

THE RETURN

By

Curtis James Lofgren

WGAw # 1537827  
2621 Columbia Avenue  
RICHMOND CA 94804  
510-526-3452  
curtislofgren@comcast.net

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FADE IN

INT. COMMUTER TRAIN- MORNING

MOLLY PARKER, 35, an attractive redhead with a slight overbite, is sitting alone on BART a few miles outside San Francisco. As she opens the Chronicle, a MAN appears next to her out of the blue.

MOLLY

(aghast)

Who are you? You weren't there a minute ago. Bart police? Bart-

The MAN is dressed in a simple one-piece caftan. His hair is long, stringy and a bit greasy. He is wearing sandals. His robe is tattered. He smells a bit, but has minty-fresh breath.

MAN

-Where am I? Who are you?

Molly tries to be friendly.

MOLLY

My name is Molly. Molly Parker.  
(laughing) Where did you come from, Walnut Creek?

HE is confused.

MAN

Where are the donkeys that pull this carriage?

The MAN looks out the windows. The area is not known to him.

MOLLY

This is Bart. Where did you come from?

MAN

Above.

He looks around the train. PEOPLE are staring.

MOLLY

You just appeared out of nowhere?

MAN

I have returned. What is this language I'm speaking? It is an odd mix of northern Roman and gibberish.

MOLLY

Oy vey! Seriously, are you from Berkeley or something? You must be a professor at UC. They like to do this sort of thing to strangers, then write about it in their thesis. Thesises? Thesi?

The MAN continues to look around the train, at the people, the advertising, the outdoors.

MAN

(proudly)

I am the way.

MOLLY

The way from where? We haven't made any stops since you got on.

MAN

My name is Jesus. I am the way.

Molly tries to squeeze in close to the window. She becomes one with the glass.

JESUS

Do not be afraid, my child.

He touches her gently. Molly turns away.

MOLLY

(squirming in her seat)

Don't take this the wrong way, but you could use a bath. You stink!

The man sniffs his clothes and himself.

JESUS

I've never smelled like fish before. What is that, pollock?

MOLLY

Are you a Jesus freak?

Molly looks to her fellow PASSENGERS for help.

JESUS

I am Jesus. I am the way and the light everlasting.

MOLLY

I'm Molly. You have kind eyes at least.

JESUS

I am the Son of God. What would you expect?

The train continues.

MOLLY

I'm a securities consultant. Boring work, but it keeps me employed.

The man looks out the window.

JESUS

What is employed?

MOLLY

I don't lose my home if I go to work everyday. Just barely.

JESUS

My home is up there.

He points upward.

MOLLY

Mt. Diablo?

A nearby PASSENGER laughs. Molly nods her head, taking credit for the joke.

JESUS

I do not understand.

Molly shakes her head.

MOLLY

It was a joke. You know, laughter?

JESUS

What is a joke?

MOLLY

This, right here. You, me. Us here, that's a joke.

Jesus stands and beckons Molly to stand also.

JESUS  
Come with me now. I am the light.

MOLLY  
I can't. Work, remember?

JESUS  
Your place is with me, the son of  
God. Come.

Jesus has a gentle hold on Molly and pulls her closer to the exit.

MOLLY  
I have to watch for my stop.

JESUS  
The next stop is with me. You're  
getting off now.

MOLLY  
Now just a minute.....

Molly gets angry. She tries to get up and move. Three passengers get up, ready to fight. Both Molly and Jesus DISAPPEAR under the Trans Bay Tunnel.

CUT TO:

INT. BARN-IOWA-MID MORNING SAME DAY

JOSEPH CARTEL, 27, a tall, lean man, is sitting on a stool in his barn in Waterloo, Iowa, milking his cow, BESSIE. He is softly singing a John Denver song.

JOSEPH  
Sunshine, on my shoulder, makes me  
happy...

A MAN appears before him, startling Bessie for a moment.

MAN  
I am the son of God. I am Jesus.

JOSEPH  
You're who? Jesus?

Jesus stares at the cow and Joseph pulling on her teats.

JESUS

That cow is huge. Bigger than the ones I milked as a child.

JOSEPH

Then you know milking is important.

JESUS

Come. Leave Bessie and the milking.

Joseph is getting angry with Jesus.

JOSEPH

I've got chores, son, chores.

JESUS

You're my chore right now. Let's go.

JOSEPH

May I bring Bessie?

JESUS

The animals will get their chance later. But for now, I am only interested in you.

JOSEPH

I feel so special. Okay, let me just get changed.....

A crack of THUNDER fills the air. The two DISAPPEAR. Bessie moos.

CUT TO:

EXT. ESCARPMENT IN AFRICA-SAME DAY

A lean, young white JUNGLE MAN, age unknown, hidden from humans for many years, swings from tree to tree, yelling as he goes about his daily activities.

JUNGLE MAN

Aaaahhhhaaa-yeaaaa-aaaa!

Huge, magnificent ELEPHANTS sway their trunks, reacting to his yell. LIONS roar and MONKEYS play in the tree tops. The jungle man is startled by Jesus who floats down from above the trees. He takes the jungle man's arm.

JESUS

Ungowa simba ungi marinda!

JUNGLE MAN  
 Simba! Simba! Ungowa!

JESUS  
 Ungi Marillo! Ungowa! Simba!

Jesus gently holds the jungle man. They swing through the trees for a time, then both float away.

JUNGLE MAN  
 Simba!

JESUS  
 Ungowa! Simba! Ungowa.

The jungle man shrugs, puts his hands to his mouth, and lets loose with one last scream.

JUNGLE MAN  
 Aaaahhhhaaa-yeaaa-aaaa!

JESUS  
 Aaahhhaa (coughing) Hey, ho, let's go!

CUT TO:

EXT. AMSTERDAM-SAME DAY

A young, pretty blonde DUTCH GIRL, 18, has been carefully and painstakingly holding her finger in the small but growing leak in the town's DIKE. The water pushing against the other side, ready to gush into the village, will not hold for long. She begins to scream.

DUTCH GIRL  
 Help! Help!

Jesus floats down from above and surveys the situation. His assessment of the situation isn't exactly what the TOWNSPEOPLE hoped for.

JESUS  
 Fear not, little girl. I am the way. Who shall believe in me will live forever.

The girl is startled but warns the STRANGER that the leak will soon get worse.

DUTCH GIRL

I cannot stop the water. Soon it  
will fill the streets. Help me,  
oh, help me!

JESUS

Give me your hand, little one and  
we will start your journey with me.

Jesus is oblivious to his immediate surroundings. The water  
is breaking through. The village is doomed.

DUTCH GIRL

You don't understand. The flooding  
will drown the village.

Jesus ignores the words of the Dutch girl. As they ascend,  
gushing water explodes from the dike.

TOWNSPERSON

Who was that guy?

They rise together.

DUTCH GIRL

I'm floating....

ANOTHER TOWNSPERSON

This guy knows his stuff! Here  
comes the wa-

YET ANOTHER TOWNSPERSON

-Another Dutch government  
experiment gone awry..... Help!

The streets are flooded in minutes. The townspeople shake  
their heads. In an instant, Jesus and the Dutch girl  
disappear.

CUT TO:

INT. AL'S BOWLING EMPORIUM-AUSTIN-SAME DAY

GARY LARSON, 36, a tall, good looking oil rigger and devoted  
husband with brown curly hair, has arrived at the bowling  
alley an hour before he is to compete in the championship  
tournament. His wife, KATHY, a stay at home mom and former  
beauty queen, is due shortly. He reaches for a ball on the  
Wall of Fame when JESUS appears.

JESUS

Gary, I need you. Follow me.

Gary stares at Jesus for a moment or two. Then, he begins laughing hysterically.

GARY

Murray, is that you in those sandals? I swear, if you don't stop drinking before they all arrive, you'll be no good to anyone at the tournament. My wife's coming soon, and she hates it when you show up drunk.

The MAN before him is serious and staid.

JESUS

I am the way. Follow me into the gardens of heaven.

Gary picks up a bowling ball for protection.

GARY

Come on, Mur, let's go. Get out of the dumb caftan. They'll start talking about you pretty soon. (Waving the air with his hands) Boy, you stink!

JESUS

Leave this place of the rolling balls now. I am the Lord. Only I may roll your balls.

Gary takes a little closer look at the MAN. His stringy, smelly hair proves it's not the bald Murray Gary knows and loves.

GARY

You're not Murray, are you?

JESUS

Come with me. I am the way.

Both MEN float toward the ceiling. The bowling alley OWNER is worried about the two men cracking the ceiling. He yells out to Gary.

OWNER

Gary? Break that ceiling and you'll hear from my lawyer.

Gary holds two bowling balls as they rise.

GARY  
Hey, what can I do? This guy  
literally has me by the balls.

CUT TO:

EXT. CENTRAL PARK SOCCER FIELD—SAME DAY

A young pretty brunette with dimples and skinny legs named JANE LOWE, 16, is practicing with her team, the BOBCATS. They are kicking the soccer ball, having fun and gossiping about their boyfriends.

JANE  
You should see what Jackie texted  
me earlier. I'll send it to you  
now.

Jane begins her texting and is interrupted by a MAN who appears in the middle of the soccer field. It is Jesus. The kids stop what they're doing and look at Him. He is floating a few inches above the playing field.

JESUS  
Jane Lowe, I need you. Come with  
me.

Everyone is startled and shocked at the appearance of Jesus.

COACH  
(yelling)  
Hey, leave the kids alone before I  
call the police. I am certified as  
a black belt.

Jesus turns to the coach.

JESUS  
I am certified Son of God. I win.  
I am here for Jane.

COACH  
(running toward Jesus)  
I don't care who you are mister,  
but I'll get you.....

Both Jesus and Jane are gone in a flash of light. The soccer ball is hovering three feet off the ground. A FOOT appears from the skies and kicks it into the net.

JESUS (O.C.)

Goal!

CUT TO:

EXT. FACTORY-HONG KONG-SAME DAY

YAN CAN, 19, a strong, short flat-nosed factory worker, has stopped work for the day at his strenuous job in a Hong Kong bicycle shop. Smog is everywhere. He is bicycling down a very busy street. The bike breaks down. Yan looks at his flat tire. The sweat rolls down his face.

YAN

Puk gai!

Jesus floats down and inspects the tire.

JESUS

Those words? Are they Cantonese?

Yan laughs at Jesus.

YAN

Who are you, a fighting monk?

He positions himself in a less-than-masculine pose.

YAN (CONT'D)

My lightning fast Squatting Duck  
will out fox your Standing Chicken.  
Get ready.

Yan's fingers curl like a KUNG FU MASTER.

JESUS

I am the light everlasting. Are  
you a Christian, my son?

Yan kicks the tire and mumbles more Cantonese curse words. Jesus replaces the bike with a new one. A 2013 red Schwinn Point Beach.

YAN

What did you say your name was?

Yan throws down his tire wrench.

JESUS

I am the way and the light  
everlasting.

YAN

I'm always ready to listen to new ideas.

Yan bounces the bike up and down. He examines the tires, the seat, everything about it.

JESUS

Come with me, son. We will explore God's world together.

Yan expresses his apprehension.

YAN

You're not some kind of cult leader, are you? A Moonie?

JESUS

I am the way.

Jesus and Yan float away. The bicycle disappears from view. They ascend very rapidly.

YAN

I can see the Bruce Lee Tower from up here.

JESUS

It gets better. Believe me, it gets better.

Birds fly by. A cloud or two passes through Yan and he tries to eat them, like cotton candy.

YAN

The view?

JESUS

Your everlasting life... and the view.

YAN

Yan can fly? How?

JESUS

It is my will, young man. Now come and we will discover the mysteries of life.

Looking down from the sky at his brand new bike.

YAN  
Okay, Yan can fly, but Yan can't  
cook, so don't even ask.

CUT TO:

INT. ABC NIGHTLY NEWS-LATER SAME DAY

DIANE SAWYER is reading the news broadcast for this evening,  
December 20, 2012.

DIANE SAWYER  
Good evening. Reports from all  
around the globe begin our  
broadcast tonight. Thousands,  
perhaps even millions, of people  
have been taken from their homes by  
a man claiming to be Jesus.

VIDEOTAPE of several ABDUCTIONS are televised. Diane is  
upset.

DIANE SAWYER (CONT'D)  
These reports of abductions have  
been verified by our government.  
In some cases, only a member of a  
family has been taken. In some  
cases, the entire family has been  
abducted, but a lone brother-in-law  
or visiting sister from a  
neighboring town has been left out.  
It is a baffling occurrence, one  
that has left our religious and  
scientific communities worried  
about the future of mankind.

CUT TO:

INT. STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

FILM of several ABDUCTIONS is shown. DIANE is OFF-CAMERA,  
reading a book, "Fifty Shades of Sawyer".

CUT TO:

INT. STUDIO-CONTINUOUS

The STUDIO CAMERA pulls in tight. Diane sheds a tear.

DIANE SAWYER

In my own family, my beloved husband has been taken, but his stage partner, Elaine May, has not. Now personally, I can understand that. But, that's me, I know her. And, of course, I am here, in the studio. I will not leave you, America. I'm right here, as one of the left-behinds. Damn!

CUT TO:

INT. LARSON HOME-NIGHT

The news broadcast has been drowned out in the LARSON kitchen. KATHY LARSON'S concern for her missing husband, Gary, has her worried. She is with a POLICEMAN, filling out a missing person's report.

KATHY

Twenty-four hours? Really?

The policeman gets up from Kathy's couch. He puts down the coffee Kathy has made for him.

POLICEMAN

Yes, ma'am. That's the law. He must remain missing for a full twenty-four hours. You wouldn't believe how many calls we've gotten today.

Kathy wrings her hands in despair.

KATHY

Gary's never been late on bowling league night. I was supposed to meet him, but when I got there, no Gary.

Kathy offers more coffee to the policeman. He declines.

POLICEMAN

You call us tomorrow if he's still missing. We should know more by then.

KATHY

Thank you, officer.

POLICEMAN

For what?

KATHY

For taking the time to help me.  
Would you like to pray with us?  
Praying never hurts.

POLICEMAN

It never hurts to pray with this  
baby, either.

The policeman lifts his gun slightly out of its holster. He looks at himself in the living room mirror, standing tall and overly confident. He fast draws his gun, tries spinning it, and drops the huge .357 on the floor.

KATHY

Nice move, Lone Ranger.

Kathy picks up a few bullets which dropped also.

POLICEMAN

(embarrassed)  
Well, good night.

Kathy almost slams the front door in his face. She cries out for Gary as the policeman walks away.

KATHY

Who is this Jesus? And why didn't  
He take me? I went to church more  
often than my husband.

The policeman yells through the door.

POLICEMAN

There's no logic to it. I was left  
behind. How do ya like that?

KATHY

(whispering)  
Who'd have guessed?

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-NIGHT

Jesus has brought all the missing people to one place, the EQUATOR. He has gathered them together. 27,326,438 total. He speaks to them as easily as He would address an individual. The sea of HUMANITY stretches as far as the human eye can see. All sorts of PEOPLE rise to hear the Lord.

JESUS

Hear me, for I am the way. I have returned to fight for you. For those of you who believe in me, you will live forever.

A LONE VOICE speaks out.

LONE VOICE

Just who are you? What gives? You don't look like Jeffery Hunter. Or Willem Dafoe, for that matter.

This LONE VOICE is triumphant in his observation, and receives several hundred thousand "HARUMMPFS" from the crowd.

JESUS

I am Jesus. I have returned to strengthen you for your return to heaven.

MOANS and GROANS come from the crowd, some scream, some cry. Then, SILENCE.

LONE VOICE

You're really Jesus? The one and only?

JESUS

I am the light everlasting.

ANOTHER VOICE

This is the biggest thing that ever happened to me. Except for once, when I was picked by Publisher's Clearing House. I won five grand.

LONE VOICE

This is the most awesome thing any of us have ever experienced, right?

Rumblings of AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSES come from the crowd.

ANOTHER VOICE

I was mistaken for a robber once.

ANOTHER VOICE (CONT'D)

I was mistaken for Cher. That was cool for about thirty seconds.

Jesus addresses the millions of people.

JESUS

I cannot allow you to come with me until you have mentally and physically prepared yourselves for the journey.

The GROUP begins to whine. That same guy speaks up. He has now become one of the LEADERS of the crowd.

LONE VOICE

Is it a long trip? Do we have enough underwear? I know I didn't pack any. And socks? I've only got these here.

Another LEADER speaks up.

ANOTHER VOICE

When do we get there? Are we going by bus? Train? Or are you going to fly us there?

Molly Parker, the first to be taken, speaks.

MOLLY

Hold on, everyone. Jesus needs to organize His thoughts.

Jesus turns to Molly, patting her on her head.

JESUS

Thank you, Molly. Leading millions of people is not like leading around twelve disciples.

One MAN raises his hand. It's Gary, from Austin.

GARY

Hey, Jesus, my name is Gary, from Austin. You know, the bowling alley? I'm gonna have to pay for that ceiling by the way. So, where's God?

LONE VOICE

Yeah, where is that guy? Or gal?

A FEW THOUSAND laugh. The LONE VOICE takes a small bow.

JESUS

I am the Way. Follow me and you will live forever in the house of God.

## LONE VOICE

Couple of quick questions while  
I've got you here.... why is the  
sky blue? If God made everyone,  
who made God? Why aren't you  
bleeding from your hands-

Jesus looks at his bloodless limbs.

## JESUS

-That's enough for right now.  
Questions will be answered during  
the Q/A period right after the  
ascension.

Molly tries to reach the group.

## MOLLY

It's been a long day and a long  
trip. Let's not argue with Jesus.  
I'm sure after He's had a long, hot  
bath, He'll explain. A bath?

Molly sniffs a few times, enough for Jesus to get the hint.  
He places His nose under His arms, His torso, other places  
which smell like pollock. He nods to Molly.

## JESUS

You will all get to heaven when my  
Father tells me it is time. While  
we wait, we shall review the Ten  
Commandments.

Jesus prepares His bath.

## LONE VOICE

The Commandments? Oh, yeah,  
sure... the Commandments. Were we  
suppose to memorize them?

The whole CROWD mumbles. No one can recall even one.

## JESUS

(stepping into a steaming  
tub)

This is disappointing.

More affirmative rumblings come from the people. Another  
DIFFERENT VOICE stands and speaks.

## DIFFERENT VOICE

Oh, uh, yes, Jesus, we repeat those  
nine-

LONE VOICE

-Ten

DIFFERENT VOICE

-Ten commandments every day, twice  
on Sunday. Right, everyone?

MILLIONS grumble in the affirmative.

LONE VOICE

Uh, sure. Yep. All ten.  
Everyday.

Most of the 27,326,438 respond in kind.

JESUS

The truth shall set you free.

All 27,326,438 heads are nodding positively.

GARY

I know that I recite at least three  
before I bowl a game.

JESUS

We shall eat first. I find myself  
in need of nourishment.

He pats his tummy. The CROWD pats theirs.

LONE VOICE

We are, too. And my cell doesn't  
work here.

Mumbles from millions of people come straight to Jesus' ears.

ANOTHER VOICE

Oh, you won't get any reception  
here, I've tried. We've all tried.

One despondent MAN throws down his cell phone, then quickly,  
thousands throw their phones away also.

JESUS

We are wrapped around the middle of  
the earth. You may know it as the  
Equator.

LONE VOICE

The equator? You mean that line  
that wraps around the middle of a  
globe?

Jesus is rubbing His back with soap and a Luffa Sponge.

JESUS

That is correct. Now, where do we find food?

JOSEPH

Uh, hello? You remember me? You came for me yesterday? You're asking us to provide food?

JANE

I'm the soccer player? I was hungry, too. We were all going to Subway. And now I'm starving.

Jesus hears them all.

LONE VOICE

You're asking us where the food is?

YAN

Lord, it's Yan, remember me? I love fish in the morning. It's all we eat, along with seaweed.

Thousands respond with negative rumblings.

JESUS

Fish. I will turn the rocks into fish. Rockfish... get it?

Jesus gets up and 27,326,438 PEOPLE turn away.

ANOTHER VOICE

I don't really care for fish at breakfast.

JESUS

I remember the waiter at my last supper. He had trouble taking twelve orders at once. Give me a break. I've got 27 million breakfasts to make.

Millions of fish appear, but turbot is the only kind of fish available. Jesus looks down at the wiggling fish.

ANOTHER VOICE

I hate turbot.

Jesus steps into his clothing. Molly gives a "thumbs up".

YET ANOTHER VOICE

I hate it, too. It's too smelly.

LONE VOICE

Who's got a scaler? We're gonna  
have to scale like, what, a million  
turbot? Is it turbots or turbot?

ANOTHER VOICE

Turboi. Are we supposed to cook  
these ourselves.

Many other people yell out their distaste for turbot. Jesus  
puts his hands over his ears.

JESUS

Salmon? You okay with salmon?

Suddenly, the hills are alive with fresh salmon, flipping and  
flopping, their mouths gasping for air.

ANOTHER VOICE

What do we do with these?

Jesus looks down to see all the hungry people, but nary a one  
has even touched a fish.

JESUS

Well, come on. Eat!

Most of the 27,326,438 stand around and gossip with each  
other.

ANOTHER VOICE

You're not going to get us to eat  
this. Sorry.

MARY JANE

I'm afraid I'm allergic to salmon.

GARY

Yeah, and those tiny bones suck.  
Where's the beef? Sorry, but it  
kind of fits here.

Thousands of people applaud Gary.

JESUS

Well, what will you eat?

LONE VOICE

Have you any McDonald's here?

JESUS

What?

LONE VOICE  
A McDonald's. You know, fast food?

JESUS  
That is forbidden.

LONE VOICE  
Wendy's? Burger King?

JESUS  
God has designed animals to feed us, not frozen patties of pink slime.

A FEMALE VEGITARIAN speaks up.

FEMALE VEGITARIAN  
I'm okay with fish, but the flesh of a cow? Or a pig? No way, Jose.

JESUS  
My name is Jesus.

MOLLY  
She means that a lot of us have different nutritional wants and needs.

ANOTHER VOICE  
And I'm a Type One Diabetic. My sugars will go through the roof with this turbot.

Others discuss the problems confronting Jesus.

LONE VOICE  
Turbot's not a fish, it's a poor excuse for a swimming rodent.

Laughter is HEARD everywhere.

ANOTHER VOICE  
Where's the fish? Who's got some bottled water?

JESUS  
They bottle water now? Why not just drink from a stream?

MOLLY  
I think no, Jesus. It's bound to be polluted.

GARY

Salmon has those tiny pin bones. I always use a pair of pliers to pull them out. Jesus, do you have any pliers?

Jesus ponders his actions for a moment.

JESUS

Maybe I got confused. Maybe the 27,326,438 are supposed to go to that other place! You know? Down there?

Jesus points downward.

LONE VOICE

(frightened)

Jesus didn't create turbot, he just saw the oceans had plenty. What a great guy!

People smile and yell for joy.

GARY

Give Jesus a chance.

MOLLY

Yes, he is just trying to do his best. So you don't care for turbot, so what? I like salmon. I'll eat salmon. If you don't like it raw, then I never want to see any of you in a sushi place again.

JESUS

Thank you, kind woman. I know why I chose you first.

Molly blushes. Jesus sits down. Gary joins him. He offers Jesus a piece of beef jerky he had in his back pocket.

MOLLY

(embarrassed)

Awe, Jesus, don't tell me I was first?

Jesus pays her no mind. He chews on the grisly stick of beef.

JESUS

I need order. Pray with me.

Heaven responds with lightning and thunder.

ANOTHER VOICE

Hey, who's not to say Jesus isn't doing the best He can!

JESUS

I am the voice of God. I am the son of God. But I am not God. Don't confuse the issue.

LONE VOICE

He's the son of God?

ANOTHER VOICE

I'll buy that. But, you know, I was so close to being laid off last week, and now, I'm not even there....

LONE VOICE

What about our families? Where are they?

One man, Gary Larson, speaks passionately.

GARY

My wife and kids are in Austin. And they're probably wondering where I am. I missed bowling last night. I'm positive they're looking for me right now. And that hole in the ceiling? Geez.....

Gary bows his head and looks to Molly, who, in turn, gives him a great big smile.

LONE VOICE

My old lady is pissed right now.

THOUSANDS respond in the same complaining manner.

GARY

And Kathy, my wife, she's probably heartsick. Why did you do that?

MOLLY

There, there Gary. I'm sure Jesus knows what He's doing.

Jesus looks back and waves his right hand forward. The FLOCK begins to move.

JESUS

I am the way. Follow me.

Gary stops, which in turn stops Molly, which in turn stops FRED, which in turn stops BILL, which in turn.....

GARY

Well, gosh darn it, where to? I mean, for crying out loud, I've done everything I'm supposed to so I can go to heaven. But so has my Kathy. Why isn't she here with me? Maybe you chose the wrong people.

BILL stops, and then the ONE in front of Bill, until a few thousand PEOPLE bump into each others' backs. A lot of angry RABBLE-ROUSERS are shouting, yelling at Jesus.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE OVAL OFFICE-LATER SAME DAY

The PRESIDENT, 44, a tall, distinguished looking man with gray hair and a tanned face, is concerned for the country. He is talking with his CHIEF OF STAFF.

PRESIDENT

What do you think, Ed? A Tea-Cup invasion? British Secret Service? North Korean stand-off?

CHIEF OF STAFF

My name isn't Ed.

PRESIDENT

Right. My turn, Bill?

CHIEF OF STAFF

It's Frank. Yes, your turn, sir.

PRESIDENT

You're more an Ed than a Frank.

CHIEF OF STAFF

I think the missing persons will work in our favor. Let's see what happens.

PRESIDENT

Anybody you know disappear?

CHIEF OF STAFF

No. Oh, my gardener.

PRESIDENT

You'll have to cut your grass  
yourself. Your move.

The two men resume their Yahtzee game.

CUT TO:

EXT. SAC COMMAND STATION-ONE HOUR LATER

The entire station is on alert. All maps, television screens and monitors are focused on the Equator. Millions of people, led by Jesus, are amazed at the scenery. Jesus leads them through a waterfall. This is seen on every monitor in the room. Four star GENERAL AZINOFF, 61, a gray haired, marble-faced, trim and fit life time soldier, is at the helm.

GENERAL AZINOFF

Bring us to Def-Con Two. Now!

A lower echelon MINION approaches the General.

MINION

Sir, what about drones?

Activity throughout the complex is bustling with anticipation of what is to come.

GENERAL AZINOFF

Too risky. If it's the real thing,  
we're all screwed.

MINION

Yes sir. The real thing?

The General inspects the feed coming from the many satellites up in space.

GENERAL AZINOFF

If this is the actions of our Lord  
in Heaven, then we're screwed.  
Gotta be vigilant yet weary of this  
Jesus guy. All this technology,  
and I can't even see Jesus' face.

The General winces to see better.

MINION

He has brown hair. This we know.

GENERAL AZINOFF

Do you have a name soldier?

MINION

Yes, I do. It's Newton, sir.

GENERAL AZINOFF

You'd better begin praying, Newton.  
And pray with everything you've  
got.

NEWTON

Yes sir!

GENERAL AZINOFF

And Newton? Take that yamaka off.  
It sends the wrong message.

A few of the TV monitors are broadcasting ELLEN. Newton sits  
down to watch.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-MOMENTS LATER

27,36,438 people are getting hungrier by the minute. Jesus  
is sitting by a lake He just created. Gary has brought over  
a friend to talk with Jesus.

GARY

This guy says he's Muslim.

MUSLIM

What am I doing here? Has there  
been a mix up? Where are my  
seventy-two virgins?

Jesus seems to be lost in his thoughts.

JESUS

Muslim, eh? (laughs) How's Allah?

MUSLIM

That was just plain rude. He's  
fine, by the way.

JESUS

Good to hear. Hope He's listening.

GARY

What about the food?

Jesus is off in a fog.

JESUS

Sorry. I was just retracing the origin of the Big Mac. Two-all-beef-patties-special-sauce-onions-pickles-on-a-seaseme-bun. I'm trying to remember why God said no to fast food.

GARY

Well, it's not exactly food, is it?

JESUS

If they took a little bit ore time on the portions, then maybe....

A MAN walks over to Jesus with a problem.

MAN

I'm a Buddhist. Why am I here?

Another MAN asks a similar question.

NEXT MAN

I'm an Agnostic. Why did you take me?

Another MAN, another problem....

NEXT MAN AFTER HIM

I'm an atheist. But since I'm here, why is the sky blue?

AGNOSTIC

Yeah, and why is the grass green?

JESUS

Give me a minute. I'm thinking.

The atheist is conversing with the agnostic.

ATHEIST

You'd never see Carl Sagan pull a blunder like this. Science doesn't screw around.

JESUS

I am the way. Follow me. But not literally. Until I get a few things straightened out, just stay here.

Complaints come fast and furious. The CROWD grows impatient with Jesus.

VOICE

We're hungry and thirsty. What about turning some water into wine.

JESUS

That shall happen. Watch my hands as they bring you wine from water.

Jesus waves his arms around the 27,326,438. Suddenly, it is raining wine. Many of the people hold up Styrofoam cups Jesus also has just provided.

BAY AREA FOLLOWER

Styrofoam? Are you kidding me? Styrofoam has been outlawed by many green cities and states, and for good reason. It never disintegrates.

The man puts his cup down and opens his mouth wide. Millions are getting drunk. But, again, there are complaints.

VOICE

This is a Merlot. We'd like a Pinot Grigio. And this bread is stale. Come on, would it kill you for some Burger King?

MOLLY

Let's remember Jesus as we did when we were children.

MANY begin to tell their stories.

VOICE

I was a gold star winner in Sunday School. I even knew the name of the donkey that carried Jesus.

ANOTHER VOICE

What was the name?

GARY

Stanley. But my Sunday School teacher could have been fooling with me. He liked to jest.

MOLLY

I knew what God had told Jesus in the garden at Gethsemane.

GARY

What? (sheepishly) We're Lutheran.

MOLLY

One of your disciples will betray  
you.

GARY

That was at the Last Supper.

MOLLY

Don't take any wooden nickels?

Gary laughs.

GARY

You're cute.

Molly smiles. The crowd has lost interest in reminiscing.  
Jesus is facing a lake, glancing at the waves.

MOLLY

Think he's gonna walk on it?  
Glide?

GARY

A bit dramatic, don't you think?  
Then again, He needs a big,  
dramatic push to get things going.

Their conversation is interrupted.

VOICE

Where are the portable toilets?

ANOTHER VOICE

Some of us really have to go.

VOICE

(almost whispering)  
Some of us have been going under  
the waterfalls... it's getting  
pretty nasty in there.

With a wave of His hand, the waterfalls are cleaned and a  
SIGN posted discouraging bathing.

CUT TO:

EXT. A WISCONSIN WALMART-LATER SAME DAY

The greeter for this particular WalMart, JUNIOR PINEHURST,  
46, is an overweight IDIOT. He's taking his lunch outside  
the store, in a break area. His meal consists of a meatloaf  
sandwich on white, with sour cream and pickles. He talks to  
the SQUIRRELS as he eats.

JUNIOR

Millie forgot to refrigerate the meatloaf again. I'll probably get sick just as I'm gettin' off of work. Hey, how 'bout that Jesus fella coming back to the world? Who knew, huh? I guess I wasn't chosen.

Just then, the sky opens up and Jesus floats down from the billowy white cloud above Junior.

JESUS

Hello, Junior.

JUNIOR

Jesus? That you, boy?

JESUS

Where am I?

JUNIOR

Why, you're at a WalMart. Waukesha, Wisconsin.

JESUS

I am not where I want to be. Excuse me, my son. Enjoy your meal. May I taste what you are eating?

JUNIOR

Sure. It's just Millie's meatloaf sandwich, with sour cream and pickles.

Jesus enjoys a bite of the sandwich. He looks up to Heaven.

JESUS

Father, feed those souls with this food, I ask you in My name.

The skies open and sandwiches fall from the sky.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Not here, God. The equator.

JUNIOR

(looking upward)

I asked for some lemonade. Can I do that?

JESUS  
I don't take culinary requests.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-MOMENTS LATER

There is a loud CRACK of THUNDER. The 27,326,438 at the Equator are now eating meatloaf sandwiches with sour cream and pickles.

CUT TO:

EXT. WAUKESHA WALMART-CONTINUOUS

Jesus takes a few bites of the sandwich. The meatloaf has a particularly odd taste. The pickle is quite sour and Jesus' face turns white.

JESUS  
My fellow man, what kind of meat is this... meatloaf?

JUNIOR  
My mother makes it. Sometimes, she makes it at night, but forgets to place it in the fridge. It gets a little warm around noon.

Jesus throws up.

JESUS  
Oh, Father, please, I beg you, provide a million or so small Pepto-Bismal bottles to my flock.

Junior look a little embarrassed.

JUNIOR  
Sorry, Jesus. I thought everyone in the world ate room temperature meatloaf sandwiches. My bad.

Jesus throws up again.

JESUS  
Go son.... go now, away from here. Far, far away.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-TWO HOURS LATER

27,326,438 people are reeling from the effects of food poisoning. Regurgitation is rampant. Headaches, diarrhea and all kinds of mishaps are beginning to take their toll as Jesus watches from above, unable to stop the effects of improperly refrigerated meatloaf.

JESUS

Father, I pray unto you.... Port-A-Potties now!

Port-A-Potties rise up every five feet.

LONE VOICE

A class in food hygiene wouldn't be bad, either.

ANOTHER VOICE

Yeah, and more Pepto!

Thousands of Serve-Safe Pamphlets drop from the sky.

JESUS

(reading)

"Never allow cooked meatloaf to be stored in the danger zone of 41 degrees or above." Now I know.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE-CONTINUOUS

The President is alone in his rocking chair, reading the latest issue of the NEW YORKER. He turns the magazine around and opens it, as though it contained a fold-out, and twelve advertisements for that particular issue fall to the floor.

PRESIDENT

(to himself)

Why don't they ever give new humor writers a chance? It seems to be the same old east coast comedy staff writers for Shouts and Murmurs. What would Woody Allen do if he were a new writer in 2013?

The CHIEF OF STAFF enters.

CHIEF OF STAFF

Yes, sir?

PRESIDENT

Ed, we've got to make changes around here. An emergency like the one going on at the Equator shows how inefficient we are.

CHIEF OF STAFF

Mister President?

PRESIDENT

Yes, Ed?

CHIEF OF STAFF

My name is Frank. Not Ed. Ed left yesterday. He's believed to be on the Equator. There, or a strip club in Alexandria.

PRESIDENT

I'm appalled. And a little jealous.

FRANK

I'm sorry, sir, but I'm the only one they could find in such short notice.

He bows his head in shame. The President consoles him by placing him in a headlock, and throwing him to the floor in an opening wrestling maneuver. Frank is stunned.

PRESIDENT

(performing a noogie)

I didn't know Alexandria had strip clubs.

CUT TO:

INT. GARRISON KEILLOR'S DRESSING ROOM-EVENING

GARRISON is tuning his banjo. It is five minutes before he goes on stage with a live show. He is pacing the floor, tuning the banjo and calming his nerves with a glass of milk and Chivas. He shares his thoughts with a STAGEHAND.

STAGEHAND

All those people gone in an instant. Half the production team.

GARRISON

Why wasn't I taken? All those blasted summer nights in this mosquito capital of the world, and yet, I remain here. I read Deepak Chopra. I jokingly refer to Lutherans and Methodists as the chosen few. Jesus should love me. What happened?

Garrison stares blankly at the stage hand. The man offers some information.

STAGEHAND

Nobody fed my grandma's cat last night. I guess she's gone.

GARRISON

Do I know you?

STAGEHAND

No, we haven't met yet, I'm Nordquist. Nordquist Svensen.

The MAN offers his hand to Garrison to shake. He scoffs at the stagehand and walks away.

GARRISON

I'm Garrison Keillor, and union or no union, I want employees that have worked for Barbra Streisand. They know how to handle celebrity clients. Avert your eyes, bucko.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-MOMENTS LATER

Jesus has decided to turn the water into light beer. Millions of socially inept FOLLOWERS become plain drunk.

LONE VOICE

(bathing in beer)

I love this guy. I've always loved this guy.

Glasses are raised in cheer.

MALE FOLLOWER

This is a guy who knows his light beers. Whoa, hold on to me, Jesus, I'm about to puke.

FEMALE FOLLOWER

Hold my hair over the Port-a-Potty  
hole, Jesus. Please?

Jesus doesn't understand the power of beer.

JESUS

Perhaps I should taste this.

Jesus takes a sip. He enjoys the taste.

ANOTHER VOICE

Oh, oh, spaghettios!

Jesus consumes another glass of beer.

JESUS

The taste is of hops and barley, of  
the earth, the sun and the moon. A  
little yeast, stir, and viola!

Some of the MILLIONS around the equator scurry to see what  
He's doing.

MALE FOLLOWER

Oh, yeah, you've got it now.  
Better find a nice place to sleep  
it off, Jesus.

Jesus looks at His empty glass.

JESUS

Fill her up, barkeep. And be quick  
about it.

His glass is quickly re-filled.

MOLLY

Jesus, you're going at this a  
little to fast.

JESUS

I forgot. I am the barkeep.

LONE VOICE

You better take it slow and easy,  
Jesus.

Jesus kicks back another beer. He HEARS behind him the  
words, "Chug-a-lug, chug-a-lug". Brew is spilled on his  
caftan. His sandals are drenched in lukewarm beer.

JESUS  
(having another glass)  
Water into beer. I knew I had it  
in me. Viola! (pronounced VIOLA)

CUT TO:

INT. SAC COMMAND- LATER

General Azinoff has decided to increase the security level.  
He is on the phone with the President.

GENERAL AZINOFF  
Mister President, we don't know a  
thing about this character. He  
could be a Russian spy. I suggest  
we go to Def-Con One, then  
afterward, Wendy's.

The General hangs up the phone and proceeds with the  
President's orders.

MINION  
What did he say, general?

GENERAL AZINOFF  
He told me to raise our status to  
Def Con One. And that he didn't  
care for Wendy's. He's a Burger  
King kind of guy.

MINION  
I'm a McDonald's guy myself.

The General addresses his SOLDIERS.

GENERAL AZINOFF  
Gentlemen, you are to proceed to  
Def-Con One. Drones will be  
deployed forthwith to the Equator.  
And someone get this man out of my  
sight. McDonald's?

Newton is crushed, but continues his duties.

NEWTON  
Sir... your wife is among the  
missing believed to be on the  
Equator.

The General smirks. He places his hand over his mouth to  
prevent him from laughing out loud.

GENERAL AZINOFF  
Fire all drones at the Equator.

Buttons are pushed and telephones are activated by all the SOLDIERS. Many of them are crying for what they are about to do to their own relatives. Confusion takes over.

CUT TO:

INT. SAC COMMAND-CONTINUOUS

Confusion is continuing to hamper the orders from the COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

NEWTON  
General, all drones are deployed.  
God help us if one of our enemies  
starts a war now.

GENERAL AZINOFF  
Hell, son, since 2004, we're in  
trouble if Showtime picks a fight  
with HBO.

As the huge map of the world shows the drones heading for the Equator, one by one, they begin falling into the OCEAN, unpopulated areas of ASIA, and the outskirts of CLEVELAND. After thirty minutes, they're all gone.

NEWTON  
I can't believe it.

GENERAL AZINOFF  
Newton, get me the President.

NEWTON  
Were these the Radio Shack drones?  
Leftover from Obama's first  
inauguration?

Newton giggles a bit. The General frowns, then breaks into a full GUFFAW.

CUT TO:

INT. BATON ROUGE CONVENIENCE STORE-LATER SAME DAY

MILES is a cashier at a 24 hour convenience store. Three GUNMEN walk in to rob the place. Miles is afraid and cowers as the gunmen threaten his life. The store is empty but for them. They take whatever they want and tip over valuable in-store marketing props.

GUNMAN ONE

Give us all your money or we'll  
blast your ass into tomorrow.

Number TWO tries to out threaten number ONE.

GUNMAN TWO

We'll throw you into the walk-in.  
Then we'll lock it.

Number ONE tries upping his fellow crook.

GUNMAN ONE

Nobody's gonna find your ass in  
there. You'll freeze to death  
along with the confections.

Number TWO looks at his accomplice.

GUNMAN TWO

Confections? Who are you, Bobby  
Flay?

Jesus floats into the store. The CRIMINALS are astonished.

JESUS

Put your weapons down and follow  
me. What are these?

Jesus points to the beef jerky at the checkout stand.

MILES

That's beef jerky. Those there are  
BBQ Pineapple.

The gunmen's hands are shaking now, but still aimed at Jesus.

JESUS

My sons, why do you rob this  
storekeeper?

MILES

Because they need the bread. They  
need the dough. Forgive them,  
Lord.

JESUS

The bread is over there.

Jesus points to all kinds of inexpensive bread.

GUNMAN ONE

We need cash. My friend here needs  
an operation. It's personal.

Jesus melts the guns with a wave of His hands. The gunmen run out of the Qwik-Stop.

JESUS  
 (looking upward)  
 And people of the equator shall eat  
 beef jerky and it shall be good.

Jesus floats up toward the ceiling. Miles is left alone, watching Jesus rise.

MILES  
 You know, they're \$5.99 a box. You  
 can't just take-

The entire gross of jerky, all flavors, vanish.

JESUS  
 -I do not take anything. I give.

MILES  
 Now I've got to look for a new job.  
 Who's going believe that Jesus took  
 a gross of jerky?

Jesus floats away. He tries one. He cannot eat it.

JESUS  
 My teeth cannot break through these  
 strips of flesh.

MILES  
 Next time, try El Pollo Loco.  
 Great chicken, great tortillas.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-MOMENTS LATER

From the clouds, thousand and thousands of beef jerky strips drop from the sky like raindrops.

LONE VOICE  
 Beef jerky? What's next, Slurpees?

Large 32 ounce cups full of SLURPEES fall from above.

ANOTHER VOICE  
 Again, the intention is good, but  
 who likes plain jerky? Where's the  
 teriyaki?

Teriyaki beef jerky drop.

LONE VOICE

No tofu? I thought Jesus was and had always been a vegetarian.

CUT TO:

INT. BANK OF AMERICA-NEW YORK CITY-SAME DAY

AMOS BURKE has finally reached his turn in line at the bank. The teller, ANNIE, greets him with a smile.

AMOS

Hi, I'm here to withdraw everything. All my money. Today.

Amos scratches his arm, a nervous disorder.

ANNIE

Savings or checking or both.

AMOS

Both. Before anyone else disappears. Before you disappear. I know what's going on.

He scratches the left arm. His scratch marks are red on both arms.

ANNIE

Please, tell me.

AMOS

We're all going to hell in a hand basket. I'm getting my money and going to Atlantic City this evening.

Annie is a happy person and smiles at Amos nonstop.

ANNIE

Wow! Look at you, big time gambler. What about tomorrow?

AMOS

We're all doomed to die. This Jesus guy is an imposter. He does the same trick as Criss Angel. He levitates. It's all an act.

Jesus floats down from above and into Annie's tiny cubicle. Amos and Annie are startled.

ANNIE

Holy cow! How did you get through  
the ceiling?

JESUS

Where am I? Why are there so many  
bars?

ANNIE

Bank of America, New York City, the  
finest city in the country.

Amos scratches both arms, one after the other. A slight  
trickle of blood appears.

AMOS

Is that really you? Jesus?

Jesus brushes himself off and looks around the bank.

JESUS

It is me. I am the way. Follow me  
and you will receive life ever  
lasting.

His delivery is getting to be a drone monotone.

AMOS

Blah, blah, blah, huh?

ANNIE

I have major medical here. I can't  
leave. I also have a 401 K, such  
as it is. And I'm up for a  
promotion.

She shrugs her shoulders.

AMOS

(proudly)

And I'm going to Atlantic City  
tonight to blow my wad.

Amos looks around to see CUSTOMERS staring at them.

JESUS

What is all this green paper? I  
see a pyramid on one.

AMOS

It's money. It's what makes the  
world go 'round.

The scratching is becoming unbearable. Jesus touches Amos' arm and all the redness, the scratching and the pain disappear. Amos is ecstatic.

JESUS

God makes the world go around.  
This is colored paper. It is  
worthless.

AMOS

Tell me about it. I had a 401K in  
2008, boy, did I take a bath!  
(looking at Annie) Your 401 ain't  
worth anything by now.

JESUS

Take a bath or wash in the stream,  
it matters not. Follow me and I  
will lead you all into the kingdom  
of paradise.

Amos and Annie look at each other. They both rolls their eyes.

AMOS

Paradise is expensive these days.  
I know Sandals, for example, was  
once a nice place for couples.  
Sandals is over three hundred a  
day. And that's without booze.

JESUS

I am the light.

Amos leaves his cash in the cage. Annie grabs her purse.

AMOS

I missed the whole est thing in the  
seventies, so this might just be  
for me. Screw AC.

ANNIE

I might as well go with him also.  
I'm sick of this bank. It's run by  
thieves. Derivatives, my ass.

The THREESOME rise above the teller's window and out of the building. The next CUSTOMER in line is now without a teller. Customers stop and stare at the activity. A FEW join them, happy to abandon the rigorous life. The man waiting for the teller is pissed.

CUSTOMER

I just wanted a roll of quarters  
for the washing machine.

CUT TO:

INT. CRISS ANGEL'S DRESSING ROOM-LAS VEGAS-NIGHT

Entertainer CRISS ANGEL, who has practiced every sort of magic on the planet, is getting ready for his midnight show. Jesus floats into the private green room.

CRISS ANGEL

How did you get in here?

Jesus hovers. (He loves to hover.)

JESUS

I am the way. The light  
everlasting shines through me.

Criss examines Jesus for any wires or hidden devices.

CRISS ANGEL

I've seen the secrets to most all  
tricks in the world. How do you  
float in and out of rooms?

Jesus continues to hover. He then begins to fly around Criss, and it blows Angel's mind.

JESUS

I just do. I will it. And now,  
I'm afraid I need you with me,  
exploring the great light  
everlasting.

CRISS ANGEL

Good line.

Criss floats up to the ceiling. Midway, he stops and hides behind a chandelier.

JESUS

(looking around)  
My son, where did you go? How did  
you do that?

Jesus finds him and grabs his collar as Criss clings to the chandelier.

CRISS ANGEL

I'm no slouch either, Jesus. I have my secrets, too.

JESUS

Will you come with me, Criss Angel?  
Will you come to heaven with me?

Angel strokes his chin.

CRISS ANGEL

If you can show me more, yes, I will come.

JESUS

I will show you the way. But a magician I am not. I am the light everlasting. I am the Lord Jesus Christ, the son of God. I am not an entertainer.

CRISS ANGEL

Your words, not mine. But I've got to get someone to fill in for me tonight. Can you tell me if David Copperfield is available?

JESUS

I do not know. I visited his home, but I could not get past the five hundred mirrors. Or the giant posters of himself.

CUT TO:

INT. MIAMI BEACH MCDONALD'S-LATER SAME DAY

Jesus has floated into a McDonald's in Miami Beach, Florida. He is appalled.

JESUS

The money changers in my temple were nothing compared to this horrid place. Cast out this food and replace it with the word of God! (thunder! lightning!) His word is food for the soul.

Jesus cuts in front of the line.

CUSTOMER

Get in line, pal. No cuts.

JESUS

I cut, therefore, I am.

He looks to Heaven.

CUSTOMER

Can you believe this? I hope he  
doesn't go for the dollar menu,  
we'll be here all day!

JESUS

Father, why are these people  
gorging themselves on this  
disgusting garbage?

A young BOY walks up to Jesus. He is eating a fish sandwich.

LITTLE BOY

Hey, mister, why are you wearing a  
one piece outfit, like my grandpa  
at the retirement home?

Jesus smiles at the little boy.

JESUS

My son, I am the way. He who  
believes in me will find life  
everlasting.

LITTLE BOY

Mommy! This man is weird. He  
speaks funny and he's wearing  
sandals with no socks.

The MOTHER of the little boy is nervous and pulls him away.  
Jesus inspects her fish sandwich.

JESUS

Ah, the misunderstood pollock.  
Gently place between two golden  
buns, and decorated with the sauce  
of tartar.

Jesus takes a bit, then tries to give it back to the boy's  
mother.

LITTLE BOY'S MOTHER

Nice try, Jesus, but I'm not fool.  
Get your own fish sandwich, or  
better yet, try a Big Mac.

Jesus hums the music from the Big Mac commercial.

CUT TO:

INT. VATICAN CITY, ITALY-CONTINUOUS

The POPE is cutting his toenails in his private bathroom, a huge, glorious marbled room. As he clips, he is whistling the theme from OKLAHOMA. Jesus floats in and introduces himself. The Pope speaks in Italian, with English subtitles. Jesus speaks in English.

JESUS

I am Jesus. Son of God.

POPE

Woa! What, who are you? How did you enter my private bathroom?

JESUS

I enter all God's rooms and sit with Him daily.

POPE

Mama Mia!

The SUBTITLE says: WOW!

JESUS

I am the Way. Go with me and together we will find peace.

POPE

Just a minute, mister.

The Pope hip-hops over to his intercom and calls for his GUARDS. Soon, ten heavily-armed men rush into the Pope's bathroom.

JESUS

What are you doing?

The Pope directs his orders to the guards.

POPE

There is an intruder in my bath chamber. Get rid of him.

The Pope gives Jesus a menacing look.

JESUS

I'd put on some pants if I were you.

The Pope looks down and sees he's wearing nothing but a towel. Jesus smiles.

POPE  
That'll be the end of you, sir.

The Pope motions to the guards.

JESUS  
How can you threaten me if I am the  
son of God?

POPE  
I'm the Pope. I own Vatican City.

The guards are gently batted away by Jesus.

JESUS  
I wish you no harm, no violence.  
But you must tell the world about  
me. You carry such power.

POPE  
Uh, well, yes I do.

JESUS  
You shall do this today. And he  
who worships me shall live forever.

Jesus raises the guards two feet off the ground.

POPE  
Are you really Jesus?

Jesus sits on the cold stone toilet seat cover.

JESUS  
Are there woods around here  
somewhere?

POPE  
Why, yes.....

JESUS  
And do you not go to these woods  
from time to time?

POPE  
Uh, yes....

JESUS  
And do you not get the urge to  
defecate in the woods at times?  
Well?

The Pope puts the old saying together in his head as Jesus floats up toward the ceiling. The ceiling is so high that it takes a full minute for Jesus to finally make it to the top.

CUT TO:

INT. UNITED NATIONS-ONE HOUR LATER

There is considerably more commotion than usual today at the United Nations. The circular table at which all HEADS of STATE sit is a mess of papers and diagrams, of cables and television monitors, of empty coffee cups and half-filled plastic water bottles. Jesus has floated in from the ceiling and gently landed in the empty chair of the Swedish DELEGATE. The Swedish DELEGATE arrives late and asks Jesus for his seat back. They trade good natured barbs in Swedish. Both share a laugh. Jesus then addresses the full United Nation delegation.

SWEDISH DELEGATE

(to a delegate)

He told me I was making my Kohldohmer incorrectly. He's a genius. No one knows stuffed cabbage like Jesus. Cardamon? Who would have guessed?

JESUS

It is just a thought I had. My mother told me I had a knack for cooking. But I never pursued it.

The SECRETARY GENERAL prepares to speak to all.

SECRETARY GENERAL

Jesus, welcome. We've heard of your arrival.

JESUS

The 27,326,438 people that I have escorted to the equator are safe.

Cheers and applause erupt as the delegates listen.

SOUTH KOREAN DELEGATE

That is good news. I was afraid we would be asked to donate a million tons of kimchee to the equator.

Fellow delegates HUSH the South Korean man.

JESUS

I shall ascend to heaven with them  
and be with God.

SWEDISH DELEGATE

What about the rest of us?

JESUS

This question was put before me  
earlier.

NIGERIAN DELEGATE

Well? I've been a church going  
Christian all my life.

JESUS

Whom ever believes in me will live  
for eternity. This I know to be  
true.

Hundreds of television REPORTERS are falling over each other  
to get better coverage of Jesus.

CANADIAN DELEGATE

It's not fair. I've never been to  
the equator. Nor a tropical  
country. Not even Hawaii.

IRELAND DELEGATE

It cannot be any prettier than my  
small but wonderful country.

Things get rough. A delegate gets angry.

BRITISH DELEGATE

If anyone deserves to go, it is me.  
Is it not true that we protect the  
entire world? If the sky falls,  
then we fall. Care to try that out  
for size, Jesus? Only one man can  
protect our little nation.

DANIEL CRAIG stands in the audience, with a Walther PPK aimed  
at the Secretary General. It turns out to be a SQUIRT gun.  
Jesus nods at Daniel, who nods back.

JESUS

I will keep the 27,326,438 people  
at the equator fed and housed for a  
time. Then, we shall leave this  
earth for heaven.

People voice their displeasure. The DELEGATE from  
Khazashtizastan, a devout Christian, is asking a question.

KHAZASHTIZASTAN DELEGATE

Why am I not with them? What did I do wrong?

JESUS

If I have chosen you, your family shall weep not. I know that heaven awaits you. God knows that heaven awaits you.

KHAZASHTIZASTAN DELEGATE

God only loves Americans. This is wrong!

The GALLERY of delegates voice their disgust. But there a few bright moments.

NIGERIAN DELEGATE

My sister went with Jesus. She is missing and witnesses saw them float away together. What Jesus says is true.

POLISH DELEGATE

My father-in-law has gone to the equator also. Can't say I miss him, but he's there. Jesus has taken him.

JESUS

Nigerian one, I remember your sister. Her smile lights up the equator.

NIGERIAN DELEGATE

She had good dental work when she was a child. That's the key.

Confusion and disruption occur for hours. Jesus sees no resolution. He ascends upward, to the clouds, to find inspiration. As he travels, He sees a young EAGLE soaring high in the sky. The magnificent bird flies through the air with the greatest of ease. He marvels at its beauty. The eagle flies straight into a 747, which kills it instantly.

CUT TO:

INT. LARSON BEDROOM-LATER

Kathy is in a state of shock and desperate loneliness. Her children cry constantly and she has not slept since his disappearance. She sits, brushing her child's hair, in the child's bedroom.

KATHY

I will find out why Jesus has forsaken us.

One of her children enters the bedroom.

CHILD

Mommy, why are you talking to yourself? And who is that man standing behind you?

Jesus has floated down from the ceiling and into the Larson bedroom. Kathy is startled but begins a conversation with Jesus. She strikes Him over and over, but her hand moves right through the body. She cries at her misguided actions.

KATHY

I am angry with you. I'm lost without Gary.

Jesus pats Kathy on her head.

JESUS

He is your husband, but I am the way to ever lasting love.

She turns to Jesus and motions for Him to remove his garment, offering Him a towel to wear while she washes his clothes.

KATHY

(shaking the caftan)

I went to church every Sunday. Gary was always late. Sometimes he skipped to watch the Cowboys.

Jesus steps out of His sandals. Kathy gathers the articles and combines them with a few of her daughters slacks.

CUT TO:

INT. LARSON HALLWAY-CONTINUOUS

Kathy dumps the load into the washer in the hallway, adds some Tide, thinks again, adds some more, and turns on the machine. Jesus watches in amazement. She stops the machine midway, adds some bleach, and starts it again. Jesus sits in a nearby chair, reading a magazine called GOOD HOUSEKEEPING.

JESUS

Who are the Cowboys?

She adds the softener. Three boxes.

KATHY

Boy, it must be quiet in heaven.  
Don't you know your football teams?

JESUS

There are many things I know  
nothing about.

Kathy looks dazed and confused.

KATHY

We speak of you always. Most of  
us. Sometimes, your name is spoken  
in profanity.

Jesus reads the words on the red box of detergent.

JESUS

Profanity is wrong. It depresses  
me. What is Tide?

Kathy ignores the question.

KATHY

I try and teach my children it is  
wrong. We need you, Jesus.

JESUS

That is why I am here. I am the  
way.

KATHY

You are the way and I have no  
husband.

Jesus calms Kathy. The small load is finished. Kathy  
removes the damp clothes and throws them into the dryer.

JESUS

Your husband is with Me. I am the  
light everlasting.

KATHY

(angrily)  
Jesus, son of God. Or you say you  
are.

JESUS

I am the son of God.

The children watch in the hallway as Jesus drops the towel.  
There is nothing but bright, blinding LIGHT where His  
genitals would be. Kathy hands Him his clean caftan and  
sandals.

KATHY

Now, onto the shampoo. Ugh, that hair. And I'm sure mister Jesus wouldn't mind a little clip here and there to shape up that do. Kids, hand me my shears.

CUT TO:

INT. LARSON UPSTAIRS BATHROOM-CONTINUOUS

Kathy brings Jesus to the bathroom, where she lowers His head backward, gently into the sink, so she can start washing His hair.

KATHY

Man, if you're the King of Kings, someone forgot to teach you how to wash your hair, not to mention shave your whiskers.

Kathy's daughter comes into the bathroom.

DAUGHTER

Mommy, why is Jesus here? Where is daddy?

KATHY

They want to know, Jesus. The whole world wants to know.

Jesus tries to speak while Kathy is working on His hair. He yawns.

DAUGHTER

Look mommy, Jesus is yawning. He's sleepy.

KATHY

Are you tired, Jesus?

Jesus sits up and towels off his wet hair.

JESUS

I do feel my body slowing down a bit.

Kathy goes to work on his hair, snipping here, snipping there.

KATHY

I used to work part time at Supercuts. I think a layer cut would look nice. But no mullet!

JESUS

I am tired. My eyes are closing...

Kathy's daughter gets excited.

DAUGHTER

You can stay in my room, Jesus. I have plenty of room. Please, mom, oh please?

Kathy puts away her hair cutting tools. She admires her work.

KATHY

Get a good night's sleep. We'll talk more in the morning.

JESUS

What is sleep?

DAUGHTER

It's when we close our eyes and pray to you.

Jesus loses His balance a little. He looks into the bathroom mirror. He is gorgeous.

JESUS

I look like my good friend Jeffery Hunter. We play Canasta every Friday.

DAUGHTER

Come on, Mister Jesus, whatever your problem is, a good night's sleep will help.

Kathy's daughter holds on to her little doll.

KATHY

And maybe she'll give you Mister Biggs to hold while you sleep.

CUT TO:

INT. DAUGHTER'S BEDROOM-CONTINUOUS

Jesus falls into bed.

JESUS  
Who is this mister Biggs?

Kathy's daughter shows it to Jesus.

KATHY  
It's her doll. Mister Biggs is a  
character on television.

JESUS  
Thou shall bear no false witness...

KATHY  
Cam down, she's only a child. Just  
lay down there, Jesus. I'll  
stretch out on the couch.

Jesus lies on the bed. He bounces up and down on it.

JESUS  
That feels good. It's soft.

Kathy tucks Him in.

KATHY  
Nighty night, Jesus.

JESUS  
Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray  
to me my soul to keep.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE-NEXT DAY

The President is playing with a new TOY, the latest APPLE invention. His new Chief of Staff is desperately trying to get his attention.

PRESIDENT  
Hey, this thing is pretty cool. I  
like the colored buttons.

CHIEF OF STAFF  
Mister President, we have to  
respond to the people's wishes.  
They want to know what's happened  
to their sons and daughters, wives  
and sons....

The President isn't listening. He's playing with his toy.

PRESIDENT

You see this thing? What does it do?

CHIEF OF STAFF

Yes, Apple sent it over. It can destroy a mid-size city and make popcorn at the same time. They call it POP GOES THE CITY.

PRESIDENT

That reminds me, Otto, my wife is missing. Break out the champagne!

CHIEF OF STAFF

My name's not Otto.

PRESIDENT

Neither is hers. It's First Lady. Sometimes she goes by The First Lady.

CHIEF OF STAFF

Mister President, we have a global disaster on our hands.

The President fidgets with the new Apple invention.

PRESIDENT

Call me when it gets really bad, like when George Clooney goes missing. That will be a disaster.

CUT TO:

INT. HELL-MOMENTS LATER

HELL is a sordid place. It's hot, humid, and musty. There is no sign of the DEVIL at this moment, but we see plenty evidence of his existence. Through the eyes of the latest poor schmuck to arrive, ALBERT JENSEN, a retired restaurant manager, there is a plethora of sin for his benefit. Albert greets a beautiful, well-built VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN who is hot to trot.

ALBERT

Hello. You're not connected to the grizzly bear who ate me a few minutes ago are you?

He circles her. She's gorgeous, stacked and ready for sex.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

No. You're not the old man I  
pushed out of a window in Oakland,  
are you?

She circles him.

ALBERT

No. I'm Albert Jensen.

Both are weary but attracted to each other. Albert tries to  
go for her right away, but she just teases him a bit.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

I'm a not ready to give you my name  
yet. Privacy clauses and all that.

ALBERT

Even down here? Who's going to  
sue?

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

I'm prepared to suck, lick, pump,  
fondle.....

She titillates Albert by rubbing his torso.

ALBERT

That's fine. I'm down with that.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

I'm ready for anything. Man, it's  
hot down here.

Albert wipes the sweat off his brow.

ALBERT

What did you do to deserve this  
rotting resting place?

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

I was a hit woman for the mob. I  
killed twenty six men, three women  
and a parrot. I'm really sorry  
about the parrot.

She looks down in shame.

ALBERT

So, wanna screw?

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

I will do anything you wish. Are  
you Lucifer?

ALBERT

Heck no. I'm a retired restaurant manager from California. I used to manage this really cool restaurant in Van Nuys.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

I just thought with that tail and all, you'd have been a creepier kind of man, like an IRS agent.

Albert looks behind him and sees a huge tail attached to his ass. It wiggles as he moves. It's long, like a RAT'S tail, but completely white.

ALBERT

A tail? Does it make my ass look big?

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

It gives it a Je Ne Sais Quoi!

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-MOMENTS LATER

27,326,438 people are having their way with the beer, the jerky and, now, thousands of McDonald's filet o' fish sandwiches.

JESUS

I know nothing, my father. Have I made a mistake? Have I led this flock down the wrong path?

Thousands of negative responses grow LOUD.

LONE VOICE

We have no tartar sauce. No napkins. Come on, Jesus. Be a good host.

JESUS

These people shall be my flock I take unto You. Are You ready for them, Oh Lord?

Thunder and lighting fill the skies.

LONE VOICE

I need a shower.

More bickering is starting up again.

## ANOTHER VOICE

Oh, you should talk. You smell  
like the animals in the barn Jesus  
was born in.

## LONE VOICE

Oh yeah? I bet that when we leave,  
you'll be the one to ask to go to  
the bathroom right before take-off.  
Am I right on the take-off part?  
Is it like a rocket ship?

## JESUS

Do not speak against one another.  
I am the Light. Follow me.

## GARY LARSON

We're tryin', Lord... we're trying.

## MOLLY

I must say He looks better now.  
His hair is coiffed. And the  
clothes look clean.

## GARY LARSON

Looks like the way Molly cuts hair.  
I wonder.....

Jesus is troubled. He speaks to GOD.

## JESUS

God, why do they question my words?

GOD responds in the gentle swaying of tree branches, the  
cool, soft air, and the serenity of the wind.

## STRONG BARITONE VOICE

Son, this is one heck of a mess!

## JESUS

I am the Light, am I not?

GOD responds, but this time, birds chirp, fish jump in the  
streams and the sun shines with a golden hue. GOD'S lecture  
to Jesus has provided sustenance to the crowd. They APPLAUD  
HIM, yet GOD continues to lecture Jesus about His mistakes.

## GOD'S VOICE

I send you back down two thousand  
years later and this is what  
happens?

## JESUS

God, I am your only son.

GOD'S VOICE

Now I know why I stopped at one.

JESUS

McDonald's was a bad idea, was it not?

Thunder crackles throughout the Equator. The followers have never seen such a display of colors in the skies.

GOD'S VOICE

Duh?

JESUS

Trust in Me, Father, for I will not fault in my chores again.

Birds chirp again in beautiful song.

GOD'S VOICE

No more beer, huh?

Jesus nods His head.

JESUS

I promise. Hand over heart.

GOD'S VOICE

I wish I could believe that. But you've got the taste now. Pray, my son, pray.

CUT TO:

INT. HELL-MOMENTS LATER

Albert is having sex with the voluptuous woman. Even in Hell, he's having trouble in that department.

ALBERT

I wish you had larger breasts. And a firmer ass.

She slaps him hard. They change positions frequently.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

We all get old, Albert. You're no prize, believe me.

Albert tries out some moves he thinks would excite her.

ALBERT

Let's try a position I made up when  
I was a teenager.

Albert seemingly attacks the woman. She recoils.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

Ouch! Move, will ya?

ALBERT

Man, if I could remember half the  
stuff I did as a teen, I'd have you  
screaming for joy.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

Sure, Albert, sure. What landed  
you here?

ALBERT

I embezzled fifty grand. And  
killed my landlady.

Albert tires of the position he's in with her. He lifts her  
legs over his head.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

(grunting)

I'm out of practice.

Albert pushes her thighs up and up.

ALBERT

We're in hell. Exercise is not an  
option.

The woman looks down at his penis.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

What if I bite it off?

ALBERT

I dare you. Double dare. It can't  
hurt.

She bites his penis.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

Yeeeoowwwiiiee!

The woman spits it out.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

Much to my chagrin, the male penis  
does not taste like chicken.

ALBERT  
Jesus Christ, that hurt.

Huge flames erupt around Albert and the woman.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN  
Who do you know down here?

ALBERT  
Sorry, won't happen again, Lucifer.

Albert looks down at his groin and discover he has grown another penis. This one is bigger and thicker, with a smiley face. Albert is laughing at it, as is the voluptuous woman.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN  
Well I'll be damned. Oh, I am,  
aren't I?

ALBERT  
That was a close one.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN  
Now, you were saying...

They continue to have sex. Albert is happy with his new penis. The voluptuous woman wiggles Albert's tail.

ALBERT  
Oh, wiggle it, wiggle it.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN  
Your tail is cool.

He looks down at his groin. He pretends to be a TV ANNOUNCER.

ALBERT  
The 2013 model has all the most up-  
to-date features. Cruise control,  
Bose speakers, back up mirrors.  
And, at 55 miles to the gallon, it  
will turn heads at every filling  
station in America.

CUT TO:

INT. HELL-CONTINUOUS

Jesus floats into Hell. He wants to finish his business here as quickly as possible.

JESUS

What is going on here?

Albert and the voluptuous woman are startled. They stop fornicating.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

Why are you here? I thought you were barred from here?

ALBERT

Aren't there rules concerning your existence down here? You're not even sweating.

Jesus tears down obscene photographs of ELEANOR ROOSEVELT and HILARY CLINTON. He draws a huge, funny mustache on the painting of RUSH LIMBAUGH. The NRA logo gets a big, red "X". Rows of condoms are punctured with a tiny pin Jesus had in his back pocket.

JESUS

Hell is not down there or up here. It is a state of mind. Come, I will bring you into the Kingdom of God.

Albert places his lady friend behind him, as if he's protecting her from Jesus.

ALBERT

May I stay with this lovely lady? She's hot.

JESUS

I will teach you God's plan for the both of you.

Albert kisses his girlfriend.

ALBERT

We can get to know each other a little better if we stay here longer.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

Stop staring at my boobs. Somehow, I now feel the need to be clothed.

JESUS

We must travel quickly. I do not belong here.

He gathers the couple together in His arms.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN

I'm so thrilled you came here for us.

ALBERT

Jesus, you're good. Righteous.

JESUS

I am the way.

ALBERT

The wrong way.

Albert turns into LUCIFER.

CUT TO:

EXT. LARSON HOME—MOMENTS LATER

Kathy Larson is having a double gin and tonic on her backyard porch. She is with her friend, MARY JANE PRITZ, a perfect Austin Soccer Mom. Mary Jane is urging Kathy to move on.

MARY JANE

You know what I'd do if this were my problem?

Mary Jane clinks the ice cubes in her glass.

KATHY

Yes, Mary Jane?

She sashays around, as if she were Oprah.

MARY JANE

I'd move on. Forget Gary. He's either drunk at some whore house down in San Antonio, or he's sleeping off one huge hangover. Either way, he has broken the marriage vows, Kathleen.

KATHY

And how many has Mickey broken? By the way, only my mother gets to call me Kathleen.

Mary Jane gets angry and downs her drink in one gulp. She rises from her seat to leave. She grabs her purse.

MARY JANE

What my Mickey does is none of your fucking business.

(MORE)

MARY JANE (CONT'D)

And another thing, where do you get off letting some bum sleep over in your daughter's bedroom? Yes, I heard about it. My Mary told me. I think that's disgusting.

KATHY

(solemnly)

It was Jesus. He is our Saviour. He was tired.

MARY JANE

(angrily)

That's the most blasphemous thing I've ever heard. Jesus will be back one day, but this freak isn't him. He's a fake. And if he took Gary, then I don't want to go to Heaven. I wanna go to Hell.

Kathy stands and grabs the two glasses and starts into the house.

KATHY

Okay, Mary Jane, go straight to hell. And say hello to your relatives when you get there.

An exasperated Mary Jane stomps her foot but it unexpectedly lands on Kathy's dog's excrement.

CUT TO:

INT. SAC BATHROOM-LATER SAME DAY

General Azinoff is on the toilet, reading a copy of the NEW YORKER.

GENERAL AZINOFF

(laughing)

You know, I love these cartoons. Especially Gahan Wilson. He cracks me up.

Newton knocks on the stall. He is holding his nose, the odor being unbearable. Newton's voice sounds like PORKY PIG.

NEWTON

General, late reports from the Equator show that the millions of people there have dropped off radar.

(MORE)

NEWTON (CONT'D)

We no longer can get a read on them. Can you light a match?

GENERAL AZINOFF

Give me a minute. I'm all thumbs.

The General pulls up his pants. It is quite an arduous task to get back into full General's dress from that position in a hurry.

NEWTON

It seems they are now invisible to the naked eye.

GENERAL AZINOFF

Who?

NEWTON

The missing millions. That's kind of a tag I gave them. The Missing Millions.

The General hurriedly opens the stall door, hitting Newton in the face. There is toilet paper stuck to his shoe.

GENERAL AZINOFF

Go to Def-Con One. And Newton? They're not missing if someone can see them, right?

Newton nods.

NEWTON

Sir, we already are at Def-Con One. We can't go up any further.

GENERAL AZINOFF

Get me the President, and make it snappy. Newton, don't ask your superior to light a match in his own stall. It's disrespectful.

NEWTON

That's, uh, that's uh, that's, that's all folks.

CUT TO:

INT. SEEDY BAR-ATLANTA-SAME NIGHT

Jesus has floated into a bar on the bad side of Atlanta. He is trying to experience SIN. An old MUDDY WATERS tune is playing on the jukebox.

BARTENDER  
What'll it be, pal?

The song plays on. Muddy sings about the SEVENTH SON.

JESUS  
I will drink what my friend next to  
me is drinking.

Next to Jesus sits a DROOLING DRUNK who is barely conscious.  
He is drinking Bourbon Deluxe, a less than five star bourbon.

BARTENDER  
Coming up.

The bartender pours the drink. He sings along with the song,  
HOOCHIE-COOCHIE MAN.

JESUS  
On the seventh hour, on the seventh  
day....

Both the bartender and the drunk look at each other in  
amazement. Jesus throws it back and nearly gags.

BARTENDER  
Too much for you?

JESUS  
(singing with Muddy)  
I was born for good luck and that  
you see...

Jesus releases an incredible belch.

BARTENDER  
Good voice. Sing much?

JESUS  
I have never sung, but this song,  
this singer.... he is too much!

BARTENDER  
It's Muddy. He's the king of the  
blues.

JESUS  
I am the King of Kings.

The bartender shrugs.

BARTENDER  
Muddy Waters was the man. Another?

JESUS  
Keep them coming. I like this.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR AREA—MOMENTS LATER

Molly Parker and Gary Larson have found happiness with each other. While munching on beef jerky and beer, they share their stories of early loves, of family and of what they think might happen to them.

MOLLY  
I was just sitting in the Bart  
train, minding my own business.  
He says that I was his first.

She bats her eyes.

GARY  
He took me at the bowling alley. I  
thought he was my friend Jesse,  
drunk as a skunk, in sandals and a  
robe.

He returns the flirting. His eyes follow her every move.

MOLLY  
I noticed you as you floated in  
with the other batch. How many? A  
few million?

GARY  
He says I was in batch three, which  
had 7,452,549 in the group.

MOLLY  
And I noticed you. That's not bad.

He inches his way closer to Molly.

GARY  
No, it's not. I noticed you, too.  
You had your hair up.

Molly giggles like a school girl.

MOLLY  
Do you like it up or down?

Molly quickly tries to fix her hair.

GARY

No, no, just keep it the way you have it. You're pretty. I haven't had these feelings since I was in high school.

Molly sits close to Gary.

MOLLY

I got divorced in '92, left Los Angeles and moved to Walnut Creek. What's Austin like?

GARY

Beautiful. You travel through the entire state of dirt, scrub brush and tumbleweeds. You get to Austin and beauty awaits. It's breathtaking.

MOLLY

(laughing)

George junior is from Texas, right?

Gary tries to scan millions of PEOPLE at once.

GARY

I guess. Never was a fan of his. Oh, gosh, guess what? Look around. Bush didn't make it. Ha! What do you know?

MOLLY

He didn't, did he? That's funny. Mister born again. Yeah, right.

GARY

Are you a born again Christian?

MOLLY

Yes. But that was a long time ago. I had some set backs. My divorce, and there was my addiction to pain killers. Those two things wouldn't preclude one from entering heaven I hope. And I cheated big time on my taxes.

GARY

I fudged on my taxes, too. Most everyone has at one time or another. Who else has done bad things?

They look around for religious icons, dignitaries and right-wing politicians whose religious beliefs got them into office.

MOLLY

I don't see anyone. Wait a minute, there's Sarah Palin. No, it's Tina Fey. None of those religious right-wingers got through. Tells you something, doesn't it?

Gary moves closer to Molly and places his arm around her.

GARY

I skipped church like ten times during football season. If Dallas was playing a home game, forget it.

MOLLY

Well, what are we doing here?

GARY

I dunno. I'm thinking that He got it wrong. You know, like in Superman Two, when Superman went into the chamber and reversed the effects of his super powers? He came out with his powers and the bad guys got theirs taken away?

MOLLY

Oh, my God. What if that's the case? And I was first? What does that say about me?

Gary grabs Molly and brings her close to him.

GARY

Kiss me. Hurry, before I change my mind. My conscience might kick in.

MOLLY

Here? In front of 27,326,438 people?

GARY

Why not? Nobody cares. Everyone's been doing it.

Molly and Gary kiss.

MOLLY

I don't think I've ever felt like this about a guy.

GARY

Molly, I'm married. I have a family.

She shakes her head.

MOLLY

Why is it I get all the married ones?

She moves away from Gary. He tries to hold her hand.

GARY

I guess I'm a true blue, but that doesn't mean we can't be friends.

MOLLY

I guess.

GARY

I'm a happily married man, but if I were going to stray....

MOLLY

Sure, sure, it would be with me. Well, at least I beat out twenty-some million others, huh? Lucky me.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE-NEXT DAY-CHRISTMAS EVE

The President is reading his morning briefing with the help of his VICE-PRESIDENT. They two of them make quite a pair, politically speaking.

PRESIDENT

Hey, it says here that tomorrow is Christmas. What did you get me?

VICE-PRESIDENT

A toaster, Mister President. It browns both sides of the bread at once. When it's done, you can spread butter, or jelly, or jam, or any kind of polyunsaturated, fake, congealing-gooey-crap on it.

PRESIDENT

What will they think of next? Gooey crap, eh?

The President ponders an idea for a moment.

VICE-PRESIDENT

I recognize that look in your eye.  
Don't do it, I warn you. Even  
though it's Christmas time.

PRESIDENT

I'm the President! Let's scare  
everybody again.

VICE-PRESIDENT

It was fun when we did it last  
week, but one of the agents was  
shot, remember?

PRESIDENT

Nonsense, it was just a flesh  
wound.

The President and the Vice-President both hide in the Oval Office. The President hides under his desk and the Vice-President becomes a living STATUE, trying his best to hold still by the window. The President then hits his panic button. Ten SECRET SERVICE AGENTS come running into the Oval Office with guns drawn. The agents, having gone through this ridiculous game before, put away their guns as soon as they see the Vice-President standing like a DEER caught in the headlights.

AGENT

Come on, mister Vice-President.  
Fun's over.

The Vice-President stomps his foot.

VICE-PRESIDENT

He made me do it. He ordered me to.

The agent bends over and sees the President under is desk.

AGENT

Wanna come out of there, Mister  
President? Little Carolyn Kennedy  
played down there when she was only  
six. Not forty-four.

PRESIDENT

Just looking for my pen, agent.  
Hey, I found it!

The President gets up and reluctantly hands over the panic button to an agent. The Vice-President laughs hysterically. The Secret Service agents leave the Oval Office.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Good one, sir. Merry Christmas.

PRESIDENT

Merry Christmas. Say hello to your wife, Harry.

The Vice-President covers the President's ears.

VICE-PRESIDENT

That's still a secret. We may visit one of the legal states next month and marry. But until then, his name is Helen.

The President scowls.

PRESIDENT

That's a shame. But the American public can only take so much change in one term. The Fart In Public Act, or FIBA, was pushing the gastric envelope as far as it would go. Well, say hello anyway for me, okay?

He nods and adds a tidbit of his own.

VICE-PRESIDENT

FIBA was a hard piece of legislature, but we did it. Had it not been for your own farting in public, most Americans would have disagreed with it. But, once again, you led the nation. By the way, where's the First Lady?

PRESIDENT

She's still over at the Equator. She's probably pounding back martinis. Whatever poor schmuck has got her is in for a real treat. Talk, talk, talk. And that's just at breakfast. LOL, LOL.

The Vice-President looks at his leader strangely.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Mister President, don't just say LOL. Actually laugh out loud if you want. It's allowed.

PRESIDENT  
(laughing)  
Hey, pretty cool.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-LATER SAME DAY

The FIRST LADY, an attractive middle aged woman named MILDRED, has tried and tried to speak to Jesus but has no luck. She is squeezed in between a FARMER and a USED CAR SALESMAN. She rants on and on about everything and nothing.

MILDRED  
I am trying to get this man Jesus to realize that I'm the First Lady of the United States. I should be having foie gras, not pollock.

The farmer gnaws on a blade of grass.

FARMER  
I see you on television. Your husband's a jackass. You're both jackasses.

MILDRED  
He could do a little bit more for the common folk, I agree. But come on, passing the Fart In Public Act? Excuse me? That's pretty amazing stuff.

A sense of pride overtakes her. The used car salesman and the farmer shakes their heads and sip some beer.

FARMER  
I'm just a farmer. I believe that a President even as dumb as your husband could turn this country around if he wanted to. The fart in public act? Come on.

MILDRED  
He can be a real pain in the ass, that I know. Where are we?

FARMER  
The equator. That's the circle that goes around the planet, you know?

MILDRED

Well then, what's longitude and latitude?

USED CAR SALESMAN

A comedy team that used to be on Ed Sullivan.

MILDRED

I'm getting another filet o' fish sandwich with extra tartar sauce, if you two don't mind.

As she rises, she farts. Her companions laugh.

FIRST LADY

Had I farted before my husband passed the bill, I would have been arrested and jailed.

FARMER

I'll get the fish sandwiches. I don't want anymore passing of gas in our sector.

USED CAR SALESMAN

Get me a used one. Get it?

The First Lady straightens up her hair.

MILDRED

You see that Jesus walking around, you tell Him I'm looking for him. And I'm gassy.

CUT TO:

INT. CAVE AT THE EQUATOR-DECEMBER 24

Jesus has found a small MAN-CAVE for Himself and a few selected followers. Jane Lowe, the soccer player from New York, has decorated the cave with flowers.

JANE

Jesus, I know we're not going to be here long, but I love flowers and green things, so I hope you don't mind....

The flowers cause Jesus to sneeze.

JESUS

He who cultivates the land will  
cultivate God in his heart and upon  
his soul. Ha-choooo.

JANE

Gesundheit!

JESUS

Thank you.

Jane suggestively twirls her hair for Jesus.

JANE

Oh, how sweet. You really can come  
up with some dillies. Are you  
single?

Jesus shakes His head. She winks at Him.

JESUS

We will ascend tomorrow. I remain  
celibate.

The crowd reacts favorably.

GARY

You mean we're getting outta here  
tomorrow?

MOLLY

I don't think He means we're going  
back to our homes. I think He  
means we're going, you know.....

Molly points up to the sky.

GARY

Oh, geez, I don't want to float  
again. I almost upchucked.

MOLLY

I wasn't crazy about it, either.

Jesus watches a small BOY pack a few things, such as  
dandelions, flowers and twigs.

JESUS

Boy, do not collect things of this  
earth. We shall need nothing but  
our spirits to enter my Kingdom.

CHILD  
 Can't I even take my Boy Scout  
 knife?

The child shows Jesus the knife. Jesus accidentally cuts  
 Himself on the sharp blade.

JESUS  
 Is that what "ouch" means?

There is no blood. Gary grabs the knife from the little boy.

GARY  
 I suggest you go find your daddy.

CHILD  
 I floated here with Jesus.

Gary gives the toddler a little shove to move him away from  
 Jesus

GARY  
 Sorry about that, Jesus. He's just  
 a boy.

JESUS  
 I was just twelve when I threw the  
 moneylenders out of the temples.  
 Boy, was I brash!

MOLLY  
 Twelve? I thought you were older.

JESUS  
 And a stone plus three in weight.

GARY  
 Sounds like you were a skinny kid?  
 I know that feeling. Makes you  
 want to hit the first guy who makes  
 fun of you.

JESUS  
 I am the light everlasting. My  
 body is my temple.

GARY  
 I know, Jesus, I know. Light  
 everlasting, yada, yada, yada.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE-DECEMBER 24-2P.M.-E.S.T.

The President has got thousands of telegrams and e-mails concerning the missing 27,326,438 people. He is discussing the political ramifications with a lone STAFFER.

PRESIDENT

Now, out of the 27,326,438, how many are American?

He looks down at his hand held device.

STAFFER

It's estimated to be less than half, say ten million, are Americans.

PRESIDENT

And how many are eligible voters?

STAFFER

We estimate around three million.

The President paces around the Oval Office. He pretend-flies with his hands outstretched like an airplane.

PRESIDENT

And just how many of those are registered \_\_\_\_\_?

A buzzer goes off when the President asks about political affiliations.

STAFFER

We like to say around half a million or so, sir.

PRESIDENT

So, let me see if I've got this straight. I am the President and I need voters to re-elect me next year, correct?

STAFFER

That seems to be the case.

He stops flying around the room and stops at his big oak desk.

PRESIDENT

And the military, with all their drones and toy boats out there, can't find them or touch them, correct?

STAFFER

Yes sir.

The President walks around his big desk. He suddenly stops and sits down in his chair, as if he were playing a children's game.

PRESIDENT

I won!

STAFFER

Congratulations, sir.

The President spins around in his big chair.

PRESIDENT

And I'm running for?

STAFFER

That would be the office of the Presidency, sir. The big chair.

He spins around in his Big Chair.

PRESIDENT

Unless they all come back, I need half a million new votes.

STAFFER

Half million sounds good.

The President leans back in his chair, except he isn't in a chair. He falls to the floor.

PRESIDENT

How many people populate Puerto Rico?

The STAFFER checks his hand held device.

STAFFER

That would be over three million. Not all of them voters, though. I'd say a good million could vote.

PRESIDENT

Then we declare Puerto Rico a state of the union. And we get it passed way before the first primary. Okeydokey?

STAFFER

Brilliant. Marvelous. Ingenious.

PRESIDENT  
Okay, alright, enough ass kissing.  
Well, maybe not.

STAFFER  
Incredible. Outstanding.  
Terrific.

He waves the staffer away

PRESIDENT  
So, how many states will that make?  
Fifty-six?

STAFFER  
I believe Puerto Rico would be the  
fifty-first state.

PRESIDENT  
Really? Start scheduling me for  
random trips there. Where is it,  
anyway, next to Cuba? Invite  
Jennifer Lopez to the White House.  
She'll love Lincoln's bed. And  
double check the whole number of  
states thing. I could have sworn  
Utah was still a territory.

STAFFER  
And they call you slow.

PRESIDENT  
Who does? Is my mother here again?

He runs around the desk like an airplane.

STAFFER  
I'll Google her and see if she is.

PRESIDENT  
Good Lord, son, that's my mommy  
you're talking about.

The staffer is embarrassed.

STAFFER  
Sir, Google is a search engine.

PRESIDENT  
I love engines. Choo-choo!

The President runs around the room as a five year old would.

STAFFER

Sir, isn't the First Lady part  
Puerto Rican?

PRESIDENT

She's part Asian, part Native  
American, part Insane, why not part  
Puerto Rican?

The Staffer hatches an idea for the Lopez visit.

STAFFER

Should I install Magic Fingers in  
the Lincoln bedroom mattress before  
Ms. Lopez gets here? To get her in  
the mood? Huh? Huh?

The two men confer with each other.

PRESIDENT

Get the one with the on/off button,  
not the coin operated device.  
After all, we don't want to charge  
Ms. Lopez for the experience now do  
we? Although plenty of gals have  
paid for the experience.....

STAFFER

Yes sir. And sir?

PRESIDENT

What is it? Speak up.

STAFFER

May I ask you now that we're alone,  
what did you buy me for Christmas?

The President walks over to the huge, beautiful Christmas  
tree in the corner of the Oval.

PRESIDENT

I like to unwrap some gifts the day  
before, some the day of and I  
always keep a few for the day  
after. You have to think ahead at  
Christmas time.

STAFFER

Yes sir. Of course, sir.

PRESIDENT

Go find my slinky. Oops, I forgot,  
that was your present.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-CHRISTMAS EVE-LATE

MARY MAGDALENE has floated down to the equator. She is a beautiful woman, very simple in her style and grace. As she walks around the millions of people, she receives many compliments, all from men. Jesus spots her from afar and rushes to her side.

JESUS

(hugging her)

Mary? My Mary? Thank you for  
coming. I-I'm speechless.

LONE VOICE

That's a novelty.

They hug, but not romantically. Mary gives Jesus a peck on His cheek.

MARY MAGDALENE

Jesus, how good it is to see you  
again. I've missed you so. Tell  
me, what is the purpose of these  
people?

Jesus neglects the millions around him.

JESUS

(kissing her hands)

Oh, Mary, Mary, I have needed you  
so. God has given me the ultimate  
task of salvation.

MARY MAGDALENE

How can I help you, Lord?

She sits next to Him, like the DISCIPLE she was two thousand years ago.

JESUS

For now, child, be with me, for I  
am the way.

MARY MAGDALENE

Yes, I know that. I've known that  
since the day you went away.

She kisses His hands once more. His blue eyes captivate her.

JESUS  
I've missed you so.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR—CONTINUOUS

Jesus and Mary walk together through the beautiful land around the equator. Even among the 27,326,438, they feel alone with each other. And most of the folks keep away from them. Most of the people do, however.....

MILDRED  
(pointing her finger)  
Jesus? Jesus? I just need a word or two with you. My husband is the President of the United States.

Jesus cannot hear or chooses not to hear her strained voice.

MARY MAGDALENE  
Who is the woman who breaks the silence?

JESUS  
She is... Mildred. First of the Ladies. I know not what that means.

Mary puts her fingers in her ears.

MARY MAGDALENE  
Forgive her, Lord, for she knows not why she yells.

Jesus and Mary walk through the rain forest, together and happy. Mildred catches up.

MILDRED  
Jesus, I must speak with you. I'm going insane here. Where are the magazines? And who ever heard of going through a day without HGTV or Bravo TV? Where's my dog Foo-Foo?

Mary has an idea.

MARY MAGDALENE  
Perhaps a sauna would help you relax?

JESUS

The steam will sweat out those  
Bravo demons you speak of inside  
you.

MILDRED

Oh, sure, a sauna would pick me  
right up.

Jesus transports her to the steam room in New York city,  
frequented by the MAFIA.

CUT TO:

INT. STEAM ROOM-CONTINUOUS

The Mafia henchmen, smoking big, fat cigars and fully armed,  
sit in the steam bath, almost naked, chewing on their stogies  
and telling stories when Mildred pops in.

DON VITO

And there I was, face to face with  
Al Capone. Boy, he had wrinkled  
skin.

The other MAFIOSO nod when Mildred appears, almost naked  
herself, complaining instantly about her dilemma.

MILDRED

Oh, my God! Jesus, why have you  
forsaken me?

HENRY HILL chimes in.

HENRY HILL

From the moment I could fart in  
public, I knew I wanted to be a  
gangster.

The MUSIC from GOODFELLAS swells. Mildred screams.

MILDRED

Okay, Jesus, I deserve this. But  
I'm not staying here unless one of  
these gentlemen buys me dinner.

One of the MEN nods.

MARLON BRANDO

I could go for a nice Peter Luger  
steak. Care to join me?

Mildred is shocked. She graciously accepts his hand, both of them dripping in sweat.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR—MOMENTS LATER

Jesus and Mary laugh and laugh about the naughty trip they've sent Mildred on.

MARY MAGDALENE

Jesus, I always knew deep down you were a bad boy. What a trick you played! Bad boy, bad boy!

She scolds Him with her index finger. Jesus laughs.

JESUS

Follow me, for I am the wiseacre!

CUT TO:

INT. SEEDY BAR IN ATLANTA—LATER SAME DAY

Jesus has gone back to the bar. He's drunk, depressed and feels like He has embarrassed Himself in front of Mary. Other DRUNKS do not recognize Him.

JESUS

(slurring)

Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream.... Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a series of ever repeating lives that one lives over and over again. Oops, now I've done it, I've spilled the beans.

The BARTENDER looks over at the drunk SAVIOUR.

BARTENDER

I'm afraid I have to cut you off.

JESUS

Hey, exactly who worships me nowadays? Do I have many fans?

Jesus picks up some darts and throws them at the dart board. Almost every one hits the bulls-eye. One lone dart pierces a BARBACK'S cheek. He puts down his ice bin.

BARBACK  
Hey, that hurt.

JESUS  
(laughing)  
Oops. Sorry.

The bartender removes Jesus' glass from the bar.

BARTENDER  
That's it, kid. Time for a cab.

JESUS  
Oh, no, I floated in on my own  
power, so I'm floating out on my  
own power, capeesh?

Jesus floats upward, a little bit wobbly on the take-off, but manages to make it through the ceiling.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE—MOMENTS LATER—DECEMBER 24—8 P.M. E.S.T.

The President is bouncing the slinky up and down in his hands. He has his secretary on the line.

PRESIDENT  
Vicky, did you make that call to  
Jennifer Lopez yet? Well, get on  
it! Oh? What is it? Okay, Sally,  
I'm sorry. Thank you Sally.

The President hangs up the phone. Jesus floats into the Oval Office just as the President turns around.

JESUS  
Hello, mister President.

PRESIDENT  
(startled)  
Jesus!

Jesus turns around suddenly.

JESUS  
Yes? May I help you?

The President is startled and drops his Slinky.

PRESIDENT  
You don't sneak up on the most  
powerful man on earth like that.

JESUS

The power of the holy spirit is mine.

PRESIDENT

That's a debateable point. Hey, what a great idea. We could debate. Pick a neutral place, say, somewhere in my home state of-

JESUS

-The Kingdom of God is not to be debated.

PRESIDENT

Scared I'll win? I'm not surprised. I'm a great debater.

JESUS

I fear no man. I am the Son of God.

PRESIDENT

I am the son of hard working parents who never gave me much. I had to go out on my own, summon the will of the people to vote for me. I won my first campaign by handing out little buttons made of peyote. That was California, 1979. I was nine. The Eagles financed my run.

JESUS

The will of the people see the Lord through eyes of tranquility.

PRESIDENT

Who's writing your speeches? I need fresh faces around here if I'm going to win in Puerto Rico. Ssshhh! That's a secret. Why did you drop in on me?

Jesus sits in the Big Chair.

JESUS

I am here to tell you about tomorrow. I will ascend tomorrow and all 27,326,438 people will join me.

The President walks around Jesus, trying to get a feel for the guy.

PRESIDENT

You have my wife there. Isn't she a pistol?

The President inspects Jesus up and down.

JESUS

I have met one who calls herself a First Lady. She is a handful. I sent her away, to stop her talking.

Jesus likes the Big Chair.

PRESIDENT

We're suppose to travel to Iowa next week. See the farms, touch a cow, you know, the usual. But now, if she's not going, neither am I.

JESUS

You may pick her up in new York city, in a steam bath at a place called Al's.

PRESIDENT

What did you do to her?

The President cocks his right arm back, as though he was going to throw a punch at Jesus.

JESUS

Mary and I couldn't bear witness with her around. She never stops yakking.

The President relaxes his right arm. Jesus shows no sign of being afraid.

PRESIDENT

I know how you feel. Okay, New York it is. How 'bout a demonstration of your power. You know, I'll show you mine if you show me yours?

The President feels the shaking ground under his feet. It is quite dramatic.

JESUS

I am the way.

Items rattle, the floor buckles, and the ceiling cracks.

PRESIDENT

Of course you are. Did Mildred leave any messages for me?

JESUS

Like I said, she is talkative. She thinks you are cheating on her. Are you forsaking your wedding vows?

Jesus stuns the President by performing what only could be called "THE MOE HOWARD", slapping the President's face, moving his right hand up and down, so the President follows with his eyes, etc.

PRESIDENT

Boy, she could talk the tarter sauce off the bun on a filet o' fish.

Jesus gets up from the Big Chair, changes the decor in the Oval Office to a Western theme, and ascends upward.

JESUS

Good bye, mister President. I'll be gone tomorrow.

The President hops on his new automated Bucking Bronco.

PRESIDENT

I'll leak it to Chris Mathews.

JESUS

May I suggest Fox News? I need O'Reilly's support.

PRESIDENT

We'll split it down the middle and call Anderson Cooper, if he's not in South America for some cha-cha-cha thing.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-CHRISTMAS DAY-DAY OF THE ACENSION

Jesus and Mary have awakened from their sleep. Jesus has His robe securely fastened, but His sandals are missing.

MARY MAGDALENE

Jesus, where are your sandals?

JESUS

I have forsaken my sandals for my  
flesh.

MARY MAGDALENE

We have a long road to walk.

JESUS

My flesh is the flesh of God.

Out of the crowd, a VOICE speaks.

LONE VOICE

My feet ache after a couple a  
minutes if I've got the wrong shoes  
on. Better you get your sandals,  
Jesus.

ANOTHER VOICE

Mine, too, Jesus. Your bare feet  
won't handle the stress of the  
journey.

MARY MAGDALENE

I will help you find the sandals.

A few million people look around for His sandals. Soon,  
Gary, who is still with Molly, lifts up a pair of weathered  
footwear.

GARY

I found them! Now you're cooking.

MOLLY

My Gary found Jesus' sandals.

JESUS

Your eyes have saved my feet.  
I am the way and the light  
everlasting.

MARY MAGDALENE

Look at you, with your sandals and  
everything, you King of Kings!

Jesus looks embarrassed at Mary's statement.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE-MOMENTS LATER-CHRISTMAS DAY

The President is sitting cross legged on the Oval Office  
carpet, opening presents.

He opens one from his Chief of Staff who is standing next to him. There are staffers and PRESS.

PRESIDENT

Awe, Ed, it's a tie. A blue tie.  
How original. Thank you.

CHIEF OF STAFF

Again, Mister President, my name's  
not Ed.

The President is too excited and is not listening.

PRESIDENT

Open mine, open mine first.

CHIEF OF STAFF

You didn't have to get me anything,  
Mister President.

He opens his gift.

PRESIDENT

Hurry, hurry.

The President's enthusiasm is catching on and soon, everyone in the room is opening presents.

CHIEF OF STAFF

A red tie. How nice. Mister  
President, I think we had better  
address the disappearance of  
27,326,438 people in the Equator.

PRESIDENT

(whispering)

I thought we had that under  
control. You know, Puerto Rico?

The President plays with his Etch-A-Sketch.

CHIEF OF STAFF

But the families of these people  
are outraged that their president  
has done nothing so far.

PRESIDENT

Well, what am I supposed to do?  
How do I feel? My Mildred has been  
missing for days now. I'm just  
heartsick.

The design he has sketched is one of himself.

CHIEF OF STAFF

No, Mister President, she was dropped off here late last night. She wandered into the Lincoln bedroom, found Jennifer Lopez there and screamed bloody murder.

PRESIDENT

She's home? He didn't tell me He was going to deliver her.

CHIEF OF STAFF

What?

The President puts down his Etch-A-Sketch. An impeccable portrait drawn of himself sits on the floor.

PRESIDENT

Did she like the Magic Fingers?

CHIEF OF STAFF

She loved it. Mildred thought it used quarters, though. There's about two-fifty in change laying on the floor next to the bed.

The President whispers to his aide.

PRESIDENT

Where did you put you-know-who?

CHIEF OF STAFF

She's in the Monica Lewinsky room. It used to be a closet, but now it's the official Puerto Rican Embassy.

The President is proud of the action taken by his staff.

PRESIDENT

Fine. If the First Lady wants me, I'll be detained. And thank you again for the tie.

CHIEF OF STAFF

No, thank you.

PRESIDENT

Oh, alright, thank me.

Staffers and members of the press look on in amusement. The President runs around his desk again like a five year old.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-CHRISTMAS DAY

Jesus and Mary Magdalene have noticed that the 27,326,438 people are now ready to move. They have resigned themselves to either going to Heaven. Since the First Lady left, they are calm and reassured of their future. Jesus and Mary stand at the top of a mountain.

JESUS

My flock is calm. We are ready.

MARY MAGDALENE

Jesus, you know I will travel with thee forever, do you not?

JESUS

Yes, I do. You are my special angel.

LONE VOICE

That's a golden oldie.

Another (a MUSICIAN) questions the financial aims of Jesus.

ANOTHER VOICE

Just because you can conjure up any old song you want doesn't mean you own the royalties. Don't get all Paul Simon on us. That's \$46.75.

Jesus doesn't understand.

MARY MAGDALENE

What the people are saying is that they have kept with you, Jesus. It is now time to tell us where we are going. These folks are getting a bit agitated.

JESUS

I thought the answer was there in front of us all. We shall go....

A crack of thunder comes out of nowhere and Jesus cowers. He walks to the side of a mountain that is dark to confer with GOD.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNT ON HIGH-CONTINUOUS

Mary and the millions are waiting for Jesus to confer with God. It happens to be on a small hill.

MARY MAGDALENE

Please, all of you, wait. Wait for the ruling from on high.

LONE VOICE

What ruling? And this is just a hill. Not even an escarpment. Don't read stuff into this, Mar.

ANOTHER VOICE

Yeah, my kids are starting to cry.

MARY MAGDALENE

Jesus will get back to you.

After a fair amount of time, Jesus comes out of the darkness and into the light.

JESUS

My family, my friends. Hear me now, for I am the true word of God.

LONE VOICE

Finally, let's go!

JESUS

We are staying.

People are wandering around, in a state of shock from His words.

MARY MAGDALENE

What? Are you kidding me? Jesus? What gives?

LONE VOICE

Are you even Jesus? What's going on?

The crowd is unhappy.

ANOTHER VOICE

Maybe you're really Piers Morgan and this is some kind of a new TV program on religion.

LONE VOICE

You're Rachel Maddow. You just want to keep all things democratic.

The crowd loses their love for Jesus real quickly.

JESUS

I am Jesus. I am the way.

MARY MAGDALENE  
Jesus, what has happened?

JESUS  
I spoke to my Father. Come here,  
Mary Magdalene.

Jesus pulls Mary aside, to the dark side of the hill, away from the people.

MARY MAGDALENE  
What is it?

JESUS  
These people, this flock. These  
are not the people.

MARY MAGDALENE  
(incredulously)  
What? What do you mean?

Jesus sits on a tree trunk. He shakes His head.

JESUS  
God has chosen me to save these  
people, but not in the manner they  
think.

MARY MAGDALENE  
But what are you to do?

JESUS  
A group of sermons. At least ten  
times ten, God said.

Mary rolls her eyes.

MARY MAGDALENE  
(incredulously)  
You mean, no one here is to go to  
heaven? We just sit and listen to  
one hundred sermons?

JESUS  
That seems to be the gist of it.

MARY MAGDALENE  
Jesus, I'm afraid you've made a  
mess of the whole situation.

Jesus walks in circles. He is worrying Mary Magdalene.

JESUS

This may be true. Mary, I'm really sorry.

MARY MAGDALENE

Why didn't God tell you earlier?

JESUS

He showed me signs. I did not adhere to the signs. I have always had trouble with signs. Remember the years I spent alone in the wilderness?

MARY MAGDALENE

Yes. Three dark, lonely years where you battled Lucifer.

Mary comforts Jesus. Jesus walks in more circles.

JESUS

I actually didn't really battle him. He and I conversed. One might say we bantered. But I can't read signs well. I could have gone home after six weeks, but I got lost.

Jesus continues to walk in circles.

MARY MAGDALENE

Oh dear.

He stops pacing.

JESUS

Yeah, tell me about it. The thirst. The embarrassment when I finally got home. All those disciples laughing at me.

MARY MAGDALENE

You are my Lord Saviour. And I will follow you forever.

Jesus drops his head in shame. Mary lifts his head and strokes his hair.

JESUS

Mary, what have I done?

MARY MAGDALENE

We need to get these folks back home.

JESUS  
Yes, we do. I do. Oh, Mary....

MARY MAGDALENE  
There, there. Jesus. It could  
happen to anyone. Well, maybe not  
anyone....

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNT ON HIGH—CONTINUOUS

Jesus and Mary Magdalene reluctantly walk back to address the  
27,326,438. Some stones are cast at Jesus. Actually,  
they're rocks.

LONE VOICE  
Have you news, Jesus?

MARY MAGDALENE  
Hear Him out before you cast  
stones.

He avoids several rocks almost hitting His head.

JESUS  
Mary, don't get them started.

ANOTHER VOICE  
What is going on, you two?

JESUS  
We are not going to heaven. I  
repeat, not going to heaven.

Profanities are shouted at Jesus. More rocks are thrown.  
Signs dug up from earth are hurled at Jesus. One of them  
says: GORE FOR PRESIDENT-1988.

VOICE  
What a sham.

JESUS  
Let me speak. Oh, hear me now.

MARY MAGDALENE  
Quiet everyone.

JESUS  
We are not going to heaven now.  
God wants you to go back to your  
lives, to go back to your families.  
(MORE)

JESUS (CONT'D)

But first.... I have one hundred sermons to preach to you.

The crowd moans for what seems to be ten minutes.

LONE VOICE

You gotta be kidding. Your speaking voice makes Joe Lieberman sound like Wink Martindale!

Mary tries her best.

MARY MAGDALENE

Silence. Jesus speaks to you for your own good. He is the enlightened one. He will eventually get you all to the Kingdom of God. Do you not wish this?

Again, thousands of profanities are heard. This has become a tough crowd.

GARY

Hey, we owe Him this time to listen. He has been fair and we need the sermons. I for one am a sinner. Tell me here who is not a sinner.

Thousands of profanities are thrown about.

MARY MAGDALENE

We will eat. And we will rest. And then, Jesus will begin a series of sermons from the escarpment.

Millions lament, then agree to follow Mary's orders.

LONE VOICE

Escarpment? You mean this hill here?

GARY

I knew at some point, I'd be going to church.

MOLLY

It'll do us good. The Outside Church of the Lonely, Lost Flock. Whew! Try writing that on the side of a building.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE-MOMENTS LATER

The President and the First Lady are having Christmas dinner in the White House dining room with JENNIFER LOPEZ.

PRESIDENT  
Jen, could you pass the corn  
fritters?

FIRST LADY  
It's Jen? You call her Jen? Why  
not Jenny-from-the-block? What  
happened here when I was gone?

PRESIDENT  
(winking at Jen)  
Not as much as I would have liked.

Jennifer giggles and kicks the President under the table. The President returns the kick, but has mistakenly hit his wife's knee. She yells out in pain.

FIRST LADY  
Ouch! You two should get a room.

CUT TO:

EXT. EQUATOR-HOURS LATER

JESUS  
....and so I say unto you, the love  
of God will be inside of you and  
will you will go forth and spread  
His word.

The crowd relaxes as Jesus finishes the last sermon.

GARY  
(to Molly)  
Kind of a Star Trek Two theme. The  
needs of the many outweigh the  
needs of the few.

MOLLY  
I think so. Unless Jesus is going  
to get on us about texting while  
driving.

GARY  
As well He should.

Albert and the voluptuous woman are listening to Jesus but one of them is getting bored.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN  
I now know what He means by  
salvation.

Albert looks about at several other WOMEN.

ALBERT  
Awe, this stuff is for the birds.  
Let's go over to that boulder and  
fool around.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN  
Stop it, Albert! I want to listen  
to what Jesus has to say.

One particularly attractive GAL walks by.

ALBERT  
Here's some fresh meat.

The Voluptuous woman tries to show Albert what Jesus is  
talking about.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN  
Albert, I understand what hell is  
now. We can be saved.

Albert gets up and begins to walk away.

ALBERT  
I've had it with Jesus and his  
mighty sayings.

He turns back into LUCIFER.

VOLUPTUOUS WOMAN  
I'm sticking with Jesus. He's a  
real man.

27,326,438 people are getting up, shifting their clothing and  
searching for a Port-a-Potty.

MOLLY  
I really need to stretch my legs.

GARY  
I need to use the facilities.  
Those filet o' fish sandwiches go  
right through you.

Gary wanders off and gets in the bathroom Line. A very  
attractive middle-aged MAN, BURT, 45, handsome, tall and  
broad-shouldered, walks over to Molly.

MOLLY  
Exciting times.

Burt stops and sizes up Molly.

BURT  
Oh, yeah. I haven't felt this good since I failed est. Remember that? In the seventies?

MOLLY  
I remember, it's where you sat in a banquet room and no one could leave until you "got" it? And that's after you paid a thousand dollars for the privilege? That est?

BURT  
That's the one. But I didn't get it. My failure made me feel great. I knew after a bit that it was all bull.

Burt offers her a mint and she accepts.

MOLLY  
What do you do?

BURT  
I'm in construction.

MOLLY  
I work in the city.

BURT  
Where are you from?

Molly bobs her hair.

MOLLY  
Walnut Creek.

BURT  
You're kidding me. I live in Clayton.

MOLLY  
No. What church do you belong to?

BURT  
I'm done with churches. But that doesn't mean I can't be persuaded to look into one someone recommends.

MOLLY  
 (excitedly)  
 Perhaps I'll take you to mine.  
 It's in Concord.

BURT  
 Cool. Be seeing you.

He starts his journey to the men's room.

MOLLY  
 Be seeing you, too. One question,  
 though.

BURT  
 What's that?

MOLLY  
 Are you married or involved?

BURT  
 Nope. Free as a bird.

Molly smiles brightly as Gary comes back. Jesus walks down from the hill (nee, escarpment) with many followers around Him. Mary Magdalene is by his side. He is smiling.

MARY MAGDALENE  
 Kind of like the old days?

JESUS  
 I am reborn. The strength of many  
 outweighs the strength of the few.

LONE VOICE  
 Are you sure Gene Roddenberry's not  
 around here somewhere?

She looks around for the WRITER.

JESUS  
 I am the way. I am the light  
 everlasting.

MARY MAGDALENE  
 Of course, hon. Now, let's get  
 these nice folks back home.

Mary is saying good bye to people passing by.

JESUS  
 Mary, once again, you are correct.

MARY MAGDALENE

I am the almost-way!

Jesus laughs. 27,326,438 people laugh along with Him. It produces a shock wave felt throughout the world.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE-MOMENTS LATER

The President is in the Lincoln bedroom with Mildred.

PRESIDENT

Did you feel that?

MILDRED

Oh, honey, that's not all you're gonna feel in a few minutes.

Mildred settles in with the President in the Lincoln bed. She cuddles up to him.

PRESIDENT

Let's go, baby girl. I was so wrong about J Lo!

Mildred flips through her notebook to pursue the items she had neglected while she was away.

MILDRED

Okay, now honey, here's my list. First, why don't we make the Equator the fifty-first state?

The President rolls over and looks under the bed.

PRESIDENT

Where's my slinky?

CUT TO:

EXT. LARSON HOME-LATE

Kathy and the children are in the backyard. A child looks up and sees Gary floating down to earth with Jesus.

KATHY

Oh, Gary, you're home. I love you so. I've missed you so.

Gary lands and hugs his wife and his children.

GARY

Kathy, I'm home. And I have so many things to tell you.

CHILD

Daddy, daddy! Welcome home.

The children all gather around him. Jesus is smiling.

GARY

Jesus, it was a gas! Let's do it again in say, fifty years?

JESUS

Go my son. Love one another.

KATHY

Good bye Jesus. Come again any old time. I cook a mean pot roast.

One of Kathy's children hugs Jesus.

CHILD

You can sleep in my bedroom again if you want.

GARY

I'll take ya to the McDonald's here in Austin. We have several of them to choose from.

KATHY

(excitedly)

They broke ground on a new one while you were away, Gary!

GARY

Thanks again, Jesus. I love you.

JESUS

I am the way, the light everlasting.

Kathy's friend and neighbor, Mary Jane, looks over the fence and snickers.

MARY JANE

White trash. Who floats nowadays anyhow?

She begins to float, but without any direction and destination. Jesus looks over her fence.

JESUS  
Be careful who you call white  
trash, Mary Jane.

Mary Jane rises.

MARY JANE  
Help, I'm floating away. Shit.

JESUS  
See you around the escarpment.

She continues upward, then away from her house, floating  
miles away from Austin.

MARY JANE  
(screaming)  
I'm floating! Get me down from  
here! Hey! Jesus! I said now!  
Get me down!

CUT TO:

INT. MOLLY'S HOME-NIGHT

Jesus has taken all 27,326,437 people home. Molly is the  
last one.

MOLLY  
Well, Jesus, it look like I'm  
number 27,326,438, correct?

JESUS  
You were my first. You are my  
last. But I am always with you.

Mary looks around her home.

MOLLY  
What a trip! Oh, my plants... and  
the dust.....

JESUS  
I will miss you, Molly.

MOLLY  
Next time I see a scruffy looking  
guy sitting next to me on Bart,  
I'll be a little bit more  
understanding. And this guy I met?

JESUS  
Yes, Molly?

Jesus waves His hand over a wilted fern and it turns bright green and full of life.

MOLLY

He looks like a keeper. Turns out he lives right down the road, in a little village called Clayton. We may go to dinner next week.

Jesus waves His hand again and the home is vacuumed, dusted and all of Molly's laundry is done and folded.

JESUS

Trust in your Lord.

Molly smiles.

MOLLY

Could you come twice a week? I'm kidding. Good bye. I love you, Jesus.

JESUS

And I you, Molly. Here.

HE hands her a BART ticket, good for ETERNITY.

CUT TO:

INT. HELL-MOMENTS LATER

Albert Jensen is toiling away in Hell, breaking rocks with his head and hating every minute of it. He is talking with a TROLL who's having sex with a gorgeous WOMAN.

ALBERT

So why did she go for you?

TROLL

My tail is longer.

Albert compares his tail to the troll's tail.

ALBERT

What were you in the previous life?

TROLL

A high school science teacher who doubled as the football coach.

The troll is screwing like mad, trying to break a new Hell sex record.

ALBERT

What were your hellish sins?

The troll lowers his eyes at Albert, as if to say, "Isn't that enough?"

TROLL

I lived in west Texas and we lost all our games, every one of them, for ten years. There were three years alone that we didn't even score. And, of course, teaching science there meant there was no science. What about you?

ALBERT

It was all good until I started selling T-shirts, "I SAW JESUS KISSING MARY AT THE EQUATOR" Jesus got mad. But the straw which broke the camel's back, so to speak, was that I hit on Mary Magdalene.

TROLL

Genius. Pure genius.

ALBERT

Next thing I knew, I was down here, breaking rocks.

The troll stops screwing.

TROLL

I also did a dumb thing later in my life.

ALBERT

What was that?

TROLL

I became a bartender. I gave Jesus his first drink. He couldn't stop.

CUT TO:

INT. SEEDY ATLANTA BAR-NIGHT

Jesus is slurring His words. The BARTENDER shakes his head.

JESUS

How do I float again? What do I do? Do I flap my arms? It's all pretty fuzzy.....

Mary Magdalene floats into the bar. The bartender nods, having seen Mary a few times before. He cordially sets her up with a club soda, smiles and points to Jesus.

BARTENDER

There he is, like usual. Sloppy drunk.

Mary puts her arm around Jesus and helps Him stand.

MARY MAGDALENE

Come on, big guy, let's go. You missed a meeting last week and we can't do those kind of things. We're in a program, remember?

Jesus pounds the BAR DICE onto the oak bar.

JESUS

I'll get stronger. I'll be the Way again.

MARY MAGDALENE

My darling, you never stopped being the Way.

JESUS

(drunkenly sobbing)  
I've failed.

The bartender shakes the dice and pounds them onto the bar. Jesus laughs as He changes the outcome of the game. The bartender throws the dice back at Jesus.

MARY MAGDALENE

No, Jesus, you've just prepared them for the future. You taught them many wonderful lessons.

Mary helps Jesus float.

JESUS

(singing)  
Row, row, my boat, gently diwn the,  
diwn the? Where we going? Why  
must I row?

Mary and Jesus begin to rise.

MARY MAGDALENE

Put it on our tab, alright?

The bartender nods. A COCKTAIL WAITRESS winks at Jesus.

JESUS

I am the way. Wanna follow me?

Mary gives the waitress a terrifying stare.

MARY MAGDALENE

There, there, Jesus, there,  
there.....

Mary strokes His hair as they rise.

JESUS

Are we... is this elevator going  
up?

Jesus BARFS on Mary's beautiful white dress, with fancy lace  
borders all around the neckline.

MARY MAGDALENE

Oh, for Your sake! At least try  
and be a gentleman.

Jesus farts. Mary is exasperated with his actions. Jesus  
winks at the waitress.

JESUS

Hey, didn't I order a fish filet  
sandwich from the kitchen?

MARY MAGDALENE

Enough. Let's go.

CUT TO:

I/E. BAR/NIGHT AIR-CONTINUOUS

Both rise out of the bar, into the night. Jesus clutches  
onto Mary. He sings in the cool night air.

JESUS

"Are you ready for some football,  
Dallas Cowboys? Who wants to  
party? All my rowdy apostles are  
coming over tonight!"

FADE OUT

THE END

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