Episode 36

GLORIA (VO)

Previously on The Princess of South Beach: It was an action-packed day at La Casa Rosa. After Raúl started to suspect Esteban's involvement in Nacho's disappearance, María del Carmen decided to show him his sex tape with Nacho and Raul handed it over to Andrés, the Teen Vogue reporter. Maria and Estrella had a blowout fight about it right as the scandal broke on live TV with Estrella calling into question Maria's morality. And even with all of Esteban's dirty laundry out, he still won and became Miami's new mayor. Just in time to be arrested for Nacho's disappearance Let's see how Esteban is enjoying life behind bars.

INT. JAIL CELL - DAY 36.1

We hear a jail door sliding open and faint shouts from the other inmates. Shackled feet shuffle to a room with phones and plexiglass booths.

JAIL GUARD

OK, Calderón, you have 30 minutes.

ESTEBAN

Luisa - Thank god you're here. Did you bring the money? For the bail? I can't believe they're asking for 10 million. Those judges must be insane. But I'll take care of that after I settle into my Mayoral duties//

LUISA

Esteban, I'm not here to bail you out.

ESTEBAN

What?! What do you mean you're not here to bail me out? Luisa, do you understand how *disgusting* this place is? They don't even have a BIDET. I would rather be locked up in a zoo.

LUISA

Esteban, I don't think you realize the severity of the situation you're in. They think you killed Nacho. That you killed him, in cold blood, to cover up your affair.

ESTEBAN

Which is obviously not true.

LUISA

What's not true? That you were having an affair or that you killed him?

ESTEBAN

Bueno, I think it's a little late to deny our little...transgression. Everyone saw the video. And look, I regret every single second of it. Pero Luisa, killing Nacho - you know I'm not capable of doing that.

Silence

Luisa, you know I didn't do it. You believe me. Right?

LUISA

I don't know what you're capable of, Esteban. I don't know you anymore.

ESTEBAN

How could you even say that? After 22 years of marriage, after everything we've been through.

LUISA

Is this a marriage? We lived in the same house but there's nothing else between us.

ESTEBAN

Luisa, mi amor, there will be plenty of time to talk about this *after* you get me out. For now, I need you to focus on what's important: My bail. I know everything looks pretty bad right now, but it's not too late to control the narrative here. We can use this as an example of how the Government tries to go after powerful, successful people//

LUISA

YA BASTA. Esteban, por favor. Can you stop with the campaign? It's all you think about. It wouldn't surprise me if you did whatever it took to-

ESTEBAN

Don't Luisa.

LUISA

You knew Nacho owed people money. Did you refuse to help him? And then did he blackmail you with this tape?

ESTEBAN

No! You're talking crazy talk.

LUISA

Don't call me crazy. You know what is crazy? This whole situation we are in because of you. I'm sick of you calling me crazy, telling me that I need to go to doctors and therapists when really I have been right this whole time. To doubt you.

A beat. Luisa's chair scrapes the floor as she gets up to go.

ESTEBAN

Wait! Where are you going !?

Luisa

I think you need some time to reflect on Esteban.

ESTEBAN

Luisa, por favor, I'm begging you. You can fix all of this. Just tell them that you were with me the night that Nacho disappeared.

LUISA

But I wasn't. I don't know where you were.

ESTEBAN

Luisa, I was there when you needed me... Now I need you.

LUISA

And you've never let me forget it. I can't continue to live this way, Esteban. I can't continue to avoid the truth. You on the other hand... Seem totally fine living a lie.

ESTEBAN

Luisa, what is it that you are not understanding here? When I get out -you will be the First Lady of Miami. My First Lady. We could start over: you and me. We can live the life we've always wanted, we could start from scratch. We could leave the past behind us.

LUISA

Esteban, what happened to Gabby Cabrera?

ESTEBAN

What? Who?

LUISA

Gabby Cabrera. That young girl who disappeared from one of your religious camps. Did you also kill her?

ESTEBAN

Luisa, I've never killed anybody!

LUISA

Esteban, I found the payments you made to her family. You've been paying them for years to keep quiet, isn't that right?

A beat.

ESTEBAN

Luisa, please sit down. Please. Will you sit down if I tell you the truth?

She sits.

ESTEBAN

Yes, I've been paying off her family, but not because I killed her. That girl, Gabby. She caught me in an... compromising position.

LUISA

She caught you having sex with another man.

ESTEBAN

Yes. Okay? Yes. The point is, she saw something that she wasn't supposed to. But I didn't kill her, Luisa. I went to her family and I threatened them with a lawsuit. I told them that I was willing to pay them a hefty sum if they could guarantee that their daughter would keep her mouth shut. I don't know what happened to that girl. That's the whole truth, I swear. I didn't kill her and I didn't kill Nacho. You have to believe me.

A beat.

LUISA

I don't. I'm sorry I don't believe anything you say. You're such a good actor when you need something.

ESTEBAN

Luisa, por favor. Don't leave me here.

LUISA

If you had just been honest with me, maybe everything would have turned out different. Maybe the two of us could found some semblance of happiness. But now... It's too late.

She gets up to go.

Here are the divorce papers. And before you think of blackmailing me by telling Gloria all about what we did. Don't worry. I'm going to tell her myself and deal with the consequences. I don't want to live in a lie anymore, Esteban. I want to be free. And until you stop living your own lie, you'll never be free. Adiós.

ESTEBAN

Luisa! Luisa, don't go! Luisa come back!

His voice echoes as her footsteps walk out the door.

GLORIA (VO)

Whoa - that scene was long AND intense. Very out of character for his show, don't you think? Bueno, now that Luisa is "free", let's see what she'll do with her new sense of freedom.

EXT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY 36.2

Luisa's heels are heard echoing around the parking lot. She is sniffling, wiping away tears. She opens a car door.

INT. CAR - DAY 36.3

RAÚL

How did it go? Are you OK?

LUISA

It was awful.

She begins sobbing into his arms. Raúl also starts crying

LUISA

Why are you crying?

RAÚL

It's a reflex. I always cry when I see other people crying. Same thing happens when I see someone puke. Also, my dad, who I just found out is your ex's lover is still missing. Do I need more reasons to explain I'm crying? Really?

LUISA

(Luisa laughs through tears)

I'm sorry. Thank you for being here.

RAÚL

Of course Luisa. Listen,

Raul's phone starts buzzing. He gets distracted

I dont know what there is between us but, I care about you and we've been through a lot together. And um, hold on, I think I know this number.

He picks up.

RAÚL

Hello? Oh darn it went to voicemail.

VOICEMAIL

You have one new message.

Веер.

MYSTERIOUS VOICE

Hola Raúl. Remember me? Or do you only remember the taste of my boot in your mouth? Do you think I'm stupid? Do you going to be able to just get out of paying me what I'm owed? I don't care that your father faked his death, Raul - When there's debt, I expect to be paid. So if you don't want to pay it with your life... Then you know what to do.

GLORIA (VO)

Uh oh, it seems like with everything going on, they forgot about the Mob, but the Mob didn't forget about Raul. And what kind of person fakes their own death! Psh, ridiculous. Well, let's leave these two love birds and their menacing voice message and visit my favorite hermanita.

INT. LA CASA ROSA - DAY 36.4

A soft knock at the door.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Can I come in?

ESTRELLA

It's your house, Gloria.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Estrella, I know you're mad at me but//

ESTRELLA

Mad? No. I feel disappointed. And betrayed. And stabbed in the back... you know what? I guess I also feel angry.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

I know that I disappointed you, and Hermana Claudia and... myself. Believe me, I'm sorry. But I'm going to fix this.

ESTRELLA

I thought you were done playing the innocent and good convent ingenue or whatever. The damage is done.

SFX doorbell rings.

ESTRELLA

UGH, they haven't stopped ringing that bell ever since Esteban got arrested. Paparazzi are the worst. After you.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

It's not the paparazzi - it's Andrés.

ESTRELLA

Oooohhh you're little boyfriend is coming over now?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

He's not here for me. He's here for you. Just come.

Footsteps down the hall to the door. She opens the front door.

ANDRÉS

Gloria, it's so good to see you.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Just come in.

They shut the front door.

ANDRÉS

I wasn't expecting your call, but I'm so happy that you did. I feel terrible about how things ended between us. And if you gave me another shot //

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Andrés, please stop. I didn't call you over to discuss... that.

ANDRÉS

Oh. Then, what is it? Do you have another sex tape to give me? Haha!

ESTRELLA

Too soon dude.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

No, I don't. But thank you for your help with that.

ANDRÉS

Don't mention it. I should thank you. I got promoted. I'm finally doing the investigative work that I wanted to be doing.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Perfect. Because that's exactly what you're going to do. Do you want to make things right between us?

ANDRÉS

Of course.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

You're going to help me find Gabby Cabrera.

ANDRÉS

Gabby Cabrera? The girl that everyone thinks Esteban murdered years ago?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Yes. You're going to help Estrella with whatever she needs, and you're not going to stop until you find her. And in exchange, I'm going to give you an even bigger story. The biggest story of your career.

ESTRELLA

What?!

ANDRÉS

Bigger than the Esteban/Nacho sex tape?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Bigger than that, Bigger than Gabby Cabrera. Bigger than all of it.

ANDRÉS

What do you mean? What is going on?

ESTRELLA

(Between gritted teeth)

Gloria, what are you doing?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

I'm not gonna live a lie anymore. Estrella, you were right. I am not some innocent ingenue, but I'm not Gloria Calderon either. Andres, I'm an orphan named María del Carmen. Gloria and I are twins. Bueno were twins.

ESTRELLA

Oh god.

ANDRÉS

Haha! That's funny. You're still mad at me so you're making up this whole telenovela-like story to mess with me.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

No, I'm not.

ANDRÉS

Let me get this straight. You expect me to believe Gloria Calderon had a twin, no one knew about, who was somehow an orphan who happened to be there the night that she died and usurped her life? Give me a break Gloria.

The front door opens.

GLORIA

Did someone say my name?

Everyone gasps.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN/ESTRELLA/ANDRÉS

GLORIA?!

GLORIA

Did you miss me?

end season one