

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER

By Joseph Leoni

KEVIN IS A LIGHT- SKINNED MALE IN HIS
MID 20S - HE IS JUST OVER 6 FEET TALL
HAS LIGHT BROWN HAIR AND BLUE EYES. HE
IS FAIRLY FLUENT IN SPANISH.

ROXANA IS A BEAUTIFUL 25 YEAR OLD
MEXICAN WOMAN. SHE IS A COLLEGE
GRADUATE AND A REGISTERED ARCHITECT.

1*EXT. - DECEMBER 1997 - IN FRONT OF A CATHOLIC CHURCH - MID
DAY -MEXICO CITY
Mexico City - December 1997

THE CHURCH IS SEEN FROM THE OUTSIDE AS INVITED GUESTS ARE
MAKING THEIR WAY INSIDE.

CROSS FADE

2*INT. - THE CHURCH - MIDDAY

Kevin is standing in the front of the church as Roxana comes
down the aisle to be at his side.

THE TWO ARE STANDING FACING EACH OTHER.

KEVIN

C.U.

Yo Kevin te acepto a ti, Roxana,
como mi esposa y prometo serte fiel
en lo próspero y en lo adverso, en
la salud y en la enfermedad, y
amarte y respetarte todos los días
de mi vida.

ROXANA

C.U.

Yo Roxana, te acepto a ti Kevin
como mi esposo y prometo serte fiel
en lo próspero y en lo adverso, en
la salud y en la enfermedad, y
amarte y respetarte todos los días
de mi vida.

FADE

3*EXT. - U.S./MEXICO BORDER - NUEVO LAREDO - EARLY MORNING

Kevin is driving across the international bridge, pays the toll on the U.S. Side, then advances across the bridge.

THE SMALL 4-DOOR CAR IS COMPLETELY FILLED WITH BOXES, SUITCASES, A TELEVISION, A STEREO AND OTHER PERSONAL ITEMS.

IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BRIDGE THERE IS A LARGE, BRONZE PLAQUE WITH A LINE OF DEMARCATION STRAIGHT THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF THE PLAQUE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM. IT MARKS THE OFFICIAL CROSSING FROM ONE COUNTRY TO ANOTHER.

Kevin looks intently at the plaque as he realizes that he does not know when he will return. As he reaches the other side of the bridge, the Mexican guard signals him to pull over for inspection.

The guard walks from the back of the car to the front.

MEXICAN BORDER GUARD 1

(In Spanish)

Where are you headed?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Mexico City

MEXICAN BORDER GUARD 1

(in Spanish)

What do you have in the back?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Personal items...nothing else

MEXICAN BORDER GUARD 1

(in Spanish)

Why are you going to Mexico City?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I am going to get married.

MEXICAN BORDER GUARD 1

(in Spanish)

To a Mexican woman?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes.

The guard continues looking through the windows into the back of the car, then waves his hand to move ahead.

Kevin pulls out of the inspection bay and drives ahead.

4* EXT. - MORNING - VEHICLE PERMIT OFFICE

He arrives to another building for the foreign vehicle permit.

Kevin enters the building and gets in line at one of the windows. He has a manila folder in his hand. He moves ahead little by little and eventually moves up to the window.

VEHICLE PERMIT AGENT 1

(in Spanish)

Do you speak Spanish?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes.

VEHICLE PERMIT AGENT 1

(in Spanish)

Your papers?

Kevin hands the papers to the agent. The agent pages through the forms. He points down at one of the papers.

VEHICLE PERMIT AGENT 1 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Your signature here

The agent takes the collection of forms, staples them together and hands a blue sticker to Kevin.

VEHICLE PERMIT AGENT 1 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Your permit is valid for 6 months.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Thank you.

Kevin takes the folder and the sticker and exits the building. He gets back in the car and puts the sticker (car permit) in the top, left corner of the windshield. He drives away headed south to the highway. He is alone with his thoughts.

THE MORNING SUN IS RISING.

5* INT. - SMALL JAZZ BAR - SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS - NIGHT
 (*Flashback sequence)

KEVIN AND ROXANA ARE HAVING DRINKS IN A SMALL LOUNGE WITH LIVE JAZZ MUSIC. A FIVE PIECE JAZZ BAND IS PLAYING ON THE STAGE.

KEVIN

(In Spanish)

Roxana. You and I have spent a lot of time together over these past few months. I have never felt this way about anybody until I met you. I have thought long and hard about what should happen next, and this is what I came up with.

Kevin retrieves a small box from his pants' pocket, turns towards Roxana and opens it revealing a small diamond ring.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I would like to spend the rest of my life with you.

Roxana looks down at the ring, then looks directly at Kevin.

ROXANA

(In English)

Yes, I will marry you.

FADE

6*EXT. - NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - MEXICO CITY - EVENING - SUNSET

LATE IN THE AFTERNOON, KEVIN ARRIVES IN MEXICO CITY. HE CROSSES THE CITY FROM NORTH TO SOUTH AND PULLS UP TO A THREE STORY HOUSE IN AN UPSCALE NEIGHBORHOOD.

Roxana comes out of the house as Kevin pulls up. She runs out and gives Kevin a hug and a passionate kiss as he exits the car.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

It is wonderful that you are here. I have missed you so much. How do you feel?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I have missed you too. I am really tired. I left San Antonio at 4 o'clock in the morning and drove all day.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Let's go inside.

Kevin retrieves the medium sized suitcase from the back seat and follows Roxana into the house.

Roxana and Kevin enter the house. Aunt Emma is in the kitchen preparing a meal.

7*INT. - ROXANA'S HOME - EVENING

AUNT EMMA IS IN HER MID 50S AND WEARS GLASSES. SHE IS AN ACCOUNTANT AT A PRIVATE BOYS' CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Speaking loudly - Aunt Emma, Kevin is here.

Emma walks out of the kitchen and gives Kevin a hug.

EMMA

(in Spanish)

Hi Kevin. How are you?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I'm OK, but really tired. How is everything here?

EMMA

(in Spanish)

Well, Everything is OK. How was your drive?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

It was long, but I made it here once again. May I sit down in the living room?

EMMA

Of course.

KEVIN WALKS INTO THE FAMILY ROOM, LIES DOWN ON THE SOFA AND FALLS ASLEEP. ROXANA RETRIEVES A BLANKET FROM UPSTAIRS AND PUTS IT OVER KEVIN.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
(To Emma) He must be exhausted!!

EMMA

(in Spanish)
Yes. Poor Guy...Can you imagine that he left his life in San Antonio and came all the way here just to be with you?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Yes. What a sweet, sweet man. I will be very proud to have him as my husband.

8*INT. - ROXANA'S HOME - MORNING

THE NEXT MORNING KEVIN IS SITTING IN THE LIVING ROOM TALKING ON THE PHONE IN ENGLISH AND WRITING NOTES ON A PIECE OF PAPER.

KEVIN

Good morning, I spoke with you a few months back about a position that you have open for a teacher/translator. (Pause) Yes, I can be there this afternoon, where is the office located? (Pause) OK, Thank you. I will be there at 2 o'clock.

ROXANA COMES DOWNSTAIRS DRESSED IN BUSINESS CASUAL ATTIRE.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Good morning Rox.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Did you sleep OK?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Yes, wonderfully. Thank you for the blanket. I feel refreshed.

Kevin looks down at the piece of paper in his hand.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Do you know where the Colonia Roma is?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes, north of here, on the way to downtown, and close to my office. Why?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I have an interview at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Are you going by car or by train?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

By car, I guess.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Do you have your maps?

KEVIN

(In Spanish)

Yes.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Look, here is a set of keys for the house. You have to lock the gate when you leave.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

OK, Are you going to work?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes, I will see you this afternoon.

Roxana kisses Kevin, walks out the front door. Kevin is seated on the sofa paging through a map/guide book.

9* EXT. BUSY STREET - OFFICE BUILDING - AFTERNOON

1:40 P.M. Kevin pulls up in front of a five story office building, parks the car on the street, then enters the building.

Kevin walks into an office on the 2nd floor and is greeted by the secretary who is seated at a desk directly inside the entrance.

10*INT. OFFICE ON THE SECOND FLOOR

SOFIA IS A SECRETARY. SHE IS A YOUNG
PRETTY WOMAN IN HER EARLY 20S.

SOFIA

(in Spanish)

Good afternoon, how may I help you?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Good afternoon, I have an
appointment with Daniel.

SOFIA

(in Spanish)

Yes, Are you Kevin?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes.

DANIEL IS A LIGHT SKINNED YOUNG MAN
IN HIS LATE 20S. HE IS FROM NEW YORK
BUT HAS BEEN IN MEXICO FOR MANY YEARS.

Daniel appears in the doorway and speaks to Kevin in English.

DANIEL

Good afternoon Kevin, it is nice to
finally meet you.

KEVIN

It is nice to meet you as well.

The two shake hands and move into the adjoining office.
Daniel seats himself at the desk. There is one chair facing
the desk.

DANIEL

Go ahead and take a seat.

Kevin sits and waits for Daniel to initiate the conversation.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Are you adapting to the city OK?

KEVIN

Well, I just got here yesterday.

DANIEL

So, you are still learning your way around?

KEVIN

Well, I have spent some time here previously, so I know my way around somewhat.

DANIEL

Why did you decide to move here permanently?

KEVIN

Well, I am going to get married in December.

DANIEL

What? You came all the way down here to get married?

KEVIN

Yes, I met my fiancé in San Antonio, but thanks to an unfortunate incident, I had to come here to get married.

DANIEL

Unfortunate incident? What happened?

KEVIN

Well, I went to pick her up at the airport....

11*INT. SAN ANTONIO AIRPORT - INTERNATIONAL ARRIVALS-
AFTERNOON

Kevin is standing in the San Antonio airport waiting for Roxana to arrive on her flight from Mexico City. The international passengers are coming out a few at a time. The flow of passengers thins, and then stops. Kevin is now the only one standing there. A few minutes later, a member of International Security walks out.

U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICER

Are you Kevin?

KEVIN

Yes.

U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICER

Are you waiting for Roxana?

KEVIN

Yes.

U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICER

Well, there is a problem with her visa. She will not be permitted to enter the country.

KEVIN

Excuse me? What happened?

U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICER

She overstayed her visa and because of this, she cannot be granted a new one for at least one year.

KEVIN

No, her visa does not expire until June. She went back to Mexico City to get it renewed before the expiration date next month.

U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICER

Her visa expired in January and she did not leave the country until two weeks ago.

KEVIN

May I see her?

The officer pauses for a moment.

U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICER

I guess that would be OK. Follow me.

The officer and Kevin walk back into the processing area for international arrivals. Roxana is sitting in a small room with all of her papers scattered on the desk. She has a frazzled look on her face and is crying a little bit.

KEVIN

Are you OK?

ROXANA

I think so, but I do not understand what is happening.

The officer walks back into the room with a folder containing all of Roxana's immigration documents. He opens the folder and shows the form with her visa expiring in January. Roxana pulls out her copy of the same document that has the date of expiration as JUN.

U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICER

That does not say J-U-N. It says J-A-N.

Kevin looks closely at the two documents.

KEVIN

(Sternly)

Look. The photocopy that she was given has the top of the "a" cut off so it looks like a "u". She went back to Mexico to get her visa renewed as she believed she was supposed to do.

U.S. IMMIGRATION OFFICER

Well, it is her responsibility to be aware of when her visa is expiring. (Long Pause) I will tell you what I can do. By the book, she is supposed to be detained overnight and put on the first flight back to Mexico. What I can do is allow you to sign for her and take her home, if you promise that she will be back here at 6 AM tomorrow morning.

KEVIN

OK. You have my word.

The officer pulls out the form and Kevin signs it. Roxana and Kevin walk out of the airport.

12* INT. - OFFICE ON THE SECOND FLOOR - AFTERNOON

KEVIN (CONT'D)

...the next morning I took her back to the airport and she flew back to Mexico. That was almost 4 months ago. So, now I am here to stay for a while.

DANIEL

Wow! That is an intriguing story, probably one of the most interesting stories I have heard in a long time.

(MORE)

DANIEL (CONT'D)

(Pause) Look Kevin, we have a contract to teach English to business executives and translate documents for a company that does business with the U.S. and Canada. I have one more position available for this contract. The salary is above average and having looked over your resume, I think that you would be a good fit for that position. I have already hired two others. What part of town do you live in?

KEVIN

Right now I am staying at my fiance's house in Xochimilco. I have not had time to go apartment hunting yet.

DANIEL

The offices where we will be working are down in the south, not too far from Xochimilco. (Pause) So, are you interested?

KEVIN

Yes, I am interested. When do we start?

DANIEL

We will not start with that contract until next month, but we have a lot to do here in this office until then. If you can be here on Monday, we can get you started and you can meet the other two members of the team.

KEVIN

I will be here on Monday. Thank you.

Kevin and Daniel both stand and shake hands. Kevin walks out of the office, smiles and nods at Sofia, then exits the building.

13*INT. ROXANA'S HOUSE - EVENING

Kevin is seated on the couch reading a magazine and Emma is in the kitchen. Roxana enters and sits with Kevin on the couch.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Hello. How did it go today?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

It was all right, but I don't know if I like that place.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Why?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

It is because when I came back here in May I had to take the first job that I found...

I like it, everybody is friendly, but I think that I could make more money somewhere else.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

That is not important right now. We have to find an apartment And we have to confirm the church for the wedding in December. We have a lot to do and very little time to do it. Do you think that we can get this started on Saturday?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes. I found a church for the wedding, a place for the reception, and possibly an apartment. We also have to pick a spot for the the civil wedding.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

The Civil wedding?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

In Mexico, there are two weddings, one in the church and one for the government.

We will go on Saturday and I will show you what I have found so far.

(MORE)

ROXANA (CONT'D)
I want to finalize everything so
that we do not have to change the
date.

Roxana rises and moves towards the kitchen.

ROXANA O.S.
(in Spanish)
Aunt Emma, What are you doing?

EMMA O.S.
(in Spanish)
I am making dinner. Does Kevin like
huitlacoche?

ROXANA O.S.
(in Spanish)
(Speaking loudly) Kevin,
Do you like Huitlacoche?

Kevin rises and moves into the kitchen.

KEVIN
(in Spanish)
What is it?

ROXANA
(in Spanish)
You will like it.

The three of them sit at the small, kitchen, dining table.
They say grace then have dinner.

ROXANA (CONT'D)
(in Spanish)
Don't you remember? We had
Huitlacoche the first time that you
came to Mexico City.
I forgot to ask you...How was the
interview?

KEVIN
(in Spanish)
It went well. I have a job and I
start on Monday.

ROXANA
(in Spanish)
(elated) Seriously, That's
wonderful!! What will you be doing?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I am going to teach English to business executives from an international company, and edit and translate documents.

I spoke today with a guy named Daniel and he explained that he has a contract that begins next month.

EMMA

Where is it?

(in Spanish)

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

It is right by the Perisur Mall. Meanwhile, we are going to work at the office in the Colonia Roma...Until next month.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

That is great.

On Saturday, I will show you the church, the hotel, and the apartment.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

May I come see your office tomorrow?

ROXANA

(In Spanish)

Sure. If you can come pick me up at around 4 P.M., I can show you the office.

KEVIN

(In Spanish)

That sounds perfect. I will be there at 4 o'clock.

14*INT. CITY STREET - LATE IN THE AFTERNOON

Kevin is driving north towards Roxana's office. As he is driving north he is looking at each and every street sign or marking. All of a sudden there is a police car behind him with the emergency lights flashing. Kevin pulls over to the side of the road and retrieves his passport and car permit. The officer approaches the side of the car.

POLICE OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)
 Good afternoon. Do you speak Spanish?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
 A little bit.

POLICE OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)
 You made an illegal turn. Your identification?

Kevin hands the officer his passport and car permit. The officer walks back to the patrol car where another officer is waiting. A moment later the officer returns with a ticket book in his hand.

POLICE OFFICER 1 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)
 Do you want me to give you the fine, or do you want me to help you?

Kevin is not exactly sure how to answer the question and is not sure what this procedure entails.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
 I want you to help me.

The officer walks around to the passenger side of the car and gets in.

POLICE OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)
 Go ahead.

Kevin resumes driving north on Insurgentes Avenue, but does not understand what is happening.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
 Excuse me, where are we going?

POLICE OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)
 To the bank.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
 What bank?

POLICE OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)
To your bank.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
My bank is in Texas...in the United States.

POLICE OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)
(bothered) You don't have a bank here?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
No.

POLICE OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)
Stop here on the side.

Kevin pulls over to the side of the road as instructed. The officer gets out of the car and walks back to the patrol car that was following behind. A moment later the second officer walks up to the driver's side of the car with Kevin's passport and car permit in hand.

POLICE OFFICER 2

(in Spanish)
My partner is telling me that you don't want help.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
(Frustrated) I do not understand what is going on. I am just trying to find my girlfriend's office, and I do not know exactly where I am going... Now what?

The officer seems puzzled, so he drops the passport and car permit in Kevin's lap.

POLICE OFFICER 2

(in Spanish)
You are very honest. Go!!!

Kevin drives away and eventually finds Roxana's office. He parks on the side of the street and enters the building.

15*INT. - ROXANA'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Kevin finds Roxana sitting at a drafting table and typing on a computer. There are a few others sitting nearby. Kevin is looking around the room curiously.

ROXANA

(In Spanish)
Everybody...This is my
fiance...Kevin.

Kevin greets the other architects, then returns to where Roxana is seated.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
How is it going?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Fine.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
If you are ready, we can go eat
somewhere.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Sure, I am finished for today.

Roxana shuts down her computer and Kevin and Roxana exit the building.

16*EXT. - ON THE STREET - AFTERNOON

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Look, there is a diner over there.
Does that work?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Yes, that'll be fine.

17*INT. - DINER STYLE RESTAURANT - AFTERNOON

The two enter the diner style restaurant, and are seated to order. The waitress takes their orders.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Tomorrow we are going to see the church and the place for the reception, Right?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

What is the place for the reception called?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

The Royal Pedregal. You've seen it. It is hotel across from the mall and not far from the church.

ROXANA (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

I believe that we can have the Civil Wedding and the reception at the same place.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Oh, I haven't told you what happened to me today.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I was driving on Insurgentes when, all of a sudden, a cop pulled me over, then one of the cops got in the car and told me to drive ahead. I asked him where we were going. He told me "To the bank", I asked him what bank, he said "your bank". I explained that I am not from here and that my bank is in Texas. He got mad and told me to drive away.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Wow! The police here can be horrible. They were trying to get money from you.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

That is what I imagined, but I pretended like I didn't understand.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

When they see your Texas plates, they see you as an easy target.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I hope that does not become a common occurrence. I will have to be careful when I am driving.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes, very careful.

The two finish their meals and leave the restaurant.

18*INT. - ROXANA'S HOUSE - SATURDAY EVENING

EDGAR IS ROXANA'S BROTHER. EDGAR IS AN ENGINEER. HE IS ONE YEAR OLDER THAN ROXANA.

EDGAR HAS ARRIVED FROM TOLUCA TO SPEND THE WEEKEND IN THE CITY.

Kevin, Roxana, Emma and Edgar are having dinner and chatting about the day's events. Edgar and Kevin are drinking beer.

EDGAR

(in Spanish)

I cannot believe that you are actually here.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

What do you mean? Roxana was telling me that you work in Toluca.

EDGAR

(in Spanish)

It just seems strange that you are here having dinner with us. My little sister is actually getting married. Uh, Yes, I am working for GM in Toluca.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

You are not going to believe what we accomplished today.

EMMA

(in Spanish)

Tell us, please.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

OK. We confirmed the the church for the 20th of December.

EDGAR

(in Spanish)

Which church?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

It will be at the Santa Cruz del Pedregal on the 20th of December. That is the same date that we were planning the wedding in San Antonio.

EDGAR (TO KEVIN)

(in Spanish)

Do you want another one?

Kevin nods. Edgar retrieves two beers from the refrigerator and hands one to Kevin.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

We are arranging everything as though what occurred in San Antonio never happened.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

We also rented the apartment from Uncle Victor.

EDGAR

(in Spanish)

In Espartaco?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes.

EDGAR

(in Spanish)
Is it in good condition?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Yes. It was recently painted and has new carpet throughout.

EDGAR

(in Spanish)
The last time I was there it was pretty shabby.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Kev, On Monday can we go to work together?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
I guess so.

EDGAR

(in Spanish)
You have a job?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Yes, teaching English and translating documents.

EDGAR

(in Spanish)
That's incredible.

Aunt Emma stands and starts clearing the dishes.

19*EXT. - IN THE CAR DRIVING - MORNING

Kevin and Roxana are driving into the city to work.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Turn left at the light.

Kevin proceeds to make the left turn as instructed. As soon as he completes the turn a traffic officer appears in front of the car blowing his whistle and pointing to the side of the street. Kevin pulls off to the side and pulls out his passport and car permit. The officer looks down at the Texas license plate then approaches the driver's side of the car.

TRAFFIC OFFICER

(in Spanish)

You crossed the traffic light illegally.

Roxana is trying to protect Kevin. She leans over from the passenger side to speak to the officer.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Officer, we did not do anything wrong.

TRAFFIC OFFICER

(in Spanish)

Ms., You went through the red light and this infraction requires that you pay a fine.

ROXANA (FORCEFULLY)

(in Spanish)

We did not do anything that was illegal! We crossed the intersection perfectly.

TRAFFIC OFFICER

(in Spanish)

So, you don't want to pay the fine?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What fine? We did not do anything!

TRAFFIC OFFICER

(in Spanish)

I have no option. I have to take off the license plates.

THE OFFICER DOES NOT SPEAK VERY CLEARLY AND KEVIN IS HAVING TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING THE VERBAL EXCHANGE.

Roxana suddenly gets out of the car on the passenger side and walks around to the back of the car where the officer is standing. She is now shouting at the officer. Kevin gets out also and joins Roxana at the rear of the car.

ROXANA (SHOUTING FORCEFULLY AT THE OFFICER)

(in Spanish)

You cannot take off the license plates! How can we drive without license plates? We did not do anything! You are making this up!

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Rox, what is going on?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
He says that he is going to take
off the license plates.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
What? He can't take off my license
plates. That's insane!!

As the exchange is going back and forth, the pedestrians that are passing by stop to witness the incident. A crowd of about 15 to 20 people is now stopped on the sidewalk watching the scene. Several observers are also commenting about the foreign license plates. The traffic officer suddenly notices the crowd gathered behind him and becomes very uncomfortable.

TRAFFIC OFFICER

(in Spanish)
Enough! Get back in the car and go!

Kevin and Roxana return to the car and are about to drive away when the officer appears at the driver's side window.

TRAFFIC OFFICER (SOFTLY) (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)
Can you please help me out for a
cup of coffee?

Kevin suddenly becomes more aware of what has just occurred and hands the officer a 10 peso coin.

Kevin and Roxana drive ahead.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
I guess I will have to get used to
this.

They pull up in front of Roxana's Office. Roxana kisses Kevin, and gets out of the car.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Can you pick me up at 4?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Sure.

Kevin drives away.

20*INT. - KEVIN'S OFFICE BUILDING - MORNING

Kevin walks into the office where he had his interview.

SOFIA

(in Spanish)

Good morning Mr. Kevin

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Uh...Sofia? Right?

SOFIA

(in Spanish)

Yes.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Good morning Sofia...Daniel?

SOFIA

(in Spanish)

They are in the conference room.
Come with me.

Sofia gets up from her desk and leads Kevin down the hallway to the conference room. Sofia opens the door and announces Kevin's arrival.

SOFIA (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Mr. Kevin has arrived.

Kevin enters the conference room where Daniel, Matt, and Oscar are seated looking through stacks of books.

DANIEL

Come on in Kevin. This is Matt, and
this is Oscar.

MATT IS A SHORT STOCKY MAN WITH WAVY
HAIR AND A MILDLY MUSCULAR BUILD. HE
IS IN HIS MID-20S.

OSCAR IS A TALL, FAIRLY LIGHT SKINNED
MAN. HE IS IN HIS EARLY 20S. HE IS
FROM MEXICO CITY, BUT SPEAKS ENGLISH
WITH ALMOST NO DISCERNIBLE ACCENT.

Kevin reaches out and shakes hands with each of his new colleagues. Kevin then turns back to Daniel.

KEVIN

Sorry for running a little late,
but I got stopped by the
police...again.

OSCAR

Did you give them money?

KEVIN

No. My fiance started yelling at
the officer and he let us go.

Oscar laughs.

DANIEL

We are just going through some
teaching materials and deciding
what we can use.
Could you grab that stack of books
over there and start going through
it?

KEVIN

Sure.

Daniel turns and walks out of the conference room and back to
his office.

Kevin picks up a stack of books and starts paging through
them.

MATT

So, Where are you from Kevin?

KEVIN

Well, I came here from San Antonio.
And you?

MATT

Louisiana...near New Orleans.

KEVIN

And you, Oscar?

OSCAR

I am from here, but I went to
bilingual schools most of my
life...Daniel said that you are
getting married.

KEVIN

Yes, in December.

OSCAR

I take it that your fiance is from here.

KEVIN

Yes, she grew up in Xochimilco and graduated from the UNAM in Architecture. So, what are we looking for in these books?

MATT

We are just looking for lessons that we can use next month.

OSCAR

(Reading from a list)
Specifically, we are looking for material dealing with transitive and intransitive verbs, verb conjugations in perfect tenses, independent clauses, etcetera

Oscar hands the list to Kevin. Kevin begins reading over the list.

Daniel walks back into the conference room.

DANIEL

Kevin, Can I see you for a second?

KEVIN

Sure.

Kevin follows Daniel back to his office. Daniel sits at his desk and Kevin sits in the chair facing the desk.

DANIEL

What is your immigration status? Do you have your FM2?

KEVIN

No, I just have my tourist visa...FM3.

DANIEL

Would your fiance let you use her RFC?

KEVIN

I am sure she would.

DANIEL

OK, then we will pay you under your fiance's name if that is OK with you.

KEVIN

Sure. That's fine with me. Thank you.

Kevin walks back to the conference room and the three men continue looking through the books.

21*EXT. - IN THE CAR - AFTERNOON

Kevin pulls up in front of Roxana's office and waits for her to come out. After a few minutes, she walks out and gets in the car. The two drive away headed for home.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
How was your day?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Everything was fine. I like the place and I got along well with the others.
Uh...Daniel asked if I can use your RFC so I can get paid.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Yes. Actually, I didn't know how they were going to pay you, but I didn't want to say anything.
(PAUSE)
We have to buy furniture for the apartment. Could we go shopping on Wednesday after work? We can order what we need and they can deliver everything on Saturday.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
That sounds fine.

They pull up to Roxana's house and walk inside.

22*INT.- IN THE NEWLY REMODELED APARTMENT - SATURDAY MORNING

Kevin is moving personal items from the car into the apartment.

Roxana is arranging Kevin's personal items in the apartment. Two men are uncovering new furniture that has just been delivered.

As the last piece is put in place, Roxana signs the delivery form and the two men exit the apartment.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Is the telephone connected?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes, my uncle gave me the number.

Roxana pulls out a piece of paper and sits it by the phone. Roxana walks into the kitchen and continues arranging plates and dishes.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I need to call my Mom.

Kevin picks up the phone and begins dialing.

A moment later, there is a voice on the other end.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON THE PHONE)

Hello.

KEVIN

Mom, it's me. You are not going to believe it, I am sitting in my apartment in Mexico City. It has brand new carpet, fresh paint, and all new furniture. It is all very basic, but I love it.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON THE PHONE)

That sounds great, I can't wait to see it. So, you are now and official resident of Mexico?

KEVIN

Well, yes...The apartment is in the delegation of Coyoacán, in the southern area of the city. Roxana and I have confirmed the date for the wedding. It will be on the 20th of December, so you can go ahead and make the travel arrangements.

(MORE)

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I don't expect everybody to make the trip, but all are invited. I know that everybody is busy...

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON THE PHONE)

Well, your father and I will definitely be there. I will have to check with your brothers and sister.

KEVIN

OK. It seems that I will be incredibly busy over the next few months, but I will call when I can. If you need anything on this end, just let me know.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON THE PHONE)

OK. Thank you. Is your car doing OK?

KEVIN

Yes, it is fine. I have an international car permit so that I can legally drive in Mexico.

Anyway, Rox and I will make the rest of the arrangements for the wedding and I will look forward to seeing all of you in December.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON THE PHONE)

Give my love to Roxana and her family and take care.

KEVIN

You do the same. Bye Mom.

Kevin hangs up the phone.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What did your Mom say?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

That she is going to start making arrangements to come in December.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

OK. Shall we go back to the house?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
OK, but I will come back here
tonight.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Really?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Yes. I live here now, and this is
where we will live together as a
married couple.

The two exit the apartment and lock the door.

23*INT - MEXICO CITY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AFTERNOON
December 17, 1997 - Mexico City Airport - International
Arrivals

THE AIRPORT IS SOMEWHAT CROWDED AND HECTIC. THERE IS A
CONSTANT STREAM OF PEOPLE COMING THROUGH THE DOORS FROM THE
INTERNATIONAL SECTION. KEVIN IS NOTABLY NERVOUS ABOUT THE
ARRIVAL OF HIS FAMILY.

Kevin, all of a sudden, excitedly speaks to Roxana in
English.

KEVIN

Here come my Mom and Dad!...
There's my sister!

Roxana sees them and is smiling and waving frantically.

KEVIN'S MOM (SUZIE) IS A DISTINGUISHED
LOOKING WOMAN IN HER MID 50S. SHE IS A
RETIRED NURSE.

KEVIN'S DAD (BOB) IS A RENOWNED
MEDICAL DOCTOR AND ACADEMIC PROFESSOR
IN HIS EARLY 60S.

KEVIN'S SISTER (KATIE) IS 20 YEARS
OLD, AND IS A COLLEGE STUDENT.

ROXANA'S DAD (ARTURO) IS IN HIS LATE
50S AND IS RETIRED.

ROXANA'S MOM (EVA) IS IN HER EARLY 50S
AND IS A SPANISH PROFESSOR.

As the three make their way through the crush of people, Kevin and Roxana are trying to get through to them. As the group comes together, Kevin gives a big hug to his Mom, then his Dad, then his sister. Roxana is exchanging hugs with them also.

KEVIN (TO HIS FAMILY MEMBERS)

I am so glad you made it. Welcome to Mexico City. How was the flight?

SUZIE

Oh, it was fine. We need to go get our bags.

ROXANA

If you will follow me, I will take you to the baggage claim area.

Roxana leads the way and the others follow behind.

ROXANA (CONT'D)

My Dad has rented a large vehicle to take you to the hotel. He should be here in a few minutes.

KEVIN

What about Michael and Sean?

MOM

Michael, Diane and Sean will be here in about an hour.

MICHAEL IS KEVIN'S OLDER BROTHER AND IS IN HIS MID-30S. DIANE IS MICHAEL'S WIFE. SEAN IS KEVIN'S YOUNGER BROTHER AND IS IN HIS EARLY 20S.

The group arrives at the baggage claim area and waits.

BOB

I have not been in this airport in a long time.

ROXANA

When were you here last?

BOB

About 15 years ago. I came for a medical conference.

ROXANA (TO BOB)

I have a cousin who is a medical student and he wants to meet you. He knows you from your books.

BOB (TO ROXANA)

Will he be at the wedding?

ROXANA

Yes, he is looking forward to seeing you there. He is very excited that he will get to meet you.

THE BAGGAGE CONVEYOR STARTS ROLLING AND THE LUGGAGE AND SEVERAL BOXES ARE BEING COLLECTED ONE BY ONE.

Roxana's Dad (Arturo) suddenly appears. Suzie sees him and gives him a hug.

SUZIE

It is so nice to see you again.
Thank you for coming.

ARTURO

I rented a Chevrolet Suburban to take everybody to the hotel. Hello Bob. Welcome to Mexico. How is everything? Hello Katie. How are you?

BOB

We still have to wait for our other sons, Michael, and Sean, and Michael's wife Diane. They will be here in a little bit.

SUZIE

We can sit and have coffee while we are waiting.

Roxana had disappeared for a few moments, but she suddenly re-appears with a large, luggage cart and starts putting all of the bags onto it. Kevin and Katie jump in to help. Once all of the items are gathered, the group moves over to a coffee shop and sits down.

ROXANA (TO KATIE)

How is everything with you?

KATIE

I just started my junior year at U.T.S.A.

ROXANA

What are you studying?

KATIE

Education.

ROXANA

You are going to be a teacher?

KATIE

Yes.

ROXANA

That is what Kevin was telling me.

SUZIE

Michael, Diane and Sean should be here in a few minutes. Who wants to go check on their flight?

KEVIN

I will go. Katie, come with me.
(To Roxana - In Spanish)
Stay here and be the interpreter if necessary.

Kevin and Katie get up and walk back towards the international arrivals.

KATIE

I cannot believe how fluent your Spanish has gotten. I did not understand a single thing you said to Roxana.

KEVIN

I just asked her to stay there to help with the conversation.

Kevin checks the arrivals board.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

The flight landed 15 minutes ago. They should be coming through Customs any minute. Let's stand over there so we can see them when they come through.

Kevin and Katie stand and wait with their eyes fixed on the people coming from the international section.

KATIE

There they are.

Kevin and Katie are waving at them. Michael, Diane, and Sean come through the crowd of passengers. They come together and exchange hugs.

KEVIN

Greetings. Welcome to Mexico City.
How is everything? Do you need to
get your luggage?

MICHAEL

No, we just brought our carry-ons.

KATIE

Everybody is sitting by the baggage
claim waiting for you. Roxana's Dad
rented an SUV to take us all to the
hotel.

The entire group comes together back at the coffee shop.

Arturo rises to greet Michael, Sean, and Diane.

ARTURO

We can take all of the things and
go to the car. I am sure that you
are all tired.

ROXANA (TO HER DAD)

(in Spanish)

Kevin and I came in his car. We are
going to go together with Katie,
and we will see you in the hotel.

ARTURO

(in Spanish)

That's fine.

The entire group moves towards the parking garage with the
luggage cart in tow.

24*INT. - HOTEL LOBBY - EVENING

The entire group is in the hotel lobby having cocktails and
coffee. Kevin stands and addresses the entire group. Roxana
is at his side.

KEVIN

I cannot begin to tell you how
overjoyed I am that you are all
here. I am so grateful that you
will be with me...

Kevin looks over at Roxana, then continues.

...with "us" on Saturday.

(MORE)

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Thanks to all of the help that we have received from Roxana's entire family, all of the arrangements have been made. Roxana's Mom and Dad are going to pick you up on Saturday morning and take you to the church. The Civil Wedding and the reception will be right here in this hotel. After the wedding, Roxana's Mom and Dad will bring you back here.

SEAN

What is the Civil Wedding?

DIANE

I was about to ask the same thing.

ROXANA

In Mexico, there are two weddings. The first one is in the church, and the second is the legal part that is for the government. It will not take very long. We just have to sign some forms to make our *marriage official*.

Roxana suddenly gets emotional and starts crying a little bit. Saying the word "Marriage" got to her.

ROXANA (*STRUGGLING TO FIND WORDS AS SHE IS SUDDENLY OVERCOME WITH EMOTION*) (CONT'D)

We are so happy that all of you are here. I cannot believe what a wonderful family I am becoming a part of... (*Pause*)
...you have traveled all this way to be here with us in a different city and and a different country and I cannot tell you how important that is and how much that means to us... (*Trails off*).

SUZIE

We are incredibly proud of both of you and there is nowhere on Earth that we would rather be than right here with you.

BOB (TO ROXANA WHO IS STILL STRUGGLING
TO HOLD BACK TEARS)

We are all incredibly proud of both
of you, Suzie and I will be happy
to call you our daughter-in-law.
You have made our son the happiest
that I have ever seen him.

KEVIN

I thank all of you for that.
(Pause) I have some things that I
have to take care of between now
and Saturday, so I will plan to see
you at the church on Saturday
morning.

Those gathered bid their farewells with hugs and smiles.
Kevin and Roxana exit the hotel.

CROSS FADE

25*INT. - IN THE CHURCH - MID DAY

Kevin and Roxana are facing each other continuing with the
wedding nuptials.

KEVIN

C.U.

Roxana recibe este anillo como
signo de mi amor y de que siempre
te seré fiel En el nombre del Padre
y del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo.

ROXANA

C.U.

Kevin recibe este anillo como signo
de mi amor y de que siempre te seré
fiel En el nombre del Padre y del
Hijo y del Espíritu Santo.

PRIEST

Salen los esposos con el cortejo
nupcial.

Kevin and Roxana turn and face the attendees as husband and
wife. The two walk hand in hand up the aisle as the bridal
exit hymn is playing.

26*INT. HOTEL BALLROOM - AFTERNOON

ALL OF THE INVITED GUESTS ARE GATHERED AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF THE BRIDE AND GROOM. A LIGHT JAZZ BAND IS PLAYING IN THE BACKGROUND.

An announcer is seen standing in front of the band to announce the arrival of the Bride and Groom. He makes the announcement first in Spanish, then in English.

EMCEE - ANNOUNCER

En este momento, es un orgullo y honor anunciar la entrada de los novios Kevin and Roxana. (Pause)
At this moment, it is my pleasure and honor to announce the entrance of the bride and Groom, Kevin and Roxana.

Kevin and Roxana enter hand in hand with big smiles on their faces. The newly wedded couple move from table to table greeting their guests and taking pictures.

THE BAND CONTINUES TO PLAY FESTIVE LIGHT JAZZ.

Roxana then moves up to the front of the room where the band is playing and picks up a microphone. As Roxana starts to speak, the band stops playing. Kevin is standing off to the side and has no idea what Roxana is doing.

ROXANA

Buenas tardes a todos. Gracias por acompañarnos para celebrar nuestro matrimonio.

Roxana pauses for a moment, then switches to English.

ROXANA (CONT'D)

I would especially like to thank Kevin's family who traveled all the way here from San Antonio, Texas. I am so happy to now have you as part of my family and to be a part of yours.

Roxana switches back to Spanish.

ROXANA (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

When Kevin and I were dating, he used to sing this song to me. Now, I would like to return the favor.

(MORE)

ROXANA (CONT'D)

This song has special sentiment to us. If you listen, you will understand why.

Roxana turns and looks at the band and points as if to give them a cue.

The band starts playing "Mi Forma de Sentir" by Pedro Fernandez.

Roxana starts to sing. She looks directly at Kevin.

CADA VEZ QUE VEO SALIR EL SOL, COMO
HOY
NADA MAS PUEDO PENSAR EN TI, MI
AMOR
LA DISTANCIA NO ES RAZÓN PARA DEJAR
LA ESPERANZA DE ALGÚN DÍA VOLVERTE
A BESAR
SOLO TU
SOLO TU QUE CONOCES MI FORMA DE
SENTIR
MI FORMA DE REÍR
Y HASTA MI FORMA DE LLORAR
SOLO TU SABES A DONDE VOY
SOLO TU SABES MUY BIEN QUIEN SOY.

One of the band members hands Kevin a microphone urging him to join her.

CUANDO ESTOY YO SOLO EN CASA ME
PONGO A PENSAR
QUE CONOCES A ALGUIEN QUE DE AMOR
TE PUEDE HABLAR

At this point, Kevin takes over and begins singing to Roxana.

PERO DE UNA COSA ESTOY SEGURO OH
MUJER
QUE LO QUE HAY ENTRE LOS DOS NADIE
PUEDE DESHACER
SOLO TU
SOLO TU QUE CONOCES MI FORMA DE
SENTIR
MI FORMA DE REÍR
Y HASTA MI FORMA DE LLORAR
SOLO TU SABES A DONDE VOY
SOLO TU SABES MUY BIEN QUIEN SOY

From this point on the two sing together.

CUANDO AL FIN EL DÍA LLEGUE
EN QUE TE VUELVA A VER
NO TE DEJARÉ PARTIR
(MORE)

ROXANA (CONT'D)
 PUES PODRÍA ENLOQUECER
 NADA EN ESTE MUNDO TENDRÍA SU RAZÓN
 DE SER
 SI TU AMOR YO NUNCA HUBIERA PODIDO
 CONOCER
 SOLO TU
 SOLO TU QUE CONOCES MI FORMA DE
 SENTIR
 MI FORMA DE REÍR
 Y HASTA MI FORMA DE LLORAR
 SOLO TU SABES A DONDE VOY
 SOLO TU SABES MUY BIEN QUIEN SOY
 SOLO TU MI AMOR
 MI AMOR, SOLO TU
 SOLO TU

At the conclusion, Kevin and Roxana put down the microphones and give each other a long passionate kiss. Every attendee is standing and applauding.

Kevin and Roxana smile and bow to the applause. Kevin picks up the microphone once again and speaks in Spanish, then in English.

KEVIN

Ahora Empezamos la fiesta!!!!
 Now, let the party begin!

The band plays more upbeat music and the dance floor fills up quickly.

27*INT. - HOTEL ELEVATOR - EVENING

KEVIN AND ROXANA ARE ON THEIR WAY UP TO THEIR MATRIMONIAL HOTEL SUITE.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
 Everything went well, didn't it?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
 Yes, definitely.

28*INT - HOTEL SUITE - EVENING

The elevator doors open and the two move down the hall to the room. Roxana pulls out the key and opens the door. They step inside and engage in a passionate kiss. Roxana then turns around with her back to Kevin.

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 Will you help me?

Kevin reaches down and starts to lower the zipper on the back of her dress. The dress then falls to the floor.

She steps out of her dress, she is wearing only a bra and underwear. She looks stunningly beautiful. Kevin removes his jacket, bow-tie and shirt. Kevin undoes his pants and they too fall to the floor. Roxana stands motionless and watches him. He pauses briefly and the two gaze at each other.

A moment later Roxana's bra is seen falling to the floor, then the two pairs of underwear are seen falling to the ankles of each. Each steps out of his and her pair.

SLOW FADE OUT

29*INT - HOTEL SUITE - MORNING 7 AM

Kevin and Roxana awake in their suite.

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 Good morning my love.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 Good morning, Rox

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 My parents are going to pick us up
 at 9 to take us to the airport.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 We have everything packed, we just
 have to get dressed.
 I am going to take a shower.

Kevin leans over and kisses Roxana, then gets out of bed. As he walks towards the bathroom, Roxana sits up to look at him. A moment later she hears the shower. She rises from the bed and walks naked into the bathroom. She stops and watches him through the full-length shower door. She then opens the shower door and joins him.

Three months later - March 1998

30*INT. - KEVIN AND ROXANA'S APARTMENT - SATURDAY MORNING

Roxana is in the kitchen cooking a meal. Kevin is on the couch watching the TV news in Spanish.

Roxana puts plates on the kitchen table.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Kevin, may I talk to you for a moment?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, what's up?

Kevin lowers the volume on the TV and turns to listen to Roxana. Roxana has a concerned look on her face. She pauses and takes a deep breath.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I believe that I am pregnant.

Kevin looks astonished. He is not sure what to say.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Why do you believe that you are pregnant?

Roxana walks to the bathroom and pulls out a home pregnancy kit. She shows Kevin the positive mark on the kit.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I have not had my period in two months.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

That's incredible! So, we are going to be parents?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I believe so.

Kevin smiles and gives her a big hug and a kiss.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

You need to make an appointment with the doctor.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I have an appointment on Wednesday afternoon. Will you come with me?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I have to work, but I can meet you there.
On Friday I have to go renew my immigration form and the permit for my car.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Where?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

There is a place to process the permits close to the airport. The office for my FM is in Polanco. At what time is your doctor's appointment?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

At 4:30 in the afternoon.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I will meet you there.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

OK. Thank you. Let's have breakfast.

31*INT. - DOCTOR'S OFFICE - OBGYN - AFTERNOON

Kevin and Roxana are sitting in the waiting room at a doctor's office. Roxana is filling out a medical form.

DOCTOR SALDIVAR - EARLY 40S HANDSOME -
DISTINGUISHED LOOKING

NURSE ARIANA - MID TO LATE 20S
PRETTY- LONG HAIR IN A PONY TAIL

Roxana completes the form and turns it in at the reception desk, then returns to where she was seated.

A few moments later a nurse walks out into the waiting area.

NURSE ARIANA

Roxana?

Roxana and Kevin stand up to follow the nurse.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

May my husband come with me?

NURSE ARIANA

(in Spanish)

Yes, that's fine.

The nurse leads them into an examination room.

NURSE ARIANA (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

For what reason did you come here today?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I believe that I am pregnant.

NURSE ARIANA

(in Spanish)

Did you do a pregnancy test?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes. It was positive.

NURSE ARIANA

(in Spanish)

When did you do the test?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

About three weeks ago.

NURSE ARIANA

(in Spanish)

The doctor will see you in a few moments. Please take off your shirt and sit here on the table.

The nurse exits the room. Roxana removes her shirt, but leaves on her bra which is thin and moderately transparent. She sits on the exam table. Kevin sits on the chair in the corner of the room.

A moment later the doctor and nurse enter the exam room with an ultrasound machine.

DOCTOR SALDIVAR

(in Spanish)

Good afternoon. I understand that you are pregnant.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes.

DOCTOR SALDIVAR

(in Spanish)

We are going to do an ultrasound test. Please lie down and raise your arms.

Roxana lies down on the exam table and raises her arms above her head. The doctor unbuttons and slightly lowers Roxana's pants and underwear. He rubs a gel on Roxana's stomach and then applies the transducer and moves it from side to side.

DOCTOR SALDIVAR (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Yes, there is sound. Hmmm. Interesting.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What?

DOCTOR SALDIVAR

(in Spanish)

There is sound on both sides.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

What does that mean?

DOCTOR SALDIVAR

(in Spanish)

It is too early to be sure, but it seems that there are two.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Twins?

DOCTOR SALDIVAR

(in Spanish)

I cannot be sure, but I believe so. If you can come back next month, we can be more certain.

The nurse takes a damp cloth and cleans Roxana's stomach. The doctor exits the room.

NURSE ARIANA

(in Spanish)

You can put your shirt back on.
 You can set your next appointment
 up in the front.

Kevin and Roxana walk out of the exam room and back to the registration desk. They schedule the follow up visit for the following month, then walk out of the building.

32*EXT. - IN THE CAR - DRIVING HOME - EARLY EVENING

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Can you believe this?
 We are going to have twins!!

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I don't know what to think about
 this.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

It doesn't make you happy?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes, but...I don't know.
 I am happy, but I feel nervous.
 Are we ready for this?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

We have to get ready.
 It makes me nervous also, but
 excited. This is what what we
 planned, getting married and
 starting a family.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I agree. We will have a lot to
 do...taking care of two babies.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

We will do whatever it takes to be
 ready...together.
 How did you feel during the
 examination?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I felt a little embarrassed in front of the doctor, but I was only partially undressed. I would have felt really strange if I were completely naked.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

At the next appointment you might have to be...more undressed.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I know. I will deal with it.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Would you rather request a female doctor?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

No, this doctor seemed nice. Why are you asking me about this?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Because I know how shy you are with your body.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

At least, now I know him, so it won't be as embarrassing next time.

The car pulls up in front of the apartment. The two get out and walk inside.

33*INT. - INTERNATIONAL CAR PERMIT OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Kevin has a folder that contains all of the papers and forms that he was given when he crossed the border 6 months ago.

He walks up to the first desk he sees.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Good morning. I need to renew my car permit.

PERMIT AGENT

(in Spanish)

I can help you with that.
I need your Immigration status form
and your foreign vehicle permit.

Kevin pulls the requested forms from the folder and hands them to the agent. The agent pulls other forms from his desk and begins writing on each of the forms. He hands one of the forms to Kevin.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I just renewed my immigration form.

The agent points at a line on the Immigrant form.

PERMIT AGENT

(in Spanish)

See here? They renewed the
immigration form for three months,
the vehicle permit has to match.

The agent hands Kevin the Foreign vehicle permit form.

PERMIT AGENT (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Your signature here please.

Kevin signs the form and hands it back to the agent. The agent walks to the copy machine and makes copies of each document. He takes the copies, staples them together and hands them to Kevin. He then pulls a sticker out of his desk.

PERMIT AGENT (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Where is the vehicle?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

It is parked outside.

PERMIT AGENT

(in Spanish)

Let's go.

The two men walk outside to where the car is parked. Kevin opens the driver's side door. The agent checks the current permit with the sticker that is on the windshield. He removes the sticker and attaches it to the form. He takes the new sticker and places it on the windshield.

PERMIT AGENT (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
 The permit is valid for 3 months.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 OK...Thank you. I will see you
 again in 3 months.

Kevin gets in the car and drives away.

34*INT. - THE APARTMENT - EVENING

KEVIN IS ON THE COUCH WATCHING TELEVISION.

Roxana enters from work.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 Hello, how was your day?

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 It was OK. I have a lot of work to
 do. Do you remember my friend Paty?

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 Yes, your friend from the
 University...the architect.

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 She is about to start an
 independent project and she wants
 my help.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 OK. Are you going to help her?

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 Yes, it will be very interesting.
 We are going to design an office
 complex.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 When?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
We don't know yet.
What did you do today?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
I went to renew my immigration
status and my car permit. They
renewed both documents for 3 months
instead of 6.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Why?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
The two documents have to match.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
So you have to go back in 3 months.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Yes. I have to do it all again. To
go to both places and renew both
documents takes an entire day. To
do it, I have to take the entire
day off.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
OK. I am hungry.

The two of them get up and move towards the kitchen.

35*INT. - DOCTOR'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

ROXANA AND KEVIN ARE BACK IN THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE - THERE HAS
BEEN AN UNFORTUNATE TURN OF EVENTS - KEVIN AND ROXANA ARE
SITTING IN THE WAITING ROOM

The nurse comes out from the back and calls Roxana's name.

NURSE ARIANA

Roxana?

Kevin and Roxana get up to follow the nurse. They walk into
an exam room. The nurse enters with them and closes the door.

NURSE ARIANA (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

You put on the form that something happened with the pregnancy. Can you explain what happened, and when?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

About a week ago I had a vaginal discharge that really hurt.

NURSE ARIANA

(in Spanish)

What color was the secretion?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

It was reddish, but with clear liquid.

The nurse is listening intently and is writing on the papers on her clip board.

NURSE ARIANA

(in Spanish)

Please take off your clothes from the waist down. You can cover yourself with the cloth that is right there.

Roxana steps behind the privacy curtain and removes her clothing from the waist down. The nurse is arranging the stirrups for a gynecological exam. Roxana covers herself with the light cloth that was draped over the privacy divider.

As Roxana walks out from behind the divider, the nurse instructs her to sit up on the table.

NURSE ARIANA (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Sit here please and put your legs up in the stirrups.

The nurse helps Roxana adjust her position and pulls the cloth down over her knees. Kevin is seated in the top corner of the room.

A moment later, the doctor enters the room. He seats himself under Roxana's raised feet and begins the visual inspection of the pelvic region.

The nurse shows the doctor the report on the clip board.

The doctor reads the notes on the clip board.

DOCTOR SALDIVAR

(in Spanish)

I understand that there was a problem.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes.

DOCTOR SALDIVAR

(in Spanish)

Roxana, I have to check inside.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

OK.

The doctor puts on a latex glove and puts gel onto the index finger. He then looks at Kevin as if to ask for permission to proceed. Kevin is confused, but nods. The doctor reaches down and inserts the lubricated finger. Roxana is showing extreme discomfort. He withdraws it within a few seconds. He looks down at the finger that was inserted.

DOCTOR SALDIVAR

(in Spanish)

Nothing.

The nurse removes Roxana's legs from the stirrups and helps her move into a more normal position. Roxana is now fully covered. The doctor moves his eyes back and forth between Roxana and Kevin.

DOCTOR SALDIVAR (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

I am sorry, but the pregnancy is not there.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Is that certain.

DOCTOR SALDIVAR

(in Spanish)

Unfortunately, yes. I am sorry.

The doctor exits the room.

NURSE ARIANA

(in Spanish)

You can get dressed and when you want to make another appointment, you can call this number.

The nurse hands Roxana a business card, then exits the room. Roxana gets dressed. Kevin and Roxana leave the building. Both of them are devastated, Kevin especially.

36*INT. - THE APARTMENT

Kevin and Roxana are entering the apartment. They drove home in almost silence, neither knowing what to say to the other. Kevin sits on the couch. Roxana is standing a few feet away.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Do you want to talk about this?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What do you want me to say?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I don't know, but I feel horrible!

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I do also, but there is nothing we can do to change the situation.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)-*Very emotional

I know, but I felt so happy and proud to be a father and now that feeling is gone.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What do we do now?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I don't know what to do or even what happens next.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Look, I love you with all of my heart. My life would be so empty without you.

(MORE)

ROXANA (CONT'D)

I believe that you have to make changes in life now and then. You came here to this city to be with me and for having done this is why I love you so much. You have always supported me in everything. Now, I want to ask you to support me again.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
How?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
When I went to San Antonio for an exchange program with UTSA, they offered me a scholarship to get my Master's degree. I want to get my Master's degree!! You wonder what we should do next. There is no reason for us to stay here. Can we begin the process to return to San Antonio?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
I came here to be with you...in your home...your city...where you grew up...where you went to school... where you have always lived. I came here to better understand who you are. I love you more than my words can say. If you want to return to San Antonio, that is what we will do.

Kevin starts crying. Roxana puts her arm around him.

ROXANA

We will get through this. With whatever happens, we will be together...We'll be OK...We'll be OK...

Script on screen - *Three months later*

37*INT. - THE APARTMENT - EVENING

Kevin and Roxana are in the apartment. The TV is on. Kevin is on the couch and Roxana is in the kitchen.

ROXANA (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Kev, Tomorrow Paty and I have a meeting to confirm the project. May I use your car?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

The permit is expired. I do not know what will happen if you get pulled over.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Why didn't you renew it?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I have not had time to go all the way out there and spend an entire day with that ridiculous process. That is why I go by train everyday. Can't you take a taxi?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

It would be a lot easier to go by car.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

OK, but be careful.

Kevin turns off the TV.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I am going to bed.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I will go with you.

Roxana turns off the lights and the two disappear into the bedroom.

38*INT. - KEVIN'S OFFICE - CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING

Kevin is in the conference room with Matt, Oscar, and Daniel.

Daniel is addressing the group.

DANIEL

Because our contract was not renewed, we will be working here for a while. There are a few contracts that we have in the works, but for now, we will continue organizing materials and doing translations as needed. We have several translations requested and I will distribute them later this week. Is everybody OK getting here each day?

KEVIN

It is actually easier to get here than it was to the other place.

OSCAR

It is easier to get here?

KEVIN

Yes, Insurgentes station is just three blocks over.

MATT

I thought you came by car.

KEVIN

Sometimes it is easier to take the train. I don't have to worry about gas, parking, or traffic. Plus, parking at the other place was a pain.

39*EXT. - CAR - BUSY CITY STREET - MID MORNING

Roxana and Paty are in the car on their way to a meeting. They, all of a sudden, have several police cars behind and next to them.

Roxana pulls over to the side of the road.

EACH OFFICER IS CARRYING A LARGE SEMI-AUTOMATIC RIFLE.

Roxana and Paty roll down the windows and wait to see what is happening. The officers approach each side of the car.

FEDERAL OFFICER 1 (TO ROXANA)

(in Spanish)

This car has foreign license plates. Do you have the International permit?

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 Here it is.

Roxana hands him the permit.

FEDERAL OFFICER 1
 (in Spanish)
 This expired in June. Do you have
 the valid permit?

ROXANA
 (In Spanish)
 This is the only permit I have.

FEDERAL OFFICER 1
 (In Spanish)
 If you do not have the valid
 permit, we have to confiscate the
 vehicle.

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 This is my husband's car. Let me
 call him.

ROXANA (TO PATY) (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
 It seems that this might take a
 while. Go ahead and go to the
 meeting.

PATY
 (in Spanish)
 O.K. I'm going.

Paty walks away, waves to a taxi and gets in. Roxana sees a
 pay phone close by and runs over to call Kevin.

40*INT. - KEVIN'S OFFICE BUILDING

Sofia walks into the conference room.

SOFIA
 (in Spanish)
 Mr. Kevin, your wife is on the
 phone.

Kevin walks out to the front office and picks up the phone.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 Rox? What is happening?

ROXANA O.S.(VOICE ON THE PHONE)

(in Spanish)

The police stopped me and they say that they are going to confiscate the car. Do you have the valid permit?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I told you it is expired!! Where are you?

Kevin hangs up the phone and runs out the front door, and gets in a taxi.

41*EXT. - THE SIDE OF A BUSY STREET

ROXANA IS STANDING WITH THE CAR AND NOW THERE ARE 8 FEDERAL OFFICERS WITH LARGE RIFLES SURROUNDING THE CAR.

The taxi cab pulls up and Kevin gets out. He assesses the situation and runs over to the car with his passport in hand.

KEVIN (STRONG AND FORCEFUL)

(in Spanish)

What is going on here?

FEDERAL OFFICER 2

(in Spanish)

Are you the owner of this car?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, this is my car.

FEDERAL OFFICER 2

(in Spanish)

The permit is expired and we have to confiscate the car.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

No, you cannot confiscate my car.

FEDERAL OFFICER 1

Yes, according to the law of the country, we have no option.

KEVIN (THINKING FRANTICALLY)

(in Spanish)

I am going to have to call the U.S. Embassy.

The officer points to the pay phone a few yards away. Kevin has the number memorized. He walks over to the phone and dials the U.S. Embassy. The phone rings and a voice answers.

EMBASSY AGENT O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)
United States Embassy

KEVIN
My name is Kevin and I am a U.S. Citizen. My car has been stopped by federal officers and because the vehicle permit is expired, they are saying that they are going to confiscate the vehicle.

EMBASSY AGENT O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)
I am sorry. We have heard of this happening before, and I am sorry to say that there is nothing that we can do about it.

KEVIN
That was not the information that I wanted, but thank you.

Kevin hangs up the phone and is now in a mild panic because he does not know how to control the situation. He walks back over to where the officers are standing. Roxana is still standing off to the side.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
(in Spanish)
How much will the fine be?

FEDERAL OFFICER 1
(in Spanish)
This process does not work that way. We have to confiscate the vehicle.

KEVIN
(in Spanish)
This is my car! I have the title!
There ought to be some way to resolve this.

FEDERAL OFFICER 2
(in Spanish)
There is no other way.

Kevin walks over to where Roxana is standing.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Rox, What do we do?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
I don't know.

FEDERAL OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)
Look, we are not trying to
intimidate anybody.

KEVIN (SHOUTING)

(in Spanish)
What?? How can you say that you are
not trying to intimidate anybody
when you are eight men with guns
confronting one small woman?

The officers look at each other trying to decide how to
answer. Finally, one of the officers answers.

FEDERAL OFFICER 3

(in Spanish)
That's enough. Are you going to
cooperate with us, or shall I call
a tow truck?

Kevin now realizes that he is fighting a losing battle.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
What do we do?

FEDERAL OFFICER 3

(in Spanish)
That's better. One of the officers
will accompany you to the location.
You are going to follow the patrol
car in front, and the other two
will follow you.

One of the officers gets in the back seat of the car. Kevin
and Roxana get in the front. Kevin is driving.

The patrol car in front pulls out. Kevin follows. The two
other patrol cars are following behind. All of the patrol
cars have the emergency lights flashing.

42*EXT. - IN THE CAR - LATE AFTERNOON

The procession drives into downtown and eventually arrives at
a federal building.

The patrol car in front pulls off to one side of a security entrance and points to the secured entrance. Kevin drives in through the security gates, and parks the car as he is instructed.

The federal officer gets out of the back seat, Kevin and Roxana get out. Kevin locks the car and puts the keys in his pocket.

FEDERAL OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)

Follow me.

They walk into the building and up one flight of stairs. Kevin and Roxana are seated in front of a desk. A young man arrives with a folder filled with forms and documents. The man pulls out the forms one by one and asks Roxana to sign them.

43*INT. - FEDERAL BUILDING - DOWNTOWN MEXICO CITY

CLERK

(in Spanish)

Your signature here please.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Why is she signing? It is my car.

CLERK

(in Spanish)

She was driving when the patrol stopped her.

Roxana looks down, reads over the document.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

You are going to give us copies of all of this?

CLERK

(in Spanish)

Yes, you will receive copies of everything.

Roxana signs the form and is then presented with one after another.

CLERK (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Your signature here...and here...and here...and here.

(MORE)

CLERK (CONT'D)

Thank you. Give me a moment.

The clerk makes copies of all of the documents, and hands the folder to Roxana.

CLERK (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

To complete the process, I need the keys.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

No, I will keep the keys.

CLERK

(in Spanish)

If you will not give us the keys, we will call a tow truck to move the vehicle.

Kevin, seeing no other option, retrieves the keys from his front, pants pocket and sets them somewhat forcefully on the desk. The clerk looks directly at Kevin.

CLERK (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Since you arrived, I have treated you nicely and with respect. You don't have to behave like that.

KEVIN (FORCEFULLY)

(in Spanish)

Excuse me, but you are taking MY property away from me. That does not put me in a good mood. Anything else?

CLERK

(in Spanish)

No. That is all.

Kevin and Roxana take the folder and leave the building.

44*EXT. - ON THE STREET - DOWNTOWN MEXICO CITY- AFTERNOON

KEVIN AND ROXANA ARE STANDING IN FRONT OF THE FEDERAL BUILDING IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Can we go eat somewhere?

Kevin looks at her with more anger and disdain than he has ever looked at her before.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

You realize that you caused all of this?

Was your meeting with Paty that important? I told you very clearly that the permit was expired, but you decided to take the car anyway, and now, I have no car!

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I know that you are upset, but look, my cousin Riqui is a lawyer and he can my help us with this.

KEVIN (STILL VERY UPSET)

(in Spanish)

I don't care what has to be done, but I will do whatever it takes to get my car back!! Those assholes can't just take my car and expect me to go away!!!

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I have the folder with all of the documents. I will call Riqui tomorrow. He is an attorney and has a lot of contacts.
Can we go to VIPS?

Kevin is still noticeably upset. The two start walking towards the VIPS restaurant that is visible in the distance.

CROSS FADE

45*INT. - RESTAURANT - AFTERNOON

Kevin and Roxana are seated in the restaurant. Roxana is eating a plate of quesadillas. Kevin is drinking beer.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I feel a little calmer now.
Explain to me how Riqui can help us.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I am not sure, but I will call him and explain the situation. He can probably do something, or put us in contact with someone who can.

The waitress approaches the table.

WAITRESS 1

(in Spanish)

Is everything OK?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Another beer please.

The waitress takes the empty beer bottle and returns a moment later with another one. She sets the check on the table.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Do whatever it is you think needs to be done, but I want my car back as soon as possible!

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I will talk to Riqui first, then I will know what needs to be done.

Roxana pays the check and the two walk out of the restaurant.

The following afternoon Kevin arrives at the apartment from work.

46*INT. - THE APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

RIQUI IS ROXANA'S COUSIN AND IS A PRACTICING LAWYER. HE IS IN HIS LATE 20S

Riqui and Roxana are seated on the couch going through the documents that are in the folder.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

How is it going, Riqui? How does all of that look to you?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

It is very interesting.

(MORE)

RIQUI (CONT'D)

The good news is that I have contacts inside that branch of the government. What I am reading here is that they are going to begin the process to take ownership of the car. Tomorrow, I will submit an "amparo"-(Writ of protection) to stop this action while we prepare a defense.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

When will I be able to go get the car?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

This process will take a while...between 1 and 4 years.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Seriously? Up to 4 years for an expired permit?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

Do you have your immigration form?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, I renewed it this morning.

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

Your Immigration form was expired also?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, but I renewed it today.

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

When they confiscated the car, they did not ask for your Immigration Form? May I see it?

Kevin hands the form to Riqui

RIQUI (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

This is an FM3...a tourist visa.

(MORE)

RIQUI (CONT'D)

You do not have legal status to work in Mexico. If they had asked for this, they could have put you in jail. Let's hope that that will not be a factor.

Riqui hands the form back to Kevin.

I will take the folder and get everything started tomorrow.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Thank you Riqui, we'll see you soon. Please keep me updated.

Riqui and Kevin shake hands and Riqui exits the apartment.

Roxana walks into the bedroom and comes out with a folder of papers.

ROXANA (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Kev, I have the packet to process my residency.
Can you fill it out?

Kevin takes out a pen, sits down and starts reading through the forms. He starts filling in the general information. He goes through from one page to the next. He turns one of the pages and then stops.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Rox, this part is asking that we show financial responsibility. We don't have jobs or bank accounts in the U.S. What do we do?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Do you think your parents can help us?

Without responding, Kevin picks up the phone and starts dialing. The phone rings.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

Hello.

KEVIN

Mom, it's me.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)
Kevin, how are you? How is Roxana?

KEVIN
We are OK, I guess.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)
You guess?

KEVIN
Well, yesterday the federal police
confiscated my car.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)
What? ... What happened?

KEVIN
The car permit was expired and
Roxana got pulled over. We fought
them every step of the way, but in
the end, they took my car. Roxana's
cousin is a lawyer and he is going
to fight our case.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)
Is there any hope of getting it
back?

KEVIN
I don't know. We will do what we
can, but there is something
else...We are going to start
processing Roxana's residency.
I am going through the information
and they are asking for financial
responsibility. Would you and Dad
be willing to sign as our sponsors?

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)
Of course. What do we need to do?

KEVIN
I will have to send you this packet
to fill out. You will see the
section for "Sponsorship". If you
can fill out that part and send it
back to us. We will send the
completed packet to the Consulate
office for Roxana's appointment.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)
OK, when should I be expecting it?

KEVIN

I can send it Express tomorrow morning. You should have it in 48 hours.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

OK. I will get it back to you as quickly as possible.

KEVIN

Thank you Mom. Give my love to everybody.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

You do the same.

Kevin hangs up the phone. Roxana is standing in the kitchen smiling.

ROXANA

We are going back to San Antonio!!

47*INT. - THE APARTMENT BUILDING - ONE WEEK LATER - AFTERNOON

Kevin is arriving home from work. He is using a small key to open the mailbox. He pulls out a large envelope that is stamped EXPRESS. Kevin runs up the stairs and into the apartment.

KEVIN

Rox?

She has not arrived yet. Kevin picks up the phone and dials.

The phone rings twice and is then answered.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

Hello?

KEVIN

Mom, the envelope just arrived. Thank you, that was fast.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

Kevin...I wanted to be sure that everything was perfect, so I took the packet to an Immigration Attorney and we filled it out together.

KEVIN

Wow. I have not opened it yet. I am waiting for Rox to get home.

(MORE)

KEVIN (CONT'D)

She will be shocked when she gets here. What did the attorney say?

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

Well, he basically said that it is good that we are being so diligent because they can deny the residency for whatever reason. They want everything to be perfectly in order. I put your father down as the official sponsor.

KEVIN

Did Dad go with you?

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

No, but I have his "Power of Attorney" so that I can sign his name to whatever form or document.

KEVIN

Dad does know about all of this, right?

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

Yes, I told him all about it. His words were "Do whatever it takes to bring them home".

KEVIN

Tell him I said "Thank you". Is he in town?

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

No, he is giving a lecture in Philadelphia. He comes home tomorrow.

KEVIN

Does he know about the car?

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

Yes, I explained that to him, but he really didn't understand.

KEVIN

I don't understand it either. The whole thing is beyond ridiculous, but it is what we have to deal with. I have no intention of letting them win.

Kevin hears the door opening.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Rox is home, can I call later in the week.

MOM O.S. (VOICE ON PHONE)

Sure. Give Roxana a hug for me.

KEVIN

I will. Thank you again.

Kevin hangs up the phone. Roxana walks in and sits down her purse and keys. Kevin holds up the envelope.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Rox, Look at this.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

(Excited) Is that the packet?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, I just spoke to my Mom. She went to see an attorney the same day that she received the packet and they filled out everything perfectly. Do you want to see it?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes. Of Course!

Roxana opens the envelope and immediately starts paging through the documents.

ROXANA (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Did you see that your Dad is my official sponsor?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, my Mom told me about that. She couldn't do it because she is a housewife.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

You do realize that we will have to go to Ciudad Juarez to process this?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

We can't do it here, in the capital?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

No, we have to go to Ciudad Juarez. That is where the U.S. Consulate is.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Then we will go to Ciudad Juarez, but how?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Well, renting a car is our best option.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

OK. Can you send the packet tomorrow?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes. I will send it before I go to work.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

You were right, there is no reason for us to stay here.

48*INT. - THE APARTMENT BUILDING - AFTERNOON

6 Weeks later

Kevin is arriving home from work. He enters the apartment building and stops to check the mail. He pulls out a large envelope, looks at it carefully and shouts in jubilation. He runs upstairs and enters the apartment.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Roxana...Look!!!The packet arrived.

Roxana walks out from the bedroom.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Let me see.

Roxana takes the envelope and opens it.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
What does it say?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
We have to be in Ciudad Juarez next month.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
How long does it take to drive there?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Around 20 hours I suppose.

Kevin takes out a calendar.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
We have the appointment on a Wednesday, so let's leave on Monday morning.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
That sounds good to me.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
There is a car rental place right next to the metro stop. I will take care of the rental car and a hotel, you take care of the requirements for the appointment.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
That sounds fine.

49*EXT. - IN FRONT OF THE APARTMENT BUILDING
One month later

Kevin and Roxana drive up to the apartment in a small, green sub-compact car. The two get out of the car and walk into the apartment.

50*INT. - IN THE APARTMENT

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

We have to pack and organize everything. At what time do you want to leave?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Around 4 A.M....I want to leave the city before the morning traffic.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Can we pack everything in one suitcase?

Roxana pulls one large suitcase out of the bedroom closet and sets it on the bed.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, it will be easier that way.

The two start taking clothes out of the closet and packing things into the suitcase.

51*EXT. - THE APARTMENT BUILDING - 4 AM MONDAY MORNING

Kevin walks out of the apartment carrying one large suitcase. He puts it into the backseat of the rental car. Kevin gets in on the driver's side and Roxana gets in on the passenger side.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Is everything ready?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Everything is ready.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Let's go. Do you have the map?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes, and all of the papers for the appointment.

They drive off into the darkness of the morning.

52*EXT. - NIGHT - ARRIVING AT A MOTEL IN CIUDAD JUAREZ

They pull up in front of a motel and stop the car. Roxana is asleep in the passenger seat.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Rox, we're here.

Roxana wakes up and looks around. Kevin gets out of the car.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

I will check us in, do you want to come with me, or wait here.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I'll wait here.

Kevin goes inside to check in. Roxana gets out of the car and stretches. She walks out towards the street and is looking around at her surroundings. Kevin comes back out a few moments later with the room key in his hand. The two get back in the car and drive around to where the room is. They park and get out of the car. Kevin takes the suitcase from the back seat. Roxana takes the room key and opens the door. The two walk inside.

53*EXT. - MOTEL DINER IN CIUDAD JUAREZ - SUNRISE

KEVIN AND ROXANA ARE SEATED IN A DINER HAVING BREAKFAST.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

We have everything ready for tomorrow, right?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes, I have the folder with all of the documents and, thanks to your Mom and Dad, the packet is perfect.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

At what time is the appointment?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

At 10 in the morning. It is a two day process. We do the first part tomorrow, then we finish the process the following day.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I would like to cross the border into Texas, but I do not believe that we will be able to cross in a rented car with Mexican plates. How long will the process take tomorrow?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I don't know...A few hours I imagine. I already have the medical reports.

The waitress brings a pot of coffee and fills both cups.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

What medical reports?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Vaccines and X-Rays

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

When did you do that?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I went to a clinic a few weeks ago. After breakfast, let's go see the place for the appointment.

Kevin and Roxana pay the check and exit the diner.

54*EXT. - THE FOLLOWING MORNING - OUTSIDE THE U.S. CONSULATE BUILDING

Kevin and Roxana are standing outside the U.S. Consulate building with a group of other prospective immigrants. Roxana and Kevin walked six blocks to the consulate building.

KEVIN (NERVOUS)

(in Spanish)

Do you have the paper that confirms the appointment?

ROXANA (CALMLY)

(in Spanish)

I have everything here in the folder, my love.

A few minutes later, the officer standing at gate the addresses the group waiting to enter...First in Spanish then in English.

CONSULATE OFFICER 1

Todos los que tienen cita a las 10, vamos a dejarlos entrar unos minutos antes.

If you have an appointment scheduled at 10 AM, you will be allowed to enter a few minutes before.

At 9:50 AM - The officer starts admitting the group of prospective immigrants. As Roxana and Kevin move up to the gate, Roxana pulls out the appointment confirmation form. She presents it to the officer at the gate. Upon passing through the gate, the group of immigrants and sponsors is in an outdoor waiting area.

A few minutes later, one female officer and one male officer come out from inside the building to take the prospective immigrants inside.

FEMALE OFFICER

(in Spanish)

All of the women that have appointments today can follow me inside.

Roxana follows the group of other women and moves inside. Kevin is left waiting outside.

55*INT. - CONSULATE BUILDING - PROCESSING AREA

As they enter, the appointment confirmation forms are collected and the women are seated in a waiting area.

VOICE OVER THE LOUDSPEAKER

(in Spanish)
Roxana, Window 6

Roxana takes her folder and approaches window 6.

AGENT AT WINDOW 6

(in Spanish)
Do you have the medical document
with your vaccinations?

Roxana hands him the document.

AGENT AT WINDOW 6 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)
And the X-ray document?

Roxana retrieves the document from her folder and hands it to the agent.

AGENT AT WINDOW 6 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)
Excellent, you already have all of
the vaccines, and the X-ray, so you
will not need to complete those
requirements today.

The agent stamps the forms and staples them together.

AGENT AT WINDOW 6 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)
You can sit down and wait for the
others.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Thank you.

Roxana takes her folder and returns to her seat.

A short time later, all of the women have been processed.

FEMALE OFFICER

(in Spanish)
Ladies, follow me please...we are
going across the street to Medical
Services.

56*EXT. - OUTSIDE THE U.S. CONSULATE BUILDING - MORNING

The group follows the officer across the street to the
Medical Services Building.

57*INT. - THE MEDICAL SERVICES BUILDING - DAY

The women are again seated in a waiting area. One by one each name is called.

NURSE 1

Roxana?

Roxana gets up and follows the nurse. They walk down a hallway to an examination room.

NURSE 1 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Now I am going to take a urine sample and a blood sample.

The nurse pulls a small cup from the medical cart in the hallway.

NURSE 1 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

You can come use the bathroom over here.

The nurse hands Roxana the small cup and shows her the bathroom across the hall. Roxana goes into the bathroom and comes out a few moments later with her urine sample. The nurse takes the cup, labels it and sits it on the medical cart. The nurse and Roxana walk back across the hall into the examination room. The nurse pulls out a syringe and needle.

NURSE 1 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Sit here please. Now I am going to take a blood sample.

Roxana sits on the exam table and holds her arm out for the blood draw. The nurse takes the sample, labels it and puts it on her cart.

NURSE 1 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Please take off all of your clothes including socks and underwear and put on the robe that is hanging there. Somebody will attend to you in a few minutes.

The nurse exits the exam room and closes the door.

Roxana proceeds to get completely undressed and places her clothing on the chair in the corner of the room. She puts on the thin cloth robe that was hanging in the corner. She seats herself on the exam table and waits.

CONSULATE DOCTOR - MID 30S - ATHLETIC
-HANDSOME - STUDIOUS LOOKING

NURSE 2 - EARLY 30S - LONG, BROWN HAIR
- PRETTY

A few moments later, there is a knock on the door and a male doctor and a female nurse enter the exam room and close the door behind them. Each has a clip board with medical forms.

As soon as Roxana sees the male doctor, she feels a nervous discomfort in her stomach.

CONSULATE DOCTOR

Roxana?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes.

NURSE 2

(in Spanish)

Your date of birth?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

January 17, 1972

The nurse shows the document on her clipboard to the doctor.

CONSULATE DOCTOR

(in Spanish)

How are you today?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Fine, Thank you.

CONSULATE DOCTOR

(in Spanish)

Are you taking any medications?

ROXANA

No.

CONSULATE DOCTOR

(in Spanish)

Have you had any illness recently?

ROXANA

No.

CONSULATE DOCTOR

(in Spanish)

Do you use drugs?

ROXANA

No.

The doctor is writing each response on the form on his clipboard, he pauses for a moment.

CONSULATE DOCTOR

(in Spanish)

Please lie down for the physical exam.

Roxana lies down on her back facing up.

THE DOCTOR AND NURSE ARE STANDING SIDE BY SIDE OVER HER LOOKING DOWN. THE NURSE IS NEXT TO ROXANA'S HEAD AND SHOULDERS, THE DOCTOR IS BY HER WAIST.

NURSE 2

(in Spanish)

Please open your robe for the visual inspection.

Roxana nervously reaches down with both hands and unties the knot that is holding her robe closed. She takes a slow, deep breath and opens her robe.

ROXANA'S HANDS ARE EXTENDED HOLDING THE ROBE OPENED WITH HER ENTIRE BODY FULLY EXPOSED. HER ANKLES ARE CROSSED AT THE LOW END OF THE EXAM TABLE.

The doctor and nurse perform the visual inspection from head to toe for about 10 seconds. Roxana is looking directly at the doctor's eyes as he peruses her entire naked body. She watches his eyes move from right to left, from head to toe. The doctor repeats several of the questions.

CONSULATE DOCTOR

(in Spanish)

Do you have any tattoos?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

None.

CONSULATE DOCTOR

(in Spanish)

Have you had any illness recently?

ROXANA

No.

CONSULATE DOCTOR

(in Spanish)

Do you use drugs?

ROXANA

No.

CONSULATE DOCTOR -(TO NURSE)

(in Spanish)

Does she have her X-rays and
vaccines in order?

NURSE 2

(In Spanish)

Yes, all is in perfect order.

The nurse again shows the clipboard to the doctor.

CONSULATE DOCTOR

(in Spanish)

O.K. Roxana, that's all. You can
sit up and get dressed.

Roxana closes her robe as quickly as possible. The doctor and nurse exit the room.

Roxana gets dressed, collects her belongings and exits the room. She walks back out to the waiting area where one of the agents is standing.

ROXANA (TO THE AGENT)

(in Spanish)

Now what?

PROCESSING AGENT

(in Spanish)

That is all for today.
You need to return to the
Consulate, across the street,
tomorrow morning at 10 AM.

Roxana exits the building heads out to find Kevin.

58*EXT. - U.S. CONSULATE BUILDING - AFTERNOON

Roxana leaves the medical services building and crosses the street to find Kevin who is still standing in the courtyard of the Consulate building. He sees her and walks out to where she is crossing the street.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
How was it? What happened?

ROXANA (FLUSTERED)

(in Spanish)
All went well. Can we go eat
somewhere? I want to talk to you.

Kevin looks down the block and sees a restaurant.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Look, there's a place over there.
Is that OK?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
That's fine. Let's go.

Kevin and Roxana walk down the street and into the
restaurant.

59*INT. - SMALL RESTAURANT - AFTERNOON

KEVIN - (TO THE HOSTESS)

(in Spanish)
Two of us.

HOSTESS

(in Spanish)
Follow me please.

The hostess takes them to a table and puts two menus on the
table. A moment later, a waitress approaches the table.

WAITRESS 2

(in Spanish)
Something to drink?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Lemonade please.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
What beers do you have?

WAITRESS 2

(in Spanish)
Corona, Negra Modelo, and Tecate

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 Negra Modelo please.

The waitress returns a moment later and serves the drinks.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
 How did everything go? What happened?

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 After processing the forms, we went to the Medical Services building. There, I turned in my vaccines and X-Ray forms, then I had a physical exam.

The waitress returns to the table.

WAITRESS 2
 (in Spanish)
 Ready to order?

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 Green Enchiladas please.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 A hamburger please.

The waitress takes the menus and walks away from the table.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
 What else?

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 I also had to give blood and urine samples.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 Is that everything? I had nothing to do but wait. You were in there for almost three hours.

ROXANA
 (in Spanish)
 (Long pause)
 He saw me naked.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
What?...Who saw you naked?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
The idiot doctor.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
Tell me what happened.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
For the physical exam, I had to
take off all of my clothes and put
on a robe.
When the doctor came in, I had to
open the robe for a visual
inspection.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
You were completely naked? He saw
your entire body?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Yes. I was lying down, face up.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
It was just you and the doctor,
nobody else?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
There was a female nurse there
also.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
How did it make you feel?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Very strange...very embarrassed,
but also mad that I had to show him
my entire body. It would have been
different if it were just a normal
doctor's appointment, but this was
just some man that I had never even
met.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Did the doctor touch you anywhere?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

No, he just...looked at me... for about 10 seconds, but it seemed like an eternity. I could feel his eyes gazing at my entire naked body while he asked me questions. My stomach was queasy, and I could feel my heart pounding. I hated every second of it. It was so embarrassing!!!!

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Look Rox, I know how shy you can be.

You went in with a group of 20 women or more. The doctor probably examined each one without distinguishing one from the other. He is just doing his job, checking for diseases and nothing else. You should not feel embarrassed or ashamed because of this. It was just part of the procedure...it's over.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Thank you for giving me support with this. You always know how to make me feel better. You are right, it was just a procedure, and now it is over.

The waitress returns and serves the meals.

60*EXT.- U.S. CONSULATE BUILDING-THE NEXT DAY- MORNING

KEVIN AND ROXANA ARE WAITING OUTSIDE WITH A GROUP OF PROSPECTIVE IMMIGRANTS

CONSULATE OFFICER 1(TO THE GROUP THAT IS WAITING TO ENTER)

(in Spanish)

I will open the gate in about 15 minutes.

The guard opens the gate that leads to the outside waiting area. One by one each applicant and sponsor is allowed entrance. They all enter and the guard closes the gate.

CONSULATE OFFICER 1 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Those that have an appointment will enter through that door.
All of the companions can wait over there.

A moment later a second guard opens the door to the building. Roxana follows the group and is taken to the waiting area just inside the main door. Kevin is left waiting outside.

61*INT. - U.S. CONSULATE BUILDING - MORNING

Roxana sits in a vacant chair and waits.
45 minutes later

VOICE ON THE LOUDSPEAKER

(in Spanish)

Roxana - Window 4

Roxana takes her folder and rushes to Window 4. As she arrives, the agent has all of the paperwork from yesterday.

AGENT AT WINDOW 4

(in Spanish)

Roxana, do you have the document that they gave you yesterday?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Here it is.

The agent takes the form and stamps it with the word "Accepted" and hands the form back to Roxana.

AGENT AT WINDOW 4

(in Spanish)

You can take this over there to complete the process.

The agent points to the adjoining waiting area with a different set of windows and agents.

KEVIN IS STILL STANDING OUTSIDE.

VOICE ON THE LOUDSPEAKER

Kevin ...Kevin

Kevin hears his name and walks over the the main entrance. There is a guard standing there.

KEVIN (TO THE GUARD)
(in Spanish)
I am Kevin, they just called me.

CONSULATE GUARD 2
(in Spanish)
You can enter right here.

Kevin walks inside and finds Roxana standing at the processing window. He walks up and stands next to her.

PROCESSING AGENT 2
You are Kevin?

KEVIN
Yes.

Kevin opens his passport and shows it to the agent. The agent looks at the passport.

PROCESSING AGENT 2
Well Kevin, you are all set. Roxana has all of her papers and she is ready to go. You can take the forms to the border crossing and they will complete the process there. Good luck.

KEVIN
Thank you sir.

Roxana gathers her things and the two walk out of the building and back out to the street.

62*INT. - THE MOTEL ROOM - AFTERNOON

Kevin and Roxana are in the hotel room packing and putting things in the car as quickly as possible.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
(in Spanish)
Let's take everything to the border station and finish the process.

ROXANA
(in Spanish)
Are we going to cross the border?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I don't think that we will be able to cross in a rented car with Mexican plates.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Do you have everything from the bathroom?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

That's everything...let's go.

Kevin and Roxana get into the car and drive out of the hotel parking lot.

63*EXT. -IN THE CAR DRIVING TO THE BORDER STATION- AFTERNOON

They arrive at the Guard station at the U.S. Entry point.

The Border Patrol Officer approaches the car and looks down at the Mexican license plates.

U.S. CUSTOMS OFFICER 1

Do you speak English?

KEVIN

Fluently...I am a U.S. Citizen, my wife just completed her residency at the Consulate.

U.S. CUSTOMS OFFICER 1

Oh OK, (To Roxana) You can take your papers and go into the processing offices over there.

The officer points to the building adjacent to the bridge.

Roxana takes her folder, gets out of the car and walks towards the processing station as instructed.

U,S, CUSTOMS OFFICER 1 (TO KEVIN)

You can go ahead and pull up, there is a parking lot on the right side. Once you park, you can meet her inside.

Kevin pulls up and into the parking lot as instructed. He turns off the car and gets out. He looks up at the Texas flag. He suddenly realizes where he is.

KEVIN(TO HIMSELF)

Wow!!! I am in the U.S.!!!! I am standing on U.S. Soil for the first time in over two years!

64*INT. - BORDER PROCESSING OFFICE - 5 MINUTES LATER

Kevin walks into the building and finds Roxana seated in the waiting area.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

What is happening? What are we waiting for?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I turned in the form and now we are waiting until they call me.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Rox, I parked the car in Texas, so we can leave here and go straight to San Antonio.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

How much time from here to there?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

It will be 8 or 9 hours. We can drive all night if necessary.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Do you miss your parents?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, of course, but also the city and the house. I have not been there in over two years.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes, I understand. One more thing and we're on our way.

45 minutes later

MAN AT WINDOW 3

Roxana? ...Roxana? ...

Roxana and Kevin move hurriedly to the window.

ROXANA

I'm Roxana.

MAN AT WINDOW 3

Well Roxana, you are all set. All of your forms have been processed and I just stamped the last one. Here you are.

Man at window 3 hands the form to Roxana. She puts it into the folder.

I wish you both the best of luck.

ROXANA

Thank you.

Roxana and Kevin exit the building at the north exit, they get into the car and drive away.

65*EXT. - IN THE CAR DRIVING TO SAN ANTONIO - EVENING

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

We are not going to stay long in San Antonio.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

When are we going to go back to Mexico?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Perhaps two days. We are going to visit my parents and your parents. Nobody knows that we are coming, so we are going to surprise everybody.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

When are we going to move?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

As soon as possible. I have to tell Daniel that I am not going back to work. Are there moving companies that offer international service?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

There must be, but they are going to be expensive.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Can we rent a van and move ourselves?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

I believe that is the only option. I'm sleepy.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

If you want, get some sleep. I will wake you up when we get close to my parents' house.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Thank you my love.

Roxana reclines the passenger seat and dozes off to sleep. Kevin continues driving through the Texas night.

66*EXT. - IN THE CAR - ARRIVING INTO A NEIGHBORHOOD IN SAN ANTONIO.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Rox...we are almost there.

Roxana awakes and sits up.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What? Where are we?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Two blocks from my parents' house.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What time is it?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Almost two o'clock in the morning.

The car pulls up in front of a house. Kevin stops the car and turns off the engine. Kevin and Roxana get out and start moving towards the house.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
 They are sleeping. We have to go in quietly.

67*INT. - KEVIN'S PARENTS' HOUSE - 2 AM

They walk to the side of the house and enter through the side door. Kevin finds his Mom asleep on the couch with the TV on. He kneels next to the couch.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
 Mom, it's me. I'm home.

Suzie slowly wakes up and realizes that Kevin and Roxana are standing next to her.

SUZIE
 Oh my goodness. You're here.

She gets up and gives them both a hug.

SUZIE (CONT'D)
 I can't believe that you are both here.

KEVIN
 It's late and we are both exhausted. Is the back bedroom available.

SUZIE
 Yes, there is nobody here. Dad is in Miami and your sister is in College Station visiting friends.

KEVIN
 OK then, we'll take the back bedroom and we will chat in the morning.

68*INT. - KEVIN'S PARENTS' HOUSE - MORNING

Roxana awakes and walks out to the kitchen. Suzie is there drinking coffee and preparing breakfast.

ROXANA
 Good morning.

SUZIE

Good morning Roxana. It is so wonderful that you are here. Would you like some coffee?

ROXANA

Yes please.

SUZIE

Kevin is still sleeping?

Suzie pours a cup of coffee and hands it to Roxana.

ROXANA

Yes. He is so tired from all of the driving.

SUZIE

So, tell me what happened.

ROXANA

Well, On Sunday afternoon we rented a car and we left Mexico City on Monday morning at 4 o'clock. We drove across almost the entire country to Ciudad Juarez. We had to do all of the processing on Wednesday and Thursday. When we got approved on Thursday afternoon, we crossed into El Paso and came straight here.

SUZIE

I am so happy that you are here. How long can you stay?

ROXANA

I think that Kevin is planning to drive back to Mexico tomorrow.

Kevin walks out into the kitchen.

SUZIE

Good morning.

KEVIN

Good morning. Is there coffee?

Suzie hugs Kevin.

SUZIE

I was just telling Roxana how happy I am that you are here.

KEVIN

It's great to be here.

Kevin grabs a coffee mug and pours a cup of coffee.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

The unfortunate thing is that we have to drive back tomorrow. Now that we have Roxana's residency, all we have left to do is move.

SUZIE

What about your car?

KEVIN

Roxana's cousin Riqui is handling the legal part of it, there is nothing I can do whether I am there or here. Riqui said that it could draw out over a few years.

SUZIE

What does he think will happen?

KEVIN

There are two options, if we win the case, they will have to give me my car or pay me for its value.

SUZIE

Tell me again, how did this happen?

KEVIN

In order to have a foreign vehicle in Mexico, there is a Foreign Vehicle Permit that has to be renewed every three or six months. I renewed it, but they only granted a three month renewal. The permit had expired and Roxana got pulled over by the federal police. With the expired permit, they confiscated the car.

SUZIE

You can't just pay the fine and renew the permit?

KEVIN

I asked those same questions, but no. It makes no sense to me, but that is the way it is under Mexican law.

SUZIE

So where is the car?

KEVIN

I have no idea. We left it in a parking garage in a Federal building downtown. I doubt that it is still there, and I doubt that I will ever see it again.

ROXANA

We might win the case.

KEVIN

But even if we do, the car is not going to still be there.

SUZIE

So you are going to move back to San Antonio?

KEVIN

As soon as we get back, we are going to start planning the move. We don't have a whole lot of stuff in the apartment, so the easiest way to do it is rent a cargo van and move ourselves.

SUZIE

You will be more than welcome to stay here until you find an apartment.

KEVIN

That is probably what we will have to do... I am going to get dressed.

SUZIE

I will continue making breakfast.

ROXANA

Can I help you with anything?

SUZIE

I am fine, you just sit and have your coffee.

Kevin leaves the room and heads for the back of the house.

69*INT. - FEDERAL COURT BUILDING - MEXICO CITY

Dramatic music bed fades in

Riqui is moving through a federal court building filing documents and signing forms on Kevin's behalf.

70*EXT. - IN FRONT OF SUZIE'S HOUSE - 6 AM

Kevin and Roxana are getting into the car. Suzie gives them both a hug.

KEVIN

I will call tonight to let you know that we made it back OK.

SUZIE

I would like that.

ROXANA

Thank you so much for everything. You have helped us so much.

SUZIE

You are certainly welcome. Remember, we will have the back bedroom ready and waiting for when you come back.

KEVIN

Thanks Mom.

Kevin and Roxana drive away.

71*INT. - THE APARTMENT IN MEXICO CITY - AFTERNOON - TWO DAYS LATER

Kevin enters the apartment. Roxana is putting things into boxes. There are numerous boxes throughout the living room.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
Where were you?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)
I went to return the car and to tell Daniel that I would not be coming back.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)
What did he say?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

That they will miss me, but that he understands what we are doing after all that has happened.

Also, when I turned in the car, I asked about a van, and they have one that will work for us.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

When are we leaving?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

When we are ready.

How much time do we need to pack everything?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

A day or two.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Can you call your uncle?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Yes, but he already knows that we are leaving.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Then I will rent the van on Thursday and we will leave on Friday.

When we come back with the van, can we stay in the house with your aunt?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Of Course.

72*EXT. - IN FRONT OF THE APARTMENT - 6 AM

Kevin and Roxana are getting into a large cargo van that is packed front to back with furniture and boxes.

Kevin and Roxana get into the van and drive away.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

When we come back with the van, how will we return to San Antonio?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

After all of this, there is no money for plane tickets, so we will have to go by bus. Do you think that somebody can pick us up at the border?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I suppose so. Let's ask my Mom or my sister.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

How do you feel?...Leaving Mexico.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Well, strange. Even though I feel that we are making the right decision, I am going to miss the life of the city.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What are you going to miss?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

The people, the food, the subway...

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

The subway?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, I enjoyed getting on the subway in the morning, changing trains at Chabacano station. All of that.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What do you think will happen with the car?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Riqui says that we are probably going to win, what Win means, who knows?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

We will see.

73*EXT. - U.S. BORDER - LAREDO, TEXAS - LATE AFTERNOON

As they approach the U.S. Entry point again, the guard looks down at the Mexican license plates and approaches the driver's side window. Kevin already has the window down.

BORDER GUARD 1

Do you speak English?

KEVIN (VERY DIRECTLY)

Yes, fluently. I am a U.S. Citizen and my wife is a U.S. Resident. We are in the process of moving from Mexico City to San Antonio.

Kevin hands his passport to the agent and Roxana pulls out her residency papers and hands them to Kevin. The agent gives Kevin his passport and Kevin hands Roxana's residency paper to the agent. The agent looks at it, hands it back and then scribbles on a ticket and places the ticket on the dashboard.

BORDER GUARD 1

You can pull into Bay 3.

Kevin pulls into bay 3 where another agent is waving him in. Kevin pulls in and Kevin and Roxana exit the van.

BORDER GUARD 2

Can you open the side and rear doors?

Kevin opens the doors as instructed.

BORDER GUARD 2 (CONT'D)

So what is up with all of this?

KEVIN

My wife and I are in the process of moving from Mexico City to San Antonio.

The agent looks through the side and rear of the van. Another officer is circling the van with a drug sniffing dog.

BORDER GUARD 2

OK. You can go.

Kevin and Roxana close the doors and get back in the van and drive away.

**SCRIPT ON SCREEN - TWO YEARS LATER*

74*INT. - HOSPITAL DELIVERY ROOM - DAY

Roxana is lying on a hospital bed with her feet in stirrups giving birth. Kevin is sitting next to her holding her hand. Doctors and nurses are attending to the birth.

Paola Maureen born 9/20/01

75*INT. - FEDERAL COURT BUILDING - MEXICO CITY

Riqui enters the building and moves up to a processing window. He signs a form, and the clerk hands him a large, sealed manila envelope. He takes the envelope and exits the building.

76*INT. - APARTMENT - SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS - DAY

KEVIN AND ROXANA ARE SITTING IN THEIR APARTMENT IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS WITH THEIR BABY GIRL.

The phone rings. Kevin answers...

KEVIN

Hello, this is Kevin.

RIQUI O.S.(VOICE ON THE PHONE)

(in Spanish)

Kevin, It's great that I reached you. We are getting to the end, when can you be here?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Tell me, What is happening?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

OK, We won the case by a majority vote, now the car has to be returned to you.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Can you explain to me what comes next?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

You will have to be here to reclaim your property.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Do we know where the car is?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

According to them, it is in a protected area in Ixtapaluca.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I am not familiar with that place. When do I have to be there?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

They will complete the case in three weeks. Can you be here then?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, I will be there.
I will call you when I have the date confirmed.
Thank you very much Riqui.
I will see you soon.

Kevin hangs up the phone.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

What happened? What did Riqui say?

KEVIN - EXCITED

(in Spanish)

We won the case!! I have to go back to Mexico City.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Are you going or are we going?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I will go. You stay here with baby Paola.

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

When are you going?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

In three weeks...I have to buy a one way ticket. While I am there, can I stay in your parents' house?

ROXANA

(in Spanish)

Of course, my parents and Aunt Emma are there.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Thank you. Tomorrow I will get the plane ticket.

*SCRIPT ON SCREEN - THREE WEEKS LATER

77*INT. - MEXICO CITY AIRPORT - AFTERNOON

KEVIN IS ARRIVING IN THE MEXICO CITY AIRPORT. HE IS WALKING OUT OF CUSTOMS WITH ONE SMALL, CARRY ON BAG. RIQUI IS THERE WAITING FOR HIM.

RIQUI

Kevin...Kevin...

Kevin looks through the crowd and sees Riqui waving at him. Kevin moves through the crowd towards Riqui.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

What's up, Riqui?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

How are you? It is great that you made it. Do you need to get your luggage, or do you have everything?

KEVIN
(in Spanish)
I have everything.

Kevin and Riqui start walking towards the parking garage.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
(in Spanish)
Can you explain to me what is
happening and what comes next?

RIQUI
(in Spanish)
OK. Do you remember when they
confiscated the car, Roxana signed
all of the documents?

Kevin nods.

RIQUI (CONT'D)
I used this in our favor. They
confiscated your property from her.

KEVIN
(in Spanish)
OK...Interesting.

RIQUI
(in Spanish)
Also, they did not present an easy
way to resolve the matter.
Because of this, a lot of time and
resources were wasted.
Also, they initially gave you the
permit for six months, but they
renewed it for only three months.

KEVIN
(in Spanish)
OK. What happens next?

RIQUI
(in Spanish)
Tomorrow we are going to go to
where they say the car is.
There we will present the documents
to reclaim your car.

Kevin and Riqui exit the airport into the parking garage.

78*EXT. - FEDERAL IMPOUND FACILITY - NEAR MEXICO CITY -
MORNING

Riqui and Kevin pull up in front of the car-impound facility in Ixtapaluca, Mexico and get out of the car. The place is surrounded by a 20 foot high, metal fence. There is an entrance door where Kevin and Riqui are parked.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Do you believe that the car is here?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

I believe so, but I am not sure.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

What will happen if it is not there?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

They will have to pay you for its value.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

How will they assess its value? After so much time, I do not believe that the car is here.

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

I asked a mechanic to meet us here to help get the car running.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

What mechanic?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

Someone that I know.

A car pulls up and parks next to Riqui. A man gets out.

OCTAVIO IS A MECHANIC IN HIS EARLY 40S.

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

Good morning Octavio. Thanks for coming.
This is Kevin, my client.

OCTAVIO

(in Spanish)

It is nice to meet you.

Kevin and Octavio shake hands.

OCTAVIO (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Do we know what condition the car is in?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

We are not even sure that the car is here.

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

I believe that it is here, but in what condition we do not know. Excuse me.

Riqui walks over and knocks on the door. The officer opens the gate.

RIQUI (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

I am here to legally reclaim a vehicle.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)

How many people are with you?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

Two. My client and a mechanic.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)

The three of you will be able to enter in a few minutes.

The officer closes the door. Riqui walks back to the car.

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

We will be allowed to enter in a few minutes. Did you bring your tools?

OCTAVIO

(in Spanish)

Yes. I have everything that we should need.

Octavio walks to his car and pulls a bag of tools out of his trunk. A moment later the officer walks out of the door.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 1

(in Spanish)

You can enter.

Kevin, Riqui, and Octavio enter through the large, metal door.

THERE IS A HUGE OPEN AREA WITH MORE THAN 200 CARS LINED UP IN ROWS. UP A FLIGHT OF METAL STAIRS THERE IS A SMALL OFFICE.

The officer leads them to the office.

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

I have the official documents from the court to reclaim the vehicle.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 2

(in Spanish)

Who is the owner of the vehicle?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

He is.

Riqui points at Kevin.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 2 (TO KEVIN)

(in Spanish)

Do you speak Spanish?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

From time to time.

The officer pulls out a collection of forms and presents them one by one to Kevin.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 2

(in Spanish)

Your signature here please.

Kevin looks at Riqui to ask if he is to proceed. Riqui nods. Kevin signs the forms.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 2 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

And here...here...here...and here.

The officer takes the signed forms and makes copies of each one. He takes the copies and hands them to Riqui. Riqui puts the forms into his folder.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 2 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Now we can look for the vehicle.

The officer leads the group back down the flight of stairs and into the impound lot. They climb into a mini-van with Mississippi license plates.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 2 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

You can use the number on the form to identify the vehicle.

KEVIN (STERNLY)

(in Spanish)

It's my car. I will know it...if I see it.

The officer begins driving up one row, and down the next. On the fourth row, Kevin sees his car.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

There it is!!

The officer pulls up to the car and hands Kevin the keys. The three men get out of the van and begin reviewing the car. A service truck pulls up and puts gasoline in the tank and air in the tires.

Octavio opens the hood and starts looking at the engine. Kevin puts the key in the ignition and starts the engine.

OCTAVIO

(in Spanish)

The engine looks OK.
Turn it off.

Kevin turns off the motor, gets out and starts removing the grass and weeds that are growing all around the car.

Riqui helps Kevin remove the weeds and grass.

OCTAVIO (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Start it.

Kevin starts the engine.

OCTAVIO (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Kevin, everything is working. Let's see if we can move it.

Kevin puts his foot on the clutch, engages first gear and releases the clutch. The car starts moving forward.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I will keep going to the exit.

Kevin arrives at the large, metal gate for vehicles. He stops the car and turns it off.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 2

(in Spanish)

There is one more document to sign.

The officer leads them back up the flight of stairs to the office. The officer sits at his desk and pulls out the last form for Kevin to sign. Kevin signs it. The officer makes a copy and hands it to Kevin.

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 2 (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

I deserve something for my effort, don't I?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Is this the only form that I need?

FEDERAL IMPOUND OFFICER 2

(in Spanish)

Yes.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Riqui, do you have everything that you need?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

Yes, everything.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Let's go.

Kevin, Riqui and Octavio walk back down the flight of stairs. Kevin shows the form to the guard standing at the gate.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Open the gate please. I am taking my car out.

Kevin gets back in the car and starts the engine. The guard opens the gate. Kevin drives out and stops where Octavio and Riqui are parked.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Shall I follow you?

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

Did you realize that the officer was asking you for money?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Yes, I realized it. I was not going to give him anything. They caused all of this. They do not deserve anything else from me.

OCTAVIO

(in Spanish)

My shop is not too far away. Do you want to follow me?

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

I will be right behind you.

The three cars drive away.

79*EXT. - OCTAVIO'S GARAGE -MID AFTERNOON

The three cars pull up. Kevin drives his car into the available bay and gets out.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

If you can go over everything, I have to leave tonight.

OCTAVIO

(in Spanish)

Of course, give me about two hours.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 Thank you.

Kevin walks over and gets into Riqui's car. Riqui is looking through all of the forms in the folder.

RIQUI
 (in Spanish)
 Do you realize that you are the only foreigner ever to sue the Mexican government and win?

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 I did not do it, you did it.

RIQUI
 (in Spanish)
 Let me see the last form that the officer gave you.

Kevin hands him the form from the folder that he is holding.

RIQUI (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
 This form gives you the right to take your car out of the country. If they stop you between here and the border, you can show them this form.

KEVIN
 (in Spanish)
 OK, Octavio said the he needs about two hours to look over the car. What do we do?

RIQUI
 (in Spanish)
 I will take you to eat.

The car drives away.

80*EXT. - OCTAVIO'S GARAGE - TWO HOURS LATER

Riqui and Kevin pull up and get out of the car. Octavio walks out to greet them.

OCTAVIO (TO KEVIN)
 (in Spanish)
 I went over everything. I had to change one of the tires, tune up the engine, and change the oil.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Thank you very much. Do you believe that I can make it to the border without problems?

OCTAVIO

(in Spanish)

I don't see why not.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

You washed it also.
Can I pay you with my credit card?

OCTAVIO

(in Spanish)

One of my helpers washed it. Yes. A credit card is fine.

Kevin pulls out his credit card and hands it to Octavio. Octavio goes into the office and processes the credit card. He walks back out and hands the card, the receipt, and the key to Kevin.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Riqui, I am leaving. I am going back to the house to pick up my suitcase, then I am headed straight to the border.

RIQUI

(in Spanish)

Good luck. Give my regards to Roxana and Paola.

KEVIN

(in Spanish)

Thank you for everything.

Kevin gets in the car and drives away.

81*EXT. - U.S. BORDER CROSSING LAREDO, TEXAS - MORNING

In the middle of the bridge there is a large, bronze plaque. There is a line straight through the middle of the plaque from top to bottom. It marks the official crossing from one country to another. Kevin again looks directly at the line of demarcation as he crosses the bridge.

As he reaches the other side of the bridge, the U.S. guard signals him to pull over for inspection. Kevin pulls into the inspection bay and gets out.

U.S. BORDER GUARD 3

Where are you coming from?

KEVIN

Mexico City.

U.S. BORDER GUARD 3

Whose car is this?

KEVIN

It is mine.

U.S. BORDER GUARD 3

We have no record of this car in our system.

KEVIN

This car has been in a federal impound lot in Mexico City for the last four years. I just went to recover it. I have the Mexican legal document right here.

The guard waves him off.

U.S. BORDER GUARD 3

You will need to get this car registered as soon as possible.

KEVIN

OK.

U.S. BORDER GUARD 3

You can go ahead.

Kevin gets back in the car and heads for San Antonio.

"The following year Roxana gave birth to their second child."

"Brooklyn Elizabeth - August 27, 2003"

"Kevin and Roxana live today near Dallas, Texas".

SCRIPT FADES

"As the traveler who has once been from home is wiser than he who has never left his own doorstep, so a knowledge of one other culture should sharpen our ability to scrutinize more steadily, to appreciate more lovingly, our own." - Margaret Mead

END

FADE OUT