

The Resurrected RockStar

By Brian R. McClain

Based on the Novel

The Adventures of Zac Master

By A. Witness

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FADE IN:

BLACK SCREEN.

LOUD YELLING, MUFFLED, similar to CHANTING -- GROWS LOUDER and LOUDER until -

INT. OUTDOOR STADIUM - NIGHT

An excited, capacity crowd would be an understatement.

There's a single stage in front, that is currently empty, and then just people packed together, screaming.

The noise is loud, the atmosphere is electric, and the anticipation builds and builds.

ON THE UPPER DECK

Near a concession stand, a HOODED MAN weaves through the people. He stops at the gateway, overlooking the stadium.

The screams of the crowd turns into full on chanting --

CROWD
ZAC... ZAC... ZAC!

It continues louder and more powerful.

INT. BACKSTAGE HALLWAY - NIGHT

The energy and sound vibrates everywhere in the stadium.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

ZAC MASTER (The King of Sex, Drugs and Rock and Roll is on the backside of a legendary music career) sits in dressing room and studies his tired face in the mirror.

LOCO
Zac?

Zac turns, startled. In the doorway is Loco. (Boyhood friend and longtime manager of the band.)

LOCO (CONT'D)
You alright big fella?

He places a small plastic bag on the table.

Zac slowly nods.

LOCO (CONT'D)

Get ready, you're on in five.

Zac nods again, then turns back to the mirror. Loco lingers for a moment, before walking out.

In the mirror reflection, the hooded man appears and puts a knife to Zac's neck -- Zac spins around, falling to the floor.

ZAC

(confused)

What the...?

He instinctively looks around, but no one's there.

Zac exhales deeply, shakes his head and returns to his chair.

He grabs the bag of white powder off the table, lays out a long, thick line and snorts it all - relaxing his body.

After a moment, Zac rises, and walks out.

EXT. STADIUM - NIGHT

The lights slowly dim, the crowd CHANTS louder and louder, then total darkness.

PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

Ladies and gentlemen...Zac Master!

Zac Master and THE STRAOTBLASTERS, William - Bass, Xander - Drums and Yvette - Keyboards walk on stage, waving and smiling.

The crowd goes berserk as the band get in their places.

Zac strolls to center stage under a single spotlight and grabs the microphone.

ZAC

Are you ready to rock?

(Pauses for cheers))

Then,... Get ready to rock!

The song begins as fireworks erupt behind stage.

Lights and lasers illuminate the sky, stadium and stage.

The band in motion, playing in sync - -

The hooded man pushes through the insane crowd to the front.

A drum solo erupts, giving Zac a chance to hype up crowd.

Zac reaches his hand out to adoring girls in the front row.

The hooded man catches onto Zac's arm, pulling him in close -
- face to face.

Zac tries to pull away, the man clenches tighter.

The hooded man slowly lifts his head up. The hood falls,
revealing a burnt, scarred and decomposing face.

THE NIGHT SKY

Dark ominous clouds take shape over the stadium.

INT. STADIUM - NIGHT

Lightning bolts strike the stadium, thunder rumbles.

Fires ignite all over the stadium - - Zac is speechless and
watches in horror, disbelief.

The crowd doesn't notice.

A lighting beam drops to the floor below, the music stops - -
the FIRE ALARM takes its place.

Panic erupts as the fire quickly engulfs the entire stadium.

An upper deck drops to the floor below - - crushing fans.

Zac stares out at the disaster, unable to move.

The hooded man lets go of Zac, and backs away, disappearing
into the panicked crowd.

EXT. STADIUM - NIGHT

The arena is an unrecognizable shell of deformed steel and
raging fires that burn out of control.

THE NIGHT SKY

A small crevice of white light forms between the dark clouds.

INT. STADIUM - NIGHT

Zac looks up to the sky as the light bleeds down to the
burning stadium. Zac drops to his knees in disbelief - -

He looks out into the chaos, and sees a YOUNG BOY, not moving or anything, simply standing there staring back at Zac. The boy has on a blue baseball cap that sticks out against the inferno behind him.

Zac reaches out his hand for the kid, but - -

- - Everything around Zac just turns to ash as if the world is in the midst of Armageddon.

Zac slams his eyes shut - -

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL SUITE BEDROOM - DAY

- - Zac's eyes shoot open. For a moment, he's terrified until he surveys the surroundings.

Zac lays naked between two gorgeous rock groupies.

A hard KNOCK on the door - -

He sits up in bed, trying to slow his heart rate, wipes cold sweat off his brow.

Another KNOCK - harder.

ZAC

One sec!

Zac rises from bed and walks to desk with tray of cocaine sitting out.

Standing naked, he lines up the coke and rails it.

POUNGING on the door.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Hold your horses!

He grabs a bathrobe, puts it on as he heads to the front door of the Presidential Suite.

HOTEL SUITE ENTRYWAY

Zac opens the door to Loco.

LOCO

Zac, my man - - You're not up yet?
We're on the move in an hour bro.

LOCO

Don't you remember? I've got
business in LA. I'll see you in a
couple of days. Have fun in London
and stay out of trouble!

Loco SLAMS the door and the limo takes off.

INT. JET - LATER

Zac enters the Gulfstream Jet and is greeted by two
attractive flight attendants.

ZAC

Greetings all.

The band, William, Xander, and Yvette sit in perturbed
silence as Zac takes his seat.

YVETTE

You're late.

ZAC

Rough night in Jericho babe.

YVETTE

Really?

ZAC

Yes, really. I had another
nightmare.

WILLIAM

Again. How bad?

ZAC

Bad.

XANDER

Ever thought of slowing down on the
recreational drug use Z?

ZAC

Fuck off!

PILOT (V.O.)

(over intercom)

Please buckle up everyone. We're
next up for take-off.

The jet taxis the runway picking up speed until lift off.

The band members settle in for a long trip as flight attendants arrive to take food and drink orders.

INT. JET - NIGHT

Zac rises from his seat and strolls to the bathroom at the rear of the cabin.

The band is sleeping, while flight attendants talk in galley.

JET BATHROOM

Zac locks the door, and empties a draw string bag into the sink. Small zip lock bags of powder and pill bottles fall.

SERIES OF SHOTS - Zac undoing each bag, and snorting lines, each time giving off a look of relaxation. Then Zac popping the pain killers.

Zac lies next to the toilet, oblivious to the world around.

The bathroom shakes as the jet experiences severe TURBULENCE.

PILOT (V.O.)

Sorry folks, a bit of turbulence
over the Atlantic. Everyone, please
fasten your seat belts... now!

Zac's eyes slowly roll back into his head. Eyelids close. His body becomes loose and collapses sideways onto the floor.

INT. WHITE ROOM - UNKNOWN

Emptiness. Nothingness. Blankness. Bright white floor, ceiling, walls and white brick ovens encapsulate the room.

Zac lies unconscious on a stainless steel slab. His hair mangled, face bruised, and his body cut.

The BEAT of his heart harmonizes with the sound of FIRES BURNING and reverberate throughout the room.

His eyes shoot open. The bright light startles him - He tries to move, but can't. His eyes rapidly dance in all directions until...

A white steel door ROARS open and an elderly WHITE HAired MAN in a perfectly tailored white suit strolls in.

OVERSEER

Welcome Zac Master.

Overseer claps hands and the song, "Sympathy for the Devil" begins to play.

ZAC

What! Where the hell...

Overseer joyously dances about the room.

CUT TO:

JET BATHROOM - NIGHT

The empty zip lock bags gently float to the ceiling. The draw string bag dangles in the middle of the small area.

- - We realize that the jet is SUBMERGED IN WATER - -

Zac's eyes open. He gasps for air. Water rushes into his lungs. He breathes out, then holds breath.

He looks up to the demolished ceiling - - total blackness.

A look of panic crosses Zac's face as he pushes out of the bathroom into...

IN THE CABIN

Zac swims through the devastation. Half the cabin is gone while the other half looks unrecognizable.

The jet is descending to the ocean floor. A dead body drifts past Zac.

Zac freezes - In front of him is William, Xander and Yvette still buckled in their seats. He watches as their bodies sway back and forth from the movement of the falling jet.

He can't hold his breath any longer and water fills his body. His eyes drift upwards as death approaches - -

INT. WHITE ROOM - LATER

The overseer stares down at his perplexed guest.

ZAC

What's happened to me?

OVERSEER

You're dead.

ZAC

What? Why?

OVERSEER
It was time.

ZAC
Why me?

OVERSEER
I like the way you embrace evil.

ZAC
So, I'm dead... But alive?

OVERSEER
Precisely! Because, your life so
exemplified all my glory, I'm here
to offer you... an alternative
ending, so to speak.

The overseer steps around the slab as two large identical panels on either side of Zac slowly open revealing deep rectangular pits in the floor.

The overseer leans over the first pit, and looks down.

OVERSEER (CONT'D)
Option one, is death.

Giant flames leap from the pit and Zac can feel the heat.

ZAC
OUCH! Oh my...

OVERSEER
Yes, it's hot and painful down
there Zac. It's also forever.
Option two is...

Overseer looks down the second hole as cool water refreshingly splashes upwards against his face.

OVERSEER (CONT'D)
Mmmmm, life.

ZAC
Life! I choose life. Please...

OVERSEER
Don't be so quick to choose. Life
comes with a price.

Zac's eyes glance to the pit of fire, but quickly turns away from the heat of the flames.

ZAC
I don't care. I'll do anything.
Please, I just want to live!

The overseer steps forward and grips Zac's right hand in his.
Steam HISSES off their grip, burning Zac's hand -- he seizes up in pain.

ZAC (CONT'D)
Aaaah!!!

Overseer releases. Zac nearly faints, his hand still SIZZLES.

OVERSEER
We have a deal Zac Master.

Zac gazes at his injured hand as DD9971775006 has been branded onto his palm.

ZAC
What the hell?

OVERSEER
You're one of mine now. Further instructions will follow...

Overseer violently grabs, then lifts Zac above his head and flings him into the pit of fire.

OVERSEER (CONT'D)
Have a nice trip.

ZAC
Oh my God!

IN THE PIT OF FIRE - Zac's body is engulfed in flames slowly drifts away from the hole. The overseer watching from above - LAUGHS. Zac's conscious, SCREAMING body falls further and further until the hole disappears - BLACKNESS.

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - HILL TOP - EARLY MORNING

A grey dreary day. Sky filled with dark ominous clouds that hang over the beach -- Rain pours down as thunder rumbles.

A young, attractive female reporter, JAMIE LEE GRANT (Early 20's, blond, naive, wholesome and fresh out of college) and a camera man, JAKE GAMBLE (40's, tough, hard drinking and working old school photo-journalist) stand on a hill overlooking the beach below.

JAMIE LEE
Why did I get this assignment?

JAKE
Low reporter on station totem pole,
that's why. What about me? Think I
want to be out in this crap?

The news crew looks over the beach and see a lone figure
wading in the shallow water.

JAKE (CONT'D)
What's that guy doing out there?

JAMIE LEE
Who cares? Let's get back in the
van until it's time to go on.

JAKE
It's so LA. Whatever you say honey.

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - SHORELINE - EARLY MORNING

The man, Jason Thompson (Mid 20's MYSTERIOUS STRANGER) is
crying uncontrollably. He is soaking wet. Tears and rain
stream down his face as he looks to the sky and screams - -

JASON
Lord, why have you forsaken me?

INT. NEWS VAN - EARLY MORNING

The news crew sits looking down at the beach while waiting
for their segment que from the studio.

JAMIE LEE
What's that guy doing? Ya think it
might be a suicide?

JAKE
Nah. He probably just lost his job
and is reevaluating his priorities.

JAMIE LEE
Funny.

WALKIE-TALKIE SPEAKER (V.O.)
Beach team. You're on in five.

JAKE
Time to rock princess.

INT. NEWS ROOM STUDIO - EARLY MORNING

A major news room bristles with action just before air time.

Man with headphones silently counts down - three, two, one.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Good morning Los Angeles. It's time
for Eye on LA AM.

Man with headphones points to the anchor desk.

BOB

Good morning LA. I'm Bob Short.

Bob glances and smiles at co-anchor.

BECKY

And I'm Becky Oliver.

BOB

Here are the morning headlines...
The world is mourning the loss of
international rock superstar, Zac
Master and his band... Three killed
in East LA shooting early this
morning... And our lead story is
the tropical storm that's just
arrived and is pounding the coast.
At the beach in Malibu is our EYE
on LA reporter, Jamie Lee Grant.

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - HILL TOP - LATER

Jamie Lee stands with her back to the beach with microphone
in one hand and an umbrella in the other.

The wind and rain continues - harder.

Jake focuses camera and cues reporter to begin.

JAMIE LEE

Good morning LA. Well, as you can
see, we are getting hammered out
here by rain and wind gusts of
thirty to forty mile an hour now.
But, the national weather service
says, that this is only the
beginning.

A powerful gust of wind lifts her skirt, blows her hat off
and almost takes her umbrella.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

Wow! There goes my hat.

Jake signals her to keep it going.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

As I was saying, there are tropical storm warnings up and down our coast. Expect torrential rains all day with winds gusting to fifty miles per hour. And for the courageous surfers, waves are expected to reach fifteen to eighteen feet on many beaches...

Jake signals her to wrap-it-up fast.

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - SHORELINE

Jason raises his arms to the sky and screams to the heavens.

JASON

I need a sign to show me that I am forgiven. Lord, show me your glory!

A lightning bolt strikes the ground inches from Jason

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - HILL TOP

Jamie Lee struggles to remain composed. She smiles warmly.

JAMIE LEE

Bring your rain gear today LA. It's going to be a wet and windy day. For the full weather update, Troy Davies will be along at fifteen and thirty after the hour.

- - Behind Jamie Lee's left shoulder, from out of the clouds a short distance offshore, a fiery object drops from the sky.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

I'm Jamie Lee Grant for Eye on LA. Now, back to you - Bob and Becky.

JAKE

And, that's a wrap. Wow! What fell from the sky?

ON THE BEACH - Jason sees the object fall from sky and splash in the ocean.

JASON
What's that?

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - HILL TOP

Jake watches the man on the beach.

JAKE
Something just fell out of the sky.

JAMIE LEE
What are you talking about? Let's
get out of here now, I'm soaked.

JAKE
I'm serious as a heart attack here.
Go find your hat or something.

Jake focuses camera on the beach and begins shooting -

ON THE BEACH - Jason sees something floating in the surf and
dives in.

Interested, Jamie Lee leans over Jake's shoulder to see
what's unfolding.

JAMIE LEE
What is it out there?

JAKE
It looked like a ball of fire.

JAMIE LEE
A meteor, maybe?

JAKE
Meteors don't float Einstein, but
bodies do...

IN THE BEACH - Jason swims out to the object and discovers
it's a body.

JASON
Oh my Lord, who are you?

The body is lifeless as Jason begins to pull it to shore.

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - HILL TOP - EARLY MORNING

Through the camera lens Jake can see it is a body.

JAKE
We have a body!

JAMIE LEE
Alive?

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - BEACH - DAY

Jason pulls the burnt and smoldering body ashore.

JASON
Are you OK? Come on mister wake up.

Zac Master slowly begins to awaken, dazed.

JASON (CONT'D)
That's it. You're OK. You'll be fine. Who are you? What happened?

ZAC
I... I don't know.

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - HILL TOP - EARLY MORNING

Jake is recording the rescue as it unfolds, while Jamie Lee begins to see that this might be news worthy.

JAMIE LEE
(excited)
Tell me you're getting all this?

JAKE
Oh yeah baby.

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - BEACH - EARLY MORNING

Zac sits up and is completely conscious.

ZAC
Please help me up. Where am I?

JASON
You're OK! You're on the beach.

ZAC
Where?

JASON
Malibu.

ZAC
California, right?

JASON
Yes!

Jason helps the battered and burnt Zac to his feet.

Zac glances upwards, and sees news crew on the hill filming.

ZAC
You got a car? I need to go.

JASON
Yes. But, you have some nasty
burns. Don't you think we should
call an ambulance and...

ZAC
Fuck the ambulance. Let's roll.

Zac turns his back away from camera and news crew.

JASON
OK. Whatever you say.

ZAC
Can I borrow your coat?

JASON
Absolutely.

Jason removes his coat and hands it to Zac. He quickly covers his head with the coat and begins walking briskly to parking lot as Jason follows.

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - HILL TOP - EARLY MORNING

Jake stops shooting and begins packing his equipment.

JAKE
Let's get in the van and take a
closer look at this footage.

JAMIE LEE
Why?

JAKE
Call it a hunch.

Jake and Jamie Lee walk to van.

INT. NEWS VAN - DAY

Jake removes the footage from the camera and places it into a viewer and hits - PLAY. Fast forwards through telecast, and stops at scene of body falling out of sky.

JAKE

See, right there! The flaming body falls out of the sky.

Jake fine tunes the television screen.

JAKE (CONT'D)

The guy on the beach sees it too!

JAMIE LEE

So?

JAKE

So, keep watching. The man goes into the ocean for the rescue, then brings the body to shore and...

Jake and Jamie Lee stare intently into viewer.

JAKE (CONT'D)

There! Right freakin' there!

Jake zooms in on the beach image.

JAKE (CONT'D)

See! Who does that guy look like?

JAMIE LEE

A blond surfer?

JAKE

Look! Look closer. Who died last night in the plane crash?

JAMIE LEE

I don't watch the news. I just report it. I don't know. Who?

Jake blows up a single image larger and larger -

JAKE

Unless I'm mistaken, which I rarely am honey. That's... Zac Master!

JAMIE LEE

The rock star. He's dead? When? I love that guy!

JAKE

Terrific. We got to get back to the station. We may have the biggest scoop, since O.J.'s Bronco chase!

JAMIE LEE

O.J. Who?

JAKE

Unbelievable baby! OK, Let's go.
- - We've got to inform the world that Zac Master may be alive!

INT. SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE - DAY

Zac and Jason enter the vehicle and stare unbelievably at each other until Jason reaches into the back of vehicle and hands Zac a towel.

JASON

Here. Dry yourself off. You must be freezing!

ZAC

Thanks.

Zac begins drying himself off as Jason eyes his unusual passenger suspiciously.

ZAC (CONT'D)

What?

JASON

Excuse me for staring... Ah, sorry. My name is Jason. Where to?

ZAC

Hi Jason. I'm Zac. Shoot up to Pacific Coast Highway. I need to get my bearings.

JASON

Nice to meet you Zac.

Jason starts the car and begins driving.

A nearly blind Zac searches the area for a landmark, when they reach the Pacific Coast Highway intersection.

ZAC

OK. I know where we are. Turn left right up here.

JASON
Where we going... Zac?

ZAC
My house.

JASON
Great... Can I ask you something?

ZAC
Shoot.

JASON
What happened back there?

ZAC
You mean,... where I came from?

JASON
Yeah.

ZAC
I believe I just fell out of hell.
Turn right here.

JASON
Did you fall out of an airplane or
something?

ZAC
Sort of. I really don't know where
I came from. Follow this road all
the way up until it dead ends.

JASON
Okie dokie.

The two drive slowly in silence with perplexed expressions of disbelief passing huge mansions, then a - DEAD END 1000 FEET - sign. They see hundreds of fans lingering outside the gates of the biggest and last house. Many are holding signs, candles and flowers. Some are crying - -

ZAC
Slow down. I was afraid of this.

JASON
What?

ZAC
Crowds.

Zac grabs the coat and covers his head.

ZAC (CONT'D)
I need you to do something for
me?

JASON
Whatever you need.

ZAC
Pull up to the gate box and push
1-8-6-7, then press ENTER. The gate
will open, then drive right in.

Zac crawls over the front seat and hides in back as Jason's
vehicle approaches the gates, the fans part to allow it in.

Jason does as instructed, the gate opens and he drives in.

JASON
Zac, we're here.

Zac sits up in the back. Looks around, the place is deserted.

ZAC
Great. Home at last.

Through rear view mirror, Jason studies Zac, puzzled.

JASON
Zac?

ZAC
Yeah.

JASON
You live here?

ZAC
Yeah.

JASON
Who are you?

ZAC
I'm Zac Master.

JASON
The rock star in the news today?

ZAC
Yeah.

JASON
They said, you're dead.

ZAC
They're dead wrong.

INT. NEWS ROOM STUDIO - DAY

Jake and Jamie Lee rush into the busy news room.

JAKE
Get the station manager and his
flunkies to meet me in the editing
room... now!

JAMIE LEE
But... why?

JAKE
Just do it darlin'

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - KITCHEN - DAY

Through a back entrance, Jason helps Zac into the house.

Zac rushes to the sink to splash water on his eyes.

JASON
I really think we should get you
some medical attention.

ZAC
Think again.

Zac grabs a towel, then some ice from refrigerator and makes
a compact for his eyes.

ZAC (CONT'D)
That feels better.

JASON
What can I do?

ZAC
Follow me.

Zac leads Jason around the corner and down the back stairs
and into his JUNGLE ROOM. (A huge room in basement filled
with televisions, monitors, recording equipment, pool table,
pin-ball machines and fully stocked bar)

Zac turns on the TV's and heads to the bar.

ZAC (CONT'D)
Care for a drink?

JASON
Anything diet?

Zac grabs a diet soft drink and pours himself a bourbon.

JASON (CONT'D)
Do you really think you should be
drinking Zac?

ZAC
That's about all I know, I should
be doing.

Zac retrieves a cordless phone from the bar, dials a
pre-programmed speed dial number and listens.

LOCO (V.O.)
Yeah, you've reached my answering
machine. Leave your name and number
and I might get back you - - BEEP.

ZAC
Loco. It's me and I'm alive and at
my Malibu house. Get over here now!

Zac disconnects and places phone on it's cradle, then sits
down on couch next to Jason.

ZAC (CONT'D)
Now, we wait for the cavalry.

INT. NEWS ROOM STUDIO - EDITING ROOM - DAY

Jamie Lee enters room with three men in suits as Jake slams a
video tape into a player. The men stand around with arms
folded and glum expressions.

JAKE
You guys gotta see this. It's huge!

STATION MANAGER
This better be good Gamble! This
woman pulled us out of a meeting.

JAMIE LEE
My name is Jamie Lee Grant, sir.
I'm the new reporter... you hired.

STATION MANAGER
We'll see.

JAKE
Cool your jets folks and watch.

Jake fast forwards to the fiery body falling from the sky.

NEWS DIRECTOR
What's that falling out of the sky?

Jake rewinds slowly, then freezes frame and enlarges.

JAKE
That's a body, ladies and gentlemen. Watch the rest.

Everyone moves in closer to screen for a better view.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Now watch the man on the beach. He sees it too. Then, he reacts. He swims out... realizes it's what he thought... a body. Now the rescue.

STATION MANAGER
OK, we got a Good Samaritan rescue.

JAKE
Keep watching. Keep watching...and

Jake freezes the frame and enlarges it for all to see.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Look! That's Zac Master alive!

PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Who is Zac Master?

JAMIE LEE
Sir, he's the rock star, whose plane crashed yesterday.

Jamie Lee shoots Jake a knowing smile.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Looks pretty thin to me.

JAKE
Check this out!

Jake throws cassette into another tape player.

JAKE (CONT'D)
This is the last news footage of Zac Master. Look, he's getting into a limo on his way to the airport.

Freezes tape, enlarges photo as everyone leans in to look.

JAKE (CONT'D)

See! He's wearing the same black leather suit!

STATION MANAGER

Interesting. It's not DNA, but it's worth investigating.

The three TV executives look at each other and nod.

NEWS DIRECTOR

OK, you two got the assignment. Find out where he lives. Call all his representatives. Find out what they know. I want a story by five!

JAKE

We're on it boss!

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - DAY

Zac sits drinking and staring off into space as Jason watches closed captioned news reports of plane crash.

JASON

Zac, would you like to talk about what happened?

ZAC

No. I just don't know what is true and what isn't. Can you understand?

JASON

No, I... I really don't.

Jason sips his drink and continues watching the news.

JASON (CONT'D)

The news is saying your plane went down in the Atlantic Ocean last night. What I'm wondering is how you splashed down in the Pacific?

ZAC

Fuck, if I know! I can't understand or explain it. I need a smoke!

Zac reaches for a wooden box on coffee table. Retrieves a cigarette and lights it with a lighter nearby. Takes a drag, then a huge swallow of liquor, finishing it. He slowly rises and unsteadily walks to bar to make himself another one.

ZAC (CONT'D)

I just don't want to talk about it now. It's all like a nightmare.

Jason stands to leave. Both standing and facing each other.

JASON

I understand. Well, I better get going... You got things to do.

ZAC

No! Please hang out for awhile. At least till my manager arrives.

The telephone RINGS, and Zac returns to bar to answer it.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Hello.

LOCO (V.O.)

Zac, is this really you? Tell me it's really you.

ZAC

Yep.

LOCO (V.O.)

So everybody is OK too?

ZAC

Nope! Just get over here now!

LOCO (V.O.)

On my way... Be there as fast as I can... I just can't believe it man.

Zac hangs the telephone up and sits down next to Jason.

INT. NEWS ROOM STUDIO - DAY

Jamie Lee and Jake are packing up as the news director rushes out of office with a piece of paper.

NEWS DIRECTOR

Here you go. This has Zac Master's home address and telephone number. It also has all his representatives contact info. Gamble, you're on a deadline. So, no screwing around!

JAKE

Never sir.

NEWS DIRECTOR

Oh yeah. Got a contact over at the tabloids, an S U V just arrived at Zac's mansion. Get over there now!

JAKE

We're there.

JAMIE LEE

Have I got time to freshen up?

JAKE & NEWS DIRECTOR

No!

Jake and Jamie Lee exit the building.

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - DAY

ZAC

So Jason, you're like my hero. I mean man, if you hadn't swam out and got me. I might of drowned...

JASON

A miracle, me being there Zac.

ZAC

And I haven't even thanked you.

JASON

Not required.

ZAC

No really. Thank you Jason for saving my life. I really mean it.

Jason stares to the floor, humbled.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Jason, I got to know...
Why were you on the beach today?

Zac looks down at his drink, thinking, then up to Jason, who shrugs his shoulders innocently.

ZAC (CONT'D)

During a tropical storm?

JASON

Have a lot on my mind these days and staring out at the ocean just seemed like a good idea.

ZAC

Well, it was for me. Hey, are you from around here?

Zac leans forward very interested.

JASON

No. Actually, I'm from Arizona.

ZAC

Really? What do you do in Arizona?

JASON

I'm a pastor of a church.

ZAC

Oh my God! You're kidding?

Zac looks Jason dead in the eye.

ZAC (CONT'D)

So, you're an expert on hell?

JASON

I wouldn't say expert. Knowledgeable... I hope.

ZAC

Maybe this does make sense. OK, can I talk to you about what happened?

JASON

Absolutely.

Zac nervously retrieves and lights another cigarette and takes a quick sip from drink.

ZAC

OK, I'm in the plane's bathroom when we start experiencing some turbulence.

Zac looks up and away trying to recall the episode.

ZAC (CONT'D)

But, I think I'm dreaming, cause I'm having some sort out of body experience.

Zac takes a hit from the cigarette, then closes his eyes to relive every moment.

ZAC (CONT'D)

I'm transported out of the jet to this white room, where I'm laying on this slab and it's cold. But the room is hot, cause there are all these white brick ovens burning. The smell was horrific and I'm terrified!

Zac begins to break down. He is visibly upset.

JASON

You're OK Zac.

ZAC

But I think, it's just a real bad nightmare... Until, this huge metal door opens and this white haired man in a white suit waltzes in... and music begins to play.

Zac looks unapologetically back at Jason .

ZAC (CONT'D)

I swear - It's "Sympathy for the Devil" by the Stones man!

JASON

OK. I believe you.

ZAC

Then, the old man starts to do this weird dance around the room.

Jason leans forward and hangs on every word.

ZAC (CONT'D)

And he basically tells me that I have two choices. Burn in the fire forever or live... and work for him. I chose to live man!

JASON

I understand Zac.

ZAC

Then, the old man catapults me into this fiery inferno, next thing... I'm on the beach with you.

Zac stands, and paces the room.

ZAC (CONT'D)
 (worried)
 What have I done?

Zac turns to Jason, pleading for answers.

ZAC (CONT'D)
 Have I sold my soul, Jason?
 Please I got to know.

JASON
 You may be the only man Zac, whose
 been to hell and back.

INT. NEWS VAN - DAY

Jake drives as Jamie Lee turns rear view mirror towards self to apply make-up.

JAKE
 What are you doing missy?

JAMIE LEE
 Freshening my make-up.

JAKE
 Gee whiz woman! We're on this huge
 story and you're putting on make-
 up. Where did you come from?

JAMIE LEE
 Midland, Texas.

JAKE
 Bet you were a cheerleader?

JAMIE LEE
 In high school and in college.

JAKE
 Bet you dated the star quarterback
 too?

Jamie Lee stops applying her make-up and looks at Jake.

JAMIE LEE
 (blushing)
 Yes. Who told you?

JAKE
 Nobody. And, what did you major in?

Jamie Lee continues applying make-up.

JAMIE LEE
Communications. So?

JAKE
Did you graduate?

JAMIE LEE
Of course! Why?

JAKE
(SOUTHERN ACCENT)
Because I need y'all to get on your
phone and in your sweetest,
southern drawl - start calling our
contacts and get us information!
Can you do that, baby?

JAMIE LEE
Sure. Just let me finish up.

JAKE
Lord, help me!

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - DAY

Zac is nervously pacing back and forth with a cigarette in
one hand and a drink in the other.

ZAC
So what do you think happened?

JASON
From what I know, I'd say
you've had some demonic
experience... and a profound one!

ZAC
Why me?

JASON
That I don't know.

Zac stops, turns and faces Jason.

ZAC
Then,... why you?

JASON
I'm not tracking you Zac.

ZAC

C'mon man. You're a pastor from Arizona, who miraculously appears in Malibu and rescues me.

JASON

Oh! This is when I'm suppose to ask, do you believe in God, Zac?

ZAC

No!... Not really. Not till today.

Zac sits down on couch next to Jason.

ZAC (CONT'D)

I've thought about God, but look at my life, I lived like I was a God!

JASON

Zac, do you know what grace is?

ZAC

(chuckles)

Like in the song Amazing Grace? That saved a wretch like me...

JASON

Yes! Grace is an undeserved favor from God... And I believe, His grace saved you.

ZAC

From going straight to hell?

JASON

Yes sir.

ZAC

What am I suppose to do now?

JASON

Repent! Change your ways. Ask God to come into your life.

ZAC

I can do that.

JASON

Pray with me Zac.

ZAC

OK. Sure, why not?

Jason places his hand on Zac's shoulder and begins to pray.

INT. NEWS VAN - OUTSIDE ZAC MASTER MANSION - DAY

Fans linger outside as their news van parks by the entrance.

JAKE
Grab the binoculars out of the
glove box for me sugar.

JAMIE LEE
Why? What's up?

Jamie Lee reaches into glove box and retrieves binoculars.

JAKE
Want to read the plate on that SUV.

Jamie Lee hands binoculars to Jake.

JAMIE LEE
Why?

JAKE
I want to find out the name of our
Good Samaritan. I think they're out
of state plates.

JAMIE LEE
Why?

Jake turns and stares inquisitively at Jamie Lee.

JAKE
(amused)
Besides hair and make-up, what did
they teach you at Bubble Head U?

JAMIE LEE
Excuse me... I'll have you know, I
went to Texas Christian University.

JAKE
Perfect! Catch a clue sweet cakes.
Reporters investigate first, then
report, so we know if what we're
reporting is true or not.

Jake focuses binoculars on vehicle.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Write this down.

Jamie Lee searches her purse for pen and paper.

JAMIE LEE
Just a second.

JAKE
Today!

Jamie Lee finally retrieves pen and paper.

JAMIE LEE
Shoot!

JAKE
Arizona plate, W, X, Y, four,
three, two. Call the station. Let's
find out, who the mystery man is?

JAMIE LEE
Can do. What's the number?

JAKE
You got to be kidding me blondie!

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM

Zac and Jason are both on their knees with heads bowed.

JASON
... And Lord, in my heart, I
feel... oh mighty God... that your
grace spared Zac's life...

Zac glances up and around, looking for a sign.

JASON (CONT'D)
Show Zac Master your glory Lord!

Suddenly, Zac is catapulted backwards into the wall above the bar and crashes to the floor.

Jason runs to help Zac, who is dazed and confused.

JASON (CONT'D)
Are you OK Zac?

ZAC
Yeah, I'm alright. What just
happened man?

JASON
Here. Let me help you...

Jason helps Zac up and over to the couch.

ZAC
I'm getting scared here man, what's
happening to me?

JASON
Zac, I've heard of occurrences like
this before, but I've never ever
seen one.

ZAC
Like what?

Jason squeezes Zac's arm and looks him in the eye.

JASON
(concerned)
A war for your soul.

The lights flicker as a cold breeze blows papers off bar.

ZAC
Oh God, please help me!

JASON
He hears you Zac.

ZAC
(crying)
I know I've been oh, so lost...
Please, please help me.

JASON
He hears you!

Lights and televisions turn-off as doors slam shut. Zac and
Jason nervously look around.

JASON (CONT'D)
Have you got a swimming pool?

ZAC
Yeah, upstairs. Why?

JASON
Lets go! I need to baptize you
now... Your soul may depend on it!

ZAC
What?

Jason helps Zac up from the couch and leads him out.

EXT. LOCO'S HOME - DRIVE WAY - DAY

Loco exits his home via front door. He's in a hurry.

Unlocks his Black Mercedes with personalized license plate that reads, ZACSMAN, then jumps inside and discovers a small gift wrapped package in front passenger seat.

LOCO
What the fuck?

He examines package and reads card, "Zac: Hope these help."

LOCO (CONT'D)
How did this get here?

Loco starts vehicle and ROARS away.

INT. LOCO'S MERCEDES - DAY

Loco's cell phone RINGS and he answers.

LOCO
Yeah, this is Loco.

JAMIE LEE (V.O.)
This is Jamie Lee Grant with Eye on LA News. Can you confirm reports that Zac Master is alive and...

LOCO
Fuck off!

Loco disconnects and tosses phone next to the package.

LOCO (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
This can't be happening!

INT. NEWS VAN - DAY

Jamie Lee slams right hand on dash and turns to Jake.

JAMIE LEE
Holy Buckets! Loco hung up on me!

JAKE
What'd he say?

JAMIE LEE
I'm not repeating it! Nobody's talking... Now what?

JAKE
Call the house. See if Zac answers.

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION-POOL ROOM - DAY

Jason leads Zac down the steps into shallow end of pool.

ZAC
Is this necessary Jason?

JASON
Yes! Something powerful is
happening. This is what I know to
do... to protect and save you.

A telephone begins to RING in the background.

JASON (CONT'D)
Don't worry about that now,

ZAC
It might be my manager.

JASON
You've got a new manger now.

INT. NEWS VAN - OUTSIDE ZAC MASTER MANSION - DAY

Jamie Lee impatiently listens to phone ringing, as Jake scans the property with binoculars.

JAMIE LEE
No answer inside the house.

JAKE
Leave a message. Tell him, we're
outside and want an exclusive.

Jamie listens to the message, then - - BEEP!

JAMIE LEE
Zac, this is Jamie Lee Grant with
Eye on LA news, and we're parked
outside of your house. We'd like to
interview you on what has happened,
please call me at 310-555-0666.

The gates to Zac's home slowly swings open and a black Mercedes maneuvers through the crowds and passes through.

JAKE

Look! That's Loco, Zac's manager arriving. I knew it, Zac Master is alive!

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION-POOL ROOM - DAY

Zac is leaning back cradled in Jason's arms.

JASON

Do you accept Him as your Lord and savior Zac?

ZAC

Yes, I do!

JASON

By the power of The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit, I baptize you.

Jason dunks Zac underwater as Loco arrives in pool room.

LOCO

I don't believe my eyes. Zac, you're alive!

Zac comes out of the water.

LOCO (CONT'D)

What the fuck is happening Zac?

ZAC

Loco! So glad to see you man... Just in time to see me baptized. I've been reborn brother!

LOCO

Well, halle- fuckin'-lujah! Now, tell me what happened last night?

Zac and Jason exit the pool and dry off.

ZAC

Lets go upstairs and I'll try to explain. But, you won't believe it.

LOCO

At this point, I'll believe almost anything... Who's this?

Zac wraps his arm around Jason and pulls him close.

ZAC

This is Jason. The man who rescued
me and just saved... my soul!

Jason and Loco shake hands.

LOCO

(suspicious)
Hi, what's up?

JASON

Nice to meet you.

ZAC

Be nice Loco. He's a pastor, a man
of God and my new best friend.

LOCO

Great! Like I said, I'll believe
anything.

INT. NEWS VAN - OUTSIDE ZAC MASTER MANSION - DAY

As Jake continues to watch the house for activity, Jamie Lee
grows more impatient by the moment.

JAMIE LEE

Now what?

JAKE

We sit and wait.

JAMIE LEE

For what?

JAKE

Something to happen.

JAMIE LEE

Like what?

JAKE

Like... how old are you?

JAMIE LEE

Twenty-four. Why?

JAKE

Cause, I'm beginning to wonder
whether I'm on a stakeout with an
eight year old or a real Eye on LA
reporter... That's why!

JAMIE LEE
That's kind of... rude.

JAKE
Want rude?

Jake reaches back into back of van and into an igloo cooler to retrieve a beer and sandwich. Jake POPS the beer open and takes a gulp.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Aaaaah. Want some?

JAMIE LEE
You're drinking! It's barely ten o'clock in the morning... and we're on the job. No!

JAKE
Suit yourself honey pie.

Jamie Lee leans back into her seat, folds arms and glares at Jake, who continues eating and drinking.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Oh yeah, ya might want to check-in with the station. Ask em if they've got the owner's info yet off the plate we asked them to run.

JAMIE LEE
Should I tell em that you're drinking too.

JAKE
They already know that darling.

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - DAY

Zac, Jason and Loco enter room. Zac and Jason sit on the couch, while Loco heads straight to the bar.

LOCO
Whatcha having Z? Jason, what can I fix you?

ZAC
Nothing, right now.

JASON
I'm good.

Loco pours himself a tall drink and sits in over-sized leather chair next to couch, while Zac and Jason survey the room for any strange occurrences.

Loco takes a long pull from his drink, and tries to describe his feelings.

LOCO

(emotional)

Man, I thought you were dead. I didn't know what to do... I'm so very grateful Zac. You know what this is...? It's a miracle man! Now, tell me everything, cause the whole world is in mourning, cause everybody thinks you're dead. 'Cept some reporter who called - -

Zac shoots Jason a knowing look.

ZAC

Must be the camera crew from the beach. They may have filmed the whole thing.

JASON

What?

LOCO

What thing?

ZAC

As you said, the miracle.

INT. NEWS VAN - OUTSIDE ZAC MASTER MANSION - DAY

Jamie Lee is talking excitedly on the phone and scribbling notes onto a notebook as fast as she can while Jake casually reaches back to igloo cooler for another beer.

JAMIE LEE

OK. OK, I got it. Thanks so much.

Jamie Lee excitedly turns to Jake.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

This gets stranger by the minute...

JAKE

I like strange.

Jake POPS the top on another beer.

JAMIE LEE

Another one? Lord, help me. Are you going to be able to function Jake?

JAKE

I'm at my best with a good buzz darling. Now, tell me what you got.

JAMIE LEE

Wonderful... OK, so the vehicle is registered to Jason Thomson of Cameron, Arizona.

JAKE

Boring!

JAMIE LEE

Hold on Jake. Here's where it gets interesting... Seems that Jason is the pastor of a small church there.

Jake reaches into his coat pocket, grabs a cigarette.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

You're not smoking in here!

Jake opens his door and steps outside the vehicle.

JAKE

No, I'm smoking out here... Go on.

JAMIE LEE

Two weeks ago, his wife and two kids are killed in a horrific automobile accident.

JAKE

Tragic... What else?

JAMIE LEE

There's a rumor floating 'round Cameron, that the pastor was...

Jake swills his beer and takes a long drag of his cigarette as Jamie Lee stares into her notebook.

JAKE

Dish out the dirt baby!

JAMIE LEE

That he may have fathered a child out of wedlock some years back...

Jake tosses cigarette away jumps back into driver's seat.

JAKE

Regardless. It still doesn't answer the most important question...

JAMIE LEE

And what's that?

JAKE

It doesn't answer what he was doing on the beach at the exact moment Zac Master drops out of the sky?

JAMIE LEE

Ever heard of divine intervention?

JAKE

Don't believe in it.

JAMIE LEE

That explains a lot Mister!

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - DAY

LOCO

This is freaking unbelievable! How much of this, do you think really happened Zac. I mean, the room, the man, the fire, a dream, right?

Zac sits up and gives Jason a glance, then glares at Loco.

ZAC

All of it. Look Loco, how do I crash in the Atlantic and fall into the Pacific? With Jason here... waiting to save me?

LOCO

I don't know Zac. It sure looks like you've been to hell and back.

Loco glances at package on bar, rises, walks to retrieve it.

LOCO (CONT'D)

Here's another clue for you all.

Loco walks to Zac and hands him the package.

LOCO (CONT'D)

I found this in my car on my way over here... I know my car was locked and I have no idea how it got there.

Zac studies the package for a moment and reads the card.

ZAC

"Zac, hope these help..." Mmmm, no name. Too small to be a bomb.

Zac looks over at Jason, then to Loco.

ZAC (CONT'D)

(chuckles)

Oh, what the hell?

Zac quickly opens package which contains a pair of very unusual but cool looking sunglasses.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Sweet! Just what I needed for my eyes. Tell me, how do I look boys?

Zac tries on the mysterious sunglasses, then glances over at Jason and sees a cloudy white aura around him.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Nice!

JASON

Makes you look... kind of like a rock super hero.

Zac turns to Loco and sees a dark aura around him.

ZAC

Oh my God, Loco... you look like the walking dead.

Zac quickly removes glasses, sets them on table, but is deeply moved by what he's seen.

LOCO

Fuck you man!

ZAC

Sorry. Must have been a little freaked out.

LOCO

It's alright Zac. Know you've been through some heavy shit today.

Zac stares down at the glasses as Jason watches closely.

LOCO (CONT'D)

But, we got work to do... Damage control brother.

ZAC

What are you talking about?

LOCO

First, who sent you the sunglasses? You're dead, right? And what about that reporter. I think she suspects you're alive. Like you said, they may have this on tape.

ZAC

Why do you think that?

LOCO

Because, she called me, right after you did pal. They know something... and if they called me... they're calling everybody! Trust me man.

Zac stands and eyes the telephone on the bar. The telephone message light is blinking red. Zac stands and walks to machine and hits - Play.

JAMIE LEE (V.O.)

Zac, this is Jamie Lee Grant with Eye on LA news, and we're parked outside of your house. We'd like to interview you on what has happened, please call me at 310-555-0666.

LOCO

I told you mofo! We got to get out in front of this now!

Zac retrieves telephone and returns to the couch.

LOCO (CONT'D)

What are you doing Zac?

ZAC

Taking the bull by the horns buddy... Like you said, we got to get out in front of this.

JASON

Are you sure you want to do this now Zac?

ZAC

Better buckle up! Fifteen minutes of fame is coming your way brother.

JASON

Aaaah Zac. I don't know if that's such a good idea. I'm kind of a private person and...

Zac begins dialing the number.

ZAC

(chuckles)

Too late. It's ringing.

INT. NEWS VAN - OUTSIDE ZAC MASTER MANSION

JAMIE LEE

So Jake, do you believe in God?

JAKE

Nope!

JAMIE LEE

Not at all?

JAKE

Well...

JAMIE LEE

So, I got my work cut out for me.

Jamie Lee's cell phone RINGS.

JAKE

It'd take a miracle pumpkin.

Jamie Lee picks up the phone and stares at caller ID.

JAMIE LEE

It's Zac Master!

JAKE

That's close enough... Answer it!

JAMIE LEE

Hello...

ZAC (V.O.)

Is this Jamie Lee Grant with Eye on LA?

JAMIE LEE

Yes!

ZAC (V.O.)
I'm Zac Master. You still parked
out front and want an interview?

JAMIE LEE
Yes, sir.

ZAC (V.O.)
Then come on down!

The huge iron gates in front of the house begin to open.

JAMIE LEE
Thank you.

ZAC (V.O.)
Come through the front door and
turn right. Take the stairs down to
my rec room. We're waiting...

Zac hangs up. CLICK.

JAMIE LEE
Yes, sir. Thank you, sir.

Jamie Lee turns to Jake and smiles.

JAKE
Well?

JAMIE LEE
(pointing)
You wanted a miracle... Here you go
Jake. Drive through...

JAKE
Yippee! Always wanted to meet this
guy. Kind of a fan.

JAMIE LEE
Great! Should we call the station?

JAKE
Hell no! We're not getting scooped
by our own station. We'll wait till
we got it all in the bag, before we
tell a soul. This is going straight
to the network baby!

The news van drives through the gates and parks in back.

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM -DAY

Loco finishes pouring another drink, and begins pacing around the room.

LOCO

(upset)

Do you think this is wise bro?
Jesus Zac, you've been to hell and
back... This can wait till...

ZAC

No, it can't. Something miraculous
has happened and...I just feel
compelled to tell the story.

Zac eyes the sunglasses sitting on the table.

JASON

I kind of agree with your manager
Zac. This can wait a day or two...

ZAC

Too late they're already here.

Zac picks up sunglasses and puts them on as Jamie Lee and Jake enter the Jungle Room. Zac and Jason stand to meet the news team.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Welcome everyone. I'm Zac Master.

Jamie Lee steps forward and shakes Zac's hand. Through Zac's glasses, Jamie Lee's image is a warm and golden aura.

JAMIE LEE

Hi Zac. Glad to meet you. I'm Jamie
Lee Grant with Eye on LA news. This
is my camera man, Jake.

JAKE

A real pleasure to meet you Zac.
I'm a fan man.

Jake steps forward and glad hands Zac. Through Zac's glasses, Jake's image is a dim and cloudy grey aura.

ZAC

This is my personal manager - -

Zac points in Loco's direction.

ZAC (CONT'D)

And longtime friend, Loco.

LOCO
Hi, how y'all doing?

Zac wraps his arm around Jason and pulls him to his side.

 ZAC
And this is the hero of the day,
Jason, who saved my life.

 JASON
(nervous)
Glad to meet you both.

 ZAC
So, how do you want to do this?
Please let's all sit down.

Jamie Lee and Jake sit in a love seat directly opposite from Zac and Jason, who relax on the couch. Loco plops down in the leather chair just off to side.

 JAMIE LEE
Well, first off... Was that you,
who fell out of the sky?

 ZAC
Y'all saw that?

 JAMIE LEE
Yes!

 JAKE
Better than that, it's recorded!

 ZAC
(chuckles)
Perfect! No one would believe
otherwise...

 JAMIE LEE
Zac, why don't you start from what
happened on the jet?

Zac leans back as everyone else leans forward.

 ZAC
OK...

 JAKE
Do you mind if I begin taping this?

 LOCO
Ah, yeah. Just look at him... He's
fried, man!

ZAC

No. I want this on the record. But,
I like that! I have been fried.

Jake grabs his camera and plugs in a microphone, then leans forward and clips a microphone to Zac's collar. Jake sits back, raises camera gives an approving nod to Jamie Lee.

JAMIE LEE

OK, start again Zac.

ZAC

The flight was pretty normal.
Nothing out of the ordinary...
until we hit some rough turbulence.

Zac brushes his hair back and begins reliving the nightmare.

ZAC (CONT'D)

I do remember the pilot coming on
and informing everyone about the
turbulence... like we didn't know
already. I remember going into the
bathroom. Then the next thing, I
know... we've crashed!

Zac places his hands to his face, as his head drops forcing his elbows to rest on his knees.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Cause, we're underwater. That's
about all I can remember.

JAMIE LEE

Zac, at any time had you been
drinking or taking any drugs?

LOCO

(angry)

What the fuck kind of questions is
that lady?

JAMIE LEE

An honest one.

ZAC

It's alright Loco. Ms. Grant, I've
been abusing substances since the
eighties. It's no big secret. But,
it doesn't change what happened.

JAKE

Zac, any ideas on how you crashed
in the Atlantic, then fall out of
sky and into the Pacific?

Jamie Lee turns and gives Jake an icy glare.

JAMIE LEE

Any explanation for that Zac?

Zac raises head and sits up straight trying to compose
himself. He looks Jamie Lee straight in the eye.

ZAC

This is when, everyone is going to
say, drug induced hallucination.
But, it is, what it is. I don't
know how or why, but I was - -

Zac uses both hands to signal the symbol "in quotes."

ZAC (CONT'D)

Transported... out of the plane to
a place, I can only describe as
hell's crematorium.

JAMIE LEE

Try and describe it?

ZAC

OK, I was lying on a cold steel
slab. I couldn't move. All I could
see were the white floor, walls and
ceiling. But there were these huge
white brick ovens burning. And it
was hot,... as hell.

Jason gently grips Zac's shoulder in encouragement.

JASON

You're almost done... Zac.

Zac begins to break down as he looks into Jamie Lee's
understanding eyes.

ZAC

And the smell... was horrific!
Then, this steel door opens, and
music begins to play and this white
haired man comes dancing in... And
he's all dressed in white... And...

Zac slips into a trance, reliving the entire tragedy again.

ZAC (CONT'D)
(screaming)
I choose life! I want to live! I'll
do anything!

Jason gently nudges Zac's arm.

JASON
You're OK Zac. You're safe. You're
home. Everything is alright.

Zac snaps back, then glances around the room at everyone for reactions. Shocked, Loco reaches over and reassuringly touches Zac's arm.

LOCO
Yeah, you're OK big fella.

ZAC
And the last thing I remember is
the old man throwing me into the
fire pit... Next thing I know, I'm
on shore with Jason here.

JAMIE LEE
Any idea why or how you ended up in
the Pacific ocean?

ZAC
Not one. Other than...

Zac smiles at Jason.

ZAC (CONT'D)
Divine intervention.

Jamie Lee nudges Jake's shoulder, then smiles knowingly.

JAMIE LEE
Amazing! Just amazing Zac.

Everyone leans back, takes a deep breath to relax, until Jamie Lee signals Jake to shoot Jason.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)
Now... Jason.

Jake pans camera view to Jason, who sits up nervously.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)
What were you doing on the beach
just prior to Zac arriving?

JASON

Praying.

JAMIE LEE

Why were you praying Jason? Why then? Why during a tropical storm?

Jason looks into Jamie Lee's soft eyes and realizes she already knows everything.

JASON

This isn't about me. Gosh darn it.

Jason looks back into the camera and he begins to tear up with emotion. He raises his right arm in protest.

JASON (CONT'D)

Please stop filming. I can't do this. I want some privacy.

Jamie Lee raises her hand to signal to Jake to stop shooting.

JAMIE LEE

(reassuringly)

Whatever you want Jason. But, everyone is going to want to know what a pastor is praying for, alone on a beach... in a middle of a powerful tropical storm?

Jake slowly lowers his camera, listening intently and being moved by Jamie Lee's heartfelt plea.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

And Zac Master comes falling out of the sky and you save him!

JAKE

(shouts)

I'll say it... It's a miracle!

Jamie Lee glares at Jake as Zac wraps his arm around Jason.

ZAC

I'm here for you man. But, I got to know... why were you there?

JASON

I was praying for some kind of sign. Years ago, before I ever met my wife... I'd sinned. Two weeks ago, my wife found out about it and she became very upset...

Jason begins to SOFTLY CRY looking into Jamie Lee's eyes.

JASON (CONT'D)

She was out of control. She called her parents... Packed up the kids and tore out of the house... A couple of hours later, the police informed me that my wife and children were gone.

Jamie Lee's eyes begin to water.

JASON (CONT'D)

Some drunk driver hit them head on... After the funeral, I just felt that I had to get away.

Zac hugs Jason.

ZAC

I had no idea Jason. I'm sorry.

LOCO

But, how'd you end up on the beach?

Jason tries to regain his composure as Jamie Lee signals Jake to begin shooting again.

JAMIE LEE

What brought you to the beach this morning Jason?

JASON

I spent the night in a motel up the beach. When I got up this morning, I read some scripture and began to pray... and... and - -

Jason begins to breaking down again, continues...

JASON (CONT'D)

Then it hit me! Like a freight train... The full impact of what I'd done...and the chain of events that brought me here... alone. And I was pissed at God. I wanted to confront Him. So, I wandered down to the beach praying for something to show that I'd not been forsaken.

JAMIE LEE

And then?

JASON

I looked to heaven.

Jason looks to Zac and smiles.

JASON (CONT'D)

And I saw Zac fall out of the sky. At first, I wasn't exactly sure what it was, but when he floated to the surface, I knew I had to do something.

JAMIE LEE

Amazing! Absolutely amazing. I want to ask you both something. How has this miraculous event changed you? First you Zac.

ZAC

It's changed everything. I was blind, now I can see. I was dead, now I am alive!

JAMIE LEE

And you Jason?

Jason smiles at Jamie Lee, sheepishly looks into the camera.

JASON

Be careful what you pray for.

JAMIE LEE

I think that's a wrap! I want to thank you both for this exclusive.

ZAC

You're most welcome.

Jamie Lee stands and smiles. Everyone stands.

JAMIE LEE

Have you scheduled a news conference yet?

LOCO

Ah, no. But I'm sure we'll have one before the six o'clock news today.

JAMIE LEE

Great. We'll definitely be there.

JAKE

Twenty years in the news and I
wouldn't have believed it unless
I'd seen it with my own eyes... A
miracle live at five!

Zac stares at Jamie Lee in amazement of her golden aura and reaches out his right hand to her.

ZAC

A pleasure to meet you Ms. Grant.
Hope you got what you wanted.

Jamie Lee and Zac shake hands. They both feel connected by a surge of energy and smile.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Jason, baptized me today.

JAMIE LEE

Oh, that's wonderful Zac.... Thank
you. I did get everything I needed.
A truly miraculous story of His
amazing grace!

ZAC

Indeed.

Jake steps forward and extends his hand.

JAKE

A great honor Zac. I just can't
believe it.

Jake shakes his head in disbelief as they shake hands. Zac pulls Jake closer.

ZAC

Believe it brother. Take good care
of this lady, she's golden.

JAKE

Oh, I will. Take care.

JAMIE LEE

Goodbye y'all.

Jake and Jamie Lee leave the room.

LOCO

Well, I could use a drink!

Loco strolls to bar.

LOCO (CONT'D)
Anyone else going to join me?

ZAC
I'll have a JD straight up.

JASON
Make it two.

Zac and Loco exchange concerned glances.

INT. NEWS VAN - OUTSIDE ZAC MASTER MANSION - DAY

JAMIE LEE
I'm calling the station.

Jamie Lee pulls her telephone from purse, as Jake gently reaches to stop her. Their hands touch.

JAKE
No, you're not!

Jake removes his hand from hers and reaches back to igloo cooler and grabs two beers.

JAMIE LEE
And, why not? Oh, another beer?

Jake hands a beer to Jamie Lee.

JAKE
Because the most amazing event caught on tape since the Kennedy assassination is in our hands and we've got the exclusive, sweetie.

JAMIE LEE
Jake, I know...

JAKE
No, you don't princess. The first thing those putzes at the station are going to do is... take it away from us! Drink up partner, while I explain the politics of affiliate versus network news programming.

JAMIE LEE
Nobody's taking my story!

Jamie Lee CRACKS her beer open and drinks.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)
Nobody! What do we have to do Jake?

JAKE
Get to the editing room and finish
the story, so they have to send it
out as is. Then - -

Jamie Lee nods in agreement.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Make a copy, so we have something
to deal with, just in case.

JAMIE LEE
Just in case of what?

JAKE
They try to fuck us!

JAMIE LEE
Oh, my!

Jake starts engine as Jamie Lee sits back and sips beer.

JAKE
Let's ride Tonto!

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - LATER

LOCO
OK Zac, it's all set up. The news
conference is scheduled to start at
3 p.m. sharp at the front gate.

ZAC
Terrific.

LOCO
I figured the three of us would
walk out. Make a brief statement,
then answer some questions and
we're done.

Jason stands and walks to bar.

JASON
Count me out.

Jason pours himself a tall drink of whiskey as Zac and Loco
look at each other perplexed.

LOCO
 What's the matter kid?

Jason returns to couch next to Zac.

 ZAC
 You alright Jason?

 JASON
 This is your show Zac. Whatever
 happened it's about you, not me.
 I'm off this merry-go-round!

Jason takes a long pull from his drink.

 JASON (CONT'D)
 I've done my part Zac. I just want
 to go home and fade away back into
 anonymity. I need to try and put my
 life back together again. Please
 let me do that Zac?

 ZAC
 Jason, you saved me brother. I'll
 do anything I can to help.

Zac turns to Loco.

 ZAC (CONT'D)
 Loco, it'll be just the two of us
 at the news conference.

 LOCO
 What do we tell the press?

Zac turns, winks, and smiles at Jason

 ZAC
 Our hero has left the building.

INT. NEWS ROOM STUDIO - AFTERNOON

A flurry of activity surrounds Jamie Lee as she takes the
anchors chair at the news desk.

 DIRECTOR
 We're live in Three. Two. One.

The director cues Jamie Lee and crew.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

We interrupt our regularly scheduled programming for an Eye on LA exclusive report. At the anchor desk is Jamie Lee Grant reporting.

JAMIE LEE

Good day everyone. Rock superstar and legend, Zac Master is alive!

Below a sign that reads - ABSOLUTELY NO SMOKING, Jake stands proudly watching with a smile on his face and a beer in one hand and a cigarette in the other.

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - AFTERNOON

Zac, Jason and Loco are glued to the TV news broadcast.

LOCO

Well men, it's all out there.

ZAC

As it should be.

JASON

I guess so. I better get going.

ZAC

Oh no, you don't. You've been drinking and I'm not letting you go until we have a chance to talk some more... You're spending the night!

JASON

Are you sure?

ZAC

Yes! This place will be a circus. Move your car into the garage, so no one will know you're here.

JASON

Good idea.

Jason stands and leaves the room as Loco walks to the bar.

LOCO

You making any sense out of this?

ZAC

Not much. Just feel like I'm lucky to be alive brother.

LOCO

What do you think happened to the others?

ZAC

Fuck, I hadn't thought about... the others. I don't know. Maybe they'll fall out of the sky or... Why'd you bring that up Loco?

LOCO

Just thinking where we go from here man?

ZAC

I'll tell you where we go from here... We get through this news conference, then we'll see...

LOCO

Do what you got to do man. I'm behind you a 110%, you know that!

ZAC

I do.

Jason returns with his baggage and walks directly to the bar. He drops baggage on floor in front of bar and pours another drink. Zac and Loco watch with concern.

ZAC (CONT'D)

You OK, Jason?

JASON

Yes, barely.

Jason fills glass to the brim with straight whiskey.

ZAC

Easy does it pastor. I don't want you to get wasted.

JASON

(angry)

That's exactly how I want to feel... wasted!

INT. NEWS ROOM STUDIO - AFTERNOON

Jamie Lee excitedly strides over to Jake after news cast.

JAKE

Great job kiddo!

JAMIE LEE
Thanks so much. I couldn't have
done it without you.

JAKE
That's a fact!

Jake takes a drink from his beer and smiles at Jamie Lee.

JAMIE LEE
Are you always...

Jamie Lee looks Jake up and down, trying to understand him.

JAKE
What?

JAMIE LEE
Like this?

JAKE
Like what?

JAMIE LEE
I don't know... course, arrogant,
somewhat rude?

JAKE
Not to mention... lazy, sloppy and
horny. I'm all that and a lot more!

Jamie Lee laughs and shakes her head in disbelief as Jake lights a cigarette and smiles broadly. Jamie Lee shyly smiles back, then shakes her finger in Jake's direction.

JAMIE LEE
My mama always says, there's good
in everyone. With some, you just
got to look awhile to find it.

JAKE
Keep looking sweetheart.

The news director marches up and sees Jake smoking.

NEWS DIRECTOR
How many times have I got to tell
you Gamble, no smoking in here!

JAKE
At least once more boss.

Jake tosses cigarette to floor and stomps it out.

NEWS DIRECTOR

OK, you two... great job! This is huge. All the networks are running your story, so we're way out in front. I want you two at the press conference at Zac's house. It'll be held outside the gates. Jamie, I want you ask him tough questions.

JAMIE LEE

OK. Like?

NEWS DIRECTOR

Is this some kind of publicity stunt? Does he know where the band and flight crew are? Would he be willing to take a lie detector test? Push him for answers...

JAMIE LEE

My feel is, he's telling the truth.

NEWS DIRECTOR

With all due respect Ms. Grant, you don't get paid to feel. You get paid to report. I want answers!

JAKE

With all due respect boss, fuck off! This is our story and we'll run with it wherever it takes us. Now if you'll excuse us, we have a news conference to cover.

Jake grabs Jamie Lee's hand, leading her away. They confidently walk towards the lobby.

NEWS DIRECTOR

(shouts)

Gamble, you're on your way out boy!

JAKE

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

JAMIE LEE

Why does he call you Gamble?

JAKE

That's my name... Jake Gamble.

JAMIE LEE

It fits.

JAKE
Always has, baby.

EXT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - FRONT GATE - LATE AFTERNOON

The ten foot steel gates open and Zac Master and Loco walk through to a mass of reporters, camera men and fans. Loco steps to the podium first and reads a prepared statement.

LOCO
Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for coming. I'm going to read a brief statement, which will be followed by a personal message from Zac, then he'll answer a few questions.

Loco nervously shuffles his feet and pulls a piece of paper from his coat pocket as Zac Master stands silent.

LOCO (CONT'D)
First, what has happened is not a publicity stunt. In fact, all that has happened is still a mystery to Zac Master. He, nor I have any knowledge of what happened to the plane, the band or flight crew. Our prayers are that they somehow survived too. Zac will give his full cooperation to the authorities and will answer any questions he can. Again, let me make this perfectly clear, this is not a hoax, gimmick or a ruse for publicity. Now, here's Zac Master.

Zac Master confidently steps to podium with sunglasses on. As he looks over the crowd of people, he sees a mass of varying color auras - mostly dark, except one. Jamie Lee's aura is a beautiful bright golden.

ZAC
The events that has happened over the last hours, I can only describe as a miracle. I have experienced a spiritual awakening beyond my comprehension... What was broadcast today by Eye on LA news, is to my best recollection... exactly what happened. Believe it or not! I have no explanation for why or how it happened. I do not know the whereabouts of the plane or anyone aboard, so help me God!
(MORE)

ZAC (CONT'D)

I can only pray and hope, they will
return to us. That is all - -
Questions?

Reporters and camera people clamor for Zac's attention. Zac
raises right hand for quiet.

ZAC (CONT'D)

The first question goes to my
newest favorite reporter... Ms.
Jamie Lee Grant.

JAMIE LEE

Thank you Zac. One question with a
follow up...

ZAC

OK, shoot.

JAMIE LEE

How do you feel?

Zac smiles at Jamie Lee. She is aglow.

ZAC

Reborn. Dead, now alive!

JAMIE LEE

How has this changed you Zac?

ZAC

It's changed everything!

Reporters clamor, raising hands and shouting out questions.

REPORTER 1

Does that mean the king of sex,
drugs and rock-n-roll is cleaning
up is act?

ZAC

That man died on the plane.

REPORTER 2

Where's the pastor?

ZAC

My hero Jason is a humble man, who
is a bit overwhelmed by all this
and does not want to be recognized
for his courageous deed, but wishes
that all glory go to God!

REPORTER 3

Did you find religion Zac?

ZAC

No, I found the Lord. In fact, I got baptized today... Here's your back story, Zac Master has seen the light! Thanks for coming...

REPORTER 4

Did you see Elvis, Zac?

Zac and Loco wave farewell, then retreat behind the gates and back into the mansion leaving all the reporters screaming more questions.

Jamie Lee turns to Jake, who is putting his camera away.

JAMIE LEE

What'd ya think?

JAKE

I think you gave our news director a coronary... How do you feel?

JAMIE LEE

I know... I know, but I wanted to get some sense of what he was feeling. So what do you think Jake?

JAKE

I think there's more to this story. A whole lot more!

JAMIE LEE

Me too.

JAKE

Let's eat, I'm starving.

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - EARLY EVENING

Zac and Loco enter room and walk directly to the bar. Jason is passed out and snoring on the couch, while TV monitors silently illuminate all the major news channels.

LOCO

Look. The kid is out for the count.

ZAC

Yep, its been a wild day.

The two men make drinks and sit at the bar.

JAKE

No, really. Very professional!
You're high maintenance sister and
in this business, that'll take you
straight to the anchor desk.

JAMIE LEE

No, I'm not!

JAKE

(laughs)

That's what every high maintenance
woman says... I could live on what
you spend on clothes, shoes, hair,
nails, make-up and all the rest.

JAMIE LEE

Excuse me sir, for wanting to look
my best!

JAKE

And you will, sitting behind that
big anchor desk, another pretty
talking head reading the news.
Today, baby, you were making news.

JAMIE LEE

So what's your story Jake Gamble?

JAKE

West Texas born and bred too.

JAMIE LEE

(interested)

Really?

JAKE

Yeah, but I was born on the wrong
side of the tracks. And like all
West Texas young men, I played
football, which carried me out of
the oil patch and into SMU. From
there, it's all photo-journalism
history baby. There ain't a part of
the world, I haven't covered.

JAMIE LEE

Ever married Jake?

JAKE

Luckily, no!

JAMIE LEE

Am quite sure, there are a few
woman, who feel exactly the same.

JAKE

What?

JAMIE LEE

Nothing.

Jamie Lee smiles, then looks into her ice tea and begins
stirring it slowly.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

Jake, what do your instincts tell
you about the rest of this story?

Jake turns and stares into Jamie Lee's eyes, sincerely.

JAKE

You're the Godly one here. Figure
it out. If everything Zac Master
told us is the truth, which I
believe it is... Then, there's a
divine purpose to everything that's
happened so far. My gut is telling
me that all this is leading to
something bigger! Perhaps something
that's... beyond our comprehension.

JAMIE LEE

Like what Jake?

JAKE

Biblical, maybe?

JAMIE LEE

Holy Buckets Lord!

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - NIGHT

Jason awakens on couch to find Zac sitting at the bar staring
into space. He yawns, stretches, sits up and looks around.

JASON

Hey, how'd the news conference go?

Zac spins around to face Jason.

ZAC

Alright. How ya feeling?

JASON

A bit cloudy, but I'll survive.

Zac walks over and takes a seat on the couch next to Jason.

ZAC

Ya know since Loco's arrival, we really haven't had a chance to talk about you... and well... all this.

JASON

What divine part I'm playing?

ZAC

Well, yeah.

JASON

You want the whole truth... and nothing but the truth?

ZAC

Yes! We're friends, right?

JASON

We're something -- I need a drink.

Jason stands and walks to bar, pours a drink and returns as Zac studies every move, not saying a word.

JASON (CONT'D)

OK, here it is... about ten years ago, now remember I'm like sixteen. I met a woman, a bit older, like twenty. She had her own place. And I'm like a junior in high school and completely in lust. I hadn't found the Lord yet...

ZAC

OK.

Jason takes a drink as Zac slides up to the edge of his seat.

JASON

We had like a three month fling. It was my first... ya know experience. A month or so after we stopped seeing each other, she calls and tells me she's pregnant.

ZAC

Shit happens!

JASON

Well, a week or so before she spills the beans, I'd accepted the Lord, joined the church and was courting my future wife.

ZAC

Ouch! I'm getting the picture. What'd you do?

JASON

The most spineless act of my life. I told her to get an abortion. I gave her money and told her to handle it and that I never wanted to hear from her again.

ZAC

I'm with you so far.

JASON

Then, three weeks ago... out of nowhere, she calls to tell me that I have a son.

ZAC

Wow! What did you do?

JASON

Denied everything! I told her to go away and to leave me alone.

ZAC

(joking)
Bet that worked!

JASON

Not funny. Anyway, she kept calling. She even came to see me at the church. She was a complete mess Zac. I guess she'd been drinking and doing drugs... for awhile.

Jake shakes his head, downs drink and looks to Zac.

JASON (CONT'D)

While I was at church... She called my wife and told her everything.

ZAC

Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.

JASON

Exactly! So I get home, and my wife is all upset and completely out of control. She's screaming, crying, throwing stuff at me. I'm trying to calm her down, but anything I say just gets her more upset. She's leaving me and taking the kids to go to her parents. Finally, she goes, screaming that she hates me and never wants to see me again!

ZAC

Oh man, I'm so sorry.

JASON

I begged and begged her to stay!

ZAC

I know brother.

JASON

(sobbing)

Two hours later, the state police are at my door informing me, that my wife and kids are gone.

ZAC

Jason, I am so very sorry man.

Jason takes a drink, then looks at Zac with disbelief.

JASON

Want to hear the kicker?

ZAC

Sure.

JASON

I've never heard from or seen that woman again... I've called; I've looked... It's like she vanished.

ZAC

What was her name?

JASON

Evelyn Jankey. But everyone called her Eve. Ironic, huh?

ZAC

Old testament ironic, brother.

INT. RESTAURANT - BAR - NIGHT

Jake signals bartender for another drink, Jamie Lee shakes head, irritated.

JAMIE LEE

I can see that I'm driving back to the station.

JAKE

I can see you driving me home.

JAMIE LEE

Great! Driving drunk camera men home is not in my job description.

JAKE

It is tonight Ms. Grant. We had a great news day.

JAMIE LEE

The best! Now, drink up, it's getting late.

JAKE

Whatever -- Just one thing been gnawing at me all day.

JAMIE LEE

What's that Jake?

JAKE

Jason, our pastor. We know about the wife and kids tragedy, but who caused the dominoes to fall... The mysterious other woman?

JAMIE LEE

What's with you, men? Why do you always blame everything on a woman?

JAKE

Because, ever since Adam and Eve, it's always been a woman.

JAMIE LEE

You're drunk!

JAKE

No, I'm biblical baby!

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - NIGHT

ZAC

So, what's your plan now Jason?

JASON

I'll head home tomorrow. Confess my sin to my church and just wait for Eve to connect with me again... See what I can do for her and the boy.

ZAC

A boy?

JASON

Yeah, she named him Jason. She told me he was, I think... nine years old. Seems like a lifetime ago.

Jason rises from the couch and walks to the bar. He searches through his bag and produces an old bible, then returns to couch and hands it to Zac.

JASON (CONT'D)

I want to have this Zac.

ZAC

Gee, thanks. Haven't opened one of these in a very long time.

JASON

I understand. It's the first bible, I was ever given and I want you to have it. It's been good to me and I just know, it will be good to you!

Zac opens the bible and begins turning pages.

ZAC

I don't know where to begin.

JASON

I started in the Book of John.

Zac lays bible on table and begins turning pages.

ZAC

Here it is... "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God..."

A cold breeze blows through the room turning the pages of the bible while lights flicker.

ZAC (CONT'D)
 What the hell?

Jason slowly rises from the couch and walks to the bar. He searches through his bag and produces a handgun. As he slowly turns, an insane, and angry expression comes upon his face.

Zac stares upwards at Jason, horrified.

ZAC (CONT'D)
 What the...

JASON
 (Overseer's Voice)
 Did you forget our bargain, Zac?

ZAC
 What? No! Jason, what's happening?

JASON
 (Overseer's Voice)
 He's not here right now.

ZAC
 (Terrified)
 What do you want?

JASON
 (Overseer's Voice)
 Put on the glasses I sent you.

Zac reaches for the sunglasses on the coffee table, puts them on and slowly looks up - He sees the overseer.

OVERSEER
 Now, do you remember?

ZAC
 Yes, oh God. Yes!

OVERSEER
 Good, cause for awhile, I didn't think I had your full support. Do I have your attention now Zac?

ZAC
 Yes!

OVERSEER
 Do you wish to live or burn in the lake of fire for-ever?

ZAC
 I want to live!

OVERSEER
I thought so.

ZAC
What do you want?

OVERSEER
Everything.

ZAC
I don't --

The overseer magically waves his hand silencing Zac.

OVERSEER
Understanding is no longer required
Zac. Following, however is... So
from now on, wherever you go,
whatever you do, I want you to
always wear these glasses. They
have, shall we say, powers. Agreed?

Zac slowly nods in defeat.

OVERSEER (CONT'D)
Very well. But, just for now,
please remove the glasses.

Zac removes the glasses and places them on coffee table, then
looks up to see Jason again.

JASON
(Overseer's Voice)
To put a final point to this
lesson Zac, so you'll never forget,
not to ever disappoint me again.

Jason flashes Zac an evil grin.

JASON (CONT'D)
(Own Voice)
Goodbye Zac...

Jason raises the handgun to his temple.

JASON (CONT'D)
Hell's awaiting.

He fires. Blood and matter splatters everywhere as Jason
drops to the floor and Zac rushes to him.

ZAC
(Screaming)
Jason! Oh my God! What did you do?

Loco rushes into the room.

 LOCO
 (Screaming)
What the fuck happened here?

 ZAC
Call nine, one, one now!

Loco grabs the phone on the bar and dials as Zac cradles Jason's lifeless body.

 ZAC (CONT'D)
Hold on buddy. Help is on the way.

Jason's eyes pop open wide as he grabs Zac's arm.

 JASON
 (Overseer's Voice)
Put the fucking glasses on, now!

Zac pushes the body away and jumps back as Jason's body falls lifeless to floor. Loco can't believe his eyes.

 ZAC
 (Fearful)
What the fuck?

 LOCO
Is he alive?

 ZAC
Half his head's gone... man.

 LOCO
 (Hysterical)
But, he's talking...

 OPERATOR (V.O.)
Nine-One-One. Is this an emergency?

 LOCO
Yes! There's been a shooting. Send
an ambulance here now!

 OPERATOR (V.O.)
Stay on the line with me, sir.
Who's been shot? Are they alive?

 LOCO
Fuck off! Just get here!

Loco slams phone, joins Zac on the floor next to the body.

LOCO (CONT'D)
What the fuck is happening Zac?

Zac crawls to coffee table, picks up glasses and puts them on, then stands and looks down at Loco and Jason's body. Loco's aura is dark and gloomy, while Jason's afire.

 ZAC
Never mind! Just, do your fucking job. Call the lawyers, and the P.R. people, we need damage control here... and fast!

INT. NEWS VAN - RESTAURANT PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Jamie Lee is sitting in drivers seat when her phone RINGS as Jake reaches back to igloo cooler for a beer.

 JAMIE LEE
Hello, this is Jamie Lee Grant.

Jamie Lee listens while glaring at Jake.

 JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)
(concerned)
What? Are you absolutely sure about this? A shooting? Who?

Jamie Lee continues listening, while Jake snaps to life.

 JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)
OK, we're on our way.

 JAKE
What?

Jamie Lee hangs up phone and, stares at Jake in disbelief.

 JAMIE LEE
You're never going to believe this!

 JAKE
Try me. What?

 JAMIE LEE
The boys in the newsroom monitoring the police scanners just called...

 JAKE
Zac Master!

JAMIE LEE

Yes! There's been a shooting at his house. The police are in route...

JAKE

Hot damn! Any other details?

JAMIE LEE

No, just that someone's been shot.

Jamie Lee gently nudges Jake's arm with her hand.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

Whatcha thinking Jake?

JAKE

I'm thinking, it's the pastor. It explains why, he was on the beach. And it's over a woman! A woman, we haven't met yet!

JAMIE LEE

That again? Where do you come up with this stuff?

JAKE

Well Ms. Grant, it's called, personal experience. Now, what are you waiting for? Let's roll!

Jamie Lee shakes her head in amazement, then starts the van and drives away.

IN A SERIES OF NEWS PAPER HEADLINES, NEWS REPORTS AND CONCERT FOOTAGE WE FOLLOW ZAC MASTER OVER THE NEXT YEAR.

ZAC LIVES! - PASTOR DIES. CORONER: PASTOR'S DEATH - SUICIDE!

JAMIE LEE GRANT NEWEST LA ANCHOR! - Z ROCKS VATICAN!

ZAC MASTER "THE NEW MESSIAH?" GIVES UNICEF BENEFIT CONCERT

ZAC MASTER'S "GOD'S ROCKER" HITS #1 ON BILLBOARD CHARTS!

ZAC MASTER SWEEPS GRAMMY'S - ZAC DONATES BIG TO KIDS

ONE YEAR LATER...

EXT. STADIUM CONCERT - NIGHT

Zac Master on stage with glasses on and is finishing final encore and as he looks out over the sold out venue into a sea of dark and distorted auras of screaming fans.

The song ends and the stadium goes wild as Zac disappears.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Zac sniffs up a long line of cocaine, then leans back and stares into mirror. Alone, he glances at cigarette pack on table, then he telekinetically transports a cigarette from the pack to his hand.

Zac looks at a candle to his left and it lights, then ignites the cigarette with the candle. He takes a long and relaxing drag, then exhales.

ZAC

Aaaah. Peace at... Huh?

The rims of the sunglasses begin to glow bright red.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Fuck!

As if in a trance, Zac slowly moves his right palm into the flame of the candle and leaves it there for an agonizing few moments.

He casually removes it, then stares into his burnt right hand as name, date, coordinates and time appears.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Not again.

KNOCK on the door, Loco enters.

LOCO

Can I come in Zac?

ZAC

Yeah, come in.

LOCO

(excited)

Great show tonight Zac! OK, I got some interviews set up...

ZAC

I got to go.

LOCO

You're not disappearing again?

Zac stands and confronts Loco.

ZAC
 You're my manager, so manage
 without me. Now, get the fuck out!

LOCO
 Whatever, it's handled! I'm gone.

Loco exits the room and slams the door as Zac puts on a full length dark leather coat, then hides his long blonde hair under a dark grey fedora hat, then leaves room.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

A young boy, JASON JANKEY sits on the floor of his bedroom telekinetically bouncing a ball from wall to wall as Zac Master music plays.

The DRUNKEN VOICES of a man and woman in the next room can be heard as the ball moves faster and faster.

MAN (O.S.)
 What the fuck is your kid doing?

EVE (O.S.)
 Leave him be and come here...

MAN
 Fuck it! I can't take it.

The sound of a man getting out of bed and walking is heard.

EVE
 Please, don't go in there!

Jason's bedroom door flies open.

MAN
 (angry)
 Knock that shit off!

The man's mouth drops open, can't believe what he's sees.

MAN (CONT'D)
 What the hell? Come here, you
 little...

Man aggressively steps to Jason, who turns and glares fearlessly upwards. The boy blinks and -

The man is sent flying hard into the back wall and falls to the floor, EVE JANKEY, the boys mother, rushes into the room.

EVE

Jason!

The man is visibly shaken, quickly stands and looks at the boy in amazement. Jason stares back with empty eyes.

MAN

I'm outta here.

EVE

No, no, please don't go...

The man runs for the front door and slams it as he leaves, as Eve stares angrily at her son.

EVE (CONT'D)

Happy? God, how I wish you'd never been born!

Jason continues bouncing the ball as Eve slams the door.

EXT. RESTAURANT - VALET STATION - NIGHT

A black Lamborghini pulls to the curb twenty feet from valet stand and parks, leaves engine running.

A finely dressed mystery man exits restaurant surrounded by four large and heavily armed bodyguards.

The valet signals his limo driver to the curb for pick up.

Zac Master casually exits his Lamborghini and walks to curb.

As the limo arrives, the valet prepares to open back door, when a mini van pulls up, it's rear slide door opens with machine gun blazing.

VALET

(screams)

Oh, no!

Valet opens limo door and dives in for safety as SHOTS FIRED.

Zac Master leaps into action - tackling and shielding man from the threat in the mini van. His coat is bullet ridden.

Bodyguards react slowly and are mowed down by the bullets.

ZAC

You OK, mister?

MYSTERY MAN

I think so. Who are you?

Zac helps the man up and into the waiting limousine, as the valet staggers out in a daze.

ZAC

Nobody.

Zac slowly turns and walks back to the Lamborghini.

MYSTERY MAN

(shouts)

Who are you?

Valet walks to limo and prepares to close back door.

VALET

Sir, I think that was Zac Master...

Zac Master enters Lamborghini and speeds away as SIRENS approach the crime scene.

MYSTERY MAN

The rock star?

VALET

Tonight, the rock super hero!

Valet slams door, limo pulls away as police and fire arrive.

INT. NEWS ROOM LOBBY - MORNING

A young, voluptuous receptionist sits at desk behind the TV stations call letters - WCBA - as a disheveled Jake enters.

RECEPTIONIST

Good morning asshole.

Jake enters and flashes a sly smile and approaches woman.

JAKE

Oh, so sorry about last night
Sweetie... I was...

RECEPTIONIST

(interrupts)

Fuck off Jake! The station manager
wants to see you in the conference
room now! Here, you'll need this.

The receptionist pulls out a tray containing a hair brush, mints, cologne, Clear Eyes and Jake quickly freshens up.

JAKE

Thanks. We'll talk later baby.

Jake walks away as receptionist shoots him the finger.

INT. NEWS ROOM - CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING

Jake enters the room to find Jamie Lee sitting alone.

JAKE
Good morning Ms. Grant.

JAMIE LEE
Good morning Mr. Gamble.

An awkward silence fills the room, as Jake reaches into his jacket for a cigarette.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)
You're not smoking in here Mister!

JAKE
No, mom... I'm not. Hey, I didn't get a chance to congratulate on your promotion to news anchor.

JAMIE LEE
Well, thank you Jake.

JAKE
Just what the world needs now,
another blond reading the news.

JAMIE LEE
(angry)
Jake, you're so...

The station manager, program director and news director quickly enter the room and take their seats.

STATION MANAGER
Good morning everyone. Let's get to it. OK, it's been a year since we did the Zac Master story. We want to do a follow-up series.

NEWS DIRECTOR
We're thinking, something along the lines of, "The Reborn Rock Star."

PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Focus on, how Zac Master has turned his life around since the disaster.

STATION MANAGER

And because, you two were in the eye of the storm, we think it appropriate you do the story. A real rise from the ashes piece.

JAMIE LEE

Sir, I don't know if I've got the time to work on a feature story...

NEWS DIRECTOR

Make time Ms. Grant!

JAKE

Gentlemen, let me get this straight, you want us to do some puff piece on Zac Master. Completely disregarding the miraculous and I mean, hand of God events that happened, and we saw!

STATION MANAGER

Pretty much, yeah. Get started on it right away! If you'll excuse us... Gentlemen, we have to be at corporate in thirty minutes.

The executives exit room leaving Jamie Lee and Jake alone.

JAKE

I can't believe those three imbeciles! Not a gonad between em. Oh well, it'll be like old times.

Jake puts cigarette in mouth and lights it.

JAMIE LEE

(sarcastically)

Swell... more beer and cigarettes.

JAKE

Baby, ya love it!

JAMIE LEE

Yeah right. So where do we start?

JAKE

With the man himself... Zac Master!

EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND - DAY

Little Jason sits alone on a swing slowly moving back and forth as three older and bigger boys harass him.

BOY 1

My mom says you're your mom's a
rock ho.

BOY 2

That's what my momma said too!

Jason continues swinging back and forth, silent.

BOY 3

Can't you talk boy?

BOY 1

We can make you.

The boys begin pushing and slapping Jason.

BOY 2

We're going to mess you up!

BOY 3

What's a matter, you chicken?

Jason jumps off swing and stares down the boys, an evil smile crosses his face. He blinks hard and all three boys drop to the ground gasping for air, choking. Jason slowly and silently walks away.

INT. SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - LATER

Eve, who is clearly under the influence and the principal are in a heated discussion.

The young boy, Jason sits alone in a chair outside the office, staring out into space, but hearing all.

PRINCIPAL

Ms. Jankey, as I've already stated,
I'm required by law to report this
to Child Protective Services.

EVE

(sexiest smile)
Please call me, Eve.

PRINCIPAL

OK Eve. I'm sorry, there have been
too many reports filed against your
son... Jesus, everyone is scared to
death of him. They call him, the
evil Harry Potter.

Eve stands and moves around the desk to be closer.

EVE

Isn't there something I can do...
to change your mind? Maybe, we
could meet for a drink somewhere?

Eve sits on desk and begins fondling the principal.

EVE (CONT'D)

Or you could stop by the house
tonight or... anytime you like.

Principal stands and gently pushes Eve away.

PRINCIPAL

Again, I'm sorry. They will be
contacted immediately and they'll
determine what's best for Jason.

EVE

(slurring)

Do you think I give a shit? He's
been a curse, since the day he was
born. C.P.S. can have his ass!

Eve storms out of the office and grabs her son by the ear.

EVE (CONT'D)

(outraged)

Fuck this... We're outta here!

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - AFTERNOON

Zac Master sits alone on couch telekinetically playing darts,
hitting three bulls eyes in a row.

Candles burn throughout room as Gothic music plays softly,
the sound of footsteps coming down the stairs is heard. Loco
enters room.

LOCO

What's with all the candles man? We
having a seance or an interview?

ZAC

I was meditating.

Loco begins turning on lights and blowing out candles.

LOCO

Whatever Z. It's time for the here
and now. The news crew will be here
soon.

ZAC
 Jamie Lee Grant is doing the
 interview, right?

LOCO
 Yep. When she called, she said that
 she'd be bringing the same camera
 man too.

Zac drops his head and does a line a line of coke, then leans
 back, stretches out and smiles broadly.

ZAC
 Whew! I get good vibes from her. I
 watch her on the news all the time.

LOCO
 That's sweet. Now, let's clean this
 shit up before they get here.

Zac does another line, then Loco finishes off the rest and
 removes the tray, then walks to bar and hides it.

LOCO (CONT'D)
 Want a drink?

ZAC
 After.

The telephone on bar RINGS.

LOCO
 That'll be them.

Loco answers the telephone.

LOCO (CONT'D)
 Hello... Yeah, we're waiting. I'll
 buzz you in.

Loco presses a button on receiver and turns to Zac.

LOCO (CONT'D)
 They're here!

ZAC
 (excited)
 Great! Go upstairs and meet them.

LOCO
 Can do!

Loco runs up the stairs as Zac picks up his glasses and puts
 them on. The rims of the glasses begin to glow bright red.

ZAC

What now?

Zac telekinetically reignites candle and places his right hand into the fire before him for a few excruciating moments.

Zac removes hand from fire and looks at it. Burned into his palm, it reads - JASON JANKEY - TONIGHT - 33.4264° N, 111.9325° W.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Jason Jankey, huh?

INT. BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

The boy, Jason Jankey is sitting on the floor telekinetically bouncing his ball from wall to wall.

Zac Master music plays in background as camera pans over to next bedroom, where Eve is laying motionless on bed, eyes wide open in death stare with a hypodermic needle in her arm.

The sound of music and the bouncing ball continues...

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

Zac stands as Loco leads Jamie Lee and Jake into room.

ZAC

(smiling)

Hello Jamie Lee. How are you? Hey, Jake, welcome back.

Zac shakes hands with both guests then sprawls out on couch.

JAMIE LEE

Hi Zac. Good. Thanks for asking.

JAKE

Always a pleasure Zac.

ZAC

Care for anything?

JAMIE LEE

Nothing for me, thanks.

JAKE

I'll have a beer, if ya got one.

Jamie Lee gives Jake a non-approving glare.

JAKE (CONT'D)
What? I'm thirsty.

ZAC
Loco, get the man a beer.

LOCO
You got it!

As Jamie Lee and Jake take their seats across from Zac, Loco retrieves a beer from the bar.

Loco hands the beer to Jake, then strides toward chair.

ZAC
Loco, I want just the three of us here, right now. OK?

LOCO
What? Oh, whatever you say Zac. I'll be upstairs, if you need me. Remember the helicopter is due at four to take you to the airport.

ZAC
OK.

Loco exits as Jake POPS the beer open while Zac looks to Jamie Lee through his glasses and marvels at her aura.

JAMIE LEE
(warm smile)
Zac, let's catch up a bit, OK?
Then, we'll film the interview.

ZAC
Sure. Whatever you like.

JAMIE LEE
First, how are you Zac?

Jake does a double take at Jamie Lee.

ZAC
I'm good, all things considered...

JAMIE LEE
I understand. Ever wonder what happened with Jason?

Zac stares into Jamie Lee's kind face.

ZAC

All the time. Not a day goes by
that I don't think about it.

Jake takes a big sip of beer, then reaches into his sport
jacket pocket for a cigarette.

JAKE

Did he say anything to you before
he shot himself?

ZAC

(looks down)
Ah, not really. Nothing out of the
ordinary, that I recall.

JAKE

Mind if I smoke?

ZAC

Not at all.

Jake lights cigarette as Jamie Lee sits with arms folded and
glaring forward, infuriated.

JAKE

Cause I got a theory.

ZAC

(interested)
Shoot! I'd love to hear it.

JAKE

It all starts with the beach. What
was he doing there. Jason said he
was praying, but what if he was
there for something else...

ZAC

To kill himself?

JAKE

Exactly! But, it all goes awry when
you come falling out of the sky.

ZAC

I've thought of that too.

JAKE

But why?

Jamie Lee leans forward and slyly smiles.

JAMIE LEE

Jake thinks it was over a woman.

JAKE

I know it baby! Zac, did Jason ever talk about another woman?

ZAC

Now, I need a drink.

Zac stands and walks to bar.

ZAC (CONT'D)

As a matter of fact, he did.

JAKE

I knew it!

JAMIE LEE

What!

Zac pours his drink and returns to the couch.

ZAC

He told me that years ago, he'd dated another woman and that they'd had a physical relationship.

JAKE

Now, we're getting some place. And?

ZAC

I believe it was his first. He was like sixteen. Anyway, soon after, he found God and broke it off.

Zac takes a long pull from his drink, leans back and looks with concern at Jamie Lee. She smiles back with acceptance.

ZAC (CONT'D)

But, not soon enough it seems. Turns out, she was pregnant.

JAKE

(excited)

Bingo!

Jamie Lee glares, irritatingly at Jake.

JAMIE LEE

Bingo. Really Jake?

Jake finishes off his beer and ignores Jamie Lee.

JAKE
Then what Zac?

ZAC
He told her to get an abortion.

JAKE
OK. But, she doesn't, does she?

ZAC
No, she doesn't! But, Jason never
hears from her again, until a few
weeks before - all this starts
happening...

Jake turns to Jamie Lee with a gloating smile.

JAKE
See? I told you... a woman.

JAMIE LEE
Yeah. OK. Please continue Zac.

ZAC
Seems this woman had the baby. It
was a boy and she named him after
Jason. Out of the blue, she wants
to reconnect with the pastor. Well,
somehow, Jason's wife finds out
and... the rest you know.

JAKE
Wow, amazing! Can I have another
beer Zac?

ZAC
Sure. Get me a refill too.

Jake stands, retrieves Zac's glass and heads to the bar.

Jamie Lee shakes head with disapproval, then smiles at Zac.

JAMIE LEE
You OK?

ZAC
Oh yeah. I haven't told anyone this
before and... I know, I needed to.

Jake returns with drinks and gives Jamie Lee a knowing wink.

JAKE
Did Jason ever mention her by name?

Zac takes a gulp, leans back as Jake and Jamie Lee lean in.

ZAC

Yes! I remember that specifically, cause we laughed about it. Jason said, "it was so ironic..."

JAMIE LEE

How so?

ZAC

Her name. Her name was Evelyn, but everyone called her Eve!

JAMIE LEE

Oh my Lord!

JAKE

Old testament ironic!

Zac points to Jake in agreement.

ZAC

That's exactly what I thought!

INT. BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

The boy, Jason stands, walks to mother's bedroom, then stops in the doorway and stares at her lifeless body.

Without a hint of emotion, little Jason slowly walks to the kitchen and opens refrigerator. He grabs milk and cookies, then sits at the table eating alone, while in the background—the ball continues to bounce and Zac Master music plays.

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - AFTERNOON

Jake grabs a notebook and begins shuffling through pages.

JAMIE LEE

Did he happen to mention her last name, Zac?

ZAC

Wow! So much happened on that day. But he did tell me... It was something like Parkay. No, Lankay... That's not it, but...

Jake's head shoots up from his notebook.

JAKE
Jankay! Evelyn Jankay.

ZAC
That's it!

Jamie Lee quickly turns to Jake.

JAMIE LEE
(surprise)
How ever did you know?

JAKE
(broad smile)
Research sweetie! Ya know, I'm more than just pretty face... And she has one dependent, a son named, Jason Adam Jankey.

ZAC
That's got to be her! Scary.

JAKE
Oh yeah, I'm calling the station.

Jake stands and pulls out his cell phone as Zac sits back in a complete state of shock.

JAKE (CONT'D)
My boy, Rodney in records will run her down... pronto!

Jake walks to the bar and begins talking on his cell phone as Jamie Lee smiles warmly at Zac.

Zac's mind is racing as he looks back at Jamie Lee, whose aura is almost angelic.

JAMIE LEE
(warmly)
Zac, is there anything else about that day, anything at all... that you can recall, that might bring a brighter light to all this?

ZAC
Like what?

Zac slowly shakes his head in disbelief as Jamie Lee leans forward and stares hopefully at him.

JAMIE LEE

Zac, in 2nd Timothy, scripture encourages each of us to, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth..."

Jake completes call and returns to seat next to Jamie Lee.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

What's on your heart Zac?

ZAC

There is one other thing that happened that day... It's so unbelievable that...

JAMIE LEE & JAKE

(in unison)

YES!

ZAC

That it has to be off the record!

JAMIE LEE & JAKE

Absolutely!

ZAC

Right before Jason shot himself... He got up from the couch and walked to his bags that were sitting on the floor next to the bar, then he came back with this.

Zac pats the bible sitting on the coffee table.

JAMIE LEE

Good Zac.

JAKE

Keep going...

ZAC

Told me it was his first bible and that it had been very good to him and he wanted me to have it... I began reading a passage out of the Book of John and this cold breeze shot through the room.

Zac opens the bible to demonstrate.

ZAC (CONT'D)

And the pages began to turn... Then Jason got up and walked to his bags again... When he turned around, he had the gun in his hand and this strange evil look on his face.

JAKE

What did he say...Zac?

ZAC

It was like he was possessed. His voice changed... It was the voice of the man from hell.

Zac lowers head to his hands and sobs.

ZAC (CONT'D)

I couldn't believe what I was seeing. It was nightmare. Then, he put the gun to his head and...

JAKE

What did he say?

ZAC

(looks away)
I can't remember.

JAMIE LEE

Where was Loco?

ZAC

Upstairs. But, he rushed down right after the shot and called 9-1-1.

Jamie Lee leans forward to gently touch Zac's shoulder as he stares into her soft eyes with a look of hopelessness.

JAMIE LEE

(sincere)
"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?"

A cold wind blows through the room, the lights flicker startling Jamie Lee and Jake.

JAKE

Now, that's a little spooky.

JAMIE LEE

Goose bump spooky.

Zac casually leans back, composes himself as if nothing strange has just occurred.

ZAC
 (serious)
 OK. Jake grab your camera and let's shoot this interview. I've got a concert to prepare for...

INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

The young boy, Jason Jankey sits alone at the table having cookies and milk as a cold breeze blows through the kitchen rustling papers and curtains. Music stops playing and ball stops bouncing.

The boy looks up to see a man dressed in white standing before him.

LITTLE JASON
 Popi!

The young boy, Jason runs to man.

OVERSEER
 We must leave now, son.

They hear a POUNDING on front door.

LITTLE JASON
 Where Popi?

OVERSEER
 To see Zac Master.

LITTLE JASON
 Yippee!

EXT. FRONT DOOR - LATE AFTERNOON

Two policemen and two C.P.S. Officers firmly knock on door.

One officer tries the door. It's unlocked.

All four cautiously enter the home.

INT. HOME - EARLY EVENING

POLICE MAN 1
 Ms. Jankay? Are you home?

They spread out and begin searching house.

POLICE MAN 2

We got a body in the bedroom! Looks like a drug O.D.

The rest of the house is quiet and deserted.

POLICE MAN 1

Call the coroner, then call missing children, we need an Amber alert!

INT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - JUNGLE ROOM - NIGHT

Jake signals, then lowers his camera from shoulder.

JAKE

That's a wrap folks. Great job y'all. Hey, can I grab a beer for the road?

Jamie Lee shoots Jake a cold stare, then smiles at Zac.

JAMIE LEE

Yes, thank you Zac. I appreciate you making time for us today.

ZAC

Sure Jake.

(pauses thinking)

Hey, I got a great idea. What don't you two accompany me to my concert tonight and get a real behind the scenes exclusive?

JAMIE LEE

Oh, we couldn't. I got to be getting back to the station.

JAKE

(disappointed)

What?

ZAC

C'mon y'all... Helicopter ride to airport. Private jet to Phoenix.

Zac gives Jake an affirmative nod and smile.

ZAC (CONT'D)

Limo to concert. Backstage passes, free food, booze and...

Jake waves Jamie Lee off.

JAKE
We're there for you brother!

EXT. ZAC MASTER MANSION - BACKYARD - LATE AFTERNOON

A helicopter lands on a helipad as Zac Master, Loco, Jamie Lee and Jake carrying camera case and a beer board.

Helicopter takes off.

EXT. AIRPORT - LATE AFTERNOON

The helicopter lands adjacent to private jet as Zac, Loco, Jamie Lee & Jake carrying camera case and beer leave helicopter and board jet.

Jet taxis down runway and takes off.

EXT. ARIZONA AIRPORT - DUSK

Jet lands and Zac, Loco, Jamie Lee, & Jake with camera case and beer exit jet for waiting limo.

INT. LIMO - DUSK

As the limo exits freeway and Sun Devil Stadium comes into view, a strange look appears on Zac's face.

ZAC
Loco, I ever played here before?

LOCO
No, why?

ZAC
Cause, I'm getting a real weird
Deja Vu feeling. It's like...

JAKE
It's the home for the Arizona State
Sun Devils football team, Zac.

JAMIE LEE
Looks really big... But nice!

Jake's cell phone RINGS.

JAKE
Hello. Yeah, I'm here...

Jake listens intently, then taps Jamie Lee on the knee to get her full attention.

Zac turns pale and wide-eyed, looks all around in fear.

LOCO
You OK Zac?

ZAC
Don't know. Something about this place is just so familiar...

JAKE
Hey everybody, that was my research guy at the station.

Jake stares with concern at Jamie Lee.

JAKE (CONT'D)
They just found Eve Jankay dead in her home and the boy is missing!

JAMIE LEE
Oh Lord! How'd she die?

JAKE
Unknown.

ZAC
(whispers)
Oh my God.

Zac's stares off into space as the limo arrives at stadium and everyone begins exiting the limo.

Zac stands and waves as he leaves the limo, looking paranoid. He begins to realize where he's seen this place before.

Zac, Loco, Jamie Lee and Jake with camera and beer are escorted by security into a building for a pre-concert party.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - EARLY EVENING

Loud Zac Master music playing as voices of guests are heard.

Zac Master, Loco, Jamie Lee and Jake walk into the party room, where a hundred or so VIP's are celebrating.

Signs are prominently posted everywhere: NO CAMERAS ALLOWED!

The music and noise stops, all attention turns to Zac Master.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
 (over PA system)
 Ladies and gentlemen, rock legend
 and music superstar... Zac Master!

The party explodes with a thunderous standing ovation as Zac Master waves to everyone, then leans into Loco.

ZAC
 (nervous)
 I got to get outta here. Where's my
 dressing room?

LOCO
 (points)
 Directly through those doors.

Zac waves goodbye and quickly walks to dressing room.

LOCO (CONT'D)
 What's with him?

JAKE
 Is he OK?

The music and conversations start up again.

LOCO
 He's a pro, He'll be fine! Make
 yourself at home. I got to check on
 a few things.

Loco exits the room through front entrance.

JAMIE LEE
 What's going on Jake?

JAKE
 Dunno love, but keep those baby
 blues peeled.

JAMIE LEE
 For what?

JAKE
 For anything that...

Jake gazes over entire extravaganza.

JAKE (CONT'D)
 Hey look, an open bar! Check out
 the buffet table.
 (MORE)

JAKE (CONT'D)

Just what you'd expect backstage at
a Zac Master concert! First class
all the way!

JAMIE LEE

(annoyed)

We're working here... Jake!

JAKE

Yeah, right. One thing... call the
station and have them shoot you a
picture of the kid. My gut tells
me, he's the key! Oh look, crab!

Jamie Lee shakes head in disgust, then retrieves her phone.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Zac Master sits alone staring into the mirror. In the
reflection, the hooded man appears, draws a knife to Zac's
neck -- Zac spins around, falling to the floor. He looks
up... no one's there.

ZAC

Oh God, it's happening.

Music and noise echo in the background as Zac's glasses begin
to glow bright red. He places his hand above a candle and it
burns.

ZAC (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

OUCH!

Zac stares at his hand but nothing appears. It's the first
time it's been painful and he's perplexed.

ZAC (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

Please, help me...

EXT. SUN DEVIL STADIUM - NIGHT

A capacity crowd fills into Sun Devil Stadium as the
excitement, music, noise builds.

The hooded man escorts Jason, who is wearing a blue ball cap,
into the stadium.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - NIGHT

Jamie Lee marches up to Jake with her smart phone in hand. Jake is partying with a beautiful rock groupie and has a full plate of food and a beer in his hands.

JAMIE LEE
(still annoyed)
What are you doing?

JAKE
Socializing... meeting, greeting,
eating and imbibing.

Jake lays his food on a table, winks at the groupie and turns to face Jamie Lee.

JAKE (CONT'D)
What's up Sherlock?

JAMIE LEE
I got the kids pic from research.
Take a look.

Jamie Lee hands her phone to Jake.

JAKE
Wow! You got it!

JAMIE LEE
(excited)
What?

JAKE
A pic of your average prepubescent
boy, which numbers in the thousands
here tonight sweetie!

Jake signals the rock groupie that he'll only be a moment.

JAKE (CONT'D)
He's still missing, right?

JAMIE LEE
Yep!

JAKE
Then, I'll bet dollars to donuts,
he's here tonight. And if he is,
the question becomes... why?

Loco strolls up on Jamie Lee and Jake.

LOCO
Y'all having fun?

JAMIE LEE
Yes. Thanks.

JAKE
The best!

LOCO
Here's your Backstage Passes.

Loco gives the passes to Jamie Lee and Jake.

LOCO (CONT'D)
I got to go and check on Zac. Eat,
drink and enjoy the concert. It's
gonna be one helluva show!

Loco exits to the dressing rooms as Jake smiles to the rock groupie and flashes his backstage pass as Jamie Lee folds her arms and coughs to get Jake's attention.

JAMIE LEE
Are you working here Mr. Gamble?

JAKE
Like never before baby.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Zac sits staring into mirror reflection when Loco KNOCKS.

LOCO
How ya doing champ? Can I come in?

ZAC
One sec.

Zac stands and opens door.

ZAC (CONT'D)
What's up?

Loco enters and sits on couch opposite Zac.

LOCO
Fifteen minutes to show time Zac!
It's a perfect night - a capacity
crowd, clear skies, 75 degrees...
Need anything?

ZAC

I'm good.

Loco reaches into his coat pocket and removes a small glass vial containing a white powder substance. Raises vial up to show Zac.

LOCO

A blast in honor of William,
Xander and Yvette.

ZAC

(angry)

Fuck off Loco! Why do you bring
that shit up right now? Fifteen
minutes before the show, you're
mind fucking me with the past.

LOCO

(sad)

I'm sorry.

ZAC

You are sorry! You better stop
bringing the past up or we're gonna
make some changes, you feel me man?

LOCO

(worried)

Yes, I understand.

ZAC

Now, give me a hit!

Loco hands the vial over to Zac, who takes a small spoon out
and does two big blasts!

LOCO

(subservient)

Happy now?

Loco leans in and does a line off his fist, then rocks back.

LOCO (CONT'D)

Whew mama!

A chilly breeze blows through the room - candles flicker,
papers blow off table, and Loco's whole expression and
demeanor completely change in an instant.

Zac has seen this happen before.

LOCO (CONT'D)
(in overseer's voice)
But, do you feel me Zac?

ZAC
(fearful)
No, not again!

Horrified, Zac falls back and out of chair onto floor.

LOCO
(overseer's voice)
Get up! And put your fucking
glasses on!

ZAC
Oh my God!

Zac rises from floor, puts glasses on and sees overseer.

OVERSEER
Not quite. Now, sit down. We need
to chat awhile.

Zac obediently sits in chair and begins to plead for mercy.

ZAC
Please, I can't do this!

OVERSEER
But, you can and will my boy. You
know the alternative.

Zac Master seizes up in excruciating pain.

ZAC
(screaming)
Ahhhh, God!!!

OVERSEER
Catch my drift?

ZAC
(in agony)
Yes! But, what about the boy?

OVERSEER
It was predetermined long ago.

ZAC
What was?

OVERSEER

Everything! Think of this world as one big chess game and all of you are simply pieces in the game.

ZAC

What game?

Overseer lifts Zac's head upward for direct eye contact.

OVERSEER

Good and evil. Ya see, I make a move; He makes a move. I take a knight; He takes a bishop... so on and so forth.

Zac sits slumped in complete defeat and listens uninspired.

OVERSEER (CONT'D)

Throughout all of history, we've played, what did Shakespeare say, "All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players..." He was a pawn of mine!

Overseer does a little twirl about the room.

OVERSEER (CONT'D)

Just like that poor Mormon lady, who writes the vampire love stories. She's mine and doesn't even know it! You are all possessed and few have a clue!

Overseer evilly laughs aloud.

ZAC

The boy?

OVERSEER

Like you, not a clue! Right now, he's nothing, but in a few short years. He's a problem.

Zac's head drops into his hands in hopelessness as overseer's evil laughter continues.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - NIGHT

Jake is the life of the party until Jamie Lee storms up.

JAMIE LEE

Are you working tonight or what?

Jake's arms are wrapped around the rock groupie and a beer.

JAKE
Can't you see I'm working baby!

JAMIE LEE
I'm getting a strange feeling. I think we should talk to Zac.

JAKE
Woo Nellie, little buckaroo. It's almost show time. He don't need us.

JAMIE LEE
(upset)
Jake, you can stand here and do whatever it is that you're doing. But, I'm going in...

Jamie Lee turns and stomps away as Jake raises his beer.

JAKE
Go get em tiger!

Jake turns to rock groupie and hands her his beer.

JAKE (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
Oh shit! Hold on to this for me sweetie. Promise, I'll be right back... The kid needs back-up!

INT. DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Zac Master is on the floor on all fours as the overseer stands over him with his right hand on Zac's head.

OVERSEER
(preaching)
For two thousand years, I didn't have a prayer. But today, it's a whole new game. I'm bigger and stronger than ever! I'm everywhere - TV, internet, films, books and oh yes... the music!

There's a gentle KNOCK on the door.

JAMIE LEE (O.S.)
Zac? You OK?

OVERSEER
Go away!

JAMIE LEE (O.S.)
I need to talk to you...now!

Jamie Lee opens the door and steps inside.

LOCO
(screams overseer's voice)
OUT!

Jake walks briskly down hall and sees Jamie Lee propelled backwards into corridor wall.

Loco looks out doorway to right, then left through doorway as Jake cold-cocks him, then rushes to Jamie Lee on floor.

JAKE
You alright kiddo?

JAMIE LEE
Yeah, I'm fine. Help me up.

Jake helps Jamie Lee up from floor as Zac stands and tends to Loco, who is extremely groggy.

JAKE
What just happened here folks?

Loco staggers to his feet with assistance from Zac and rubs his chin and looks at Jake.

LOCO
I don't know... Who just hit me?

ZAC
Jake, just knocked the devil out of you Loco. Be grateful man!

Zac tips his head and smiles at Jake.

ZAC (CONT'D)
Nice punch Jake.

JAKE
Hey, that's just what I do when a woman is in distress... I bring out the Texas fire!

JAMIE LEE
(shakes head, smiling)
Help me Lord.

LOCO
Hey, we got a show tonight, right?

ZAC

Yep.

Loco looks at his watch, then to Zac.

LOCO

You're on in five minutes man...
Someone help me to the stage.

JAKE

Can do Loco.

Jake looks at Jamie Lee and smiles broadly.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Think you can keep yourself out of
trouble till I get back sugar?

JAMIE LEE

Go already.

Jake and Loco exit the room leaving Jamie Lee and Zac alone.

Jamie Lee sits on couch opposite Zac with a concerned look on her face. Zac stares back at Jamie Lee's angelic aura.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

What's going on here Zac. You know
more than what you're telling us. I
can feel it!

ZAC

(scared)

The devil that took over Jason just
took over Loco. I don't know if
it's real or some figment of my
imagination.

JAMIE LEE

That figment just tossed me out of
the room Zac. Jake and I believe it
has something to do with the boy!

Jamie Lee reaches into her coat and removes cell phone as Zac's head slumps down in defeat.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

Look. Ever seen this kid before?

Zac's head slowly lifts as he looks at picture in Jamie Lee's phone, then Zac's head slumps down - lower.

ZAC

No!

JAMIE LEE
 (sternly)
 Look at me Zac! Tell me the God
 awful truth now!

Zac lifts his head and stares hopefully at Jamie Lee.

ZAC
 Yes, in a dream.

JAMIE LEE
 What's suppose to happen here
 tonight Zac?

ZAC
 I don't know. In the dream...

JAMIE LEE
 What?

ZAC
 Everyone dies in a fire!

JAMIE LEE
 Oh Lordy Lord... And the boy?

ZAC
 I think, he must die too.

JAMIE LEE
 You know that he can't, right Zac?

ZAC
 I know... But, I've done so many
 bad things already...

JAMIE LEE
 Repent Zac! Before it's too late.

Firm KNOCK at the door, then -

ROADIE (O.S.)
 Two minutes Zac!

JAMIE LEE
 Pray with me Zac.

Jamie Lee reaches her right arm out to Zac as they kneel
 together to floor.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)
 Just repeat after me...

They clasped their hands together.

JAMIE LEE (CONT'D)

The Lord is my Shepard; I shall not want...

ZAC

The Lord is my Shepard; I shall not want...

INT. RECEPTION AREA - NIGHT

Loco glances at his watch and looks at Jake.

LOCO

It's time! I've got to go get him.

JAKE

Hold on! Trust me Loco, she'll bring him out.

LOCO

No time! He's late.

Jake places his hand on Loco's shoulder, reassuringly.

JAKE

Wait for the miracle brother. See!

Jake points with his beer to Zac and Jamie Lee entering the room holding hands as everyone cheers and applauds.

Zac waves to the crowd and walks with Jamie Lee up to Loco and Jake.

ZAC

Let's rock!

LOCO

OK! Follow me...

Zac and Loco exit leaving Jamie Lee and Jake alone.

JAKE

Well.. have we got a story?

JAMIE LEE

Oh yeah Jake. A great one!

JAKE

Biblical baby?

JAMIE LEE

We'll just have to see.

Jake and Jamie Lee smile knowingly at each other as the sound of the crowd cheering erupts in the background.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES (O.S.)
Ladies and gentlemen, I give you...
ZAC MASTER!

INT. SUN DEVIL STADIUM - STAGE - NIGHT

Fireworks erupt and lasers shoot in all directions as Zac Master takes the stage and the capacity crowd goes wild.

Jamie Lee and Jake with camera at the ready, position themselves backstage as the opening song begins. Everyone is on their feet and the whole stadium is rocking!

From the stage, Zac acknowledges Jamie Lee with a wink and a smile. She smiles back.

The hooded man with the boy appears in the far back of the stadium on the lower tier by the concession stands.

JAKE
(shouting)
Isn't this great!

Jamie Lee is covering her ears.

JAMIE LEE
What? I can't hear...

JAKE
Never mind.

The rock groupie appears and begins dancing with Jake. Jamie Lee folds her arms and looks frustrated as the concert rocks on. Fireworks, lasers, special effects. The crowd loves it!

The hooded man and boy begin making their way down through the crowd as Jamie Lee looks at the dancing Jake in disgust.

JAMIE LEE
(shouting)
Jake, we're working here, right?

JAKE
Oh yeah baby! I'm a workin'

Jamie Lee signals Jake to keep his eyes open.

JAMIE LEE
Eyes on the prize mister!

JAKE
Hey, I'm a PRO, baby!

Jamie Lee shakes her head in disbelief and scans the crowd for the boy as the concert rocks on.

The hood man and the boy are only ten rows from the stage and Jamie Lee spots them and pulls Jake's arm and points.

JAMIE LEE
Look!

Jake stops dancing and follows Jamie Lee's outstretched arm and sees the duo.

JAKE
Well, I'll be...

JAMIE LEE
You see em, right?

JAKE
I see them!

From the stage, Zac sees Jamie Lee pointing and stares out into the crowd, but doesn't see the hooded man or boy.

Jake focuses his camera on the pair as Jamie Lee positions herself over Jake's left shoulder to give direction.

JAMIE LEE
You rolling Jake?

JAKE
Yes ma'am.

JAMIE LEE
(nervous excitement)
Ya got a fresh battery pack Jake?

JAKE
Yes!

JAMIE LEE
Enough video Jake?

JAKE
(annoyed)
Back-off bright eyes!

JAMIE LEE
I just don't want you to miss...

JAKE
I won't, beautiful!

The final song ends triumphantly as Zac steps to the microphone with his infamous bright red Flying V guitar slung over his shoulder.

ZAC
Thank you Arizona! Good night!

Zac exits to the left of the stage, opposite of Jamie Lee and Jake as the crowd chants for an encore - ONE MORE! - ONE MORE! - ONE MORE! - ONE MORE!

Zac is catching his breath, hydrating with water and preparing to do the encore.

THE CROWD CHANTS LOUDER AND LOUDER - WE WANT ZAC!

Zac emerges from backstage and struts back and forth on stage, as his glasses begin to glow bright red.

Zac stops as the OVERSEER appears before his eyes.

OVERSEER
It's time Zac. It's either you or
the boy... Live or burn!

The image disappears as Zac desperately looks over at Jamie Lee and sees her pointing to the man and boy in crowd.

The hooded man and boy are standing in front row as Jamie Lee shakes Jake.

JAMIE LEE
Did you see that? Zac's glasses?

JAKE
It's all on the tape... darlin'

JAMIE LEE
But, I don't think he's sees them
yet! They're in the front row now!

Zac struts to the edge of the stage and the crowd goes wild.

Camera lights and flashes are everywhere as Zac reaches his hand out to the adoring girls in the front row.

The hooded man catches onto Zac's arm, pulling him close - face to face.

ZAC
What?

Zac tries to pull away, the hooded man clinches tighter.

ZAC (CONT'D)
No! I can't...

The hooded man lifts his head up for an instant. The hood falls, revealing the decomposed face of Jason, the pastor.

ZAC (CONT'D)
Oh my God! No!

EXT. SUN DEVIL STADIUM - NIGHT

Dark and ominous clouds thunder in above the stadium.

Fireworks, spot lights and lasers illuminate the night sky.

INT. SUN DEVIL STADIUM - NIGHT

Zac rips his arm free and staggers backwards glancing in Jake's and Jamie Lee's direction.

The hooded man removes a long shinny knife from beneath his cloak and flashes an evil grin at Zac.

Jamie Lee screams, then buries her head into Jake's shoulder.

JAMIE LEE
I can't watch.

Jake continues filming.

On cue, and perfectly timed, Zac launches into a burning guitar solo, while he stares down at the man and boy.

The hooded man raises the knife to boy's throat.

The young boy looks up to Zac with his expectant eyes as Zac hits one final note, then raises his red Flying V Stratocaster to the sky.

ZAC
Even though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death...

The music stops as the final guitar note slowly fades and the crowd goes still and silent.

Jamie Lee looks up from Jake's shoulder.

ZAC (CONT'D)

I will fear no evil, for you are
with me.

Zac looks hopefully up to the sky.

A lightning bolt hits the neck of Zac's guitar and travels downward completely electrifying the rock star.

The bolt of lightning has transformed the guitar into a fiery red sword as Zac is empowered and takes one step forward, then swings the sword at the hooded man.

The boy cringes down as the blade decapitates the hooded man, who falls to the floor and dissolves into dust.

The crowd GROANS in shock as three more cloaked individuals with knives rush from behind the stage for the boy.

Calamity and chaos breaks loose everywhere as Zac takes three more swings, and turns them to dust.

A power surge ignites a fire in the lights above the stage and the crowd SCREAMS with fear.

With a quick glance and a blink of an eye, Zac wills the fire out as the boy jumps up onto the stage and runs into Zac's arms.

A huge beam above the stage comes loose and falls toward Zac and the boy as the crowd SQUEAL in horror.

Zac looks upwards and levitates it back in place and the crowd CHEERS for more, believing it's all part of the show.

Zac carries boy off stage and hands him to a stunned Loco, then walks out on stage and raises his sword to the sky.

One more lightning bolt transforms the sword back to his infamous bright red Flying V Stratocaster guitar. He steps to the microphone as the crowd goes insane!

ZAC (CONT'D)

Are you ready to rock!

The crowd SQUAWKS - yes! Zac Master brings down the house with his number one hit, "Get Ready to Rock."

When Zac Master hits his final and supernatural note, the three piles of dust upon the stage are transformed into holograms of his lost band - The Stratoblasters - William, Xander, and Yvette.

All four stand together and bow.

ZAC (CONT'D)
Good night everyone!

Backstage, Jamie Lee and Jake can't believe their eyes.

JAMIE LEE
Did you get that? Tell me you got
that Jake! Do you believe what just
happened here? I can't believe
it... It was a miracle!

JAKE
Yeah, right before our eyes... From
rock star to the rock superhero.

Jake lowers camera and smiles knowingly at Jamie Lee.

JAKE (CONT'D)
By far... the best concert that
I've ever seen!

Jamie Lee shakes her head in disbelief, then looks at Jake.

JAMIE LEE
Ya think?