

Episode 17

GLORIA (VO)

Previously on The Princess of South Beach: María del Carmen had agreed to help Estrella investigate Luisa and Esteban, our fake parents, but she was distracted from the mission...again, this time by the promise of a fantastic date with Raul, which in reality was a terrible foodless picnic. And now Luisa has dropped by Esteban's office in an attempt to rekindle the marriage and walked in just as Esteban and Nacho were getting it on. Whoops.

INT. ESTEBAN'S OFFICE - DAY 17.1

LUISA

Esteban! I brought you a surprise!

(Esteban and Nacho gasp)

A rack of coats sweeps in, Luisa pushes it, her pumps clicking.

Look what I brought you, Esteban. An entire closet full of new suits, I thought you could use the change of look for your campai//

(Surprised)

Oh, Nacho. Again. I didn't see you there. Actually, I couldn't see anything because of this enormous

(Grunts)

rack of suits.

We hear her struggle with the rack.

ESTEBAN

Luisa, you can't just walk into my office whenever you feel like it.

LUISA

I was... I was bringing you a gift. I thought you'd be happy.

(Surprised)

Why are you both so... flustered? And what are all those papers doing on the floor?

Nacho picks up the papers quickly from the floor.

NACHO

Uh... yes, well, a gust of wind sent all those papers flying... and we were... running around trying to catch them and...

ESTEBAN

Yes! A gust of wind. What are you doing here?

LUISA

I was trying to surprise you with something nice. Hence the rack of very expensive suits.

ESTEBAN

I don't need more suits

LUISA

I thought maybe we could go out for lunch, just the two of us.

ESTEBAN

(Upset at almost getting caught)

Can't you see that we have business to attend to Luisa? I don't have time to just drop everything because you were bored at home. Now if you don't mind, I'm in the middle of some important matters. I will see you at home. Nacho, please escort my wife out.

Nacho begins moving her toward the door.

LUISA

Esteban wait.

The door shuts and Nacho's footsteps echo through the office.

NACHO

Sorry Luisa, it's a busy day for the campaign. (gloating) Don't worry, I'll take care of returning those suits. In fact, maybe I'll just take one for myself. It will save me a trip to the, what did you call it? Clearance section? Have a safe trip home.

SFX The elevator dings.

GLORIA (VO)

Wow savage takedown from Nacho. Looks like Luisa's surprise went even worse than Maria del Carmen's. Well now that all the surprises are out of the way, how will Maria del Carmen and Estrella spend their next day?

INT. BEDROOM - DAY 17.2

Music abruptly stops into SFX of an alarm going off over and over.

ESTRELLA

Rise and Shine!

María mumbles unintelligibly. Estrella opens the curtains excited.

ESTRELLA

I brought you breakfast so no need for restaurants and there is no Raul in sight. You're all out of excuses so today we're going to finally start our investigation to bring down the Calderon's,

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

I haven't even had my coffee yet, are we already talking in revenge?

ESTRELLA

By the way, how was your date with Raul yesterday? Did you go on a magic carpet ride at sunset while being fed organic grapes?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Clearly disappointed)

It was terrible. He took me on a picnic... with no food. And then he tried to get me to sleep with him.

ESTRELLA

Well, you *are* his fiancé...

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Don't remind me. I'm gonna have to do something about that.

ESTRELLA

Well, the good thing is that you'll forget all about it as soon as we get our investigation back on tra//

The door suddenly opens

LUISA

Gloria what are you still doing in bed!? The hairstylists are here!

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

What?!

ESTRELLA

What?!

LUISA

Did you forget? You have your *Teen Vogue* photoshoot in an hour.

SFX Luisa yanking the blankets off María del Carmen.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

A photoshoot?! No, no, I can't do that...

LUISA

Oh, don't try to back out now. You're the one who wanted them to come. You called the editor yourself and insisted on being on the cover. We sent him a MULTIPLE bottle of Dom Perignon. So I don't care how hungover you are, you're gonna get it together. The photographers aren't going to wait forever. Estrella, help Gloria get ready, the makeup girl is waiting for her downstairs.

ESTRELLA

Sí, señora Luisa. But... Gloria, don't you think this might be a little too soon after your accident... Maybe you don't feel well enough yet to... answer a bunch of questions about your personal life to a stranger.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Hesitant)

Yes, Luisa, I mean, MOM, I think Estrella is right...

LUISA

Are you kidding? You haven't stopped talking about this for the last three weeks. Ah, here comes the wardrobe.

SFX wheeling in a rack full of clothes.

María del Carmen gasps.

LUISA

Ah, Qué bien! They brought the Carolina Herrera dress you asked for. I'll have to send a thank-you note to Caro. Even though she didn't come to my birthday gala...

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Are all of those dresses for me?

LUISA

Well, just the ones you pick, you obviously won't have enough time to model all of them. And don't forget they came in *sample size*, so don't even THINK of touching that croissant.

SFX Luisa slapping down María del Carmen's hand.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

All these dresses, for me... I could have a little makeover montage! Like in the movies!

ESTRELLA

(Through gritted teeth)

Pero, Gloria, don't you remember all of those errands you needed to take care of today? Errands ... that have been waiting *years to accomplish*. You know, those ERRANDS?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Oh, ehm, sí. Bueno, I think those could wait until after the session, no? I mean, how many times in my life am I going to be able to do this, don't you think Estrella?

ESTRELLA

(Clearly pissed)

So you're going to put off your ERRANDS. AGAIN.

LUISA

Are you two talking in code? Gloria, I told you not to get too familiar with the help. Estrella, Gloria doesn't do errands we pay people like you to do them for her. Now help her get ready.

Luisa, walks away.

GLORIA (VO)

¡UGH! I can't believe Maria del Carmen is going to steal MY photoshoot. She can't even appreciate that stunning collection of Louboutins and those Fendi purses...oh my god is that a Berkin? Sorry, but judging by Estrella's face, I'm not the only one who is disappointed. Poor Estrella, she's just going to have to hold off on that investigation for a little while longer. And while María Carmen is playing dress-up, Nacho might have some competition to Esteban's affections

INT. ESTEBAN'S OFFICE - DAY 17.3

KAREN

Esteban Calderón's office, how can I help you?No, I don't know anything about that... Well, I'm not interested in talking to any reporter... How can you know I look pretty by only listening to my voice?... I have been told on several occasion that I have a sexy voice, yes...//

SFX The phone clicks as Nacho hangs it up for her.

NACHO

Por Dios, Karen, how many times do I have to tell you that if a reporter calls you have to hang up IMMEDIATELY.

KAREN

Oh, I'm sorry, are you Esteban Calderon? No, I didn't think so. I take orders from him, not you.

NACHO

(Sighs)

Has Esteban come in?

KAREN

Not yet. Weren't you two scheduled to have breakfast together, like, today?

NACHO

(Perturbed)

Yes, we were going to go through the plan to secure funds for the campaign. Hasn't he called or anything to say that he was going to be late?

SFX the door to the office, opening.

The sound of men's laughter and footsteps. Esteban enters with JULIAN, A Haitian man with a French accent.

KAREN

Buenos días, Esteban. You're looking expensive today!

ESTEBAN

Good morning, Karen. Nacho! Thank God you're here! I want you to meet Julián. Julián and I have been friends for, oh, I don't know...

JULIÁN

I can't believe it but it's been almost thirty years.

ESTEBAN

Nacho, when Julián saw that I was running for mayor, he called me to invite me to a celebratory breakfast.

NACHO

Oh, great! Bueno, a pleasure to meet you, Julio.

JULIÁN

It's Julián, Julián Saint James. And you must be the famous Nacho. Esteban was just telling me about everything you've done for him. It's very important to have people you can trust, especially when you reach the level of success that Esteban has.

NACHO

Yes, well, it helps that Esteban is a very good judge of character. Ehm, Esteban, I thought that we were supposed to meet today to review the fundraising plan for the campaign...

ESTEBAN

Ah, well there's no need for that. Julián is going to donate enough to cover our first round of funding.

JULIÁN

That's right. It's the least I can do for our next mayor. I hope this generous donation buys me at least 16 holes. See you next Thursday at the country club?

ESTEBAN

Yes, sir, I'll bring the coffee and you just prepare to get humiliated. Ah - and don't worry about that plot of land. Once I'm mayor, I'll take care of it.

JULIÁN

Thank you, Esteban. Nacho, a real pleasure to meet you.

SFX Julián leaving the room. Esteban happily chuckling to himself as Julián exits.

ESTEBAN

Karen, can you add that appointment with Julian to my calendar, please?

KAREN

Yes sir.

SFX Esteban turns to leave, Nacho follows after him. SFX Nacho's phone rings. He ignores the call.

NACHO

Esteban, wait. So uh, who was that?

ESTEBAN

What do you mean? He literally just introduced himself to you. I was standing right there.

NACHO

No, I just mean...nothing. It's just...you missed our breakfast.

ESTEBAN

Don't tell me you're jealous, Nacho. I get enough of that at home with Luisa, I can't have you starting with that too.

NACHO

Don't be ridiculous, I'm not jealous.

ESTEBAN

Good because the last thing I need is another needy person. That's what I love about you, Nacho//

NACHO

You. You love me?

NACHO

What? I love that with you it's just buisness-

(Changing the subject, very seriously)

Hey, did you find out how those reporters got those records? My camp records? This could be a huge blow-

NACHO

-I know. I have a Private following the reporter from the press conference. Don't worry Esteban, I'm gonna take care of it.

ESTEBAN

Do it and do it quickly. I want to know what they know about me and about my family. And if I don't get results from you soon, I'll find someone who can. Don't think that our little arrangement means you don't have to do your job. Now, if you'll excuse me.

SFX Esteban closes his office door on Nacho. Walks back to Karen.

KAREN

Um. Nacho your phone is ringing.

SFX Nacho's phone rings again and he ignores the call.

NACHO

Yeah, I know, thanks. Hey, what "plot of land" was Esteban talking to Julian about exactly?

KAREN

Oh, Julián is looking to buy some land outside of the city to build a new factory, but the owners have shown no interest in selling. Esteban said that he'd look into acquiring the land through other means if you know what I mean.

NACHO

Who are the owners?

KAREN

It's a convent... Let's see, I have the name right here, Convento de las Hermanas de la Santa Misericordia de Jesús Christo, nuestro Señor y esperanza eterna, santificado sea su-

NACHO

Ya, ya, ya ok. Just email me the info. Thanks, Karen.

He walks off and dials his voicemail.

NACHO'S VOICEMAIL

You have one new voice message:

MYSTERIOUS VOICE

Why aren't you answering your phone Nacho? You know you can't hide from us. We know where you are. Where you live... Where your son lives... So you better pay us what you owe because we would really hate for another... accident to happen.

GLORIA (VO)

Uh oh Nacho, it seems like looking for Esteban's love isn't your biggest problem right...

END