

PASTEL SUITS AND PROPHETS

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INT. BLUE BOX - NIGHT

The box is small, no bigger than a phone booth, and crisscrossed with fairy lights.

Jammed inside and already nervous are two teens, BILLY and THEO, both in modern interpretations of 70s style pastel suits, complete with outrageous bow ties.

The door to the box opens a crack.

A head pokes in through the crack, SARA, teen, radiant smile that you could read by and the most flamboyant pink frock ever created.

SARA

And remember, up to you what you do,
so no pressure.

Behind her, but clearly visible through the crack, is a throng of other party goers who take up a chant.

PARTY GOERS

HEAVEN! HEAVEN! HEAVEN!

SARA

You heard em, heaven for seven
minutes!

Sara shuts the door again, the chant now muffled.

Music starts up, indistinct inside the box.

BILLY

So.

THEO

Well.

Silence.

Now awkward.

Billy breaks it.

BILLY

Very progressive.

THEO

What is? Us?

BILLY

(coyly)
Voting the hot gays guys into heaven.

THEO
Oh, so you think you're hot?

Billy blushes.

THEO (cont'd)
Cute, what a lovely shade of hot
pink. I have a thong the same color.

Billy laughs.

BILLY
(smiling)
So are we gay even though they've put
us back in the closet?

THEO
They seem to twink so.

Billy laughs again.

Theo does too, then reaches for Billy's hand.

Pulls Billy a little closer.

THEO (cont'd)
Seven minutes, now what could we
possibly --

THUD

BILLY
What the --

THUD

THEO
That's not your heart?

He smiles, but it's weak, he's heard it too.

THUD

The box SHAKES.

THEO (cont'd)
Okay, what the hell.

Theo reaches for the door, finds he's still got hold of
Billy's hand.

BILLY
Shall I let go now?

He does so without waiting for an answer.

Theo opens the door and peers out.

THEO
Jesus!

BILLY
What is it?

THEO
Jesus!

BILLY
Repeating it doesn't help. What can
you see?

THEO
Jesus!

Before Billy can ask again, Theo yanks him to the door.

Billy peers out.

BILLY
Christ!

THEO
Exactly.

Through the open door is a desert landscape, three
crucifixion crosses, on one of them is JESUS - clear by the
crown of thorns.

Theo pulls the door shut.

Opens it again.

Jesus is still there, now staring at them through the door.

They both pull the door back shut.

BILLY
Are we being pranked?

THEO
Definitely, our classmates have
managed to transport us to Israel
whilst we weren't looking.

BILLY
But --

THEO
And a couple of thousand years
through time.

BILLY
-- could be fake.

Theo opens the door, pokes his head out.

Desert, a small spattering of mud huts that could be a
village in the distance, and yet more desert.

A wild camel wanders into view.

Then another.

The second one stops, observes them with what looks like
disdain and then confirms it by taking a crap by the box.

Theo's nose wrinkles at the smell.

THEO
That's definitely not faked.

BILLY
What isn't --

The smell penetrates the interior of the box.

Billy's nose wrinkles as he gags.

BILLY (cont'd)
Jesus that's rank!

JESUS
(shouting)
Hey, how do you know my name?

Billy yanks the door shut.

THEO
Jesus! Jesus just talked to us.

BILLY
Shouldn't he be speaking Arithmetic
or something?

THEO
You mean Aramaic?

BILLY
No, sorry that doesn't add up. He's
definitely speaking English.

Theo pulls the door open again, step out into...

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

Billy follows Theo onto the sand.

THEO
Hey, Jesus.

Jesus considers the pair.

JESUS
Where did you and your box come from?

THEO
Well --

BILLY
Theo, stop - you can't just be
talking to the Messiah!

Theo ignores Billy.

THEO
This might take a while to explain.

JESUS
Well, I'm not going anywhere.

He shrugs, the gesture exerting pressure down his arms to where his palms are impaled by iron nails, his wrists also tied to the cross by hemp rope

He grimaces.

JESUS (cont'd)
Little tied up right now.

THEO
I'll try and nail a short version.

Jesus chuckles.

THEO (cont'd)
We're from the future --

BILLY
And America.

JESUS
Where?

BILLY
Land of the free, home of the brave?

JESUS
You mean Scotland?

Billy shakes his head, baffled.

THEO
It doesn't matter, it's just not here
and not now.

JESUS
Did I transcend? Is this Heaven? Is
that where we are now, am I home? Did
father send you?

BILLY
Father, you mean Almighty God?

JESUS
Oh, he hates that, too pompous, he
prefers Jehovah, goes down better
with the younger demographic.

THEO
No, we're not in heaven.

Billy 'ahems'.

BILLY
Though we kind of are.

THEO
What?

JESUS
What?

BILLY
Seven minutes in Heaven.

JESUS
We normally insist on an eternity...

THEO
Oh, Christ, yeah, I get it.

JESUS
I don't and I prefer Jesus... Christ
sounds a little, well, harsh.

Billy and Theo ignore him.

BILLY
So, maybe...

THEO
We just need to wait it out.

BILLY
Another minute or two.

THEO
And we'll be back at the Party?

Billy nods.

JESUS
Party? You mean הַבֵּית?

THEO
Er, maybe, drinking and dancing?

JESUS
Yeah, definitely הַבֵּית.

BILLY
How long?

Theo grabs his phone to check the time.

THEO
About six minutes give or take.

They turn on their heels and head for the box.

JESUS
Wait. I don't even know your names.

THEO
I'm Theo and he's Billy.

BILLY
Though some people call us Bill --

THEO
And Ted.

With that they jump back into the box.

INT. BLUE BOX - CONTINUOUS

They pull the door to and wait, anxious expressions plastered on their faces.

BILLY
Is this gonna --

THUD

THEO
I think so.

THUD

BILLY
Some seven min --

Theo shuts him up with a kiss.

THUD

SHAKE

The doors open.

Sara pokes her head back in.

SARA
So what did you two kids get up to in there?

THEO
You wouldn't believe us if we told you.

BILLY
But it was a totally excellent adventure.

FADE OUT

THE END