

Episode 20

GLORIA (VO)

Previously on: The Princess of South Beach. María del Carmen is falling in love with Andrés, the hot reporter with asthma. Meanwhile, my fiancé, Raúl, had to pay off his father's debts to some dangerous mafiosos.

INT. NACHO'S HOUSE - DAY 20.1

GLORIA (VO)

When we last saw Raul, his father Nacho had sent him to drop off 60 thousand dollars at a very sketchy place... And well, it didn't turn out great.

SFX Door slamming. Pouring rain outside. The sound of wet boots slopping across the floor.

RAÚL

¿Papi? Papi, I'm outside.

SFX Nacho enters with frantic footsteps. We hear the blinds move as he peers outside.

NACHO

Come in, Raul, quickly. Did you notice if somebody was following you?

RAÚL

Who would be following me? What is going on? You send me to some unassuming Chinese restaurant to drop off a briefcase full of money which already seems sketchy and then a scary man with a weird face tattoo claims you owe him a lot more money and says something about feeding us to crocodiles and now somebody might be following me? What is happening?... Wait, papi... Why are you shaking?

NACHO

Mijo, I don't want to worry you but...

RAÚL

Worry me?! I think it's a little late for that, papi.

NACHO

I'm going to take care of this, don't worry, really

RAÚL

I DESERVE TO KNOW WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON.

NACHO

OK OK. No need for yelling.

RAÚL

SORRY! I mean, sorry.

NACHO

Mira, I'm going to tell you everything, but you have to promise me that you're going to remain calm.

RAÚL

I AM CALM!

NACHO

Raul, I'm in deep debt. And not with a bank.

RAÚL

Uh-huh. Right...What do you mean?

NACHO

I owe money to people who... "operate" outside of the law.

RAÚL

What does that mean?

NACHO

Let's just say, I made some bets that didn't pan out.

RAÚL

...I don't understand.

NACHO

For god's sake! How can I be more clear?! I OWE MONEY TO THE MOB AFTER LOSING A BUNCH OF BETS AND IF I DON'T PAY THEM BACK THEY WILL HURT ME.

RAÚL

You're gambling again, dad?! You promised mom-

NACHO

Don't bring your mom into this. God rest her soul. Raul, this is my problem so/

RAÚL

/But you're using MY money, my trust-fund money!

NACHO

Your money?! Everything you have is because of me. That's my money.

RAÚL

I can't believe this. I don't even recognize you anymore... How will I explain this to Gloria, god this is so embarrassing. You're embarrassing!

SFX We hear a slap.

Raúl reacts in shock.

NACHO

DON'T YOU DARE DISRESPECT ME. You have no idea what I had to do to give you this life. The cars, the watches, the life you lead are all BECAUSE OF ME. Yeah, sure, not all of my business dealings have been legit. Ok, the vast majority haven't been... Ok, none of them have been legit. But I'm not pretending to be a saint. I'm not proud of it. But how else do you think the son of a CAB DRIVER got here in the first place? On merit alone? HA! This is America.

RAÚL

Pero... aren't you an investor?

NACHO

"Investor" is a rich person's word for gambling. I take calculated risks - I put money down to make money. But instead of investing in typical stuff like a mall or a string of Quiznos, I invest in... odds. How do you think I got the money to invest in the first place? I went into debt with anybody who was willing to give me money. No bank was going to loan anything to a poor man

with no credit. And look at everything I've built. I'm a political advisor to the most powerful people in the world. So don't come in here with your fancy suit, which BY THE WAY I paid for, to lecture me on morality. I got my hands dirty so you wouldn't have to go through what I went through. Instead of judging me, you should be thanking me!

(Beat)

RAÚL

I'm sorry, papi. It's just that... I'm worried.

NACHO

The only thing I need from you is to make sure your wedding happens. Then all our problems will go away. All of them.

RAÚL

Is the only reason you want me to marry Gloria, for this? Not because you want me to be happy?

NACHO

It's really hard to be happy when you're broke, Raul.

(A pause)

You think "love" is all you need in this world? That's because you've never really needed anything. Gloria wouldn't love you if all you could put on the table was instant mac-n-cheese

RAÚL

She loves mac-n-cheese!

NACHO

Gloria doesn't just love you. She loves you with money, connections, the membership at the country club. Gloria loves you because you live in her world. I gave you the keys. So don't you ever disrespect me again.

GLORIA (VO)

Wow, Nacho you didn't hold back, did you? I guess it's true what they say, more money, more problems. Or, I guess this is no money more problems... Anyways! Where's Esteban? Ahh, sí, after his last meeting with old friend and campaign donor Julian, they agreed to meet again at the yacht club. Agh! What I wouldn't do for a lobster roll... They are TO DIE FOR!

EXT. YACHT CLUB - DAY 20.2

Julián and Esteban are having lunch together. As well as remembering their shared youth, they discuss upcoming businesses.

JULIÁN

What was that French girl's name? The one who transferred in senior year?

ESTEBAN

Um, Yolanda?

JULIÁN

YOLANDA! God, she was hot. All the boys were obsessed with her and she only had eyes for you. The head of the model U.N.

ESTEBAN

Sí, heh, Model U.N was a panty-dropper.

JULIÁN

Oh man, and Sofia Graterol! Captain of the volleyball team? That was another Esteban groupie. Did you ever go all the way with her?

ESTEBAN

(Trying not to show how uncomfortable he is)

High School was a long time ago Julian. Bueno, let's have a toast. For the memories!

JULIÁN

Mira, Esteban, I know that when you eventually become mayor you'll have access to a lot of places and a lot of people... (takes a big gulp of his drink)

ESTEBAN

Aha?

JULIÁN

Let's cut to the chase, I invited you here today to make it clear that I want to be a part of that.

The suitcase slides through the surface of the table.

ESTEBAN

(Curious)

What's this? (beat as he opens) Oh wow, that's a lot of money. Julian this is really not necessary. The first round of funding was already so generous.

JULIÁN

Yes. But that was for the campaign and this... this is for you. And, you know, if you do win... there's a lot more where that came from.

ESTEBAN

Oh, wow! I really do appreciate it but it's not necessary, I mean we're Calderon's after all.

JULIÁN

Esteban. You don't have to pretend with an old friend. I know the Calderon fortune is big but not big enough to cover the past decades of spending and your campaign. It's not an endless well.

ESTEBAN

(Playing it off)

Some business ventures haven't been as lucrative as we expected and the cost to maintain the property and the lifestyle is steep but we're doing fine, more than fine.

JULIÁN

I don't want you to just be fine. This is nothing, especially considering the money we'll make working together. Let's toast: to the future mayor of Miami!

ESTEBAN

Salud!

JULIÁN

Salud!

GLORIA (VO)

Ay, Esteban, don't you know that people don't give you money without expecting something in return? I wonder what Julian will ask from you in the future... And now let's see how everything is going for Luisa at the... "hairdresser" AKA her therapist's office.

INT. DR GOLDBERG'S OFFICE - DAY 20.3

DR. GOLDBERG

How've you been feeling this week Luisa?

LUISA

Oh well you know, my life is as usual: perfect, after all, I am Luisa Calderón...

DR. GOLDBERG

Luisa, can we please skip this part?

LUISA

...Well there's nothing wrong with my life. But, um, you know how we were talking about um, oh what's the word? Bauma? Cauma?

DR. GOLDBERG

Trauma?

LUISA

That's it, that's the one.

DR. GOLDBERG

Do you mean the trauma of having a father who never showed you any sort of affection and made you feel insecure about living in your own skin?

LUISA

(Interrupting)

Sí, sí, all that nonsense. I wanted to ask you about *another* trauma... OF A FRIEND OF MINE, of course.

DR. GOLDBERG

What friend?

LUISA

My friend... Frrrrrida.

DR. GOLDBERG

What a coincidence. Your friend is named Frida like the Frida Kahlo painting that's behind my desk, which you are currently staring at rather obviously.

LUISA

Ah, look at that, I never noticed that painting before. Bueno, my friend Frida confessed to me that maybe she has some trauma relating to something morally questionable she might have done some, oh, 19 years ago. It's something that - even though she acts like it doesn't bother her - still haunts her every night in her dreams. Is that... also considered trauma?

DR. GOLDBERG

It depends. What happened?

LUISA

TO FRIDA? MY FRIEND?

DR. GOLDBERG

(Sighs)

Yes, Frida, your friend.

LUISA

Pues, maaaaybe she let someone die to maaaaybe take their baby and now maaaaybe she's living her life feeling somewhat guilty about it.

DR. GOLDBERG

.... Are you asking me if killing somebody and stealing their baby is considered trauma?

LUISA

She didn't *kill* someone, per se. She just... let her... die.

DR. GOLDBERG

Basically the same thing.

LUISA

No, it is not! But can you answer my question... is that also considered "trauma"? For my friend. Frida.

DR. GOLDBERG

If your friend "Frida" isn't a total sociopath and is capable of empathy towards others, then yes, I'd say that killing someone/

LUISA

(Interrupting)

/LETTING THEM DIE

DR. GOLDBERG

/Is a very severe form of trauma for anyone.

LUISA

That's why I'm afraid that maybe Frida *is* a sociopath! She lets someone die, steals their baby and now she feels envy towards her daughter who is born with the beauty and grace that I never

(Catching self)

I never thought Frida had.

DR.GOLDBERG

Luisa. I've been seeing you for years. I know you, you are a little difficult but you are not a sociopath.

LUISA

THIS ISN'T ABOUT ME, IT'S ABOUT MY FRIEND FRIDA!

DR.GOLDBERG

Fine, Frida isn't a sociopath. And for the record what you just told me is very serious, Luisa. Very very serious. Due to patient/doctor confidentiality, I'm not going to, share this with anyone. But, I will say, I think your friend Frida should talk about this openly with her therapist and consider going to the police. Immediately.

(Silence)

DR.GOLDBERG

Luisa?

LUISA

(Distracted)

Ah? What?

DR.GOLDBERG

Neither you nor Frida can carry this guilt forever.

GLORIA (VO)

I don't know if I should feel bad for Luisa, or if she just deserves all of this. But if there's something that has become more obvious, it's that María del Carmen isn't the only one hiding a big secret. And while some people are learning from their mistakes, others don't learn their lesson...

INT. NACHO'S HOUSE - DAY 20.4

SFX Phone ringing.

NACHO

Hello?... Finally I've been waiting to hear back from you.

(Silence)

Wait, wait, wait, slow down... What do you mean? Ok, give me a second. Let me find something to write about.

SFX papers are being moved, a pen is being clicked, some scribbles are being done.

NACHO

Ahaaa... But are you absolutely sure? (A moment) sí, sí, I'm writing it down. Fifth race. Horse name "Be On Trotsky" and the jockey is Mondragón. Cool... Thanks, my man. Much appreciated.

(A beat)

NACHO

(Sighs in relief)

Thank you, Diosito, this is exactly what I needed...

GLORIA (VO)

Ay Nacho, Nachito, what are we going to do with you? You really haven't learned a thing?

END