

# CHAOS NATION

by

thatpj

FADE IN

INT. "WELLS FARGO CENTER" INNER HALLWAYS - DAY

An early 40s Muslim woman, JAMEERAH MUHAMMED, walks quickly down the hallway on her phone. As the President's Chief of Staff, it's her job to not only get this rally done right, but to maintain order throughout the White House.

JAMEERAH

(into phone)

What do you mean Senator Rangle isn't coming? We appreciate his support but would appreciate his attendance a lot more. Call me when you have a definitive answer.

An AIDE approaches Jameerah and shows her a seating chart.

JAMEERAH

Get more chairs! We have to take care of our VIPs. On top of that, we are expecting a standing room only crowd tonight. Make sure every single one of the attendees are our actual supporters.

The AIDE humbly runs out of the way. Jameerah is on a mission. The phone rings.

JAMEERAH

(into phone)

The President arrives in 60 minutes. If the Vice President would like to attend the event, I recommend he arrive fairly quickly.

It's showtime. The rally is prepped.

CUT TO

TITLE CARD

CUT TO

INT. WELLS FARGO CENTER - DAY

PRESIDENT BENEDICT KARL, (70) a slovenly man with a short attention span and an even shorter temper, won the Presidency 6 months ago.

As a result of the contentious election result, he has been holding rallies to shore up his support around the country.

The excited crowd anticipates his every word.

PRESIDENT KARL

I come before you today a humbled man. I am humbled by your gratitude. Humbled that you chose to elect me, a guy with no political experience as your President. I promise to hold up this honor with all my heart.

CROWD

(chanting)

Thank you Karl! Thank you Karl!

PRESIDENT KARL

We are living in American carnage. This corrupt establishment will no longer run over the common man as long as I am your President! I will be the best President anyone has ever seen! Believe me!

CROWD

YEA!

PRESIDENT KARL

Let me end with this: The politicians and fake media will complain about the supposed chaos that my administration is wreaking. But know this: I am a law and order President. I will bring order back to America! God bless you! And God bless America!

The crowd goes wild.

CUT TO

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

President Karl bounds off the stage with the successful rally under his belt. He mingles with a few aides. His Chief of Staff, who he calls JANE, hurriedly approaches him.

JAMEERAH

Sir, we may have a problem.

PRESIDENT KARL

What the fuck, Jane! Can't you see I'm busy!

JAMEERAH

Sir, you really need to see this.

PRESIDENT KARL

Oh, whaddaya want? Did you see them out there?! All chanting my name! I always loved Philadelphia! Love them!

JAMEERAH

Sir, take a look at this. I think they may be investigating you.

JAMEERAH turns on a nearby TV to the national news. President Karl walks over to the couch, annoyed and disgusted by this interruption and sits down.

PRESIDENT KARL

What the fuck is this fake news!?

JAMEERAH

Sir, just listen to it....

ON SCREEN: The REPORTER, an experienced no frills news anchor, is introducing the broadcast.

CUT TO

INT. NEWSROOM - NIGHT

REPORTER

We have some breaking news tonight. According to sources within the intelligence community, President Benedict A. Karl is under a FBI criminal investigation. No other details are available at this time. Stay tuned to News One for...

CUT TO

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

President Karl turns off the tv. Jameerah looks forlornly at the President.

PRESIDENT KARL

Why did you show me this? It's a ruse! The liberal media is always tryin' to take me down. Ugh. Whatever. I gotta get ready to go. Don't you have better things to do?

PRESIDENT KARL leaves the room. JAMEERAH is left to her thoughts.

CLOSE UP JAMEERAH

DISSOLVE INTO

INT. "MUSLIM PRAYER ROOM" GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

YOUNG JAMEERAH, around 24 years old, is in the muslim prayer room with ALISSA, (24) who wears a fashionable hijab, and some of her other college girlfriends. Most are wearing hijabs but there are a few in burqas. Jameerah is the only one not wearing anything.

ALISSA  
As-Salaam-Alaikum.

GIRLS IN ATTENDANCE  
Wa-Alaikum-Salaam

ALISSA  
Has Allah been treating you well?

YOUNG GIRL #1  
I don't know. It seems like I can't  
catch a break. But I trust in Him!

YOUNG JAMEERAH  
Always do your prayers. That is the  
only way.

ALISSA  
That is so true. Have faith. And He  
will provide.

YOUNG GIRL #1  
Maybe you are right. I still have  
some time before I graduate. Aren't  
you gone soon, Jameerah?

YOUNG JAMEERAH  
Yeah, I am. To tell you the truth,  
Alissa, I don't know what I'm going  
to do. I've been sending my resumes  
around but there aren't many  
openings for a Muslim.

ALISSA  
The local elections coming up.  
Maybe aim a little lower. Have  
faith in Allah. He will show you  
the way, Jam.

YOUNG JAMEERAH  
I have faith.  
(beat)  
but I don't have patience...

END FLASHBACK.

CUT TO

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

President Karl is looking over his PDB when Jameerah enters.

PRESIDENT KARL  
Isn't it a little early for our  
briefing?

JAMEERAH

Yes. I didn't come for that. I had an idea to get out from under this bad PR. And even better, we can help a lot of people!

PRESIDENT KARL

I love people! I love helping people! I trust your judgement. What's your big idea?

JAMEERAH

Well, I've been working on language for a healthcare bill. I know you ran on blowing it up and starting over but there may be another way.

PRESIDENT KARL

Sure. Fill me in. You're so smart. This is exactly why I hired you!

JAMEERAH

Well, first thing we need to do is bring the power back to the states.

PRESIDENT KARL

State's rights! Now you are speaking my language! What else is in it?

JAMEERAH

Well, the states can stay on the current system, or they can receive funding from the federal government. We can get rid of the individual tax penalty and

President Karl begins to nod off, but Jameerah is too excited to notice.

JAMEERAH

Still help people with pre-existing conditions and people struggling with high deductibles. We can help people without coverage by letting the states buy coverage for them. It's the best of both worlds! I think it can get great bipartisan support! So what do you think?

President Karl snaps back awake.

PRESIDENT KARL

You are a genius! Oh, you're so loyal! This is perfect! Perfect!

JAMEERAH

So I can push this to the top of the agenda?

PRESIDENT KARL

Yes. Talk to Craig Mortimer. He's the House Minority Leader. You two can whip up those votes! Gotta get em!

JAMEERAH

Thank you so much. You don't know how much this means to me!

CUT TO

INT. U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - NIGHT

Jameerah meets up with CRAIG MORTIMER, (early 60s) the House Minority Leader from Ohio in his office.

CRAIG

Well this is an unexpected visit. You wouldn't be down here unless someone was getting fired.

JAMEERAH

No, just a change to the agenda. We are going to push healthcare.

CRAIG

Now that's a risk. Is he really pushing to throw the system into chaos with his political standing? He has no capital.

JAMEERAH

No, we are going to do my idea.

CRAIG

And what's that?

JAMEERAH

Let the states handle it.

CRAIG

Hmmm....very moderate. I like it. We will still have issues but it might have a chance.

JAMEERAH

And most importantly, we don't leave anyone without a lifeline. It's a bill with heart.

CRAIG

Are you sure the President is okay with this?

JAMEERAH

Yes, I just got his approval.

CRAIG

Okay! Then it's time to get those votes!

CUT TO

EXT. FBI HQ - DAY

The agents are buzzing around like bees. It seems like something big is afoot.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM A - DAY

TRAYVON RICE, (late 40s) the African American FBI director, is in a conference room. He no longer sweats the small stuff.

The agents have seen a lot of Trayvon's morning speeches, but none quite like this.

TRAYVON

Who leaked the investigation to the press!? That is a federal offense and I don't care who you are, Imma find you and there will be consequences. Do I have to tell you why this is important? I know ya'll didn't graduate from the Academy to throw away your careers like this! We aren't just here to serve you. We are here to protect America from threats foreign and domestic. Now let's get our heads back in the game. Give me some reports, NOW. Sound off! CI, GO!

FBI AGENT COUNTER INTELLIGENCE

Ok, we are gathering witnesses and documents. I believe everything is OK here.

TRAYVON

Good. FinCEN! GO!

FBI AGENT FINANCIAL CRIMES

We are looking for leads but not catching much fish

TRAYVON

Not good enough. Y'all ain't getting paid to fish.

FBI AGENT FINANCIAL CRIMES

Yes sir! We got an interview today that will hopefully get us what we need.

TRAYVON

That's better. Next. How is it looking Deputy?

BOB

Sir...it would be best... to...uh brief you in private.

Trayvon laughs.

TRAYVON

Of course, of course. Ok guys, Get to work!

CLOSE UP ON TRAYVON

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

EXT. MARION, SOUTH CAROLINA (1983) - DAY

A 10 year old Trayvon is walking home alone after school. A small group of kids are watching him as he passes.

KID #1

HAHA. Look at what the cat dragged in.

YOUNG TRAYVON walks a little faster.

KID #1

You better run you fucking nigger!

YOUNG TRAYVON is enraged. He runs right up to the kid and punches him the face causing a giant brawl.

CUT TO

INT. MRS. RICE'S HOUSE - DAY

Mrs. Rice is cleaning up Trayvon's bloody face.

YOUNG TRAYVON

Mom, what's a nigger?

MRS. RICE

Where'd you hear that? Was that one of them boys? Now let me tell you this: Don't let anyone call you that. But violence is not the right response. You must show them your pride. Now I've been called that and much worse everyday at work. But I go back every day. You must do the same. Show them yo worth!

END FLASHBACK.

CUT TO

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - DAY

The White House seems to be glistening in the morning sunlight. It's new day in Washington DC in more ways than one.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

Agitated, PRESIDENT KARL looks at the briefings on Kazakhstan and the healthcare bill gathering dust on his desk.

JAMEERAH is nearby, messing with her phone, trying to avoid eye contact.

PRESIDENT KARL

Harrumph. Can you believe this shit. I'm running the free world and they wanna investigate me. For what? Winning an election! Hey Jane! Jane! Get me a soda will ya?

JAMEERAH looks up from her phone and motions to a nearby AIDE who runs quickly to get the President's soda.

JAMEERAH's phone rings.

PRESIDENT KARL

Where's my soda!?

The AIDE returns with the Diet Coke with 3 ice cubes and a lemon slice with an umbrella. The AIDE runs back out of the office.

PRESIDENT KARL

Can't get any good help around here. Can you? Jane?

JAMEERAH had already left the office to take her phone call.

CUT TO

INT. HALLWAY - LATER

JAMEERAH'S MOM called her, worried after hearing the news.

JAMEERAH

Mom, I'm at work! You know I can't take personal calls!

INTERCUT BETWEEN JAMEERAH AND HER MOM

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Now don't tell me about personal calls young lady. When your mom calls, you pick up. Now what is this I hear about that crazy man you work for?

JAMEERAH'S MOM

He's under criminal investigation?  
What did I tell you, Jameerah!  
Don't trust white people!

JAMEERAH

Mom! It's gonna be okay. I think. I  
don't know. Maybe you are right.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Now young lady, you listen, and you  
listen good. You do not take no  
fall for no man. Even if that man  
is the President of the United  
States. You hear me, Jameerah? Does  
he even know you are a Muslim?

JAMEERAH

No.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

You are asking for trouble. The  
minute he finds out...

JAMEERAH

It's okay Mom. He's putting my  
healthcare plan on the agenda. I'm  
actually getting to help people!

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Well that's good news. I wish you  
the best of luck with it. Lawd  
knows we need it.

JAMEERAH

Yeah, we do.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Now I got to go, you know your  
father....

JAMEERAH

Yup! It's always something, I love  
you! Bye!  
(beat)

PRESIDENT KARL

(OS) Jane! Jane! What  
the fuck is Kazakhstan!?  
Jane!

JAMEERAH rolls her eyes

JAMEERAH

Coming, sir!

CUT TO

INT. TRAYVON RICE'S OFFICE - DAY

Trayvon Rice pours himself a cup of coffee as the deputy FBI director, a hyper and sweaty man named BOB(early 50s), slinks in.

BOB

So, sir, you asked about the status of the case. So far we have already flipped a couple suspects: The former National Security Adviser and the former Campaign Manager. They supplied us with documents and further leads. We are still hammering out most of them.

Trayvon pours Bob a cup of coffee.

BOB

Thanks. However, one of the leads they gave us was very peculiar in nature. It was a handwritten ledger. The guys tracked it down in a burn pile! We combed through it, and sure enough the President's name was in it...but get this, his Chief of Staff's was too! I'm not sure how strong her connection is to the case but she could be a very valuable informant. That's all I have at the moment.

TRAYVON

Hmmmm...Thanks Bob. I really do think we are ready to bring her in. We can cut this investigation time in half and save resources if we can get an inside man...er woman.

BOB

You sure about this? Do we want to alert them this soon? The President can just pardon everyone! All those man hours down the drain! All that money wasted!

TRAYVON

It's okay. I've never let down anyone in my 6 years working here. I have never led you down the wrong path! You have to learn to trust me. I have the best interests of the Bureau at heart. I'll handle it. Trust me.

CUT TO

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - DAY

The clouds have begun to creep into the picture. It's still bright, but the shade looms near.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

In what has become a daily ritual, Jameerah briefs the President on the pressing issues of the day.

PRESIDENT KARL  
How is your healthcare bill  
looking, Jane?

JAMEERAH  
It looks good. From Craig's early  
whip count, we should have enough  
support to pass the bill in the  
House, but it's going to be close.  
We need to make sure our messaging  
is direct and succinct and...

PRESIDENT KARL  
What about the Senate?

JAMEERAH  
We have the majority in the Senate,  
Sir.

PRESIDENT KARL  
Great, great. Now what's this I  
hear about Kazakhstan?

JAMEERAH  
A group in Kazakhstan has  
cyber-attacked our allies in  
Europe. They have attacked France  
and most recently Germany. The  
intelligence community is still  
investigating it.

President Karl rolls his eyes.

PRESIDENT KARL  
Intelligence community? Many people  
say they are wrong! Everyone knows  
they are so wrong about everything.  
Like Iraq! They are a disaster!

JAMEERAH  
...Anyways, for your information,  
Kazakhstan is located south of  
Russia and north of Iran. Please  
don't tweet about this, sir.

PRESIDENT KARL  
Yeah, whatever. Iran? That sounds  
Muslim! You know we are working on  
keeping them out.

PRESIDENT KARL  
Got to keep them out. They are dangerous!

JAMEERAH  
Yes...I...

PRESIDENT KARL  
The polls! Tell me I'm winning. I know I'm winning. I always win.

JAMEERAH  
Well sir. Do you want the good news or the uh, fake news?

PRESIDENT KARL  
What do you think!? Give me the good news!

JAMEERAH  
Well, the Fox News/Breitbart poll has you at 40% approval, 55% disapproval, with 5% not sure. That's the best poll of the bunch.

PRESIDENT KARL  
Thank you. That's very good news. Just me and the deplorables. That's all we need.

JAMEERAH  
We covered just about everything in the PDB.

PRESIDENT KARL  
Great! I gotta an interview tomorrow with Fox. I really need to run some lines with you.

JAMEERAH  
Are they going to ask about healthcare bill?

PRESIDENT KARL  
I don't know. We'll get to it later.

JAMEERAH  
Okay.

PRESIDENT KARL  
So how's this: When they ask me about the FBI, I'll just say that their failing FBI director is making the agency crumble into rubble. Ok, now you ask me.

JAMEERAH

(imitating a reporter)

So, uh, mister President, it has been reported that you are under FBI investigation. What is your response to those who say you should resign?

PRESIDENT KARL

(stilted)

I'm just trying to do my job. Many people enjoy me doing my job! The FBI is failing with that lazy guy at the top! The FBI is crumbling in minds of the American people! It's nothing but rubble! It's so sad!

JAMEERAH

Um, Sounds good.

PRESIDENT KARL

Can we run it again? Let's run it again! From the top.

BEEP. President Karl looks at his watch

PRESIDENT KARL

Oh! It's time to go!

JAMEERAH

We still have time. But I can't fly down with you.

PRESIDENT KARL

Why the hell not!? You know I need you there. You're like my right arm! Many, many smart people wanted this position, but you were the best! Blew them all away! What would I do without you, Jane?

JAMEERAH

I'll meet you there when I'm done. I got called in for an interview with the FBI...

PRESIDENT KARL

GODDAMNIT! Those motherfuckers!

JAMEERAH

It's okay. I can handle it.

CUT TO

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM B - DAY

JAMEERAH and her LAWYER(early 50s), a guy who looks like he came straight out an infomercial and is desperately trying to overcompensate, are sitting in the interrogation room

quietly discussing strategy.

TRAYVON and BOB are watching them through the double sided glass.

BOB

This is it. We can end this whole racket if we can somehow flip her.

TRAYVON

Yeah. Easier said than done though. You don't get into her position at her age without being the smartest person in the room.

BOB

We have one shot at this! One! We either flip her or start writing up our resignation letters!

Trayvon laughs

TRAYVON

Well, there's only one way to find out. I'll see you in the funny papers.

Trayvon and Bob enter the interrogation room.

Trayvon makes eye contact with Jameerah. There is a spark. A rush. They both feel it. Yet they both hide it.

TRAYVON

It's Jane, right? So I assume you know why your here?

JAMEERAH'S LAWYER

You don't have to answer that.

Jameerah hesitates then nods her head

Trayvon takes a seat. Bob starts to slowly pace behind him.

TRAYVON

Great. So here's the deal. Let's not play any games. We have evidence of you taking laundered money. It's your choice to tell us whether or not you had any advanced knowledge about the transaction. We have other evidence of further involvement from others in the administration. So, either way the we are taking this whole thing down. The question is if you are going down with it.

JAMEERAH'S LAWYER

You don't have to answer that.

Jameerah looks away, confused and conflicted

TRAYVON

If you can confirm some  
information, you'll be on your way.  
If you can't well, Bob can tell you  
what can happen...

Bob suddenly stops pacing

BOB

WE WILL LOCK YOU UP

JAMEERAH'S LAWYER

That's quite enough. Are you done  
with these parlor tricks? My client  
will cooperate but will not be  
coerced.

TRAYVON

Alright, Bob, I think they  
understand.

Bob stumbles out of the room

TRAYVON

Great. So do you have any knowledge  
of the President's finances?  
Because you see, we've got this  
ledger here and it has both your  
names in it.

JAMEERAH'S LAWYER sighs

JAMEERAH'S LAWYER

Again, you don't have to answer  
this.

Trayvon presents the LEDGER. Jameerah glances at it. There  
is her name in black pen right next to the President's.

The pain of the truth is too much to bear. Jameerah clears  
her throat.

JAMEERAH

(meekly)  
Yes.

Jameerah's Lawyer gasps

JAMEERAH'S LAWYER

Well I ... You are on your own,  
kid.

Jameerah glances at her lawyer, who has all but given up

TRAYVON

Ok. Now what in the hell was this  
for? We found this in a burn pile.

TRAYVON

You really don't look like the part to associate with those types of people.

JAMEERAH

He promised me! He promised me nothing would come from that! He...

TRAYVON

Who promised you? Who?

JAMEERAH

(sobbing)

Benedict! He said if I help him out and come aboard his campaign, he would pay for my apartment! It was a deal! He would make sure I was taken care of! I swear I had no idea where the money came from!

TRAYVON

It's okay. It's okay.

Trayvon gives Jameerah a box of tissues

JAMEERAH

(wiping away tears)

Now what happens?

TRAYVON

Well, we need more information. You helped us out a lot today. However, we need a confession. We need you to keep working on the inside and get that for us. If you help us maybe we'll lower your sentence, and maybe, just maybe, we can forget this whole episode.

Jameerah looks around nervously

JAMEERAH'S LAWYER

No objection here.

JAMEERAH

If I do this, will it help people?

TRAYVON

I believe so. I believe that if we can stop this corruption, we can help the entire country heal.

JAMEERAH

Ok. Then I am in.

TRAYVON

Good! I'm sure this can work out  
for the both of us. Can I walk you  
to the door?

Trayvon extends his hand.

JAMEERAH'S LAWYER

You don't have to answer that.

CUT TO

INT. HALLWAY - LATER

Jameerah and Trayvon are walking at a slight distance from  
each other.

After a long silence, Jameerah finally speaks.

JAMEERAH

So, do you treat all your witnesses  
this way?

Trayvon is taken a back.

TRAYVON

(quietly)  
No.

Jameerah smiles. She has broken through. They both know it.

JAMEERAH

Am I going to go to jail?

TRAYVON

I won't let that happen.

He stops suddenly, startled. Shocked at the words coming out  
of his mouth.

JAMEERAH

I think I can handle it the rest of  
the way, but uh call me if you need  
anything else...to help with the  
case.

Trayvon clears his throat.

TRAYVON

Of course.

CUT TO

EXT. APARTMENT ROOM #0863 - "THE APARTMENTS AT CITY CENTER" -  
DAY

The sun hides behind the beautiful luxury apartment lofts.

INT. JAMEERAH'S APARTMENT - DAY

Jameerah and ALISSA(early 40s) are drinking cheap boxed wine. Alissa is wearing a fashionable hijab. Having not seen each other since college, it's a reunion of sorts.

ALISSA

It's been too long! I'm so happy we could get together!

JAMEERAH

Well, it was the right place at the right time.

ALISSA

And the right friend with the right wine!

They clink glasses, spilling a bit on the floor.

JAMEERAH

So, how are you doing?

ALISSA

It's going great! Henry got promoted and we are going to move into a bigger house! My business is growing as well. I couldn't be more satisfied. I wish you lived near to us...

JAMEERAH

I do too. Uh What's your business again?

ALISSA

I'm a hairdresser, Jam!

JAMEERAH

That's a bit ironic.

ALISSA

Yeah, especially when you factor in my math degree. But really it's going great. I'll be happy to do your hair. You should take a break from D.C. and see me in New York!

JAMEERAH

Sure! One day, I hope. How's Charlie?

Alissa laughs

ALISSA

He's a handful! He stays in the guestroom but I don't think that'll contain him any longer!

Jameerah laughs

JAMEERAH

Wow! They grow up fast, don't they?

ALISSA

It's true. They do. I just wish there was an instruction manual or something!

JAMEERAH

Anyways, how long are you going to be in DC for?

ALISSA

Just for today. You know, don't want to deal with the in laws for too long.

Jameerah sighs

JAMEERAH

Actually, I don't.

ALISSA

Are you okay, Jameerah? You look uh not well.

JAMEERAH

Just pour me another glass.

ALISSA

Don't you have to work today?

JAMEERAH

Oh please. Not now.

ALISSA

What's wrong? Put down the wine and tell me right now.

JAMEERAH

I'm not sure I'm cut out for my job anymore. I mean I can't stand it. It's like I'm in Saudi Arabia. Yes sir. No sir. What else would you like sir. When do I ever get what I want?

ALISSA

Well, what do you want?

JAMEERAH

I thought I'd be able to help people but I'm just not getting the support. It's like I'm talking to a brick wall!

ALISSA

What do you mean?

JAMEERAH

I have this plan for a huge healthcare bill that I thought could help everyone! Rich or poor! And all the President wants to talk about is his crowds or the news. It's so frustrating!

ALISSA

Oh no!

JAMEERAH

And that's not all. I really think I messed up my FBI interview.

ALISSA

What do you mean? Didn't you have your lawyer there?

JAMEERAH

A lot of help that guy was. But it's not even about the interview. It's about the guy doing the interview.

ALISSA

Who was interviewing you? What did he do, Jam?

JAMEERAH

The FBI Director. He didn't even do anything! I just kinda fell for him. I don't know. It just kinda happened.

ALISSA

Jam, listen to me. You can't do this. Take that fantasy out of your head right now! Your life will spiral out of control if you go after that man.

JAMEERAH

I don't know. It's not like I planned on it.

ALISSA

Please listen to me, Jameerah. You don't want the chaos of Washington rubbing off on you.

Jameerah sighs forlornly

JAMEERAH

Maybe you are right.

Alissa pours the rest of the wine into Jameerah glass.

ALISSA

There, there. You need this more than me.

Jameerah takes a long drink.

JAMEERAH

Ugh. I gotta pack my suitcase and get an Uber. Can you start the coffee maker? This day will never end.

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

Protesters are gathering near the entrance. Many are holding signs in opposition to the President. The police are struggling to keep order.

INT. GATE C9 "DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT" - DAY

President Karl's speech plays on all the monitors in the airport. Jameerah, in sunglasses, is barely paying attention.

TV SCREEN

CUT TO

EXT. DURHAM COUNTY STADIUM - DAY

PRESIDENT KARL

...And on this day, I am officially declaring that we will pursue a total and complete shutdown from Muslims entering the United States! We don't know anything about them. We can't trust them. We can't. So we have to keep them out until we know what to do with those animals.

CROWD

(chanting)

Get them out! Get them out!

PRESIDENT KARL

These mongrels will blow up your home! Everything you hold dear! Everything! It's so sad. I wish I didn't have to do this. They've left me no choice. This is the only solution left to the Muslim problem.

CROWD

(chanting)

Thank you Karl! Thank you Karl!

PRESIDENT KARL

Now raise your right hand. I want a  
pledge of loyalty. Repeat after  
me...

BACK TO SCENE

Jameerah puts on her headphones and shuts out the world.

END ACT 1

CUT TO

EXT. DURHAM COUNTY STADIUM - DAY

The speech ends as the Presidents supporters cheer in approval.

INT. BACKSTAGE - DAY

Another day, another successful rally. The President's biggest Senate backer, JIM BOB RANGLE(early 60s), greets him as he leaves the stage. Jim Bob is known for his Texas drawl and his traditional bible belt Republican values.

JIM BOB

Congratulations Mister President!  
You really got them going. I ain't  
never heard a crowd like that in my  
life!

PRESIDENT KARL

Well you see, the secret is. I'll  
tell ya. The secret is you got to  
go down to their level. They don't  
know what they want! So ya gotta  
give it to em!

JIM BOB

Makes sense. Where's that little  
lady whose always running around?

PRESIDENT KARL

Oh! Jane! She got held up. That  
fucking investigation. The FBI! I  
swear!

JIM BOB

Well, you know, you have my support  
Mister President. Anything you  
need.

PRESIDENT KARL

Thank you. It's so hard to find  
loyal people in this town! So hard!  
Well, Jane is trying to get this  
healthcare bill thing done. But  
whatever.

JIM BOB

Hmmm....I'd be curious to see her idea.

PRESIDENT KARL

It's something about bringing it back to the states. She's smart enough where she could get it passed by accident! But I don't care very much either way.

JIM BOB

Mister President, if I may, I would also like to see some progress with our agenda, even if it comes from your little helper.

PRESIDENT KARL

No! I'm serious! I don't trust any of those people in Congress. I don't trust any people in general. That's why there are loyalty pledges at all my rallies. It's a highlight!

JIM BOB

Well Mister President, it's not about you trusting them, it's about them trusting you. You work for them.

PRESIDENT KARL

Yeah, whatever. I'm the President. If they won't listen to me, who else will they listen to? They gotta trust what our administration is saying so we can fulfill our agenda. It's the only way!

JIM BOB

I wholeheartedly agree with your agenda, Mister President. But you have to be more careful about how you go around promoting it. I can't be putting out your fires every day! Stop the twitterin'! Please!

PRESIDENT KARL

No! That is my connection with the American public. If I had it my way, my twitter would be running the country.

JIM BOB

Can you at least get run it through some lawyers or the press secretary before running it out there?

PRESIDENT KARL  
 Maybe. I'll think about it. You know, I really appreciate your advice, Jim Bob. You are the only one I can trust! The only one!

JIM BOB  
 Thank you Mister President!

Jameerah approaches them.

JIM BOB  
 Hey little missy. See you back in Washington, Mister President.

PRESIDENT KARL  
 (to Jameerah)  
 So...How did it go? Are they gonna drop the case!?

Jameerah feels a lump in her throat.

JAMEERAH  
 It went...okay, I guess. It was just some basic questions. No big deal.

PRESIDENT KARL  
 Great! Those motherfuckers aren't going stop me from making this country great!

Jameerah nods

JAMEERAH  
 Anyways, You gotta prepare for those meetings tomorrow! See you on Air Force One.

PRESIDENT KARL  
 Okay alright.

Jameerah leaves the President alone with his thoughts.

CLOSE UP ON PRESIDENT KARL

DISSOLVE TO

EXT. HOUSTON, TEXAS - (FLASHBACK)

Benedict Karl is at a town hall amidst the heat of the primary season, with JIM BOB and JAMEERAH.

TOWNHALL ATTENDEE  
 Forgive me, I'm a bit nervous, but over the years, we have seen our rights erode. We are still not paid as much as a man for the same job.  
 (MORE)

TOWNHALL ATTENDEE (cont'd)

We have seen Planned Parenthoods close. So, Mister Karl, what would you do as President to protect the rights of women?

PRESIDENT KARL

Now, I love women. Women love me! I love all the women! Now let me tell ya, there is even a Women for Benedict Karl group. I visit there all the time and I just walk up behind em, and grab em! Just give them a big hug. For all their support you know. And they let you do it! I love women!

Jim Bob cringes, the crowd oos

PRESIDENT KARL

I'm telling you! It's so easy! It's so easy! You should love me! I know firsthand I am the most lovable person in history. Many people said it! Now would you like a hug? I'll give you a hug.

Jameerah rushes the stage and whispers very sternly in Benedict Karl's ear.

The crowd looks on in bewilderment.

JAMEERAH

(whispering to Benedict)

What are you doing? Do you want to lose this thing!? You can't assault a voter on live tv! Now get off the stage while we fix this mess.

PRESIDENT KARL

Shut up! They love me!

Benedict Karl starts waving at individual attendees and smiling at them.

The townhall attendee picks up her purse and leaves.

JAMEERAH

(to the crowd)

Thank you for coming tonight everyone!

PRESIDENT KARL

No, thank you for coming tonight! Don't forget to make America Great! Grab a button or a yard sign! Make a donation! I need the money!

Jameerah attempts to push Benedict off the stage. He doesn't budge.

Jameerah motions to Jim Bob, who has been watching slack jawed off stage

Jim Bob rushes out-

JIM BOB  
 (to the crowd)  
 Thank you for coming everyone!  
 That'll conclude our event!  
 Remember to vote Karl! Make America  
 Great!

The crowd begins to disperse with a few taking pictures of the events on stage.

Jim Bob forcefully removes the mic from Benedict's hands and starts to push him off the stage.

Benedict waves to the remaining attendees as he is getting dragged off the stage.

END FLASHBACK.

CUT TO

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX-"THE APARTMENTS AT CITY CENTER"-NIGHT

It's late but many tenants are still up.

INT. JAMEERAH'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Jameerah's apartment is a mess.

Jameerah's on her way to bed when the phone rings.

INTERCUT BETWEEN JAMEERAH AND TRAYVON

JAMEERAH  
 Um hello?

TRAYVON  
 Hi. It's Trayvon. I need to talk to you about the investigation.

JAMEERAH  
 Sure. Let me call my lawyer.

TRAYVON  
 Over dinner.

Jameerah blushes.

JAMEERAH

Well, I won't need my lawyer for that. I know a place nearby. I'd love to show it to you.

TRAYVON

Great! I uh let's not advertise this. It could cause chaos.

JAMEERAH

Chaos is my specialty. I've been working with it for the past year. What's a little more?

TRAYVON

I understand that. But you can't predict chaos. While you may be able to handle it here or there, the unforeseen consequences may be too much, that's all I'm saying.

JAMEERAH

I get it. I can't wait to see you so we can finish this conversation.

Jameerah hangs up the phone and smiles.

CUT TO

EXT. SENATE BUILDING - DAY

The shade from the trees colors half the building a forboding black.

INT. CLOAKROOM - DAY

In between votes, JIM BOB tries to get the temperature of Congress with his colleagues: CRAIG and FRANK TURLEY(late 60s), the Senate Majority Leader from Alabama.

CRAIG

So guys, the House is looking good to pass the healthcare bill. We have some Democrats planning to come on board along with the entire Tuesday Group. The only thing that could hurt us is the Freedom Caucus. We need every one of their votes. Any ideas?

FRANK

I will tell you one thing: our country was founded on negotiation. If these fellers don't feel need to negotiate, they need to leave our party. They are just not working in our best interests.

CRAIG

We need to remain united. Any break in ranks could cause chaos!

JIM BOB

I'm honestly not sure there is anything you can do win them over. Their only goal is to blow up the system.

CRAIG

And we may lose what little bipartisan support we have if the leaks from FBI investigation keep hitting the headlines!

JIM BOB

I can't believe it! After 8 years of that damn Kenyan socialist and we finally win, we're stuck with this mess!

CRAIG

I know. If Benedict goes down, we go down. We can't keep the House in the midterms with this kind of push back. We need to think of something.

JIM BOB

Come on Craig. Buck up. We got the Senate. As long as we have the majority there, the Democrat's impeachment fantasy ends there.

Jim Bob stands up and takes off his jacket.

JIM BOB

We can still get our agenda passed! We can still do healthcare! Then we'll do tax reform!

FRANK

You really think it'll be that easy?

JIM BOB

Yes.

CRAIG

I wish I had your confidence. You haven't been seeing all those paid protestors!

JIM BOB

Oh, you're mistaken my friend. Got em there too.

FRANK

I got em here too in Alabama.

CRAIG

What have they been doing in Alabama?

FRANK

They held my office hostage! They just wouldn't leave till I came and told em what they wanted to hear! I've never seen politics in this country get so violent!

CRAIG

Wow. That's disturbing. Did you call the cops?

FRANK

No. We just left em out there in the 90 degree sun. Didn't take that long 'fore they left. Soros must not pay overtime.

JIM BOB

Well, you think that's bad? Listen to what they did to me in Texas!

FRANK

What happened?

JIM BOB

So here I am at a private fundraiser, y'know someone's home. It's all going nice and well, everyone is having a good time. And then I start to make a speech. You know, the normal rah rah speech to get the wallets open. When this dude, I don't know who he works for, stands up in front of me and hold us a banner. It said Black Lives Matter.

FRANK

It said what?

CRAIG

That's inappropriate!

JIM BOB

Yeah, you are telling me. Anyways, next thing I know it's on youtube and they are focusing and manipulating my face so it looks like I'm sick at the sight of the guy. Well, to tell you truth I was but you don't want that getting out there.

CRAIG  
Jesus Christ!

FRANK  
What the hell is this world coming  
too?

CUT TO

EXT. RESTAURANT "LE DIPLOMATE" - DUSK

Jameerah is at a patio table. She is already a couple  
glasses in.

Trayvon finally arrives and smiles when he sees her.

TRAYVON  
Hi!

JAMEERAH  
I didn't know you had the ability  
to smile.

TRAYVON  
Was I smiling? Damn! Don't want to  
blow my cover.

JAMEERAH  
So I'm gonna guess this didn't have  
anything to do with the  
investigation.

TRAYVON  
No. I just really wanted to see you  
again.

JAMEERAH  
All you had to do was ask. Chaos or  
not, we are human.

TRAYVON  
So, where are you from?

JAMEERAH  
I was born in right here in DC. My  
parents moved to the United States  
before I was born. I was the  
valedictorian at the International  
Academy. Then I got a full ride  
scholarship to Georgetown.

TRAYVON  
Wow. So, the rumors are true. You  
are like a prodigy.

Jameerah laughs

JAMEERAH

Well I don't know about that. What about you?

TRAYVON

Well, I grew up in Marion, South Carolina. The sticks. I had a single mother who did everything in her power to show me the right way. But we didn't have much. I went to University of South Carolina then applied to be a FBI analyst.

JAMEERAH

Well, it looks like we already have something in common.

TRAYVON

Yeah.

JAMEERAH

So what's it like at the FBI?

TRAYVON

Well, you know the usual. I believe in loyalty. Whether it be to your family, your friends, or your significant other. The FBI is one of the most principled institution left in the United States and I take that to heart. I believe in the FBI and I hope they believe in me.

JAMEERAH

That's interesting. I'm usually flying by the seat of my pants. Putting out fires left and right. I don't really have time for my work to define me. I usually find myself dreaming of what's next.

Trayvon laughs

TRAYVON

Jeans or slacks? And if your flying, you're gonna need a belt! No, I get you. What's life without our dreams realized?

JAMEERAH

I've always wanted to be a nurse. Like, work with Doctors without Borders. I know it's insane, but I really wanted to see the world.

Jameerah takes a sip of wine

JAMEERAH  
Want to get a drink?

Jameerah motions to the waiter. Trayvon smiles.

JAMEERAH  
There he is!

TRAYVON  
You know, around you, I feel like I  
can say anything.

JAMEERAH  
I feel the same. It's such a  
difference from the chaos of the  
Oval.

TRAYVON  
Speaking of chaos, weren't we  
supposed to finish that  
conversation?

JAMEERAH  
After we get our drinks. This isn't  
exactly a pleasant subject to delve  
into.

TRAYVON  
I didn't know that Muslims could  
hold their alcohol!

JAMEERAH  
There is a lot you don't know about  
Muslims...

Waiter arrives with bottle of WINE and a FLUTE.

JAMEERAH  
Thank you. Thank you.

Waiter pours Trayvon a glass of wine.

TRAYVON  
Now here is how I see it. You may  
be able to handle the chaos. But  
that won't end it.

TRAYVON  
It'll still be there whether you  
like it or not. The only remedy to  
chaos, is order.

Trayvon takes a sip of wine.

JAMEERAH  
You mean like laws? Well, of course  
you think that. You are FBI  
director. The nation's top cop.  
(MORE)

JAMEERAH (cont'd)

Laws will solve everything! I mean, laws don't mean anything if they aren't enforced.

TRAYVON

Yeah I get that. And it really doesn't look like anyone has any interest in that regard, but we are trying.

JAMEERAH

Trying doesn't stop anything either. I think you need to show the human face. The people who are affected by the chaos. Outrage will only serve to fuel it more. We are in dangerous times.

TRAYVON

That we are. It's like all the internet conspiracy theories became true overnight. I've seen many things over the course of my career, but never like this.

JAMEERAH

That's why you can't simply trust the law. One thing, above all else to remember, is that we are humans. We have to go back down to the bare bones of it. Strip away parties. Strip away money. Strip away power. Just expose them as the humans they are.

TRAYVON

Wow. I'm impressed. That's what I get for trying to debate you.

JAMEERAH

Debate team champ! G-Town represent! Woop woop!

Trayvon laughs and motions to the waiter.

TRAYVON

Check please.

CUT TO

EXT. CITY STREETS - NIGHT

Trayvon and Jameerah are walking together, close.

TRAYVON

(laughing)

Hey! You okay!?

JAMEERAH  
I don't live far. Walk me home?

TRAYVON  
Yeah sure.

They walk quietly as the serene night overwhelms them. They take it all in. Step by step.

JAMEERAH  
Thanks for tonight, Trayvon. I needed it.

TRAYVON  
No problem. That sounds like I can make a plan for another?

JAMEERAH  
Yes.

They arrive at entrance to Jameerah's apartment complex.

JAMEERAH  
Well, this is me.

TRAYVON  
It's been a pleasure.

Their eyes meet. That spark returns. The world disappears around them. They kiss.

CUT TO

INT. TRAYVON'S OFFICE - DAY

Trayvon reclines in his luxury leather office seat. Suddenly, his coffee maker BUZZES him out of his dream. Bob enters as Trayvon pours himself a cup.

TRAYVON  
You want some?

BOB  
Yeah, sure.

TRAYVON  
We ready?

Bob takes a sip.

BOB  
Wow. Great stuff. Yeah, it's almost go time. How do you want to approach this?

TRAYVON

It's simple. We can just pass the indictments off to the Democrats in the House and the process will take care of itself.

BOB

But how do we make sure this doesn't get politicized? These are serious charges and they should be handled as such.

TRAYVON

I understand but that's the game here. The Constitution gives us no other option. I doubt Benedict is planning on resigning. He is going to have to face the music. You know that, you read the behavioral notes.

BOB

Yeah, I guess. I just wish there was a better way.

TRAYVON

I agree. This divisiveness is hurting our country. When we are all fighting, no one wins. No one is helping the poor and sick in this country. It's all a power grab.

Bob puts down his coffee cup.

BOB

The poor don't need anymore help. Those people are cheating welfare and shooting each other.

TRAYVON

You don't actually think that, do you?

BOB

It's the truth. Look at Chicago. You can't complain of racism there. It's blacks shooting up blacks while they collect a welfare check!

TRAYVON

Wow. Just how to approach the many ways you are wrong, Bob...

BOB

Of course you think that I'm wrong. We all have our biases. I am not making any sort of judgement on you. It's just the way of life.

TRAYVON

Ok, let's start here. The people in Chicago are suffering and "shooting each other" as you say because of their environment. You are only looking at the symptom, not the cause.

BOB

I'm looking at dead bodies out on the street. You know we investigate that too, Trayvon? While you are busy concentrating most of our resources on this wild goose chase.

TRAYVON

How can you say that when you have been right by my side every step along the way!

BOB

I mean sure, I've helped you out, but I really don't think this is leading anywhere. It's just an internet conspiracy gone to your head. I already reported your actions to Diane.

TRAYVON

This is sudden, Bob! What are you talking about!? If you had such an issue with me or the investigation, I would have liked to be told about it to my face! I mean, jeez.

BOB

Well, I'm sorry I thought you knew the process of work complaints. Maybe you should check up on your handbook.

TRAYVON

Man, I get it. You wanted my job. You wanted the perks. But you got looked over. I get it! It's okay. No need to take it out on me!

BOB

I'm not taking it out on you. I just don't think you belong here! You aren't the type to run the FBI!

TRAYVON

Excuse me!?

BOB

You heard me! You aren't qualified! If it was up to me, we'd have

(MORE)

BOB (cont'd)

someone like J. Edgar Hoover. He'd handle those all those protests groups! He'd handle the thugs destroying the cities in America! You are way too soft on protestors!

TRAYVON

I am not! Those people aren't criminals! I will not abuse my power!

BOB

And that's the problem. The country is falling into chaos and the FBI director is too afraid to crack a few eggs.

TRAYVON

Okay, that's enough. I have upheld my duty as director. I have prosecuted countless criminals. I have cleaned up the culture in this place. I have made life easier for the agents here! And what have you done? I've heard enough complaining, Bob. Leave! Now!

BOB

Okay. I hope you've got a speech like that ready for Diane.

Bob saunters off.

Trayvon is left alone, stewing. The coffee is getting cold.

CUT TO

INT. JAMEERAH'S APARTMENT - DAY

RING RING. Jameerah awakens by the blare of the intercom.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

(O.S)

Hello? Jameerah? It's Mom! I'm coming up right now, young lady! You better be ready!

BANG, Jameerah's mom pounds on the door. Jameerah quickly tries to clean up her apartment. Tossing clothes and notebooks this way and that.

Jameerah takes a deep breath and slowly opens the door-

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Glad to see someone is awake. Don't you have to work, honey?

JAMEERAH

Soon.

Jameerah's mom squints at her daughter. Something is amiss.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Let me get you some coffee.

Jameerah groggily takes the cups out of the cupboard while her mom sets up the coffee maker.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Have you been drinking again?

JAMEERAH

So what? What business is it of yours?

JAMEERAH'S MOM

I've raised you the right way! You should know by now that alcohol is haraam! How dare you forsake Allah!

JAMEERAH

I'm not forsaking Allah. I'm just doing what I'm comfortable with.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Comfortable? Do you want to get fired?

Jameerah laughs

JAMEERAH

I run that place. You saw the news. Benedict would be lost without me.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

You have to be serious now, Jameerah. What will you do if he finds out you lied on your resume?

JAMEERAH

Ugh, I absolutely hate working there. Whatever, maybe he can get a generic white guy to take my place. That'll fix everything! Let's see how far that gets him!

JAMEERAH'S MOM

You are not thinking straight Jameerah. This is why I don't like you drinking. You become so... immature.

JAMEERAH

Mom, you have to understand, times are changing. The old traditions are going the way of the dinosaur.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

I understand. Jameerah, you are in a very powerful position. You can't take that for granted.

JAMEERAH

I know. It's just really hard. I'm always going from one crisis to the next. I can't keep up!

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Think of yourself. Remember your healthcare bill. Don't lose yourself in the chaos of Washington.

Jameerah's mom puts the coffee cups in the sink.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Now you go get finished getting ready. I'll clean up this place while you are gone. I love you, Jameerah. Be careful.

JAMEERAH

I love you Mom. I'll be careful.

CUT TO

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

Jameerah and President Karl are going through another briefing.

Jameerah wears her FBI issued WIRE, hoping the President reveals the truth.

JAMEERAH

How can you still not know what is going on in Kazakhstan? I already told you everything! Why did you hire me if you aren't going to listen?

PRESIDENT KARL

You know, I don't have much time for that. I can't keep up with what everyone is saying. I know Kazakhstan is dangerous, but they aren't attacking us. Let Europe handle it. I said Make America Great, not Protect Cuckistan!

JAMEERAH

Come on sir. Get serious. The national security of our NATO allies are at stake here. Under Article 5, we are obligated to defend them.

PRESIDENT KARL

Yeah, whatever. Speaking of articles, have you seen those cable shows? What they are saying about me! It's so sad!

JAMEERAH

What are you talking about? This Kazakhstan situation isn't going to go away if you ignore it.

PRESIDENT KARL

I'm not ignoring it! I know full well how to handle it! Uh...let me just call the Vice President...he knows...I think he can fill you in on my plan.

President Karl reaches for the phone.

JAMEERAH

We don't need the Vice President. Okay, we can talk about Kazakhstan later. Just as long as you tell me what else you are doing to support the healthcare bill.

President Karl puts down the phone and smiles.

PRESIDENT KARL

Great! I've been doing rallies! You've seen em'. I may not have hit every bullet point you laid out but I was there. I showed up! And the people love me! Everyone is saying how much they love it.

JAMEERAH

I understand. But those bullet points are important. It informs people about the bill. So, they know we aren't trying to blow up the system. So, they know they will still have healthcare if it passes. I thought you wanted to help me get this bill passed!?

PRESIDENT KARL

I do! I do! I just want to do it my own way. You've seen my crowds! Bursting at the seams! They are throwing chocolates and roses at me! We'll get your healthcare bill passed. Believe me!

Jameerah doesn't respond.

PRESIDENT KARL

Now about those news shows. We got to get them to stop! Do you have a plan? Does anyone?

JAMEERAH

No.

PRESIDENT KARL

There is this one show in particular. With this really ugly woman. You wouldn't believe it! She's so ugly. I would never do her.

Jameerah has heard this sort of talk from the President before, but this time, it nearly sets her off.

JAMEERAH

Sir, please. I'm standing right here.

PRESIDENT KARL

It's just locker room talk! What are you gonna do? I'm the President! I can do whatever I want! Hell, I bought your apartment! You wanna go back to living on the streets?

Jameerah smirks.

JAMEERAH

No, sir. It's okay, sir. I apologize, sir.

PRESIDENT KARL

That's more like it. I'm the President! Believe me when I say that I'll put you back on the street. Believe me!

JAMEERAH

I got it. Now what were you saying about..uh...the ugly woman?

PRESIDENT KARL

Oh she was so ugly! There was blood coming from out from holes like you wouldn't believe! Must have been a face lift or you know that time of the month. Disgusting! How can you go out on tv like that!

Jameerah's phone BUZZES.

JAMEERAH

Oh my god! I'm sorry. I really have to cut this conversation short. The House is starting the vote on the healthcare bill! I really didn't expect this so soon? Good luck sir!

PRESIDENT KARL

I don't need luck! I'm the President! Believe me!

CUT TO

INT. U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DAY

Jameerah, still reeling from her encounter with the President, joins Craig, by the door of leader of the Freedom Caucus, to plan how they will handle the Freedom Caucus.

CRAIG

Are you ready?

JAMEERAH

No!

CRAIG

Okay. We have to start somewhere. Representative Younger is going to want to make your bill much more conservative. You may have to give up some things.

JAMEERAH

Ugh. I was worried about that. I hope leaving the choice to fund the exchanges to the states will be enough.

CRAIG

Alright. That's a start. Let's do this!

Craig knocks on the door, and REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER, the youngish prodigy and leader of the Freedom Caucus opens the door.

REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER

Welcome, Craig, Jameerah. I hope we can arrive at an understanding on this bill. Take a seat.

CUT TO

INT. U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - LATER

Representative Youngers office is adorned with American flag memorabilia.

A monitor is showing the voting on the House floor

REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER

So let's get down to business. You've managed to convince the majority of my caucus. But you still haven't convinced me. Why should I vote for this bill?

JAMEERAH

You've heard our spiel countless times. We are here to know what you want.

The monitor shows the Nays are winning slightly.

REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER

I want a full repeal and replace of Obamacare. Nothing more and nothing less.

CRAIG

But you know we can't do that! Come on! Meet us in the middle!

REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER

Maybe. But what are you going to give me for my vote?

JAMEERAH

What about if we put the tax cuts back into the bill?

REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER

Now, we are getting somewhere!

The monitor shows Yeas are winning slightly.

CRAIG

That can't be in this bill though. I'll talk to Frank and we can get it done in conference.

REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER

But in order to get to conference, this bill would need to pass both the Senate and House...

CRAIG

Yeah. Leaving little room for flip flops. And I hope you aren't planning on becoming a flip flop.

REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER

I ain't no flip flop! I serve at the pleasure of my constituents!

JAMEERAH

Okay. Okay guys. I think we have an agreement. We'll pass this bill and then settle it in conference.

REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER

Yeah, sure.

The monitor shows the vote tied at 217 to 217

REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER

Okay ya'll I gotta get down there and vote!

INT. U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - LATER

Representative Younger walks in, some his the Democratic colleagues greet him. They share a laugh.

Representative Younger goes over to the House Clerk and waes his hand to get his attention.

REPRESENTATIVE YOUNGER

No.

Representative Younger puts his thumb down.

HOUSE CLERK

On the motion of H. 1001, The Better Healthcare Act, the motion fails 218 to 217.

A variety of shouts, gasps, applause, and wails rings throughout the chamber.

CUT TO

INT. U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - LATER

Jameerah and Craig remain in Representative Youngers office having watched the entire event from the monitor.

JAMEERAH

How could this happen! This was everything I worked for! This was all I wanted!

CRAIG

I'm sorry. I don't know what happened. I thought the deal would hold. This doesn't make any sense!

JAMEERAH

This is ridiculous! What about asking him to listen to his constituents! This healthcare bill was supposed to bring us all together!

CRAIG

Jameerah. You haven't seen all the phone calls and emails that my colleagues have been getting. You are stuck in the ivory tower in the Oval Office, oblivious to it all!

JAMEERAH

You don't know me. That was my bill that just failed. I feel like I'm the only one who isn't just trying to protect my career!

CRAIG

And you don't know me. I've tried my best! We are still a divided country!

Jameerah's phone RINGS

JAMEERAH

Ugh. I have to take this. We'll finish this later!

CUT TO

INT. U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - LATER

Jameerah has found some privacy to take her phone call.

TRAYVON

Hey baby!

JAMEERAH

Nice to hear from you again.

TRAYVON

Thank you for working with us. I know the risks you had to take to get his confession.

JAMEERAH

No problem!

TRAYVON

I miss you! I hope to see you again soon.

JAMEERAH

Me too. No one is going to find out about us, right?

TRAYVON

Like I said before. I won't let anyone hurt you.

JAMEERAH

Thanks, I really appreciate that.

TRAYVON

I'll see you soon.

JAMEERAH

Bye.

Jameerah smiles as she hangs up the phone.

CUT TO

EXT. SENATE BUILDING - DAY

The shade from the nearby trees makes the Senate building dark even in early afternoon sun. It's surreptitiously quiet.

INT. SENATE CLOAKROOM - DAY

Jim Bob shakes his head in disbelief, as Craig Mortimer hangs up his jacket on the coat rack.

JIM BOB

How did the healthcare bill fail? I don't believe it.

CRAIG

Representative Younger sunk the bill! He told me the polls told the story. It was a bill without a constituency.

JIM BOB

And now President Karl wants a damned religious ban? Does he want a full out civil war?

CRAIG

I don't see the support for that either. This seems like a train wreck waiting to happen.

JIM BOB

He's got us wrapped around his fingers. He is the head of our party!

CRAIG

Did he ask you to make a deal too?

Suddenly, one of Craig's aides busts through the door.

CONGRESSIONAL AIDE

Representative Mortimer! You have to see this!

CRAIG

Whats going on!?

CONGRESSIONAL AIDE  
The President...he...they...

The Aide hands Craig the REPORT and sullenly walks out of the room.

CRAIG  
Ugh, dang it.

JIM BOB  
What?

CRAIG  
You gotta see this! It's not good.

Jim Bob grabs the REPORT from him and dives into it.

INSERT - THE REPORT

It reads: The President of the United States has been indicted on racketeering and extortion charges. The Speaker of the House announced that a vote on impeachment will commence tomorrow. It remains a question whether the Republican lead Senate would be willing to continue the process, if the vote passes.

BACK TO SCENE

JIM BOB  
Craig, go! We got to get ahead of this!

CRAIG  
Is this it? Is this how it all ends?

Craig runs madly out of the cloakroom. Jim Bob picks up Craig's forgotten jacket and contemplates his next move.

CLOSE UP ON JIM BOB

CUT TO

INT. JIM BOB'S OFFICE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Republican candidate Benedict Karl is in Senator Jim Bob's office for a meeting. They are from the same party but are closer to political enemies.

PRESIDENT KARL  
...What will it take to get your endorsement? Do you want me to go on teleprompter? I'll go on teleprompter!

JIM BOB  
No, it's not that. It's...how can I say this...You aren't very  
(MORE)

JIM BOB (cont'd)  
professional. You say these nasty  
things about women and minorities  
and I can't stand for that.

PRESIDENT KARL  
That's what people like! Have you  
seen my crowds? I'm filling up  
stadiums! I'm bigger than Bon Jovi!

JIM BOB  
I can't! I've got the Evangelical  
vote to think of. I can't abide by  
this.

PRESIDENT KARL  
What do I have to do!? I'll do  
anything!

JIM BOB  
Do you promise me, there will be no  
more outbursts? If there is one  
more incident, I'll rescind it.  
Don't test me.

PRESIDENT KARL  
You would really do that? Take away  
an endorsement? Sure, I've said  
some things but I was only punching  
back at those that unfairly  
attacked me. You have to  
understand!

JIM BOB  
What you are saying about your  
primary opponents is uncalled for!  
If you get elected, you are going  
need them.

PRESIDENT KARL  
What do you mean? Doesn't the  
President get to decide anything he  
wants?

JIM BOB  
No, the same folks you think are  
attacking you now, you are going to  
need to pass whatever is on your  
future agenda.

PRESIDENT KARL  
I'll tell you what. You do this for  
me. I'll pay you back down the  
road. Believe me. It's a deal?  
(beat)

END FLASHBACK.

CUT TO

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

The Oval Office has quite a few televisions set up, playing the news from a variety of networks. They are all showing the same thing:

Democrat after Democrat making speeches against President Karl. Calling for his impeachment. Calling for his removal.

Jameerah, nonplussed by the whole thing, reclines on the couch. Jim Bob, annoyed, looks over the report. President Karl silently stews.

PRESIDENT KARL

How the fuck did this happen!? You gotta be kidding me! It was a ruse! These Democrats aren't even people.

JIM BOB

We've got to get a plan to attack this, Mister President.

PRESIDENT KARL

I got a plan. Burn the place down! That's the only way they are getting me out! Believe me!

Jameerah glances at the President.

PRESIDENT KARL

Fuck it! Fuck it all! Okay, you know what Jim Bob?!

JIM BOB

What?

PRESIDENT KARL

We own the Senate. These guys. They have no idea. Let them have their day. Let them feel like they won one. They will always be LOSERS!

JIM BOB

Are you sure you don't want to be more aggressive? Don't you always punch back 10 times harder?

The plan awakens Jameerah from her stupor.

JAMEERAH

Benedict...are you serious?(beat)

PRESIDENT KARL

Yes. The plan is to hold our fire. We aren't going anywhere.

CUT TO

## MONTAGE

A variety of national tv anchors report on the impeachment vote.

## ANCHOR #1

In a mostly party line vote, the Democratic controlled House has voted to impeach President Benedict Karl...

## ANCHOR #2

This is a stupid political sideshow! The President is right! This is a witch hunt!

## ANCHOR #3

Is America in trouble? Have we reached a constitutional crisis?

## ANCHOR #4

Republicans control the Senate. No way is he getting convicted. This is all a political game! Cheap points scored for the base of a desperate dwindling party!

## ANCHOR #1

With his Presidency at the threshold and his administration at the brink, how will President Benedict Karl and Republicans respond?

CUT TO

EXT. FBI HQ - DAY

Trayvon parks his car. He looks up into the bright sun. Not a cloud in the sky.

INT. FBI HQ - DAY

DIANE, FBI Human Relations, (late 40s) whose personality is as fiery as her red hair, hangs up the telephone, pale as a ghost.

DIANE

(into speakerphone)  
Get Bob down here, immediately.

Bob knocks on the door before entering.

BOB

What's up Diane?

DIANE

I just got off the phone with the Washington Post. They are going to run a story tomorrow about Trayvon. He's been sleeping with the President's Chief of Staff.

BOB

What? He did what?

DIANE

They have several sources to back up it up. Along with photos. It's terminal.

BOB

I never trusted that guy. We bled for this Bureau. He isn't one of us.

DIANE

I know. That's a conversation for another day. Right now, this fire has to be extinguished.

CUT TO

INT. FBI HQ - LATER

Trayvon enters the FBI building and goes through security. He notices the awkward looks the guards are giving him.

INT. FBI HQ - LATER

Trayvon arrives to his office only to see Bob and Diane there.

BOB

We know what you did! Do you want this entire case thrown out!?

DIANE

What were you thinking? Sleeping with the President's Chief of Staff!? That's utterly ridiculous.

BOB

You are going to have to resign. Immediately.

TRAYVON

You are right. But let me say something: For years I've heard around here that I didn't belong. I've seen your glances. But under my leadership, we have regained the trust of the people.

BOB

But the people won't trust us when this news gets out.

DIANE

And there have been reports about your behavior previously. There is no talking your way out of this.

TRAYVON

And how many were from the same person?

DIANE

I cannot answer that. And that is besides the point, you have no choice here. You must resign.

TRAYVON

You are right. I take full responsibility for my actions. If I could just address the rest of the staff one last time...

DIANE

No. We have to insulate the damage already done to the case. For the good that's left in this country.

TRAYVON hangs his head

TRAYVON

Yeah

CLOSE UP ON TRAYVON

TRAYVON

I am resigning as FBI director effective immediately. I would like to apologize to my family, my friends, and most importantly the Bureau. I know that we above all else must have fidelity, integrity, and bravery. And I have failed.

PUSH IN ON TRAYVON TILL HIS FACE FILLS THE FRAME

PULL BACK until it is revealed that we are in -

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

Trayvon's speech plays on the tv in the background. Jameerah and President Karl watch on.

Jameerah fights back tears and the President cackles.

PRESIDENT KARL  
I told ya! I told ya! These corrupt  
swamp dwellers had no chance  
against me! No chance!

JAMEERAH  
Yeah.

PRESIDENT KARL  
What's wrong?

JAMEERAH  
Nothing!

PRESIDENT KARL  
Oh come on! We won and you are  
babbling like someone stole your  
pacifier!

JAMEERAH  
It...It's just sad...that someone  
lost their job...

PRESIDENT KARL  
Whatever! Come over here and  
celebrate with me! You wanna know  
how we did it? A leaker.

JAMEERAH  
A what!?

PRESIDENT KARL  
Jim Bob. He leaked it. His Senate  
Committee was exercising their  
oversight over the FBI. Stumbled on  
something and I told him to leak it  
to the press!

JAMEERAH  
That's insane!

PRESIDENT KARL  
I'm innocent of all this! You know  
that? The FBI investigation is a  
fucking hoax!

JAMEERAH  
I know. I know...

PRESIDENT KARL  
Finally! We can move forward with  
the rest of our agenda. Cutting  
taxes and building my beautiful  
wall!

JAMEERAH  
So you are just dropping healthcare  
entirely?

PRESIDENT KARL

Yeah, it failed. Time to move on!  
It was a loser bill. Don't know why  
we tried it in the first place.

JAMEERAH

We tried it because it was my idea!  
I thought you trusted me?

PRESIDENT KARL

I do but healthcare is over. We  
have to start planning for the ban.

JAMEERAH

Your ban on Muslims?

PRESIDENT KARL

We can't have them! Cannot! This  
will now be my first priority. I'm  
getting them all out! Those filthy  
animals. No conscience. None!

Jameerah has held back for too long -

JAMEERAH

Enough! I can't take it anymore! I  
give you advice and you ignore it!  
What's the point?

PRESIDENT KARL

Whoa, Jane...watch yourself young  
lady...

JAMEERAH

No! Don't you patronize me! Grow  
up! And for the last time, my name  
isn't Jane! It's Jameerah! And I'm  
a proud Muslim!

PRESIDENT KARL

You are one of them! You lied to  
me! How could you?

JAMEERAH

You are wrong about Muslims and you  
are wrong about me. Yes, I lied on  
my SF-86 but if I didn't, you would  
never have given me a chance! I bet  
if I was a Baptist, you wouldn't  
even bat an eye!

PRESIDENT KARL

Well, you're right. Muslims are the  
single biggest danger to this world  
and you have proven that. Now get  
out of my office! You're fired!

Jameerah storms out of the Oval Office.

FADE TO:

BLACK

END ACT II

FADE IN:

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX-"THE APARTMENTS AT CITY CENTER"-DAY

A moving truck is parked at the entrance.

INT. JAMEERAH'S APARTMENT - DAY

There are boxes all over the place. Barely any room to walk. Jameerah, her Mom, and Alissa are packing up the apartment slowly. After a brief silence...

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Tell me you are okay, Jameerah!

JAMEERAH

I am, mom.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

You can tell me anything. I know you really wanted this job. I know you thought you could help people there...

JAMEERAH

It's okay Mom really. And thanks for helping Alissa. You really didn't have too.

ALISSA

You're my friend! I could never leave you hanging when the world is out to get you.

JAMEERAH

Thanks that really means a lot.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

By the way, where do the dishes go?

JAMEERAH

I think in the box over by couch.

A brief pause.

JAMEERAH

What's this?

ALISSA

What's what?

Jameerah holds up a sheet of paper.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

What's that?

JAMEERAH

I don't know. I can't read Arabic.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

I can. Give it to me.

Jameerah gives the mysterious paper to her mom.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

It says something about a transfer of funds to a bank? What is a shell company? Some company is operating in Saudi Arabia. I don't understand this legal mumbo jumbo.

ALISSA

So what do you want to do with it?

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Maybe we should just forget it. Whenever I move I find a ton of things I thought I threw out, only for it to come back from the dead, cobwebs and all.

JAMEERAH

What if it's related to the President?

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Jameerah, hear me now. If this is in anyway related to that bastard President, you must finish this! You have to be the change You believe in!

JAMEERAH

So...can't we just call watever bank that is?

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Of course not! They won't give you any information unless you are an account holder! You know this Jameerah!

ALISSA

So... what can we do?

JAMEERAH'S MOM

You go down to Saudi Arabia and follow the clues. Maybe this has to do with a bank, maybe it doesn't. Maybe your answer is down there somewhere.

JAMEERAH

OK, Mom. I'll do it. Alissa, will you come with me?

ALISSA

I really want to. But I have to make arrangements, Jam.

Alissa pulls out her phone.

JAMEERAH'S MOM

And I have to call your father to get you a sponsor and a permission slip!

JAMEERAH

A what!? I'm a grown woman! I don't need anyone to give me permission!

JAMEERAH'S MOM

Things are different down in Saudi Arabia. You must understand, Jameerah! Please behave when you are down there.

JAMEERAH

You don't need to worry about me. I just think it's ridiculous that some countries don't know the era we are living in right now.

ALISSA

Guess what? I'm good to go!

JAMEERAH

Awesome! Let's finish packing this place up.

CUT TO

EXT. RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA "AL-SHARAFIYA MARKET" - DAY

Alissa and Jameerah are both in niqabs standing awkwardly in the marketplace staring at a big map. Their SPONSOR(early 60s, a wrinkly bearded man, cautiously observes.

ALISSA

So where is this place again?

Jameerah points at the map.

JAMEERAH

Right there. The US Embassy is right by the Starbucks!

ALISSA

It's too far away to walk. Let's explore this place!

SPONSOR  
 (heavy arabic accent)  
 No. You need to go to hotel.

JAMEERAH  
 Thanks! So the hotel will be able  
 to point us in the right direction?

SPONSOR  
 Yes.

JAMEERAH  
 We have been going nonstop. It  
 would be great to stop at the hotel  
 and enjoy the view!

ALISSA  
 Whoa!

Alissa stumbles over some goats being led by a goat herder  
 that are travelling behind her.

ALISSA  
 Sorry! Aw, they're so cute!

JAMEERAH  
 Do you need any help?

The goat herder shakes his head no.

JAMEERAH  
 How about a little something for  
 the goats?

Jameerah kneels down and gives a goat some nuts.

The sponsor looks slightly annoyed at the foreigners.

The goat eats it heartily.

The goat herder starts to whistle to get his herds  
 attention.

JAMEERAH  
 Before you go, take this.

Jameerah gives the goat herder a couple American dollars.

The goat herder hand signals a thank you and leaves with his  
 goats.

ALISSA  
 That's my Jam!

Jameerah laughs.

The sponsor rolls his eyes.

JAMEERAH  
Ok. I'm calling an Uber.

CUT TO

EXT. RIYADH MARRIOT HOTEL SIGN - DAY

On one side is English and on the other is Arabic.

INT. RIYADH MARRIOT - DAY

Alissa and Jameerah arrive at the hotel with some fruit and nuts from the market. The Sponsor helps an attendant with the luggage.

A MALE RECEPTIONIST(early 30s) impatiently awaits.

SPONSOR  
These women. They are with me.

MALE RECEPTIONIST  
Yes, sir. How can I help you?

Jameerah pushes her way forward.

JAMEERAH  
Oh great! We have a reservation.

MALE RECEPTIONIST  
No problem. Name?

JAMEERAH  
It should be under Jameerah.

Male Receptionist works his magic with the computer.

MALE RECEPTIONIST  
Ah, Yes. I see it now. 7 days 6  
nights. Enjoy your stay! The busboy  
will show you to your rooms.

Jameerah, Alissa, and the Sponsor follow the busboy to the elevators.

CUT TO

INT. RIYADH MARRIOT - LATER

Jameerah exits the elevator with a notebook and heads straight to the front desk.

Jameerah rings the service bell -

JAMEERAH  
Excuse me! I need a list of banks  
that do business here, and I think  
we may need a translator?  
Preferably one experienced in  
(MORE)

JAMEERAH (cont'd)  
business transactions. And can  
speak in English!

MALE RECEPTIONIST  
Sure, it'll take one second to get  
everything for you. Have you been  
down to the market yet?

JAMEERAH  
Oh yes! It was amazing! And the  
goats!

MALE RECEPTIONIST  
What goats?

Jameerah laughs

JAMEERAH  
There was goat herder that nearly  
ran over my friend!

The male receptionist rolls his eyes

MALE RECEPTIONIST  
Ah! Ok. Well, I'll be back in a  
second.

Jameerah looks around the lobby.

She walks up to the separate doors for men and women. Things  
are different down here.

She glances at a group of women in burqas. She shivers at  
the sight.

A bell RINGS at the front desk.

The male receptionist returns with a folder full of  
documents.

MALE RECEPTIONIST  
Okay, here are the materials as  
you requested. Good luck.

JAMEERAH  
Thanks!

Jameerah takes out her phone and heads to the elevator

CUT TO

INT. HOTEL ROOM - LATER

Alissa searches for the MYSTERIOUS DOCUMENT, while Jameerah  
finishes getting ready.

JAMEERAH

(O.S)

The translator will be here in any second! Are you ready?

ALISSA

As ready as I'll ever be. Have you seen that form?

JAMEERAH

(O.S)

No? What happened now?

Jameerah enters.

ALISSA

I could have sworn it was in my bag...

Jameerah opens the bedside drawer

JAMEERAH

It's right here! Calm down!

Jameerah holds up the paper.

Alissa sighs in relief.

ALISSA

Thank Allah! Jameerah, can you believe it! We are back home! Maybe we should visit one of our relatives...

JAMEERAH

Well this isn't my home, but maybe...

A soft KNOCK at the door.

ALISSA

Oh my! She's here!

Jameerah opens the door for Malika (early 50s), a kind and soulful soul with swagger to spare.

MALIKA

Why hello! I'm Malika here for all your translating needs!

Malika puts down her bag and looks around the hotel room.

She takes out some calligraphy and hangs it.

She walks over the drapes and shuts them.

She lowers the lights.

ALISSA

Um...I'm not so sure about this,  
Jam

JAMEERAH

It's okay, Alissa!

ALISSA

Don't you need the lights to read  
our document?

MALIKA

It's okay. A-okay! I don't need the  
lights! I have the sights!

Malika points at her eyes and stares intensely at Alissa for  
a moment.

ALISSA

So, you have a business degree?

MALIKA

No! I have a degree in soul!

Malika takes out an ipod from her bag and plays some Omar  
Basaad.

ALISSA

Ok. I've seen enough. How much are  
you charging us per hour!?

Jameerah quickly hands the MYSTERIOUS DOCUMENT to Malika.

Malika glances at it.

MALIKA

Hold on! We must prepare the  
ritual!

ALISSA

The WHAT!?

Malika takes out a small bowl.

MALIKA

Do you have a bathroom?

JAMEERAH

Yes, of course, it's uh right down  
there.

Malika goes to the bathroom and fills her bowl with water.

ALISSA

Jam, this is insane!

JAMEERAH

Uh..I know but let's just play  
along...

ALISSA

We are in foreign country with a foreign person in our foreign hotel room where we don't know anything! I'm getting our sponsor! He'll help.

JAMEERAH

Yeah..I think he hates us. I'll take my chances with Malika.

ALISSA

Ugh! I can't even...

Malika returns.

ALISSA

Oh, Hi! So, um, how did you... like...our bathroom?!

MALIKA

Kneel down.

ALISSA

What!?

JAMEERAH

It's okay. I volunteer as tribute.

Jameerah kneels down.

MALIKA

Is it ok? It's tradition.

JAMEERAH

Uh, Ok.

MALIKA

Ok, you may get a little wet.

Malika says the Al-Ma'ida. She then proceeds to wash Jameerah's face.

JAMEERAH

I was not expecting that!

Malika continues the wudu: washing her arms and her feet.

MALIKA

You next?

Alissa shrugs

ALISSA

Sure, why not?

Malika repeats the process on Alissa.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - LATER

Malika is putting away her bowl while Jameerah and Alissa try and get thier bearings.

ALISSA

Ok. What was that? I feel...I don't know...

JAMEERAH

Refreshed? Because that's what I'm feeling!

MALIKA

That's the wudu! We do it before prayer for purification. Now that we are clean, we are ready to translate!

ALISSA

Perfect!..I think.

Jameerah gives Malika the MYSTERIOUS DOCUMENT.

Malika examines it closely.

A brief awkward silence ensues until finally...

ALISSA

Are you okay?

Malika, mouth agape and eyes wide, finally blurts out -

MALIKA

Oh. I see what you have here! This paper is dangerous! It says there is a bank! A German bank! I see the deals! Handshakes! UNDER THE TABLE! You must! You must find the man responsible!

JAMEERAH

Hmph. Which bank! Which one!?

MALIKA

I could not see that far. It is a riddle you must solve.

Malika begins packing up her belongings.

JAMEERAH

I see. Uh..thanks Malika! How much was it again?

MALIKA

This one is on me. The next one is double!

JAMEERAH

I like your style!

ALISSA

Let's head down to that bank!

MALIKA

May you be safe in your travels.  
As-Salamaulai-Kum

ALISSA AND JAMEERAH

Wa-Alaikum-Salam

Malika dances her way out the door.

CUT TO

EXT. MARION, SOUTH CAROLINA "TRAYVON'S MOM'S HOUSE" - DUSK

A quaint 2 bedroom house hidden away from the city. A lavish garden inhabits the front lawn.

INT. MRS RICE'S HOUSE - DUSK

Trayvon and his mom are having dinner.

TRAYVON

Thanks for letting me stay for the next few days. I really didn't know what I would do if you would have said no.

MRS. RICE

I could nevah say no to you. You are my son! No matter what the news says.

TRAYVON

Can we not talk about that right now? I'd rather have more cornbread and collard greens.

Mrs. Rice laughs

MRS. RICE

Now you are speaking my language!  
Pass the salt.

TRAYVON

Sure thing. How are things here in Marion?

MRS. RICE

Oooo boy! Laticia got her a man!  
And you won't believe what her husband did when he found out!

Trayvon laughs

TRAYVON

I'm not talking about the gossip.  
I'm talking about the city!

MRS. RICE

Well y'know it ain't any worse than  
what is going on up in Washington.

TRAYVON

It isn't?

MRS. RICE

No! We have city council meetings  
where everyone attends, and they  
listen to us because they are us!

TRAYVON

That sounds wonderful! Maybe I  
should move back here....

MRS. RICE

Is that what you want?

TRAYVON

I don't know anymore. I thought I  
knew, but it all fell apart. I  
screwed up.

MRS. RICE

Did you really like her? I mean  
really?

TRAYVON

Yes. Yes, I do.

MRS. RICE

You make me proud son. Well, why  
don't you stay 'round here for a  
little bit. You know we got your  
room just like you left it! Maybe  
you can find that spark again!

TRAYVON

That's a great idea Mom! Now give  
me another serving of that chicken!

CUT TO

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - DAY

It's raining nonstop. The storm clouds have moved in.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

Jim Bob and Craig meet with President Karl, trying to get  
the administration's agenda back on track.

CRAIG

We lost the healthcare vote.

PRESIDENT KARL

Who cares! She's finally gone!  
Didya know she was a fucking  
Muslim!? Right here in our midst!  
Disgusting!

JIM BOB

Sir, I don't think the country much  
cares about your chief of staff.  
Just hire another. They do care  
about our agenda.

PRESIDENT KARL

I know that! That's why I am going  
to implement my Muslim ban! I'm  
gonna make sure she never sees  
United States soil again. Get her  
out! Out! Out!

JIM BOB

With all due respect, sir, I was  
hoping to start on infrastructure.  
That would be an easy bipartisan  
agenda item.

CRAIG

I agree. I have heard that we have  
many of our Reps already discussing  
plans to reach across the aisle.  
Y'know, the previous administration  
wanted too...

PRESIDENT KARL

Fuck them! I'm the President. You  
work for me!

CRAIG

Yes, sir!

PRESIDENT KARL

And when I say we are going to do  
the Muslim ban. We are gonna do it!  
What's the way we are gonna do it?

JIM BOB

I don't think Congress is the right  
avenue for it. It's pretty toxic  
right now.

PRESIDENT KARL

Whatever. I didn't like you guys  
much anyway. Never defended me! Let  
those slimy Democrats ruin my name!  
Not loyal!

Craig and Jim bob glance at each other.

JIM BOB

Why don't you just write up an executive order? No one will be able to stop you.

PRESIDENT KARL

Like I was saying, I will draft an executive order to implement my Muslim ban. And then ISIS will be defeated. There will be no more terrorist attacks! And I, and I alone will be one who won the war on terror!

CRAIG

You have our unwavering support, sir.

PRESIDENT KARL

Now, will someone get me a soda?

CUT TO

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. NEW YORK COURTROOM (1988) - MORNING

President Karl is on the stand. The gallery is overflowing with gawkers and media.

LAWYER

Did you or did you not molest your estranged wife?

PRESIDENT KARL

No. I did not.

LAWYER

But you right here, on page 55, you wrote in your book, the Art of the Steal, that, and I quote, the best time to make love with your wife is when she is asleep. You get no complaints and she always wakes up with a smile. Did you not write that?

PRESIDENT KARL

Yes, I wrote it. But I never did it. It was locker room talk. Just trying to sell books. Had nothing to do with her. Believe me!

LAWYER

In interviews on shock jock radio stations you have stated that you have walked in on and groped beauty pageant contestants! Is that not a

(MORE)

LAWYER (cont'd)  
pattern of behavior of a serial  
pervert?

PRESIDENT KARL  
No, no sir. I owned the pageant. I  
could do what I wanted. You have no  
proof I touched anyone!

LAWYER  
Moving on, your wife further  
alleges that you beat her. Did you  
do it?

PRESIDENT KARL  
I did not hit her! It's not true!  
It's bullshit! I did not hit her! I  
did nawt! Oh...you mark!

LAWYER  
Huh? Anyways, if the divorce is  
finalized, do you agree give her  
half of everything? And will you  
swear to the court that you'll make  
your alimony payments?

PRESIDENT KARL  
Are you serious!? I don't know what  
she wants from me! I gave her  
everything she wanted! Yet here she  
is trying to divorce me! I will not  
let this happen! This court is a  
sham! A fucking joke!

JUDGE  
That's quite enough, witness.

PRESIDENT KARL  
No, you shut up! And what if I did  
do it? What are you gonna do? If I  
had raped and beat my wife, you  
couldn't do anything! I own this  
town and each and every one of you.

JUDGE  
I will hold this witness in  
contempt if he does not stop this  
disruption!

PRESIDENT KARL  
I own you! I own you! And I  
especially own my wife! And none of  
you are going to stop me. There is  
nothing you can do to stop me! I am  
the law! I am the King of New York!

JUDGE  
Baliff!

End Flashback.

CUT TO

EXT. DEUTSCHE BANK, RIDYAH, SAUDI ARABIA - DAY

Jameerah and Alissa look up at the bank sign. The English stands out in the sea of Arabic. The Sponsor quietly monitors them.

JAMEERAH

Well, the translator did say to go to a German bank.

ALISSA

And this is the only one in Saudi Arabia.

JAMEERAH

No, Deutsche bank literally means German bank.

Alissa laughs.

They walk up to the door for women. Jameerah looks back for a moment.

JAMEERAH

Well, here goes nothing.

INT. DEUTSCHE BANK, RIDYAH, SAUDI ARABIA - LATER

Jameerah, Alissa, and the Sponsor enter the bank. Jameerah and Alissa look around in wonder. The Sponsor sits down at nearest open PERSONAL BANKER's desk.

SAARAA

(in Arabic)

Hello, my name is Saaraa, how may I help you?

SPONSOR

(in Arabic)

These women are with me and need your help. They don't speak in Arabic. Can you assist them in English?

SAARAA

I'm sorry. Yes, we get international customers here all the time.

The sponsor gets up and the women take the seats at the desk.

SAARAA

How can I help this morning?

JAMEERAH

Well, we have this document. We believe it is from here, but don't really know.

Jameerah passes the document to Saaraa who looks at it intently.

ALISSA

We just found it packing up Jam's old place. We can't really speak Arabic but so we got translated. The translator said it was from this bank.

SAARAA

I see. I see. I need to talk to my supervisor about this. I'll be right back.

Saaraa exits through a door in the back of the building

ALISSA

Did I say something wrong?

SPONSOR

No. Normal protocol.

JAMEERAH

Yeah, she's only talking to her superiors. Don't worry. I'm not worried!

ALISSA

What if this paper is about a drug deal! They are going to arrest us!

The Sponsor rolls his eyes.

JAMEERAH

Just relax!

ALISSA

How can I relax when I'm about to be arrested by secret police and lost forever!

Saaraa comes back from door with an Older Man. They are speaking to each other in Arabic.

The OLDER MAN(early 70s), with a gold necklace and a smoking jacket, walks over to Saaraa's desk.

OLDER MAN

(in arabic)

So, Saaraa tells me you have a problem?

SPONSOR

(in arabic)

Yes, these women need your assistance. They mean no harm. Please help them!

The Older Man sits down and Saaraa stands behind him.

OLDER MAN

I can see you are not from around here. You are a bold woman, ma'am.

JAMEERAH

Thanks. I'm just trying to understand this document.

OLDER MAN

Well, I am the manager here.

ALISSA

It's nice to meet you!

The Older Man glares at Alissa.

The Sponsor clears his throat.

OLDER MAN

Anyways, is there a Jameerah here?

JAMEERAH

That's me.

OLDER MAN

Well, this appears to be a sort of a proof of purchase for an apartment. Yours?

JAMEERAH

Must be. But I thought Benedict Karl paid for it!?

OLDER MAN

I don't know if he did. This only says The Matrix LLC paid for it. We do a lot of business with The Matrix LLC but we can only talk about that if with the account holders. I'm sure you understand.

JAMEERAH

Yes I do. But can you tell us who runs The Matrix LLC? Or an address? Or anything else?

OLDER MAN

I'm sorry I'm not at liberty to discuss The Matrix LLC. I hope you understand.

JAMEERAH

Ah, well no problem. Thanks for your help!

The Sponsor shakes his head.

CUT TO

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

President Karl prepares for his national address

PRESIDENT KARL

When I said I was going to be the best President you have ever seen, I meant it. When I make promises, I keep them. And on this day, my promise to shut down Muslim immigration to the United States becomes a reality.

President Karl signs the Executive Order and holds it up to the camera.

PRESIDENT KARL

No more of these disgusting untrustworthy animals will cross our borders and lie to us! I am the law and order President. God bless America and have a good night.

CUT TO

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Super - The Next Day

Jameerah is making cereal, while Alissa is lounging on the couch.

ALISSA

Today is our last day! We still don't know what this stupid paper is about!

JAMEERAH

Why don't we just...look it up?

ALISSA

You really think it'll be that easy?

JAMEERAH

Who knows? What do we have to lose!

ALISSA

Okay, pour me a bowl and get over here!

Alissa takes out her laptop while Jameerah makes her a bowl.

JAMEERAH  
Breakfast is served!

ALISSA  
Thank you m'lady.

Jameerah sits down next to Alissa as they dive into the search.

JAMEERAH  
Wow. It's a New York company?

ALISSA  
Isn't the President from New York?

JAMEERAH  
Yeah but...

ALISSA  
Oh My Allah! New York has got an entire database!

JAMEERAH  
Click there! Click there!

Alissa clicks.

JAMEERAH  
Rangle Associates?

ALISSA  
That name ring a bell?

Jameerah gasps.

JAMEERAH  
Why, yes it does. Its not a name you forget.

ALISSA  
Who is it!?

JAMEERAH  
He's the President's biggest backer in the Senate!

ALISSA  
We did it! We solved the puzzle!

JAMEERAH  
And didn't even have to buy a vowel!

ALISSA  
Well, I'm not sitting around this hotel room any longer! It's our  
(MORE)

ALISSA (cont'd)  
 last day! Get up! Get up! Get the  
 Sponsor, we are going!

JAMEERAH  
 Okay!

CUT TO:

EXT. RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA - DAY

Jameerah, Alissa, and the Sponsor are walking outside,  
 taking in the sights, when a call to prayer begins.

ALISSA  
 We totally should head down Al  
 Rajhi Grand Mosque!

JAMEERAH  
 What's that?

ALISSA  
 It's the largest mosque in Ridyah!

SPONSOR  
 I can take you down there!

JAMEERAH  
 I'm not really all the religious.  
 I'm not sure.

ALISSA  
 Just trust me.

JAMEERAH  
 Okay.

SPONSOR  
 Let's go!

CUT TO

EXT. AL RAJHI GRAND MOSQUE - DAY

Jameerah and Alissa stare in wonderment at the size of the  
 mosque

CUT TO

INT. AL RAJHI GRAND MOSQUE - LATER

Jameerah, Alissa, and the Sponsor take part in prayer with  
 the rest of the mosque.

After the prayer, Jameerah and Alissa look at the books in  
 the library.

CUT TO

EXT. AL RAJHI GRAND MOSQUE - DUSK

Jameerah and Alissa take in the view, with a deeper appreciation of their own religion and a fuller understanding of themselves.

Jameerah finally feels free.

JAMEERAH

It's beautiful, isn't it?

ALISSA

Yeah, I could live here forever and just forget everything.

JAMEERAH

I can't forget everything! I have too much responsibility!

ALISSA

What if you just tried to help yourself?

Jameerah takes it in.

JAMEERAH

I never thought of it that way. All this time I've put my entire self on the line for others.

ALISSA

You deserve something back.

JAMEERAH

I do! You know what, we know the truth. We have to return to Washington and take down Jim Bob!

CUT TO

INT. MARION CITY COUNCIL - DAY

Trayvon meets with the Mayor of his hometown.

TRAYVON

How is it down here? I've been gone so long.

MAYOR

Not much as changed. Still trying to make our way out here.

TRAYVON

I've been in Washington so long I forgot the taste of grits.

MAYOR

You hungry? I can get someone to bring something down. Let's show you our hospitality.

Mayor calls one of his aides and orders the meal.

CUT TO

INT. MARION CITY COUNCIL - LATER

The Mayor and Trayvon are eating a full course meal.

TRAYVON

Hey, thanks for this. It's not as good as Mom's home cookin' but it'll do.

MAYOR

No problem! I heard you've been through a lot. And I wanted to let you know that no matter what you are always welcome home. You could always try and take my job!

TRAYVON

I don't know. I just feel kind of lost right now. I don't even know if I should just stay here or what.

MAYOR

That's alright. I heard the news. I saw your speech but really, man to man, tell me what happened.

TRAYVON

I messed up.

MAYOR

No! No you didn't. I mean yes, you messed up your job. But that job doesn't define you!

TRAYVON

I mean that's what I thought, yet here I am back in Marian.

MAYOR

You can find many things in Marian, but you won't find a FBI Director.

TRAYVON

I know. It's just I need something.

MAYOR

I can tell. It's that woman, huh?

TRAYVON

Yeah. Every single instinct inside of me said no, but my heart said yes.

MAYOR

That's exactly what I'm talking about. You can't walk around shut off from the world just because your job calls for it. Have a heart. Have a life. Live it.

TRAYVON

I'm trying. That's why I'm here.

MAYOR

Do you not think life is hard down here in Marian? We struggling even mo' than you! So are you trying to find sumthin'?, or are you really trying to run away from sumthin'?

TRAYVON

I...I really don't know.

MAYOR

Tell me, when you go look in the mirror who do you see? An FBI director or Trayvon?

TRAYVON

I see Trayvon. I see a Black man in a White world.

MAYOR

Now you get it. And running away down here isn't going to let you run away from the color of your skin!

TRAYVON

So what was that about running for mayor?

MAYOR

I'm plannin' on retiring when my term is over in a couple years. If you stay down here, I'll endorse you. You'll win easy.

TRAYVON

Hmmm....I never thought about it...

MAYOR

No pressure. Just giving you a suggestion.

TRAYVON

It's a great idea, don't get me wrong! Just a lot to throw on my plate.

MAYOR

Well, eat up!

The Mayor passes over a bowl of mashed potatoes.

CUT TO

INT. FBI HQ - DAY

Bob and Diane are addressing the agents. They are unruly and boisterous.

BOB

I'm sorry that the Agency had to experience this setback. I know that some of you supported Trayvon, but he had to go.

BOB

Know this: He either had to resign or the President was going to fire him. We are just lucky he left before the story really took off.

A FBI Agent stands up.

FBI AGENT COUNTER INTELLIGENCE

What do you mean? Trayvon had support from every one of us here. Sure, he was unorthodox, but that is what the Agency needed.

BOB

I hear you. Trust me. But this was a terminal offense. There was no way he could have survived it.

FBI AGENT COUNTER INTELLIGENCE

That's what they said about President Karl when he nearly accosted that lady at the town hall! Yet he is there in the Oval Office.

BOB

Diane, will you tell them?

DIANE

I have read numerous reports from many of you complaining about him. Some saying that he didn't fill out reports correctly. Am I to believe now that those reports were false?

FBI AGENT FINANCIAL CRIMES

You are just highlighting the bad apples! Trayvon had full support from the all of us! From the analysts to the department heads.

BOB

He didn't have mine.

The room goes silent.

FBI AGENT FINANCIAL CRIMES

What!?

BOB

I'll tell you why. He was not qualified for this. He was a kid off the street. He didn't know common law from financial fraud. Someone had to teach him a lesson.

The room explodes in chaos then-

FBI AGENT COUNTER INTELLIGENCE

Bob, maybe it's you who should be resigning.

DIANE

Well, I will have none of that. If Bob resigns the President will be able to nominate whoever he wants to oversee whatever loose ends are left in our investigation.

BOB

I'm not going anywhere! I'm the only thing standing between you and the apocalypse.

DIANE

Now don't go overboard here, Bob. We do have a situation here that needs to be resolved.

FBI AGENT FINANCIAL CRIMES

Okay. I hear you. But the minute this is over, I want you gone.

DIANE

This is quite enough. Let's remember to act like professionals here! You do not have the power to remove anyone here, so please sir, take a seat.

FBI Financial Crimes sits down

DIANE

Okay. Now that we have a little bit of order, let's do this the old fashioned way. Let's vote whether or not Bob should resign.

Diane writes Aye and Nay on a board in the back of the room.

DIANE

All those in favor say Aye!

The entire room says raises their hand and says Aye

DIANE

All those oppose say nay.

Silence.

Bob shakes his head in disgust.

FBI AGENT FINANCIAL CRIMES  
And there you have it, Bob.  
Democracy at work.

CUT TO

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - DAY

A cool breeze washes over the few protesters gathered. They are small in number but loud.

CUT TO

INT. CUSTOMS - "DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT" - DAY

Jameerah and Alissa go to the counter, exhausted, with their bags.

JAMEERAH

Hello.

CUSTOMS AGENT

Hello. Passports and drivers licence.

Jameerah and Alissa give up their passports and drivers licences.

CUSTOMS AGENT

Where are you coming from?

JAMEERAH

Saudi Arabia.

CUSTOMS AGENT

Hmmm...personal or business?

JAMEERAH  
Uh, personal.

CUSTOMS AGENT  
Give me a second.

Customs agent types into his computer.

CUSTOMS AGENT  
Did you visit any mosques while you were down there?

JAMEERAH  
Yes. I mean I was only sight seeing...

The custom agents stares at thier hijabs.

CUSTOMS AGENT  
Are you a Muslim?

Jameerah hesitates-

CUSTOMS AGENT  
Are now or have you ever been a Muslim?

JAMEERAH  
Yes! Yes we are!

ALISSA  
We are both proud Muslims.

CUSTOMS AGENT  
I'm sorry but right now, I cannot let you into the country.

JAMEERAH  
But I am American! I have a passport and driver's license!?  
What more do you need!?

CUSTOMS AGENT  
Ma'am, please calm down. Don't create a scene or this will get much much worse.

JAMEERAH  
No! This is not right! You have no right to deny me passage to my home country!

CUSTOMS AGENT  
We have no home for Muslims here.

Airline security arrest both Jameerah and Alissa and take them to holding.

CUT TO

INT. AIRPORT SECURITY HOLDING - DAY

Jameerah and Alissa are lying in cots

JAMEERAH

Oh great. This isn't what happens in the movies. The heroes are supposed to ride in like a knight in shining armor.

ALISSA

This is real life, Jameerah, not a movie.

INT. AIRPORT SECURITY HOLDING - LATER

Alissa reads a book, while Jameerah pounds on the door.

JAMEERAH

Can we get some food? Or water? I know my rights!

No response

JAMEERAH

Is there anyone out there!?

Silence.

JAMEERAH

Can someone let us out! We are Americans!

INT. AIRPORT SECURITY HOLDING - LATER

Jameerah is mediating, while Alissa gets up and starts pacing

ALISSA

I swear I am going to go mad in here.

JAMEERAH

Calm down, Alissa. Mediate with me.

ALISSA

I can't! I can't stop thinking about my husband. What if I never see him again!

JAMEERAH

All the more reason to join me.

Jameerah hums

ALISSA

Well, okay. But I'm not going to like it.

Alissa awkwardly tries to mimic Jameerah's pose.

ALISSA  
I don't think this is working, Jam

JAMEERAH  
Shhhh....

Alissa finally gets into position and falls into silence.

INT. AIRPORT SECURITY HOLDING - LATER

Jameerah and Alissa are both banging on the door.

ALISSA AND JAMEERAH  
(chanting)  
Let us out! Let us out!

GUARD  
If you don't be quiet, I'll turn  
off the lights!

JAMEERAH  
At least give us a phone call. You  
owe us that.

GUARD  
I don't know owe you anything.

JAMEERAH  
Let me call the ACLU!

GUARD  
No! Now shut up!

Jameerah and Alissa melt to the ground in despair

INT. AIRPORT SECURITY HOLDING - LATER

Alissa is crying on the cot while Jameerah is consoling her.

GUARD  
Okay, you get one phone call. Good  
luck.

Alissa and Jameerah jump up and follow the guard to phone.

GUARD  
You have 10 minutes. I'll be back.

The guard exits to a nearby office.

Jameerah immediately dials phone

CLOSE UP on Jameerah

CUT TO

INT. AIRPORT SECURITY HOLDING - LATER

Jameerah, Alissa, and the ACLU Lawyer are talking in holding.

ACLU LAWYER

What happened?

ALISSA

They took our passports and drivers licenses and wouldn't let us in!

ACLU LAWYER

That's awful. We've been hearing reports just like yours from all around the country. Doctors, kids, the disabled, all denied entry. For what? Their religion? That's ridiculous!

ALISSA

Have any of them been let free?

ACLU LAWYER

Yes, a few here and there. But it takes time. But I promise I'll get you out.

JAMEERAH

Thank you so much!

CUT TO

INT. AIRPORT SECURITY HOLDING - LATER

Jameerah and Alissa are laughing and playing cards, when there is a knock on their cell door.

GUARD

So we are thinking of deporting you back to Saudi Arabia.

JAMEERAH

What?

ALISSA

Excuse me?

GUARD

Yes, we are still trying to understand the order but I think it is well within our rights to do so.

JAMEERAH

I don't live in Saudi Arabia. I live right here, in DC!

GUARD

Rules are rules. Anyways, I managed to scrounge up some food and drink for you.

The guard slips a couple of modest dinner trays into the cell.

ALISSA

(eating)

Thanks!

GUARD

I am not a bad guy. I'm just doing my job. I wish you women the best of luck.

JAMEERAH

Peace be upon you.

Jameerah sits down and starts eating.

CUT TO

INT. AIRPORT SECURITY HOLDING - LATER

Jameerah and Alissa sleep in their cots.

The guard turns on the lights and opens the cell door.

GUARD

Okay, women. You are free to go.

Jameerah and Alissa snap awake and start dancing and hugging

JAMEERAH

Oh my! Thank Allah!

ALISSA

This is amazing. A dream come true! How did this happen?

GUARD

The Ban got held up in district courts. It can no longer be enforced. Lucky you.

JAMEERAH

Lucky Democracy.

Jameerah and Alissa rush out of the holding cell without looking back.

CUT TO

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - DAY

Hundreds of protesters are now lined up in thier jackets, calling for the President's removal.

INT. ALISSA'S CAR - WASHINGTON DC - DAY

Jameerah and Alissa are both exhausted from their experience. Ever relentless, Jameerah dials a number into her phone.

JIM BOB

(O.S.)

Hello? Jane? What are you doing calling?

JAMEERAH

I know what you did.

JIM BOB

(O.S.)

Whoa there, little missy. I think you may have me confused with someone else...

JAMEERAH

The Matrix LLC ring a bell?

Jim Bob hesitates

JIM BOB

(O.S.)

Well, how 'bout this little missy. You come and meet me tomorrow night and I'll clear this whole misunderstandin' up for you.

JAMEERAH

Okay. See you then.

Jameerah hangs up the phone. She stares out in the distance.

ALISSA

What was that all about?

JAMEERAH

I feel like we are at the end of this racket, or I'm walking into a trap.

CUT TO

EXT. ALISSA'S HOUSE NEW YORK, NY - DAY

Alissa and Jameerah park nearby the cramped and quaint 2 bedroom 2 bath house townhouse.

INT. ALISSA'S HOUSE - NEW YORK, NY - DAY

Jameerah and Alissa enter the house, exhausted from their experience.

JAMEERAH

Thanks for letting me stay while I get myself situated.

ALISSA

No problem. You can stay in the guest room!

JAMEERAH

It's over by the bathroom, right?

ALISSA

Yes, over on the left. And watch out for Charlie!

Charlie, a pomeranian, BARKS

ALISSA

Whoa there, Charlie. Say hi to our guest.

Jameerah pets the dog.

JAMEERAH

Aw, you can help me unpack, can't you boy?

ALISSA

Oh he's great. He'll show you around the house.

JAMEERAH

Where's Henry?

ALISSA

Work. He is always working. But I can't complain.

JAMEERAH

I know what you mean.

ALISSA

Are you hungry? I can cook something or we can order out?

JAMEERAH

Sure, let's eat in. Put our feet up for once.

ALISSA

Great! I'll call up the restaurant while you unpack.

Jameerah wanders around the quaint house. Charlie follows her.

Jameerah eventually finds her room and Charlie lies on the bed.

Jameerah starts to slowly unpack her clothes and other items when her phone RINGS -

INTERCUT between Jameerah and Trayvon

JAMEERAH

Hello?

TRAYVON

Hey, it's me. Trayvon.

JAMEERAH

Oh my god. I thought I'd never hear from you again!

TRAYVON

I know. We got ourselves in a mess, eh?

JAMEERAH

Where have you been?

TRAYVON

I went back to Marion. I'm running for mayor! What about you?

JAMEERAH

Wow! I had a little adventure in Saudi Arabia...

Jameerah chokes on her words

Alissa pokes her head through the guest room door, where Jameerah is staying.

TRAYVON

Are you doing alright?

JAMEERAH

I'm doing much better now that I can hear your voice.

TRAYVON

I can talk a little longer if you'd like.

JAMEERAH

I'd enjoy that.

TRAYVON

So, would you like to be my campaign manager?

JAMEERAH

Sure! But there will be time for that later. Let's just enjoy this little moment in the eye of the storm.

Jameerah lies down on the bed

TRAYVON

It sounds like you had a rough go of it.

JAMEERAH

That's an understatement.

TRAYVON

I'm here. Talk to me. You can still trust me. I hope.

JAMEERAH

I know it wasn't your fault. I got put in jail for being a Muslim.

TRAYVON

I'm sorry. It was that damn Ban wasn't it!?

JAMEERAH

Yup.

TRAYVON

We have to stop President Karl! What kind of man uses his office to take out a personal vendetta on someone!

JAMEERAH

Someone who is scared.

Jameerah stands up, more determined then ever before.

JAMEERAH

You know what, I may have a way we can put a stop to this.. I have a meeting with Senator Rangle. He was acting really fishy though. I think he holds the key to taking down Karl, but I don't know if I'm walking right into something I'm going to regret.

TRAYVON

Oh my god. You should have told me! Planning high risk raids are like my specialty. Come over and we can think of a plan.

JAMEERAH

Great idea! See you soon.

Jameerah hangs up, and smiles.

Alissa runs up and hugs Jameerah

ALISSA

Jam, you deserve a happily ever after.

CUT TO

EXT. TRAYVON'S HOUSE - NORFOLK, VA - NIGHT

Tucked away behind a security gate, the 4 bedroom 3 bath McMansion stands tall in the darkness.

INT. TRAYVON'S HOUSE - NORFOLK, VA - NIGHT

Jameerah and Trayvon look at a map with assorted electronics strewn around the table.

TRAYVON

So tell me about this Jim Bob guy.

JAMEERAH

He was an early backer to the President. His endorsement really tipped the scales. Made him seem like a legitimate candidate.

TRAYVON

Sounds like an enabler.

JAMEERAH

Yeah, when the endorsement first happened, there was plenty of talk about how Jim bob would try and swing Benedict back to the center, but instead...

TRAYVON

He only ended up complicit.

Jameerah points to a parking garage downtown.

JAMEERAH

This is where he wants to meet.

TRAYVON

A parking garage? That seems a bit on the nose.

JAMEERAH

I'm only happy it's a reasonably public location. Do you think he is going to try anything?

TRAYVON

Only if he doesn't show up. He's a Senator. He is too much of a public figure to try anything too outlandish. But he will try and get you to stop. You have to be strong.

JAMEERAH

I already am.

Trayvon picks up one of the electronics on the table.

TRAYVON

So the best bet is if we get him on tape. With something like this. Just like we did with President Karl.

JAMEERAH

Are you sure a tape would work?

TRAYVON

Will we get him on tape? Yes. That part works. But I have no idea what will happen afterwards. That's above my pay grade.

JAMEERAH

I don't know if a tape alone is enough. This is politics. Up is down and down is up. But we have to try our best to get this dirty business out into the limelight.

TRAYVON

Well do you have a plan after we get him on tape?

JAMEERAH

Kind of. I still have a few connections left from my old life. How about getting the confession? What are we going to do?

TRAYVON

I really don't think its a good idea for me to come with you. The spotlight is still way too hot on me. But, I can park outside the garage with my van. It's got enough tech in there to function like a command center. I can watch your back.

JAMEERAH

That's awesome. And I'll go up there and get a confession. By myself. Alone.

TRAYVON

That's right. You've already done more to crack this case than I could ever dream of, Jameerah. You just need to push the baton past the finish line.

JAMEERAH

Easier said than done. I was on the G-town debate team, not track.

TRAYVON

Staying for dinner?

Trayvon gives her a knowing glance.

JAMEERAH

Of course.

Jameerah smiles.

CUT TO

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - DAY

Thousands of protesters are lined up at the fence, chanting and shouting.

CUT TO

INT. PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT

The parking garage is moderately full. Just like any old day. But today is different. Today, there is a car with it's parking lights on.

Another car pulls up nearby with it's parking lights on.

Jameerah gets out of one car and Jim Bob gets out of another. They make eye contact. Each one trying to not blink first. And then-

JAMEERAH

You.

JIM BOB

Well I'm Jim Bob.

JAMEERAH

Tell me what happened. Tell me everything.

JIM BOB

Nothing happened. I don't know why you are even in Washington and not blowing up some bus somewhere in London.

JAMEERAH

I know you are the director of The Matrix LLC and I know that The Matrix LLC was the company that paid for my apartment. What I want to know is how you got involved?

JIM BOB

Now quiet, little missy.

JAMEERAH

My name is Jameerah. Learn it.

JIM BOB

Whatever, you just cant be  
announcing that willy nilly. You  
don't know who is listening.

JAMEERAH

The only ones out here are you and  
me. Now are you going to tell me  
what happened or am I going to have  
report your company to the Treasury  
Department?

JIM BOB

That's extortion!

JAMEERAH

That's life.

JIM BOB

Fine. I only did it because of  
goddamn deal! He promised to repay  
me for endorsing him!

JAMEERAH

Promises made. Promises kept.

JIM BOB

Exactly. I had no idea! I swear!

JAMEERAH

He promised me too. He promised me  
that very apartment you paid for to  
come in and help his campaign. Huh.  
I wonder how many other people he  
has conned.

Jameerah looks right at the camera.

JAMEERAH

You have to turn yourself in. We  
have to get the American people to  
trust politicians again.

JIM BOB

I can't. I can't. I'm too far in  
this.

JAMEERAH

What else is there?

JIM BOB

The Matrix LLC didn't just buy your apartment. You think I needed a shell company for that?

Jim Bob laughs maniacally

JAMEERAH

Huh?

JIM BOB

No! The President and I have been using that for all sorts of things. You know that Kazakh hacker group? The Young Turks? They were funded by us!

JAMEERAH

And why are you telling me?

JIM BOB

To see the look on your face when you realize you have come so close and can't do a damned thing about it.

JAMEERAH

You don't know me.

Jim Bob laughs

JIM BOB

That's exactly the point.

Jameerah doesn't respond

JIM BOB

You think this is the movies? Where someone can take down the establishment by merely believing in it!

Jim Bob laughs

JIM BOB

Don't make me laugh. The President and I are going to cash in and there isn't anything you can do about it!

JAMEERAH

Then you are going down with him. Hope he packed you a life vest.

Jameerah gets back in her car and drives off.

CUT TO

EXT. SENATE BUILDING - DAY

Jameerah, in sunglasses and a hijab, looks up at the sun that's poking its head out from under a cloud. She is ready for whatever comes next.

INT. SENATOR FRANK TURLEY'S OFFICE - SENATE BUILDING - DAY

Senator Frank Turley and Representative Craig Mortimer are discussing the ramifications of the House impeachment.

FRANK

It's been 6 months. We own the White House, the House, and the Senate. How come we have got nothing done!?

CRAIG

It's chaos. It's all chaos.

FRANK

We need a reset. Getting rid of the filibuster hasn't stopped the obstruction. I really think we need to start reaching across the aisle, earnestly.

CRAIG

But we can't! They are opposing us at every turn.

FRANK

We have gotten nothing done. If we can't even get a bill passed with total control we need new ideas. We may even have to start defying the President.

CRAIG

Balderdash! If anything we need to double down! You know the Democrats will just do the same.

FRANK

Maybe. Maybe not. But at the end of the day, should we more worried about winning or doing what's best for America?

CRAIG

Of course I believe in what's best for America, it's just that I also believe in what's best for myself.

FRANK

We can't allow ourselves to become so cynical. That hurts the country.

CRAIG

Oh well. Anyways, got to go vote.  
See you around. We'll find our way  
out of this.

Craig gets up to leave, when he is at the door-

FRANK

And best of luck to you in your  
re-election. You have my support.  
I'll come down if you need it.

CRAIG

Of course. Don't worry about it!

Frank sits alone in his office, looking at his upcoming  
agenda when-

Jameerah bursts through the door with the male secretary  
desperately trying to keep her out.

MALE SECRETARY

You don't have an appointment! The  
Senator is busy!

JAMEERAH

Oh really?

MALE SECRETARY

You have to leave. Now.

FRANK

It's okay. I know who she is. Let  
her in.

The male secretary glances at Frank unsure, then leaves in  
disgust.

FRANK

So what do I owe the pleasure?

JAMEERAH

It's over.

FRANK

What's over?

JAMEERAH

I got him on tape.

FRANK

Who? What now?

JAMEERAH

I have Jim Bob on tape admitting to  
funding The Young Turks.

Jameerah plays the confession tape.

Frank looks horrified.

FRANK

Now how did you get that?

JAMEERAH

Let's just say I have my ways.

FRANK

This changes my calculations....

JAMEERAH

It better. Either you do something about this or I am going to the press.

FRANK

Well, I have never seen such a naked abuse of power. You have my word that this will be taken care of.

Jameerah stands up and shakes his hand.

JAMEERAH

I'll be watching.

CUT TO:

INT. SENATE FLOOR

Frank Turley looks around the full chamber as he makes his way to the lectern.

FRANK

Ladies, Gentlemen, Americans of all races, colors, religions, and creeds, I have both parties for this session because we are at a crossroads. We have to decide which direction our country is going: Are you going to headfirst into authoritarianism or are you going to uphold the Constitution?

A smattering of Republicans start to boo

FRANK

We will have order! That is exactly why I have called this session. The rules of decorum have vanished. Both parties are scratching each others throats. I feel we've lost the soul of America.

A few Democrats clap

FRANK

As you may have heard, the House  
has voted to Impeach the President.

Heavy booing on the Republican side

FRANK

Now, I know that vote fell along  
party lines. However, we have  
avoided the issue entirely in this  
chamber. We completely swept it  
under the rug. Well, I am here to  
announce to the American people and  
to you, my colleagues that is not  
going to happen anymore.

A smattering of applause from both sides of the aisle

FRANK

It has come to my attention that a  
serious crime has occurred. The  
President has aided and abetted  
Kazakh terrorist to attack our NATO  
allies. That is a clear Rule 5  
violation.

The gallery gasps followed by a brooding silence

FRANK

The evidence is clear. I have it on  
tape.

He holds up the flash drive.

FRANK

The woman who gave this to me is a  
very brave American. I don't know  
how she came upon it but the look  
on her face told me all I needed to  
know. And I think we would serve  
her and this country well, if we  
listened to this tape and let the  
rest of the process play out. I  
yield the floor.

CUT TO:

INT. OVAL OFFICE - NIGHT

The Oval Office resembles a bunker. Only lit by a couple of  
small lamps, the President and his INNER CIRCLE, the Vice  
President, his acting Chief of Staff, and his Press  
Secretary are gathered at a table discussing strategy.

PRESIDENT KARL

So what's the plan? You guys got a  
plan? I know I got the best plans.

VICE PRESIDENT

No, not yet.

PRESIDENT KARL

Well what the fuck are you here for! Come on! Think of something. Have you talked to the DNI and CIA? They can drop the charges.

VICE PRESIDENT

That's a good idea. I'm on it.

Senator Jim Bob Rangle enters the office looking like a ghost.

JIM BOB

Uh, sir. We may have a problem...

PRESIDENT KARL

I know I know, I got the VP on it.

JIM BOB

No sir. She knows! She told everyone. Including Frank. You don't have the votes.

PRESIDENT KARL

What the fuck do you mean?

JIM BOB

I mean there are tapes. She got me on tape. And the party is imploding. We don't have the votes to stop this...

It hits President Karl like a ton of bricks. All that he worked for. All that he wanted. Gone.

PRESIDENT KARL

Everybody. Out. Now.

(beat)

Except you Rangle.

The Vice President, Acting Chief of Staff, and Press Secretary leave quietly, shutting the door behind them.

President Karl begins pacing around the room madly, seemingly possessed.

PRESIDENT KARL

What the fuck do you mean we don't have the votes? We own the Senate! We own the White House! They serve me! What happened to Wisconsin? Michigan? Pennsylvania? I won those fucking states! I won them. You can believe me.

JIM BOB

Well sir you see....

PRESIDENT KARL

I don't want to hear it! They are losers! Big fat losers! They would be nothing without me. Nothing! I won that election big league! It was me and my movement that got those losers into office. And this is how they repay me! This!

JIM BOB

Sir, If you just let...

PRESIDENT KARL

No woman is going to take me down! I am a man! I'm 70 years old!

PRESIDENT KARL

Men have the power! Men have had the power for years! And no one is going to stop us!

JIM BOB

But she has tape! It's over.

PRESIDENT KARL

I don't care if there are tapes. I tape people in here all the time! No one says anything! Maybe I should release these tapes and lets see how they like all their dirty laundry out in the world!

President Karl sits down at his desk and takes out a FLASH DRIVE.

Jim Bob seems a tad confused.

JIM BOB

Sir...that's a Pez dispenser.

PRESIDENT KARL

Whatever! I'll get em all out of office! All of them! I'm the President! Me! And I am the sole ruler of this land. Not you. Not those loser senators! Me!

(beat)

PRESIDENT KARL

Now get the fuck outta here and get me those votes!

FADE TO:

BLACK

FADE IN:

END ACT  
III

INT. TRAYVON'S HOUSE - DAY

Jameerah is watching the news. The REPORTER from ACT 1 reports:

INT. NEWSROOM - DAY

REPORTER

The President of the United States has been arrested today on charges of racketeering and abuse of power. This is a dark day for our democracy.

Jameerah gasps, tears in her eyes

REPORTER

I think we have video. Yes, we have video of the President being taken into custody.

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - DAY

PRESIDENT KARL is led in handcuffs by a group of FBI agents. As soon as he gets into the car...

INT. TRAYVON'S HOUSE - LATER

TRAYVON leaves the kitchen and stands behind Jameerah, hand on her shoulder.

The TV news continues

INT. NEWSROOM - LATER

REPORTER

I've been working here for 20 years and never thought I'd see that. The President being led out of the White House in handcuffs. We now go live to the acting President's speech.

EXT. ROSE GARDEN - LATER

VICE PRESIDENT

My fellow Americans. I am sorry for the chaos this administration has brought. I make this promise to you today, that I was not involved. What happened is absolutely despicable and below the dignity of office which I now hold.

A small assembly of aides clap politely

VICE PRESIDENT

I will bring Order back to the  
United States if it's the last  
thing I do!

Jameerah and Trayvon give each other a knowing glance.

CUT TO

TITLE CARD

CREDITS ROLL

END OF  
EPILOGUE

FADE OUT

THE END