

Dear God, I Quit! - Love Satan

written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. VEGAS STRIP - SHOP DOORWAY, SUNRISE

Unshaven and unwashed, GODFREY, (60s), is slouched in a doorway. He clutches a small bottle of Whiskey.

He mutters to himself as he *SWAYS* lazily from side to side.

A second figure appears.

Meet LOU, (late 30s), a sharp suited catch, sporting a five O'clock shadow with his bow tie undone.

LOU

Godfrey! Oh thank fuck. I've been looking all over for you!

Godfrey tries to reply -- but just dribbles a little.

LOU (CONT'D)

I came close to calling the cops I was that worried about you, but I thought better of it -- for obvious reasons.

Godfrey offers him the finger and mumbles something indecipherable. He shuffles to his left a little revealing that:

LOU (CONT'D)

Man alive, have you pissed your pants!?

Godfrey, struggles to rise then swings a WILD PUNCH in Lou's direction. His momentum throws him forward and around onto the sidewalk -- flat on his back.

The bottle smashes.

GODFREY

See what you've done?

Godfrey, on all fours starts to lap at the spilled liquor and catches his tongue on a shard of glass.

Appalled, hands on hips, Lou watches on.

LOU

OK, my turn to play good cop. Let's get you up buddy.

Lou motions to help him up, but Godfrey angrily waves him away.

GODFREY

I don't need any help. Not from you of all people. We wouldn't be in this mess in the first place if it wasn't for your devious trickery.

Godfrey manages to find his feet unaided, a little wobbly.

GODFREY (CONT'D)

This is all *your* fault. All your fault!

LOU

Gotta call bullshit on that one I'm afraid. You know as well as I you couldn't wait to get down here and let your hair down. Be honest with yourself now...

Godfrey stumbles over to Lou and feebly tries to strangle Lou with the loose ends of his tie.

GODFREY

(strained)

I should have - finished you off - back home - first chance - I - had.

Unperturbed, Lou is embarrassed for Godfrey.

LOU

Taxi!

Godfrey's pathetic, murderous efforts cease as he falls to his knees in tears.

GODFREY

I'm sorry Lou, I fucked up. I blew the rent. Put it all on black. My luck was up. I thought, If I can just get one big win, just one, then we could take some time off to work out how on earth, literally, how on this fucking earth we're gonna get back home.

LOU

(contemplative)

Alcohol and gambling, two of my biggest victories. Now there's irony for you.

Godfrey produces two cigars from his jacket pocket. He lights them both and hands one to Lou and sits down.

Lou joins him and puts a caring arm around Godfrey.

GODFREY

Oh Lou, is this how it ends? How did it ever come to this?

LOU

Well, my bad I guess...

OPENING CREDITS

INT: OFFICE - DAY

A poky, dimly lit, unorganized, shit hole. It begs for a squirt of polish and a whip around with a vacuum cleaner.

God, seated behind mountains of paperwork, taps angrily at an out of date computer keyboard.

GOD

No, no, no! Fucking caps lock!

A doors SLAMS out of shot.

God throws himself back into his chair and cups his face with his hands.

GOD (CONT'D)

Is it that time already?

Lucifer takes a seat opposite God. He has a bag of mixed nuts from which he casually tosses a bunch into his mouth.

LUCIFER

'Fraid so. Bad time?

GOD

It's always a bad time. Can we make it a quick one today?

LUCIFER

Suits me fine. Laundry day.

GOD

(perky)

You do your own laundry?

LUCIFER

You don't?

GOD

No, I do not. How the frick would I find the time to do that?

LUCIFER

Judging by the state of this place I'd say you need a maid. Your wife does yours I'm guessing?

GOD

No, I wouldn't dare ask her. I cheat. I just, make it happen. With a wave. You know?

Lucifer looks around.

LUCIFER

Can you not 'wave' all this shit away?

GOD

Oh no. I only allow myself a couple of waves a week. Wouldn't want to take the piss. Set's a bad example for the minions.

LUCIFER

Oh yeah, like they have the option to...

(air quotes)

...'wave things away'.

GOD

No of course they don't, but I don't want to get rumbled doing it.

LUCIFER

...or have them overhear you calling them minions?

God leans forward.

GOD

OK, smart ass, what do you call yours?

LUCIFER

Partners.

God titters to himself.

GOD

You hipster.

Lucifer rises.

LUCIFER

Let's get some light in here,
anyone would think we're back at my
place.

He opens window blinds. God semi shades his eyes with his
fingers.

GOD

I keep them down so they don't know
I'm in here. Never get any peace
otherwise.

LUCIFER

Whatever, to business. The Balance.
Who wants to go first?

God now sports a pair of mirrored aviator shades.

GOD

Can we please skip and do a double
session next week. I've got all
this shit to get through?

LUCIFER

Every Monday, for longer than I can
actually remember, we have met and
put things straight. Making sure
the balance between good and evil
is just so. The Balance.

Lucifer rubs his finger along a window ledge, then blows the
thick dust away.

LUCIFER (CONT'D)

We have long agreed that it's both
incredibly tedious and wholly
necessary in equal measure. Now
whaddya got?

God, childishly opens his notebook and thumbs through the
pages -- like a kid being forced to do his homework before he
can play on his Xbox.

GOD

OK, I've enabled a couple of new
strains of penicillin.

LUCIFER

Very noble.

Lucifer tosses in a couple more nuts.

LUCIFER (CONT'D)

Well, I have introduced three new outbreaks of Ebola -- let's see what your penicillin can do about that.

GOD

Touche.

LUCIFER

Thank you.

GOD

Then I've got the implementation of several new climate change patterns in some of the driest parts of the universe which will for the first time in hundreds of years allow the indigenous populations to irrigate the land, thus enabling them to farm and sustain themselves.

LUCIFER

Good work. Let's see -- ah yes, I've influenced the commission of eight new seasons of 'Two And A Half Men' on an over-the-top video provider.

Couple of beats.

GOD

You bastard.

LUCIFER

Better still, these new seasons will also see the return of Charlie Sheen in the lead role.

GOD

You utter, villainous bastard.

God draws a finger down the page in his notebook.

GOD (CONT'D)

Other than a few nasty traffic problems, that's pretty much it from me for this week.

LUCIFER

Yup, oh, I'm in the middle of preparing a couple of huge political scandals -- but they're not done yet.

GOD

But you do have that particularly nasty Charlie Sheen add on, so I guess we're even.

God shuts his notebook with a THUD then reclines into his chair.

GOD (CONT'D)

OK. Any other business, or are you itching to get off and wash your panties?

LUCIFER

Actually, there is something...

GOD

I'm all ears.

Lucifer reaches into his jacket pocket and pulls out an envelope, embellished with a red ribbon and a wax seal.

GOD (CONT'D)

Fancy.

LUCIFER

Yeah well, it's very important.

Lucifer pushes the envelope across the desk to God.

GOD

(intrigued)

I'll admit to feeling a little frisson.

He removes his shades, opens the envelope.

After a long, deep look at the letter he bursts into laughter.

LUCIFER

Well, say something?

God's laughter subsides.

GOD

Nice one, now get out of here, I've a lot to get through.

LUCIFER

I'm not kidding.

Gold rises and holds the letter at top and bottom as though reading from a scroll.

GOD

'Dear God - I quit - Love, Satan'.

LUCIFER

Yup.

GOD

OK, now you're taking the piss, now fuck off -- or do I have to call security?

LUCIFER

Now, that *would* be funny.

God retakes his seat.

GOD

Goodness me, my spidey senses are telling me that you might *actually* be serious.

LUCIFER

Never more so. I've had enough. Bored shitless.

GOD

Well, them's the breaks asshole. You should have thought about that when you tried to stab me in the back.

LUCIFER

And that was how long ago exactly?

GOD

So what are you gonna do. Take up golf?

LUCIFER

You're the man. You have to forgive me, for I truly repent.

GOD

Oh get over yourself.

LUCIFER

I've had an awful long time to think about it. It was wrong of me, I was suffering with delusions of grandeur.

GOD

If I were to forgive you then
everything I've ever created would
cease to be in an instant,
including us?

LUCIFER

You made the rules.

God rises and paces back and forth in deep thought for a few
beats.

GOD

OK, and I can't believe I'm
actually saying this, how about you
and I take a trip to Earth for a
week -- in human form?

LUCIFER

To what end?

GOD

If you can behave yourself and
demonstrate to me that you've truly
changed then I will forgive you.

LUCIFER

Even though everything goes pop?

GOD

I cannot deny an honest request for
salvation, not even from... you.

LUCIFER

OK boss, where to?

GOD

There's only one place to go for
this test.

God rises and puts the shades back on.

GOD (CONT'D)

(jazz hands)

Vegas baby!