Episode 29

GLORIA (VO)

Previously on The Princess of South Beach: María del Carmen had a breakdown after finding out that one person she THOUGHT cared about her, the hot asthmatic reporter Andres, was using her to get information about Esteban. Nacho is still in crisis mode after finding out that someone is blackmailing him and Esteban with a sex tape, and also because the mob is threatening his life. And Raúl is dealing with his own crisis after being beaten up by the same thugs who are after his father.

(Yelling)

IS ANYONE ELSE HAVING A CRISIS? No? OK let's continue.

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT 29.1

SFX a car pulling up onto a gravel driveway.

Doors slam shut under the VO.

ESTRELLA

(Whispers)

Are you sure this is appropriate? To be banging on a convent door at midnight? Can't we just do this tomorrow morning?

María del Carmen starts loudly knocking on the door of the convent.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

HERMANA CLAUDIA?! HERMANA CLAUDIA OPEN THE DOOR. IT'S ME!

ESTRELLA

(Not whispering anymore)

Ok, so we're committing to doing this now, got it.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Hermana Claudia I need to talk to you. Hermana, this is urgent.

SFX the doors clank open

HERMANA CLAUDIA

Madre de Dios, who's making all that noise?! Ma - María del Carmen? What are you doing here so late at night? Are you ok?

She pulls her into a hug and Maria immediately starts sobbing.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Perdóname, Hermana. I'm so sorry for not listening to your advice. I'm sorry for getting angry at you when all you wanted to do was help. I feel like I don't even know who I am anymore.

HERMANA CLAUDIA

María del Carmen, you've always been very dramatic. Tranquila mi niña. Bueno, come in, l'll make some coffee.

(Lamenting)

I was having a very fun dream involving Vicente Fernández, but what are you gonna do...

SFX The sounds of the women and the convent doors recede as we pan to the bushes rustling nearby. We hear footsteps following them.

GLORIA (VO)

Looks like being dramatic runs in the family. But be careful ladies, you never know who is listening. But I do! It's Nacho. And while Maria finds comfort in the arms of Hermana Claudia, Raul is at the hospital, seeking comfort from, well, anyone.

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT 29.2

SFX Hospital ER. The sounds of beeping machines and gurneys rushing around. The sound of heels clacking on the tiled floor. A curtain is pulled away from a bed.

RAÚL

(Hoarse)

Luisa?

LUISA

Jesus, Raúl, what happened to you?!

RAÚL

(Groaning in pain)

Luisa, what are you doing here?

LUISA

They called me looking for Gloria. You still have her as your emergency contact.

RAÚL

(Bitterly)

Entonces, why are you here? Didn't Gloria care that I was in the hospital?

LUISA

She doesn't know anything about this. I've been calling her but she isn't answering. Raúl, what happened? They told me you were mugged. Did you already talk to the police?

RAÚL

Luisa, I really do appreciate you coming to see me, but if you don't mind, I'd rather be alone right now.

LUISA

Don't be a drama queen. Just because you're not dating my daughter anymore doesn't mean I don't, you know (sigh) care. About you. So tell me what happened

RAÚL

I can't. Just leave me alone.

LUISA

If you don't want to tell me, then I'll ask your father. Where is Nacho?

RAÚL

He's not here.

LUISA

What do you mean he's not here? He may not be my favorite person but I know he wouldn't leave his son alone in a hospital. Does he know what happened to you?

RAÚL

(Cracking)

HE IS NOT HERE, LUISA. I don't know where he is. He might be dead - and honestly, I don't care.

LUISA

Raúl what are you sayin/

RAÚL

I DON'T WANT TO KEEP PROTECTING HIM. HE'S THE REASON I'M HERE. I got beat up because of him. You were right all along. He's been trying to get his hands on your fortune since day one. Everything he's done... Has only been because he wanted to get his hands on your money. And now look at me.

LUISA

I KNEW IT. And you? Were you a part of that?

RAÚL

No Luisa - I love Gloria. I really do love her with all my heart. When I found out what he was planning, I told him I didn't want to be involved. I swear.

LUISA

I can't believe it. Actually, I can. Because this is exactly what I thought was happening.

RAÚL

He's in deep debt with - I don't even know who. I only found out a couple of days ago.

LUISA

So then they beat you up to send him a message.

RAÚL

Yes. And they said if we don't pay them immediately they are going to kill us both.

(Starting to cry)

Luisa, I'm so sorry - I had no idea he was doing this and I never meant to involve you guys. I honestly don't know what's going on with him. He's become a different person.

LUISA

Ya, ya, don't cry. You're a hideous crier

RAÚL

(laughs a little)

Thank you for being here.

LUISA

Of course. I'm not a monster. Or at least, that's what I told my therapist.

GLORIA (VO)

So Raul and Luisa are becoming...friends? Weird. Well now that Raul has revealed his secrets, let's head back to the convent where Maria is spilling the beans to Hermana Claudia.

INT. THE CONVENT - NIGHT 29.3

Sipping coffee throughout.

HERMANA CLAUDIA

Wait, wait because this is WAY TOO MUCH information at once. Are you telling me that Nacho and Esteban are sleeping together and you recorded it, and you sent them that recording to blackmail them to get information about Estrella's missing girlfriend Gabby?

ESTRELLA

Sí, exactly right.

HERMANA CLAUDIA

And something about running mayor and someone named Alicia Mendes and you broke off an engagement?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Ashamed)

Así es, Hermana.

HERMANA CLAUDIA

And what happened with the Asthmatic reporter?

ESTRELLA

Oh, he broke her heart pretending to be in love with her in order to get information about the Calderon family for an article.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

He didn't pretend to fall in love with me, I think he really did but that's beside the point.

HERMANA CLAUDIA

Is that it? I feel like I missed something but I think that's enough for me to get the gist. And Maria, you've finally realized that you made a mistake by lying to everybody?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Sí, Hermana.

HERMANA CLAUDIA

Vaya - well, hey at least that's good!

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Breaking down into tears)

Hermana, I'm so sorry.

HERMANA CLAUDIA

Ya, mi niña, come here.

GLORIA (VO)

Ay, how nice - María del Carmen is finally understanding that the family she's been searching for was Hermana Claudia all along. And maybe, she could have still salvaged the situation, if it wasn't for Nacho...

SFX a door creaking open.

NACHO

I knew something was off. I knew it from the moment I saw you after the accident. All this time you've been pretending to be Gloria, isn't that right *MARIA DEL CARMEN*?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Nacho, I can explain.

NACHO

Por favor, there's really no need. The truth is - from one liar to another -

(He starts slowly clapping)

Bravo! You managed to convince everyone that you were Gloria, and if it wasn't for me, maybe nobody would've ever found out. But it's too late for that now.

ESTRELLA

Nacho wait//

NACHO

Everyone shut up! Here's what's gonna happen. Estrella - you're going to destroy that recording of Esteban and me, and then... you can just disappear. I don't EVER want to hear from you again. María del Carmen, my dear, now you belong to me. You're going to give me the money that I need and then you're going to marry Raul. And Hermana - well you don't have anything to do with this.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

You're insane.

NACHO

Not insane. Desperate maybe. But not insane. Entonces, are we in agreement ladies?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(brave but afraid)

Absolutely not. What are you going to do to me? Expose me to the Calderóns? Do it. I lived a whole life without being Gloria Calderón, I don't think I'll die if I stop now.

NACHO

(Laughing)

Ah, so you don't understand the situation at all, do you? You can't go back to your old life. If you don't do what I tell you, you're going to go to prison for the rest of your miserable life.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

What?!

NACHO

You impersonated a dead person. And I don't know what you did to the real Gloria. Wouldn't be crazy to assume you killed her. That's what everyone will think. Did you really think you could get away with all of this?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

No... I didn't hurt her. I tried to save her

NACHO

Yeah right, liar.

ESTRELLA

(Shaking with fear)

Mira Nacho, I'm sure we can find a way//

NACHO

Enough! You either do what I say or I tell everyone exactly who you are. Now come with me.

SFX a scuffle.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Ow Let me go!

HERMANA CLAUDIA

María del Carmen! Let her go!

ESTRELLA

No! You son of a bitch!

SFX the sounds of a struggle.

SFX A glass shatters, Nacho yells, and the sound of a body thudding to the ground.

The three women gasps

GLORIA (VO)

Remember when I told you guys that my body wouldn't be alone for long?