

# How To Get To Heaven From Jacksonville, Florida

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(a few pages from Act 2)

Nearing the midpoint, our two friends (both late 30s) are in Los Angeles after a road trip from Florida. Morrison has become a reality star after bedding Miley Cyrus, while Joseph is still on his quest to find his long lost friend Heaven to make a new "film" with him like in their heyday. The Industry doesn't want him near their popular comedic star, however, they think he is a nut which he sort of is.

**INT. CHARLIE CHAPLIN STUDIOS - LA BREA BOULEVARD - LATE NIGHT**

Joseph squats in this place that is presently a museum. On his walls are black and white photos of Chaplin and others.

Joseph uses a device that propels air into a mattress. He jumps on this "blow-up" bed. It slowly starts to sink.

**INT. GROUNDWORKS COFFEE SHOP - HOLLYWOOD - MORNING**

Hillman reads *The New York Times* from a traditional newspaper while Joseph reads an article on the *OMG! Yahoo* site. The article is in regards to Sony's search for the anonymous EXTRA (him) who wreaked havoc at their studio last night.

JOSEPH

Heaven's gonna be at a premiere for one of her new comedies tonight.

HILLMAN

Mm-huh.

JOSEPH

What?

(OFF Hillman's silence)

You think I should go? I'm wanted!

Hillman folds paper, continues to speak without saying much.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

Ah, I can't keep showing up at these random events trying to get my script to her, n' talk with her... She'll think I'm a nut! My initiative comes off as insanity.

Hillman sets newspaper down, sips coffee, before --

HILLMAN

Go. Even if you get arrested, you won't go to prison. Maybe jail.

JOSEPH

What's the difference?

HILLMAN

Jail is an inconvenience. Prison is where you get butt-fucked, kid.

**EXT. GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE - HOLLYWOOD - THAT NIGHT**

Movie premiere. Stars exit limos, wave, and publicists guide them, amid the chaos of photographers and adoring fans.

**EXT. BLOCKED OFF AREA - SAME**

Joseph sees Heaven. Tonight, she looks like a star.

JOSEPH  
Heaven. There she is. My angel.

INTERCUT

Chuck and Shanni (Heaven's agent and publicist) see Joseph and shield her from his POV.

CHUCK  
Joseph is still here?

SHANNI  
Why won't he just go home?

HEAVEN  
What are you two talking about?

SHANNI  
Oh, nothing. Now, smile. Wave.

CHUCK  
Wave, keep walking. We have it all under control. That is our jobs.

SHANNI  
Can we have an "excited fan" here?

An EXCITED FAN appears. Heaven takes photos with this girl, whose acting gig is that of being a zealous fan tonight.

Panicky, Chuck waves Johnny (his assistant) over with his flailing hand.

Amid "Look Here!" REQUESTS from fans, paparazzi, compounded with CHEERS, Heaven can't hear Joseph calling her name. Having reached Chuck, Johnny is directed toward a LAPD COP.

JOSEPH  
Heaven! Whew! Heaven! Over here!

LAPD COP  
All right, buddy, the party's over.

JOSEPH

Huh? I'm not doing anything wrong.  
I'm just a fan tonight. I'm good.

LAPD COP

No. You're not good.

JOSEPH

I'm not? But why?

LAPD COP

Got a Harassment complaint filed  
against you regarding Heaven Cent.

JOSEPH

What the hell?

LAPD COP

You been to Sony Studios of late?

**EXT. SIDEWALK AREA - MOMENTS LATER**

Lapd Cop hauls a cuffed Joseph along and past the fans --

LAPD COP

Enjoy the show, folks, just another  
sociopathic-hanger-on-wannabe.

JOSEPH

I'm not a wannabe. I was on  
*Filmmakers 25 Faces To Watch*, man.

LAPD COP

So, you're semi-legit? Why are you  
showing up here, acting desperate?

JOSEPH

Sometimes desperate circumstances  
require desperate-... HEAVVVVEN!!!

Lapd Cop chagrins, shakes head, as we cut back to --

**EXT. GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE - ENTRANCE AREA - CONTINUING**

Chuck and Shanni rush Heaven toward entrance door --

HEAVEN

That voice sounds so familiar.

CHUCK

It is no one.

SHANNI  
Absolutely.

**INT./EXT. LAPD POLICE CAR - HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD - CONTINUING**

Lapd Cop throws Joseph in back --

JOSEPH  
 Am I goin' to jail or prison?

LAPD COP  
 Prison.

JOSEPH  
 Shit!

Lapd Cop shuts door, walks along, grinning (he is kidding about prison). Joseph turns to where Heaven just was, but only sees Chuck and Shanni smugly WAVING in his direction.

**INT. LAPD HOLDING CELL - NOT LONG AFTER**

Joseph stands next to two "anticipatory" burly GUYS.

**INT. GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE - SAME**

Crowd laughs along with the comedy. Heaven isn't watching.

**INT. GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE - MEZZANINE - MOMENTS LATER**

Chuck and Shanni watch Heaven exit the theatre --

CHUCK  
 What'd we do, what's our next play?

SHANNI  
 We have to get rid of this Joseph character. We underestimated him. Like Matt Damon in that movie, "Rounders," he has alligator blood.

Shanni dials cell whilst aping Malkovich in that film --

SHANNI (CONT'D)  
*Hanging around. Hanging around.*

**INT. HEAVEN'S HOUSE - SCREENING ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT**

Heaven watches "27" and drinks a glass of Cabernet.

HEAVEN (ON SCREEN)  
I got the lead part.

MORRISON (ON SCREEN)  
Well, what about us, Heaven?

HEAVEN (ON SCREEN)  
We'll always have Jacksonville.

MORRISON (ON SCREEN)  
Yer gonna go be a movie star?

(ON SCREEN) Heaven nods, "yes," she is going to be a movie star in a self-fulfilling prophesy that soon became true.

Heaven sadly smiles, reflecting on the old, odd, but neat films she used to make with her cohorts Joseph and Morrison.

**INT. LAPD JAIL - HALLWAY - NEXT MORNING**

Speaking of... Morrison saunters along in glow-in-the-dark slippers, silk jammies and a new pair of pimpy sunglasses. Miley is by his side. Other DETAINEES cheer for the couple.

DETAINEES  
Morrison!... Whew!... Miley!...

**INT./EXT. LAPD HOLDING CELL - SAME**

The two burly GUYS soundly sleep next to Joseph with big smiles on their faces. Miley and Morrison arrive.

MORRISON  
So, I shouldn't be bailin' ya out.  
Yer all over the news. It's not good news. It's bad. "Stalker-After-Heaven Cent" type a' press. Morrison can't be caught up in 'at, Joseph. I hafta protect my rep!

Joseph reaches them --

JOSEPH  
Oh, sorry to be such a burden, man.

MORRISON  
Heaven's not gonna respond to 'at. Ya think this is a MOVIE n' she's gonna go, "Aw, Joseph, 'at's so sweet." She's prolly terrified a' ya now! N' yer banned from Sony forever, too, t' top it all off.

JOSEPH  
 (to Miley)  
 How are ya...?

MILEY  
 Don't listen to him, Joseph, I find  
 what you did disturbingly romantic.

JOSEPH  
 (looking at Morrison)  
 Thanks, Miley.

MORRISON  
 Whatever.

**INT. LAPD JAIL - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER**

Joseph traverses along between Miley and Morrison.

MORRISON  
 Who were yer buddies back there?

JOSEPH  
 It only hurts the first time.

MORRISON  
 Yer so gay. I knew it. We're  
 parked out back. I didn't want TMZ  
 to take no photos of us together.

JOSEPH  
 Bastard isn't even a strong enough  
 word for you, man. Filthiest-  
 Bastard-Ever works for me.

**EXT. LAEMMLE THEATRE - NORTH HOLLYWOOD - NIGHT**

Hillman, Joseph exit under "The Sand Pebbles" marquee (under  
 marquee, we see the name of its star: STEVE McQUEEN).

JOSEPH  
 They don't make 'em like they usta-

HILLMAN  
 No. I worked with McQueen. That  
 was when you were a celebrity,  
 because you were interesting and  
 had artistic talent for something.

**EXT. SIDEWALK - MOMENTS LATER**

Walking still --

JOSEPH

Do ya miss it? Is it harder to  
been on top once, then not be, or  
is it harder to have never made it?

HILLMAN

Well, you don't know what you've  
been missing, so it may be harder  
for me. What are you gonna do now?

JOSEPH

I don't know. I'm all outta money.

**INT. UNDERGROUND TRAIN - LATE AFTERNOON**

Joseph rides along with the misfits, the loners, the mad.

**EXT. MANSION - BACK YARD - HOLLYWOOD HILLS - LATER**

Joseph walks along with catering waiters, all in black pants  
and white tee shirts. Joseph notes the beautiful, Infinity  
pool, the view of Los Angeles, the sleek mansion itself.

**CUT FORWARD TO:**

As cooks are making the fine foods, and expensive wines are  
being opened, Joseph lifts a shirt out of a cardboard box, as  
do other catering waiters. It reads: THE NEXT BIG THING. A  
catering girl puts hers on. It reads: PLEASE READ MY SCRIPT.

CATERING CAPTAIN

The client wants you to wear these  
shirts for this party so you will-

**EXT. MANSION - BACK YARD - LATER THAT NIGHT**

The party is in full force. A few catering waiters pass us  
with hors d'oeuvres and more ridiculous slogans on their tee  
shirts: I AM GOING TO WIN AN OSCAR, etc. *Playboy* models walk  
by Joseph, and he almost walks into an Italian sculpture --

RICH GUEST

You, you there, bring us champagne.

Joseph approaches RICH GUEST and his cronies --

RICH GUEST (CONT'D)

You must take a photo of me next to this young man, this is my favorite one. Are you going to be "the next big thing?" What do you do here?

JOSEPH

I'm a filmmaker.

FEMALE RICH GUEST

Oh, aren't they all?

Laughter, as Rich Guest grabs a champagne glass off Joseph's tray, and prepares to take a photo with him --

RICH GUEST

You're marvellous, please take a photo with me, we'll *Instagram* it.

JOSEPH

No way. No way!

RICH GUEST 2

For the whole world to see!

RICH GUEST

My, yes. Poopsy, are you ready?

WIFE OF RICH GUEST aims her cell phone camera at them --

WIFE OF RICH GUEST

I am. But are you ready for your close-up? NEXT. BIG. THING?

More laughter prompts Joseph to panic, shove Rich Guest, who trips, falls in an aquarium. Wife hits "click" while exotic crabs and feisty fish chomp on the man who is now screaming.

Joseph hauls ass --

**EXT. MORRISON'S HOUSE - STOOP - LATER THAT NIGHT**

Morrison opens front door to let Joseph in --

JOSEPH

All right, ya got me, man, we'll do it yer way for a spell --

**INT. MORRISON'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NOT LONG AFTER**

They toast their Makers Mark drinks, before --

JOSEPH

Did you really have sex with Ellen?

MORRISON

I'm a conversion therapist, Joseph. Now, look, that was yesterday, this is today... She's upstairs waiting for ya... My new lil' plaything...

JOSEPH

She's not gonna have sex with me. Natalie Nunn?! She's one of the "bad girls." She's the hottest reality TV star in the world!

MORRISON

Since when'd ya start puttin' stock into reality television?

(as Joseph goes mute)

She thinks you just got a script bought by \_\_\_\_\_. I fixed yer IMDB so it says ya got a pending project with him. Fake it till ya make it! Am I right?! That's yer NEW motto. I want you to be big like me now, ya hear?

JOSEPH

She's waiting up there...?

MORRISON

Uh-huh. Loves anal sex.

**INT. MORRISON'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NOT LONG AFTER**

NATALIE NUNN and Joseph are near the bed --

JOSEPH

I've never done this before.

NATALIE NUNN

Don't worry. I have.

**INT. MORRISON'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NOT LONG AFTER**

The anal sex Natalie likes is actually "role reversal" and she is behind Joseph and "fucking" him --

JOSEPH

Ooph, ow, oh, gah-

NATALIE NUNN  
 Uh-huh. Take it like a man!

Natalie grabs his hips, her strap-on jabbing in and out.

JOSEPH  
 I didn't know this was the type of  
 anal sex you were talking about...

She giggles, then in falsetto, Joseph blurts, with surprise:

JOSEPH (CONT'D)  
 ...I think I'm going to cum?!

**INT. MORRISON'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER**

Morrison sips his whiskey whilst hearing them continue --

NATALIE NUNN (O.S.)  
 Morrison said you just got out of  
 jail, you tried this, don't act  
 like you've never taken it in the-

JOSEPH (O.S.)  
 I was joking! That was a joke!  
 Ahhhhhhhhhhh! I'm cummmmmmmmming!

**INT. DASH CLOTHING - MELROSE AREA - NEXT DAY**

Morrison and Miley help Joseph find trendy clothes to wear.

**INT. HAIR STYLIST SHOP - MELROSE AREA - LATER THAT DAY**

Joseph gets a hip haircut. Morrison and Miley are here.

**INT. KENNETH COLE OUTLET - CENTURY CITY - LATER THAT DAY**

A young man slips shiny, black shoes on Joseph's feet, before he walks around in them. Miley looks toward Joseph: "Yes!"

**INT. CLUB VOYEUR - DANCE FLOOR - NIGHT**

Joseph dances wildly as "Sexy & I Know It" plays by LMFAO --

JOSEPH  
*Look at that body. Hey, look at  
 that body. I'm sexy and I know it!*

Girls dance with Joseph. He is having a good time.

**INT. CLUB VOYEUR - BAR AREA - LATER THAT NIGHT**

Joseph is waiting for drinks with Producer 2 --

PRODUCER 2

Have you thought about what we talked about, putting a message in-

JOSEPH

Yeah, lets do it!

PRODUCER 2

I thought you were all hell-bent on Wallace Stevens. And great art!

JOSEPH

I'm selling out, man, feels good.

Miley nudges up against them at the bar --

MILEY

Babe, my friend wants to MEET you.

-- A stunning model, RAYKA, early 20s, appears --

JOSEPH

Oh my gu-guh-gah-, oh my fuhhhh-

RAYKA

Nice to meet you, Joseph. I hear you are working with \_\_\_\_\_

Joseph doesn't deny it, again, that he is working with this big director. Dumbfounded, he barely nods at this gorgeous girl, before Morrison appears looking like Lucifer himself.

MORRISON

Rayka is Eastern European.

RAYKA

Need I say more?

JOSEPH

(gulping, then --)

No.

**INT. CLUB VOYEUR - DANCE FLOOR - NIGHT**

A new LMFAO plays. Rayka, Joseph, and EVERYONE dance to it.

EVERYONE

*Shots! Shots! Shots! Shots!*

**INT. RAYKA'S CONDO - BEDROOM - NEXT MORNING**

Joseph slept over, is watching Rayka doodle on her phone, perhaps texting, checking her Facebook, or Youtube videos.

JOSEPH

Ya wanna get breakfast somewhere?

(beat)

Or we could see a matinee later?

(beat)

How ya feel about global warming?

Rayka finally comes out of it --

RAYKA

What were you saying?

JOSEPH

It's not important.

**INT. THE PANTRY CAFE - DOWNTOWN - LATE MORNING**

Joseph works on his SCRIPT. Searching for an idea, he looks up and sees himself in a mirror -- the new, trendy hair-do, the trendy clothes, etc. As he seems to be back to himself, tweaking his script, in earnest, the contradiction is clear.

HEAVEN (O.S.)

Joseph?

JOSEPH

Heaven?

Heaven sits down -- All Joseph can do is stare at her --

HEAVEN

What happened to you?

JOSEPH

Ya don't like my faux-hawk?

HEAVEN

You look absolutely ridiculous!

**INT. CHARLIE CHAPLIN STUDIOS - THAT AFTERNOON**

Joseph changes into a pair of Wranglers, tee shirt --

HEAVEN

That's the Joseph I know and love.

**EXT. VENOKADO WINE AND DESSERT SHOP - THAT NIGHT**

Joseph, Heaven have blueberry pie and red wine.

HEAVEN

So what made you decide to come?

Joseph puts SCRIPT he wrote on the table.

HEAVEN (CONT'D)

What's wrong with snail mail?

JOSEPH

I don't have yer new address.

HEAVEN

I know. I never gave it to you.

JOSEPH

See. I knew when ya got big, you'd disconnect like I was another step to the top a' the ladder. Uh-huh.

HEAVEN

I'm evil, a heartless movie star.