep breath, Mr. Hosmer.

CHRISTIE

I'm sure you'll be fine.

On the other side of the stage, behind the curtain, Corey eyes Travis and wears a devious smile.

A WORKER, just off stage, jumps up and down CLAPPING his hands at the audience. The audience ECSTATICALLY CLAPS and WHISTLES.

CURTAIN MAN, dressed all in black like an executioner, pulls the rope which opens the curtain at the back of the stage.

Travis HYPERVENTILATES. His eyes get big.

ON STAGE

TV SHOW ANNOUNCER (V.O.) Welcome to The Last Goodbye Show! Here's your host, Corey Dozier!

Corey struts out on stage like he owns the world.

COREY

Wow! Thank you very much! Welcome to America's favorite television show...The Last Goodbye Show...the show where you get to see the guaranteed last interview of famous celebrities!

BACKSTAGE

Travis turns white. He falls to his knees and clutches his chest.

Ken and Christie have Travis lie on his back. Medical personnel rush over to Travis.

ON STAGE

Now let's meet this week's guest, the one you've all been requesting, former movie star Travis Hosmer!

Corey sees Ken waving his hands at him, to stop the show.

COREY

Cut! What the heck's going on?

BACKSTAGE

Corey sees Travis being attended to. Medical personnel offer Travis water, which he drinks.

CHRISTIE

Are you alright?

KEN

Maybe we ought to do this another time.

COREY

It's just a small panic attack, right Travis? Travis knows better than anyone, the show must go on.

JIM

Give him some time. He'll be alright.

COREY

(Whispering to Jim)
That son of a gun better do the interview.

ON STAGE

Corey walks out on stage.

COREY

Sorry about the delay. Travis was feeling a little ill, but he'll be out momentarily.

LATER

The man just off stage CLAPS his hands. The audience CLAPS and WHISTLES.

INTERCUT - DEBBIE DOWNS' HOME - NIGHT

Rick and Rebecca Downs watch TV with a bowl of popcorn. Rebecca uses the remote control to turn the channel.

REBECCA

C'mon, Mom!

KITCHEN

Debbie cleans dishes.

DEBBIE

Not tonight.

Rick turns around to see Debbie.

RICK

You sure you don't want to watch?

DEBBIE

No.

Rick heads to the kitchen.

RTCK

You haven't seen him in--

DEBBIE

Look, I don't want to see him, alright?

Rick watches her storm off to the bedroom and SLAM the door.

A concerned Rick heads toward the bedroom. He furtively puts his ear to the door. He HEARS the TV and the opening for The Last Goodbye Show. Rick smiles.

DEBBIE'S BEDROOM

Debbie watches The Last Goodbye Show.

TV SHOW ANNOUNCER Welcome to The Last Goodbye Show!

Here's your host, Corey Dozier!

Corey strides out on stage.

COREY

Wow! Thank you very much! Welcome to America's favorite television show...The Last Goodbye Show...the show where you get to see the guaranteed last interview of

COREY famous celebrities!

BACKSTAGE

Travis drinks from a water bottle.

ON STAGE

A series of photos of Travis from his acting days plays on a screen at the back of the stage.

COREY

Tonight's guest was one of the top movie stars of all time! He starred in one hundred and twenty-three movies, TV shows, and Broadway plays. Let's meet this week's guest, the one you've all been waiting for, Travis Hosmer!

BACKSTAGE

Curtain Man pulls the rope.

ON STAGE

Christie gingerly escorts frail Travis slowly onto the stage.

The excited audience sees Travis, and GASPS. The shocked audience, including SHOCKED LADY (55), MUMBLES to one another.

SHOCKED LADY

Is that him? What happened?

DEBBIE'S BEDROOM

A concerned Debbie looks on. Her eyes well with tears.

Christie helps seat Travis in the chair next to the lectern. Travis eyes the lectern.

At the back of the stage, on giant TV monitors, are photos of a smiling Travis in his heyday as an actor.

Travis squints because of the bright lights. He uses his hand to shield his eyes. He avoids eye contact with Corey and the audience.

BACKSTAGE

Ken signals to a lighting man to lower the lights.

ON STAGE

The lights dim, slightly.

COREY

Welcome, Mr. Hosmer. You're a difficult man to track down.

Travis looks down and away.

COREY

It's been some twenty years since anyone's seen you. What have you been doing?

Travis fidgets with his shirt.

COREY

What have you been doing all these years?

Travis looks at the stage floor.

COREY

Any thoughts of doing any more movies?

Travis glances at the audience.

Ken signals the Boom Microphone Man to move in closer to Travis. Boom Microphone Man moves in closer and lowers the microphone just above Travis.

COREY

We understand you were diagnosed with APD, or Avoidant Personality Disorder.

Dr. Maybin and Father Tran show concern.

Corey looks off stage for guidance.

COREY

Well, you gotta say something. We'll be back after these words.

Christie and Ken hustle out onto the stage. Christie hands Travis a bottle of water. Fr. Tran and Dr. Maybin get up from their seats and head toward the stage.

COREY

(Whispering to Ken) What am I going to do?

KEN

Keep asking him questions.

Fr. Tran and Dr. Maybin flag down Ken, who walks over.

KEN

Yes?

Fr. Tran and Dr. Maybin speak with Ken. Ken ponders something. He quickly returns to Corey. Ken points over at Fr. Tran and Dr. Maybin.

The audience WHISPERS amongst themselves.

COREY

(Leans over to Travis)

I don't know what the hell your problem is, but you better start talking.

The audience CLAPS.

COREY

Thank you, and welcome back to The Last Goodbye Show. We are delighted to have one of the top movie stars of all time, Mr. Travis Hosmer.

Audience CLAPS.

COREY

Travis, I'm going to turn it over to our audience for any questions they may have.

ELDERLY MAN (70), stands in front of the microphone.

COREY

Good afternoon, Mr. Hosmer. It's an honor to speak with you. I watched all your films.

Travis barely makes eye contact.

Sorry for your recent loss.

Travis doesn't understand.

COREY

Your wife. Weren't you aware that she passed away?

A concerned Travis shakes his head. The audience looks at one another in disbelief.

COREY

I'm sure she was a fine lady.

Travis nods his head. His eyes well up. The audience looks on with pity.

ELDERLY MAN

I just wanted to say that we enjoyed your movies. They have wonderful messages that have helped me be a better person.

Travis mouths the words THANK YOU.

ELDERLY LADY (70), shuffles over to the microphone.

ELDERLY LADY

I, too, love all your movies, and was wondering if you might consider acting again.

Travis shakes his head.

COREY

As per his agreement, this will be his last public interview.

GRUMBLING from the audience.

COREY

It's my understanding that we have some people who would like to come up and speak with you.

Corey signals for Father Tran and Dr. Maybin to come up. They ascend a short staircase leading onto the stage.

Christie places two chairs next to Travis.

COREY

These are...

Father Tran and Doctor Maybin take their seats.

FATHER JOSEPH

Father Joseph Tran.

DR. MAYBIN

Doctor Brian Maybin.

COREY

And I understand you're a psychologist.

DR. MAYBIN

Correct.

COREY

You've been watching Mr. Hosmer from the audience. What do you see.

DR. MAYBIN

It looks to me like Mr. Hosmer shows signs of Avoidant Personality Disorder.

COREY

Is it common?

DR. MAYBIN

Sadly, yes. Mr. Hosmer, Father Tran and I would love to work with you, and see if we can help.

Travis nods.

FATHER JOSEPH

Travis, I know you're a very religious man. I want you to know that God wants you to enjoy life and use the gifts he's given you to help others.

DR. MAYBIN

You don't need to punish yourself, Mr. Hosmer. Whatever you may have done in the past is done.

COREY

What do you mean whatever you may have done in the past is done. Is this what happens with APD?

DR. MAYBIN

There's a number of theories...genetic, social, psychological. Maybe something an individual has done which makes him so ashamed that he'll withdrawal from others as a way to numb the pain...punish himself.

(To Travis)

I'd like to dig deeper and see if we can't find something.

Travis squirms in his chair.

FATHER JOSEPH

Why don't you stop by my church and I'll hear your confession?

COREY

Do it right here!

Travis shivers like he's seen a monster.

FATHER JOSEPH

Now? Here?

COREY

Why not?

Travis shakes his head.

COREY

Sure. Can you do one in public?

FATHER JOSEPH

I guess so, if Travis doesn't mind.

Travis eyes are big. His body trembles.

COREY

What do you think, Travis?

Travis shakes his head.

DR. MAYBIN

Let us help you.

Travis drops his head. He looks away.

COREY

Maybe the audience has some questions.

A BALD MAN (50) from the audience adjust the microphone to his level.

BALD MAN

I've got a lot to say, but at the same time, I'm at a loss for words. We all loved your movies, and we think you're a great guy. If someone wants to help you, why not let them?

Travis glances at Bald Man. He ponders this.

BALD MAN

Please. Let them help you.

DR. MAYBIN

Everyone has issues, one way or another.

Young SUSIE JENKINS (8), stands at the microphone.

SUSIE JENKINS

Hello, Mr. Hosmer.

Travis nods his head.

SUSIE JENKINS

My grandma and grandpa were your biggest fans. They both died in a car crash.

Travis is surprised.

Susie holds up an autographed eight by ten black and white of her grandparents posing with Travis.

SUSIE JENKINS

You signed this for them.

Travis is moved.

COREY

Come on up here.

Christie escorts Susie up the short staircase and onto the stage to Travis.

The attentive audience watches with interest.

Susie hands the glossy photo to Travis.

SUSIE JENKINS

They would want you to have this.

Travis stares at the photo of how he was with moist eyes.

Some in the audience wipe their eyes.

SUSIE JENKINS

Please let these men help you.

Susie turns and walks with Christie. A tear runs down Travis's cheek.

TRAVIS

Wait.

Susie stops.

TRAVIS

I can't.

Travis extends the photo out to Susie.

SUSIE JENKINS

Only you are left in the photo, so it should be yours.

Travis is locked on the photo.

BACKSTAGE

Jim Parker gets Christie's attention by waving his hands. He hands her a black marker and a current eight by ten glossy of Travis, which shows him disheveled.

ON STAGE

Christie hands the newer glossy photo and the marker to Travis. He compares the old photo with the new photo for what seems to be an eternity.

TRAVIS

Your name?

SUSIE JENKINS

Susie. Susie Jenkins.

Travis signs the new glossy photo. The audience smiles.

Travis hands Susie both of the glossies.

SUSIE JENKINS

Thank you, Mr. Hosmer.

TRAVIS

Thank you, Susie Jenkins.

Travis slowly reaches out to Susie to pat her on the head. He freezes. Susie bows to allow him to pat her. He barely places his hand on the top of her head.

Susie sees the pain in Travis's moist eyes. She gives him a tight hug. Travis SOBS. Susie pats Travis on the shoulder, smiles, and walks off with Christie.

Corey sees a hint of a smile come over Travis's face. He sees a pleased audience. Utter disgust flashes across Corey's face.

COREY

We have a special guest for you, Mr. Hosmer.

Christie escorts JOHN WILSON BOOKER (50), onto the stage.

COREY

On July 10th, 1987, John Wilson Booker attempted to assassinate you as you walked out of the Reagan Theater in Newport Beach, California.

Travis goes white with fright. His eyes get big. Corey relishes Travis's fear.

COREY

He's got something he'd like to say.

JOHN WILSON BOOKER

I am so sorry, Mr. Hosmer. I wasn't right back then. Please forgive me.

Travis is stunned. John Wilson Booker extends his trembling hand. Travis eyes the hand.

Travis sees the sincerity in John's sad eyes. He slowly extends his hand and the two men shake hands. The audience ERUPTS in applause. John Wilson Booker is relieved.

John Wilson Booker hugs Travis tightly. Travis's eyes well up.

TRAVIS

It's okay.

Tears stream from Travis's and John Wilson Barber's eyes.

JOHN WILSON BOOKER

Thank you, sir.

Christie hands Travis some facial tissues. He wipes his eyes with the tissues. She escorts John Wilson Barber off the stage. The audience APPLAUDS.

DR. MAYBIN

It's great that you forgave him, Travis.

Travis dries his eyes.

Corey shows his sinister smile.

COREY

But there's probably something deeper you're not telling us.

DR. MAYBIN

Precisely.

COREY

Why don't you delve into that, Doctor Maybin.

DR. MAYBIN

Sure.

Dr. Maybin circles Travis.

TRAVIS

Avoidant Personality Disorder is usually related to something we did. Something so shameful, that we feel so inadequate that we don't want to be seen.

COREY

What did you do, Travis?

Travis moves in his chair.

DR. MAYBIN

Usually, a small thing like cheating on a pop quiz, wouldn't cause APD.

Travis squirms.

Let's see what questions our audience has.

AUDIENCE

MAN (65), stands at the microphone.

MAN

Hello, Mr. Hosmer. I've been a big fan of yours for a long time. What I'd like to know is what is it that gave you this APD?

Travis drops and shakes his head.

COREY

Does he even realize he has this APD?

DR. MAYBIN

Like a lot of mental issues, the person doesn't necessarily realize the situation they're in...at least, not to the extent that others do. The brain plays an insidious trick on the person. This is what's so hard to accept for most of the relatives and loved ones...to see someone they love change and feel helpless to do anything.

WOMAN (60), stands behind the microphone.

WOMAN

Travis, I may be your number one fan, but I can't remain loyal if you committed a serious crime.

Travis glances at Woman, but quickly looks away.

WOMAN

We deserve an explanation.

Travis's eyes dart around the room.

WOMAN

Did you steal money from someone?

Travis shakes his head.

WOMAN

No theft or fraud of any kind?

Travis shakes his head. Corey savors this.

WOMAN

You never did or sold drugs?

COREY

C'mon. He worked in Hollywood. You know he probably did.

BACKSTAGE

Ken and Christie shake their heads.

ON STAGE

Travis shakes his head.

WOMAN

Then what? Did you have an affair?

DR. MAYBIN

I'll take it from here.

COREY

He hasn't answered the question.

WOMAN

And I'm not done.

BACKSTAGE

Ken waves his hands to get Corey's attention. Corey finally sees Ken. Ken signals to go to a commercial break. Corey shakes his head. Ken gives Corey a death stare. Corey reluctantly gives in.

COREY

We'll be back after these words.

ON STAGE

Christie brings Travis a bottle of water. She gives a look of disapproval to Corey who shoots his wicked smile back at her.

COREY

What?

Father Joseph and Dr. Maybin get up and walk around.

FATHER JOSEPH

What do you think?

DR. MAYBIN

He must've done something pretty bad

The audience, including MAN IN THE AUDIENCE (60), AND WOMAN IN THE AUDIENCE, WHISPERS amongst themselves.

WOMAN IN THE AUDIENCE

What do you think he did?

MAN IN THE AUDIENCE

Who knows?

WOMAN IN THE AUDIENCE

Do you think he...killed someone?

MAN IN THE AUDIENCE

Travis Hosmer? Never.

COREY

We're back with more questions from the audience.

MALE (55), fidgets with the microphone.

MALE

Did you...did you sexually assault someone?

Travis shakes his head, adamantly. The audience is relieved.

MALE

You didn't...you didn't kill someone, did you?

An indignant Travis pops out of his chair.

TRAVIS

No.

Travis circles the lectern, Fr. Joseph, Dr. Maybin, and Corey.

COREY

Were you complicit in a murder?

Travis gives him a cold stare.

Well, you seemed to get a pulse when you were asked about a murder.

Travis sits back down.

DR. MAYBIN

Did you do something to someone?

Fr. Joseph sees the audience WHISPERING amongst themselves and that Travis is extremely uncomfortable stirring in his seat.

FATHER JOSEPH

We've all sinned, Travis. Nobody is perfect.

Corey's look indicates he's not buying this.

DR. MAYBIN

I'm trying to understand what he--

FATHER JOSEPH

Let he who has not sinned, cast the first stone.

The audience looks around at each other.

COREY

That's all fine, Father Joseph, but--

FATHER JOSEPH

Travis, what are you doing with the life God has given you?

Quiet. Father Joseph waits for what seems an eternity for an answer.

TRAVIS

Not much, I guess.

FATHER JOSEPH

You're not living your purpose driven life. You were when you were entertaining us as an actor. It's why you're on Earth. You stay inside all day. You think that's why God made you?

TRAVIS

I pray. I go to church.

The audience is surprised to see Travis open up.

FATHER JOSEPH

Great!

TRAVIS

I read the Bible.

FATHER JOSEPH

I'm sure God likes that.

COREY

We're going to take a break. Stay tuned.

Fr. Joseph and Dr. Maybin get up and stroll away from Travis.

FATHER JOSEPH

He started to open up when I starting talking about religion.

DR. MAYBIN

It might have something to do with the church, religion, something.

Fr. Joseph and Dr. Maybin head back to their chairs.

COREY

We're back now with Travis Hosmer. Also, Father Joseph Tran and psychologist Doctor Brian Maybin. We've been discussing Travis Hosmer and his case of Avoidant Personality Disorder. Why don't you pick up where you let off, Father.

FATHER JOSEPH

I'm sure you read the Bible and pray, Travis, but people who believe in God and believe they are going to Heaven are happy.

Travis ponders this.

FATHER JOSEPH

So something's not right here.

Travis nods.

FATHER JOSEPH

What is it? Are you angry at God?

TRAVIS

If I were angry at him, I wouldn't pray or go to church.

FATHER JOSEPH

Do you think God is angry at you?

BINGO. Travis looks like he's going to explode. He pops out of his chair. He paces back and forth like a caged tiger.

DR. MAYBIN

You pray and go to church everyday. You're asking forgiveness for something you did?

Travis picks up speed on his pacing. Corey smiles. He checks a nearby clock.

COREY

Sit down, Travis. We're going to have to finish up soon, and then you'll have to sign your agreement.

GRUMBLING from the audience.

FATHER JOSEPH

Let me do a confession right here.

Travis's pacing speeds up.

COREY

We don't have time. He's gotta sign the contract.

GRUMBLING from the audience. Ken and Christie look out at the dissatisfied audience.

FATHER JOSEPH

Whatever you did, Travis, God will accept you back.

TRAVIS

I don't know.

FATHER JOSEPH

Sure, he will. He's a forgiving God.

Corey's not buying any of this.

TRAVIS

I've got APD.

DR. MAYBIN

Let us help you.

MAN IN THE AUDIENCE

Let him do a confession!

COREY

We don't have time!

MALE (O.S.)

Come on, Corey!

COREY

He agreed he would sign the contract.

Corey signals a worried Christie to walk out on stage with Travis's agreement. Ken studies the audience. He whispers to Christie.

Christie walks out on stage, sets the agreement and a pen on the lectern, and leaves.

Travis, Fr. Joseph, and Dr. Maybin stare at the lectern.

Corey stands up.

COREY

It's time, Trav.

Corey helps lift Travis up by the arm.

GRUMBLING from the angry audience.

WOMAN IN THE AUDIENCE (O.S.)

This isn't right!

Corey escorts Travis to the lectern. Curtain Man pulls the rope, which opens the curtain.

WOMAN (O.S.)

It's not fair!

COREY

He agreed to it!

Travis stares at the document. Corey wicked grin is bigger than ever. He sticks the pen out to Travis.

Corey puts the pen in Travis's hand.

Curtain Man holds the rope curtain.

LOUD GRUMBLING from the audience.

Travis is just about to sign the document.

KEN (O.S.)

Stop, Travis! Don't sign it!

Ken hustles out onto the stage. Corey's grin vanishes.

COREY

This is our producer, Ken Shoemaker.

Ken whispers to Corey who clearly isn't happy.

COREY

Are you sure you wanna do that?

Ken nods.

COREY

We've never done this before. We're going to bring Travis back next week for one last show, at which time he'll sign the contract.

The audience EXPLODES into LOUD APPLAUSE.

COREY

See you next week on The Last Goodbye Show!

Ken and Christie shake hands with Travis, Fr. Joseph, and Dr. Maybin, while the audience gives a STANDING OVATION.

INT. TV STUDIO OFFICE - DAY

Ken and Corey have a HEATED DISCUSSION.

COREY

What if he doesn't come back?

KEN

He'll come back!

What if he doesn't sign the contract? He could do any interview, any movie, any TV show he wants!

KEN

He's gonna sign the contract!

COREY

He better!

Corey storms off.

INT. GREEN ROOM - DAY

Christie, Ken, and Travis pack the leftover fruits, salads, and bottles of water into bags. They leave with the bags.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

Travis, Ken, and Christie enter with the bags of food.

Travis watches Ken turn on some lights while Christie opens some blinds. Sunlight blasts through the windows. Travis squints for a moment and then gets acclimated to the light.

KEN

We called for a maid service to stop by tomorrow.

TRAVIS

I can't have anyone in here.

CHRISTIE

They're used to dirty places.

Travis fidgets.

TRAVIS

I'll get someone myself.

Travis heads to the window overlooking the beach.

Christie and Ken look at each other with surprised faces.

Travis looks out the large window facing the beach. He smiles when he sees Sarah.

Travis closes the blinds. He opens the blinds slightly, and then a little more.

Myron notices a spider web. He uses a cloth to wipe it from the window sill. Myron walks away from the window. He turns on the light next to the La-Z-Boy chair.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Travis enters. He genuflects at his usual last pew. He pauses. He moves up a few pews, enters, and kneels.

LATER

Travis watches the same wave of blue-haired ladies line up to receive communion.

The line shortens. Travis gets up and quickly moves down the center aisle.

The Priest gives communion to the last person. He turns back to the altar, but sees Travis out of the corner of his eye approaching. The Priest smiles as he waits for Travis.

The Priest holds the Eucharist in front of Travis.

PRIEST

The body of Christ.

TRAVIS

Amen.

The Priest places the Eucharist in the palm of Travis's hand. Travis makes the sign of the cross to the giant crucifix behind the altar.

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

Construction workers HAMMER, DRILL, and WELD an expansion to the audience grandstand.

EXT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

The limo waits in front at the curb. Travis, somewhat cautious, exits in brighter, more colorful clothes.

Travis spots Sarah with a shopping cart along the boardwalk. He admires her. In a moment of brilliance, he quickly re-enters his apartment.

LATER

Travis exits wearing his suit and tie. Travis heads toward Sarah. As he nears her, he slows his pace and fidgets with his hands. Travis turns around. He gets into the limo. The limo leaves.

EXT. TV STUDIO - DAY

A long line winds around the back of the studio.

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

Construction workers put the finishing touches on the expanded grandstands.

HAIRSTYLIST ROOM

Travis lets the hairstylist trim his hair and beard.

MAKEUP ROOM

Travis lets the makeup artist put makeup on him.

ON STAGE

Corey holds a microphone.

COREY

Now let's meet this week's guest, again, former movie star Travis Hosmer!

INTERCUT - DEBBIE DOWNS HOME

BEDROOM

Debbie watches The Last Goodbye Show. KNOCKING. Rick enters.

The audience goes berserk with a LOUD OVATION.

Debbie turns the TV off and walks out with Rick.

LIVING ROOM

Debbie, Rick, and Rebecca watch The Last Goodbye Show.

Travis walks out on stage with more confidence. He takes a seat next to Corey.

Also, with us tonight, are our other two guests from last week, Father Joseph Tran, and Doctor Brian Maybin.

ON STAGE

The audience applauds.

COREY

Let's pick up where we left off. Take it away, Father Joseph.

FATHER JOSEPH

I've given it a lot of thought, and I think it's in your best interest to do a confession, Travis.

Travis cautiously eyes the audience. He eyes Father Joseph.

FATHER JOSEPH

Right here, right now.

DR. MAYBIN

I could give you a session right now.

Travis eyes Dr. Maybin. He eyes the audience.

DR. MAYBIN

We can get to the bottom of this and find out what's driving your APD.

The audience watches Travis from the edge of their seats.

TRAVIS

I'll do a confession.

The audience STIRS with excitement.

COREY

Right now, with Father Joseph?

Travis nods. Corey likes this. Father Joseph immediately puts on a purple stole scarf. He arranges his chair so he faces Travis.

Father Joseph makes the sign of the cross. Travis does the same.

FATHER JOSEPH

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The audience watches with undivided attention.

TRAVIS

Amen. Bless me father for I have sinned. The last time I was at confession was some twenty-five years ago.

FATHER JOSEPH

You should go at least once a year.

TRAVIS

I know.

FATHER JOSEPH

Set a certain time, Christmas or Advent, and go.

TRAVIS

Yes, Father.

FATHER JOSEPH

What are your sins?

All eyes laser on Travis. Travis nervously eyes the audience.

Man In The Audience sees the pain on Travis's face. He nervously looks around the audience. Finally, he stands.

MAN IN THE AUDIENCE

When I was a boy, I stole a bag of Oreos from the local supermarket!

Travis studies Man In The Audience. He wants to say something, but can't.

Woman In The Audience looks around the audience, nervously. She stands.

WOMAN IN THE AUDIENCE

When I was a little girl, I used to steal money from my Dad's black box on the dresser!

ASHAMED MALE (60), stands.

ASHAMED MALE

I've used and sold more illegal drugs than all of you combined.

The audience zeros in on Ashamed Male, and then on Travis.

TRAVIS

Did...did you pray for forgiveness?

Father Joseph is impressed.

ASHAMED MALE

Everyday.

TRAVIS

Then it's okay.

The audience looks approvingly at Travis.

ASHAMED FEMALE (60), stands.

ASHAMED FEMALE

I used my roommate's toothbrush to scrub under the rim of the toilet, and then put it back on the stand.

The audience SNICKERS. Travis cracks a smile.

FATHER JOSEPH

Ladies and Gentlemen, please! What are your sins?

Travis takes a DEEP BREATH.

TRAVIS

I haven't...I haven't obeyed The Ten Commandments.

HECKLER (23), skateboarder, stands.

HECKLER

Sinner! Sinner! You'll rot in hell for your sins!

Everyone's attention turns to SECURITY PERSONNEL who usher Heckler out.

HECKLER

Sinner! Sinner!

FATHER JOSEPH

It is not we who judge, but the man upstairs.

COREY

We're going to break for these words from our sponsors.

Christie and Ken distribute waters to Travis, Corey, Father Joseph, and Dr. Maybin.

COREY

How the heck did he get in?

KEN

I don't know.

Father Joseph and Dr. Maybin go for a walk.

DR. MAYBIN

He broke some lousy commandments, so he shelters himself?

FATHER JOSEPH

Religion is important to him.

CHRISTIE

We need everyone back now.

Father Joseph and Dr. Maybin slide back into their seats.

COREY

We're back now. Father, take it away.

FATHER JOSEPH

We've all sinned and broken at least some of The Ten Commandments. That's why we have confession. God forgives us if we truly regret our sins, and don't do them again.

The audience keys in on Travis.

TRAVIS

I stole from the supermarket, too.

The audience GIGGLES.

COREY

Who hasn't? It's a cost of doing business.

More SNORTS.

FATHER JOSEPH

Which commandments, Travis?

The attentive audience is silent.

TRAVIS

My problem...

DR. MAYBIN

Your APD?

TRAVIS

Yes. Because of it...

DR. MAYBIN

Go on.

TRAVIS

I don't go outside.

Stunned looks.

DR. MAYBIN

Yeah, so?

TRAVIS

So I can't keep the second greatest commandment...love one another as yourself.

The audience is relieved.

COREY

That's it? That's your big sin?

Father Joseph shoots a menacing look at Corey.

FATHER JOSEPH

To an atheist it may not be a big deal, but to a devout Catholic--

COREY

Go ahead, Travis.

FATHER JOSEPH

Wait a minute. This is important. Most Americans consider themselves Christian, but they don't go to church, they don't pray, they don't obey the Ten Commandments--

So?

FATHER JOSEPH

They might as well be atheists.

TRAVIS

I'm not proud of some of the things in the past. I kinda got caught up in the Hollywood lifestyle. Others didn't seem to care, but I did.

Dr. Maybin indicates he likes what he hears by leaning forward on the edge of his seat.

DR. MAYBIN

You didn't like what you'd become.

Travis nods.

DR. MAYBIN

If it could happen to you, it could happen to anyone, Travis.

FATHER JOSEPH

If we give the devil even an inch, he'll find his way inside us. That's why we have to keep him at bay, by helping others, going to church, praying, reading the Bible--

COREY

He does all that, and look at the mess he's become. I'm not buying it, Father.

GRUMBLING from the audience.

BACKSTAGE

If Ken and Christie had guns, they'd shoot Corey.

KEN

Why can't he keep his mouth shut?

ON STAGE

DR. MAYBIN

Staying indoors all day isn't going to fix things, Travis.

Why not? He could send his cosmic prayer rays out to us from his home.

Audience GRUMBLES.

MAN IN THE AUDIENCE

C'mon, Corey!

FEMALE's (55), blood boils.

FEMALE

Leave him alone!

MAN IN THE AUDIENCE

You couldn't make it as an actor, so you have to give every celebrity a hard time!

Corey enjoys their anger.

COREY

We'll be back after these messages.

Corey wears his dastardly grin.

BACKSTAGE

Ken and Christie are beside themselves shaking their heads. Dr. Maybin and Father Joseph march off to Ken and Christie.

DR. MAYBIN

Corey's not helping us.

KEN

Let me talk to him.

Ken strides over to Corey.

Fr. Joseph, Dr. Maybin, and Christie watch as Ken and Corey throw gesticulations back and forth at each other.

ON STAGE

TV SHOW ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Ten seconds.

Everyone takes their places back in their chairs.

Corey's angry face changes instantly into a forced smile.

Welcome back to The Last Goodbye Show. I'm Corey Dozier. Take it away, Father Joseph.

FATHER JOSEPH
Some people don't understand why
love one another as yourself is so
important. If everyone loved one
another there wouldn't be all the

problems in the world.

Corey can't believe he's hearing this.

FATHER JOSEPH
God made this the second most commandment for this reason...that we all get along. The most important commandment, love your God with all your heart, soul, and mind. You're already doing this, Travis, so I'm sure God approves.

A hint of a smile appears on Travis.

FATHER JOSEPH
But your life is your gift from
God, and what you do with your
life is your gift back to God.
You're just sitting at home, not
meeting people, not volunteering.

DR. MAYBIN

If you saved someone's life, or paid off a huge medical debt for someone, or donated an organ to someone who then sat around the house, you wouldn't be happy, would you?

FATHER JOSEPH
That's what you're doing to God.
You gotta fight this APD, so you can get out and love one another as yourself.

Deep worry lines cut into Travis's forehead.

FATHER JOSEPH Have you spoken to your relatives lately?

DEBBIE'S HOME

Debbie studies Travis.

TRAVIS

No. They stop calling long ago...wouldn't be caught dead with a freak like me.

Corey enjoys this.

DR. MAYBIN

You're not a freak. Tell us how you think your APD started.

TRAVIS

It's been so long. Being in show business, I was always under a lot of pressure. I kinda thrived on it...bigger and bigger challenges. It's like when you break one hundred in golf, you wanna break ninety. Then eighty. But you get to a point where you can't get any better, so they think they gotta push you to do better...get more out of you.

DR. MAYBIN

What are some of things they'd do?

TRAVIS

You gotta go to this party. There's gonna be a lot of producers there. You gotta meet these money guys. They may want to finance your next movie. It was push, push, push.

COREY

And you didn't like that.

TRAVIS

No, I was never very sociable, never good at sales. I used to stay in my room. All the neighborhood kids would be out playing. My parents were worried about me, so they got me some acting lessons. I soon realized I could be another person through my acting.

I know this is hard for some of you to believe, but how you see us on the screen isn't always how we are at home.

DR. MAYBIN

So acting was an escape?

TRAVIS

Yeah. But the more they pushed, the more I knew I couldn't do it anymore.

DR. MAYBIN

What did you do?

TRAVIS

Made up every excuse so I wouldn't have to go out. It got to the point where I didn't want to get out of bed for work.

COREY

Uh, oh.

TRAVIS

Missing social events is one thing, but when you're on a big, tight budget and an actor doesn't show up for work...

COREY

They'll only put up with that for so long.

TRAVIS

Right, they got a schedule to keep and the producer's breathing down everyone's neck.

COREY

Travis, we have someone on the phone who would like to speak to you.

Travis is surprised. A VOICE comes from a loudspeaker.

FRANK (V.O.)

Hey, Travis, Frank Phelps. Glad they found you.

TRAVIS

Hey, Frank. How are you?

FRANK (V.O.)

Doing well. And so are you. I watched last week's show and you are looking much better than just a week ago.

TRAVIS

Thanks, Frank.

DR. MAYBIN

Any chance of you two getting back into a film together?

FRANK (V.O.)

I'd love to, but that'd be up to Travis.

TRAVIS

I've promised to sign Corey's contract.

LOUD BOOS from the audience.

TRAVIS

Besides, I'm hoping to catch up with family and friends. I gotta make up for lost time.

Big smiles from the audience.

FRANK (V.O.)

Nice talking to you, buddy. Stay in touch.

TRAVIS

Thanks, Frank. You, too.

COREY

What will you do?

TRAVIS

Hopefully, something that will have a big impact on people.

Ken takes a keen interest.

TRAVIS

Something that has me love one another as myself.

Father Joseph nods approvingly.

DR. MAYBIN

So getting back to your relatives--

COREY

Who think you're a freak.

Ken and Christie shoot daggers with their eyes at Corey. GRUMBLING from the audience.

TRAVIS

The APD got worse and worse. It takes over you. Before you know it, you forget all the things you used to do, like going out to a restaurant with the wife.

FATHER JOSEPH

Sorry to hear about her death.

Debbie watches closely while holding her cell phone.

COREY

You weren't at the funeral.

TRAVIS

Never heard about it. Just one of the many problems it creates.

DR. MAYBIN

We want to help you get over this, Travis.

TRAVIS

My daughter never calls. Never met my granddaughter.

GASPS from the audience.

TRAVIS

I'm really sorry I didn't get to spend more time with them.

Debbie blubbers.

COREY

Travis, we have your daughter, Debbie, on the phone with us now.

INTERCUT - TRAVIS/DEBBIE PHONE CONVERSATION

TRAVIS

You do?

COREY

She'd like to talk to you. Should we put her on?

TRAVIS

Of course.

DEBBIE

Hi, Dad!

TRAVIS

Hi, Honey!

Tears flow from Travis's and Debbie's eyes.

TRAVIS

I'm sorry about...

Travis's lips quiver.

DEBBIE

It's okay, Dad. I'm the one at fault.

Tears stream down cheeks of members of the audience.

TRAVIS

I love you, Honey!

DEBBIE

Love you too, Dad!

COREY

Okay, let's get back--

TRAVIS

Get ahold of me through the show! I want to see you soon!

DEBBIE

Okay. Bye, Dad! Love you.

TRAVIS

Bye, Honey! I love you more than you'll ever know.

Travis uses his shirt sleeve to dry his eyes. He exhales LOUDLY. Christie hands him a Kleenex.

The audience BLUBBERS. They dry their eyes with their shirt sleeves and handkerchiefs.

TRAVIS

(To Corey)

Thank you for doing that. You don't know how much I needed that.

Corey checks his watch.

COREY

We're just about out of time. Christie, bring out the contract.

GRUMBLING. Ken sees all the disappointed looks in the audience. LOUD BOOS.

Christie glumly brings out the agreement document.

Christie freezes when she sees Father Joseph make the sign of the cross and Travis bow his head. The audience goes quiet.

FATHER JOSEPH

God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Father Joseph and Travis make the sign of the cross.

TRAVIS

Amen.

Many in the audience make the sign of the cross and dry their eyes.

Corey signals to Christie to quickly bring the contract.

FATHER JOSEPH

Say three Hail Marys and three Our Fathers.

TRAVIS

Thank you, Father.

Christie places the contract and a pen on the lectern near a smiling Corey.

COREY

Okay, Trav, sign the contract.

Christie and the frowning audience look on.

Travis stands and slowly walks to the lectern. He stares at the document.

COREY

It's gonna be kind of hard having an impact on others if you can't do any more interviews or TV appearances.

WOMAN IN THE AUDIENCE

Don't sign it, Travis!

COREY

He has to! We have an oral agreement!

Travis picks up the pen. More tears from the audience.

KEN

Don't sign it!

Ken hustles out.

COREY

We can't keep bringing him back! He's got to sign the contract!

KEN

No, he doesn't. But he needs to keep coming back...as our new TV host of The Last Goodbye Show!

The audience CHEERS.

COREY

What? You can't do that!

KEN

I just did.

Corey storms off. The audience LAUGHS.

KEN

We'll ease you into the host position. I want Father Joseph and Doctor Maybin as your

KEN

permanent guests. They'll do most of the speaking at the beginning. Are you interested?

TRAVIS

Sure.

KEN

We can make it a religious, slash, help with issues, mental or physical, slash, current events show. Travis, you did in two shows what Corey couldn't do in hundreds of shows.

FATHER JOSEPH
This could help you accomplish what you want for the Lord.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

All the blinds are open. The house is clean and bright.

Travis writes a note.

INSERT THE NOTE

Gladys,

Thank you very much for delivering Eucharist. I really appreciate your kindness, but I'm feeling much better and will not need you anymore.

Best wishes always, T. Hosmer

Travis folds the note and places it in the mail slot. He ponders it. Travis takes the note out of the mail slot and rips it up.

Travis exits without putting on his hat or checking through the peephole.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Travis sits in the front of the church.

The blue-haired ladies and Gladys stand in line to receive communion. Travis stands and gets in line. He receives communion.

EXT. CHURCH - DAY

Travis waits. He spots Gladys walking down the front steps. He hesitates before heading her way.

TRAVIS

Hi.

GLADYS

Hi.

TRAVIS

I want to thank you for delivering Eucharist to me for so long.

GLADYS

Oh, how sweet of you!

Gladys gives Travis a tight hug. A warmth comes over him that shows through his smile.

INT. GROCERY STORE - DAY

Travis purchases many fruits, vegetables, and household cleansers.

EXT. BOARDWALK - DAY

Travis saunters along with his shopping bags. He slows down when he sees Sarah. He stops and watches her.

Travis strides toward Sarah.

TRAVIS

Hello.

Sarah looks at Travis.

TRAVIS

Would you like an apple?

SARAH

Sure.

Travis searches the bags before finding an apple. He hands her the apple, a banana, and a bottle of water.

SARAH

Thanks.

TRAVIS

Your welcome. I'm Travis. I live right there.

SARAH

I know. I've seen you.

TRAVIS

I've been looking for someone to clean my place. Do you think you might be interested?

Travis helps Sarah with her bags.

They head towards his apartment.

INT. TRAVIS'S APT. - DAY

Sunshine BLASTS in from all angles.

Travis cleans the large window facing the beach. On the other side of the window, a HANDYMAN uses a screwdriver to unscrew the steel bars outside the window.

Sarah dips a mop into a bucket. She mops the floor.

Travis and Sarah smile at one another.

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

The large audience CLAPS. Travis sits in Corey's chair. A GUEST (60), shy, sits in a similar chair next to Travis. Other chairs are occupied by Fr. Joseph and Dr. Maybin.

TRAVIS

When did you first realize you may have APD?

GUEST

When I saw you talking about it on this show.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Travis stands at a grave marked "ANGELA HOSMER." He holds a bouquet of roses.

TRAVIS

You gave me life. You made my life. Through your death, you gave me life, again. When God

TRAVIS

calls me, I'll see you again.

Travis sets the roses on the grave. He walks off.

EXT. TRAVIS'S BEACH HOME - DAY

LAUGHTER coming through the front porch screen.

Travis, Sarah, Debbie, Rick, Rebecca come out LAUGHING. A much healthier looking Travis and Sarah have their arms around each and are wearing wedding rings.

Debbie, Rick, and Rebecca have small suitcases.

DEBBIE

Thanks for putting up with us, Dad.

TRAVIS

I loved every minute of it. Call me when you get home.

DEBBIE

We will.

(To Sarah)

Thanks for everything. You're really wonderful.

SARAH

So are you.

Everyone exchanges tight hugs. Debbie, Rick, and Rebecca get into their car, wave, and drive off. Travis and Sarah wave goodbye.

Sarah notices tears running down Travis's cheeks. She uses her apron to dry his eyes.

FADE OUT.