

EPISODE 3

GLORIA (VO)

Previously on: The Princess of South Beach. Poor little orphan María del Carmen has woken up in the home of the model and influencer Gloria Calderón, that's ME! after the tragic accident that led to my death (boo!). Of course, no one knew we were identical twins so she's got everyone fooled. She met my boyfriend Raúl and my parents, the richest couple in Florida. And just when she thought this fairy tale life was hers to keep, she discovered a mysterious letter in my Diary that said -

INT. BEDROOM - DAY 3.1

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Reading)

"...Gloria, if you're reading this letter, you need to know that your whole life has been a lie."

(Gasps)

Dios mío, what does this mean? Maybe I shouldn't be reading this.

María folds the letter and closes the diary abruptly.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Doubting)

Or should I?...

She opens the diary again and unfolds the letter.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Reading)

"Gloria, I know that-

Someone opens the door without asking. María shuts the diary and hides it in her nightstand.

LUISA

Gloria, Dr. Hidalgo was in surgery but don't worry I got Dr. Constantino to come.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Ehm... Uhm... The doctor? Sí. Ehm, I just need a few minutes.

LUISA

OK, but hurry up. You know how he is.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Over acting)

Yes! I know how he is! Of course I do!

Luisa shuts the door.

(Freaking out)

WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING? There's no way I can pull this off.

(Hyperventilating)

I should just tell the truth about who I really am... But then I'll never find out how I ended up at that orphanage slash convent. Or what's in these letters? What should I do? Why am I monologuing to myself?

LUISA

(through the door)

Lista?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(nervous laughter)

I'm ready! Come in.

DR- CONSTANTINO (30) enters the room, behind him some beeping machines.

DR. CONSTANTINO

¡Gloria, Gloria! My little cookie muffin pie. What are we going to do with you?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(nervous)

Goo... good morning.

DR CONSTANTINO

... You know, sweetheart, normally I don't do house calls but hey, those turmeric and charcoal colonics don't pay for themselves!

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Laughs along nervously)

Hahahaha... what?

DR CONSTANTINO

Alright, let's take a look.

(Examining)

Mhm. Mhm. You look terrible. I mean, totally unscathed from the accident, but we need to schedule you for a chemical peel. These pores are a travesty. Don't move. Now open up and say: Ahhh.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Ahhhhhh.

He introduces a tongue depressor in her mouth.

DR CONSTANTINO

How weird... I could've sworn you had your tonsils removed. Anyway, how have you been feeling? Nausea, dizziness? ...temporary amnesia? Have you had your period?

Maria tries to say something but the tongue is still pressed.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(With tongue depressor in her mouth and mispronouncing everything)

Yegh! Da amnesia! I definitely have that!

He removes the tongue depressor and uses an otoscope.

DR CONSTANTINO

Hey, what on earth is going on with these ears. We had them tucked back when you were twelve.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

I had an ear... growth spurt...

DR CONSTANTINO

Yeah I don't know what that is. something is not right here. I don't know what's happening.

[Music swells]

MARIA DEL CARMEN

I... I.. Ok, Doctor. I'm going to tell you the truth.

DR CONSTANTINO

Ooh the truth! The T! Bring it on, sister.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Quickly)

I am not Gloria Calderón. I don't even know who that is. My name is María del Carmen and I grew up in a convent, not too far away from here. I left because I wanted to explore the world, and so I came to South Beach. I was working as a lifeguard when I suddenly saw a boat crash into a huge rock. And I tried to save her- the driver - but when I looked at the driver it was me except it wasn't me. It was my twin which I didn't know I had. And I couldn't save her. And when I came out of the water, everyone thought I was Gloria. And now I'm here.

A long pause.

Dr. Constantino suddenly bursts into laughter and applauds

DR CONSTANTINO

Delightful! Gloria, how do you come up with these things? I wonder. Well, you've always loved those telenovelas! You, at a convent, working as a lifeguard,-TWINS... classic! You should write it up and send it to Hollywood! You know what I would add? An attractive doctor friend who she tells all her secrets to.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

But doctor...

DR CONSTANTINO

(Interrupting her)

Alright I'm going to leave you to rest but I expect to see you in my office for that chemical peel ASAP. Capice?

He leaves the bedroom and the door shut. The Dr. approaches Luisa.

DR CONSTANTINO

(Whispering)

Luisa. Gloria's doing ok but we need to take her recovery more seriously. With the amnesia and the pores, this is serious... She needs more treatment.

LUISA

Should we take her to the hospital?

DR CONSTANTINO

Hospital? No. The spa. But, like yesterday.

GLORIA (VO)

Nice try little sis - but looks like you're stuck in the glamorous life for now. Meanwhile, across town, Esteban is enjoying a little time with the boys...

INT. ESTEBAN'S OFFICE - DAY 3.2

Esteban laughs and glasses clinking glasses. NACHO (49) and ALCALDE (55) are with him.

ESTEBAN

Cheers to your retirement, mayor.

ALCALDE

I had a good run, but now, I'm looking forward to some rest. Living under public scrutiny all the time is absolutely exhausting. You know?

NACHO

Alcalde, alcalde, I'd imagine that owning all those yachts and a private island in Dubai makes up for it, no?

(They all laugh)

ALCALDE

Oh, well absolutely.

NACHO

Don't forget about all those gorgeous ladies you met while doing your rounds across the country.

ALCALDE

They met me, I just stood there.

ESTEBAN

What do you mean, Nacho? The mayor is a happily married man. I have never met anyone more faithful in my life.

This time they explode in laughter for too long.

NACHO

Well if you cross state lines then it's no longer considered "cheating". I think a lawyer friend told me that once.

Lots of macho laughs, almost like primates howling.

NACHO

Got to love those lawyers.

ESTEBAN

No you don't. But in all honesty, it's always a pleasure to see you, Mr. mayor. I wanted to ask, did you manage to get that permit on those lands we talked about?

ALCALDE

Ah carajo Esteban. I tried but nowadays getting anything done is so impossible. The liberals! The armpit women hairy liberals! The snowflake, vegetarian, you know who they are, won't let

us do anything! They are always crying about some endangered fish, some little pumpkin who didn't get it's nutrition,a cloud...

ESTEBAN

What do you expect? These are the same people who constantly undermine our Christian values.

ALCALDE

Amen , yes. 100%. Yes, well I certainly do hope that the next mayor has what it takes to go toe to toe with Alicia Mendez. Carajo! I hear she is gunning for my spot.

ESTEBAN

UH, a liberal woman mayor. What's next? Universal healthcare and gulags? This is communism. Well, we're sad to see you go but cheers to your retirement.

The mayor chugs the drink and places the glass on the desk.

Saluds all around.

ALCALDE

Esteban, Nacho. I hope to see you soon on the golf course. And hey. Maybe I'll have a couple of lady friends tag along so we can all have some good old-fashioned fun, if you catch my drift. I hope you do. I was very explicit..

NACHO

You remember that time with the golf cart?

ALCALDE

You said it was a nine iron. You said it was the putter. Yeah I barely remember that.

NACHO

Hey, hey say hi to your wife.

ALCALDE

Yeah , yeah I'm not seeing her tonight.

The mayor closes the door.

ESTEBAN

Oye, with him gone, we have to make sure we have the same close relationship with the next mayor. Alicia Mendez would be a disaster.

NACHO

Esteban, listen to me - What if we make sure Alicia never wins?

ESTEBAN

What do you mean?

NACHO

What if we could guarantee that the next mayor shares 100% of our agenda and we won't have to wait on his authorization for anything.

ESTEBAN

Well, that would mean that we could skip all that bureaucratic mumbo jumbo to get our hands on those lands we want. But, how would we even go about finding someone like that?

NACHO

You're looking at him.

ESTEBAN

You mean you?

NACHO

No, Esteban, you're standing in front of a mirror. I mean you.

ESTEBAN

Nacho - you think - You think the time has finally come? You think I should run for Mayor?

NACHO

Esteban, I can't imagine a better-qualified candidate. Mayor Calderon. It has a nice ring to it don't you think?

GLORIA (VO)

It seems like Nacho and papi are having a little political epiphany. Let's see how Maria del Carmen is doing in her spa day.

INT. SPA - DAY 3.3

SFX The sound of a fountain and birds chirping.

[The music is so zen is like Osho is whispering in your ear]

Suddenly a crack.

It's María's back.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

¡Ouch!

(another crack)

Ouch... oooh... ay, aw.

(Baffled)

Aw... wow. That feels incredible.

LUISA

Ya ves. There's nothing a few mimosas and a Thai massage can't fix.

MARIA DEL CARMEN

(Enjoying, but struggling to talk)

This is amazing.

WAITRESS (25) comes in a clattering tray.

WAITRESS

Two steamed lobsters with lemon herb butter for the madams.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Gasp)

I've always wanted to try lobster.

LUISA

What are you talking about, Gloria? You've been eating lobster since you were three months old.

MARIA DEL CARMEN

Right... What I meant was... I've never tried lobster... made... by... this chef. At this time... after a massage... on a Tuesday.

LUISA

Ah, claro. You know you always did have a refined pallet even as a child.

MARIA DEL CARMEN

Mjmmmmmm..... What, ehm, what else do you remember from my childhood?

LUISA

It was the best time. Before the paparazzi, before the scandals, before ...Raul. You such a happy little girl. And we made sure you had everything you could possibly want. Dresses, toys, parties. Remember how much you loved riding your pony?

MARIA DEL CARMEN

(Under breath)

Jesus I had a pony?

(Beat)

Tender moment:

LUISA

You know it took a long time for your father and me to have you. It wasn't easy. I always wanted a big family... full of children...but having you was more than enough. You are the best thing that's ever happened to me Gloria.

MARIA DEL CARMEN

(Holding back the tears)

I never thought I'd ever hear you say that....mom.

GLORIA (VO)

Si, si. What a nice little moment, mhm. The orphan who finally receives the love of a caring mother, bla, bla, bla. But nobody stops to think about me, and MY feelings. You know how hard it is to watch them eat lobster and get massages! After the whole dying thing my back is killing me.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY 3.4

ESTRELLA

Good afternoon, señorita Gloria. You look relaxed, how was the spa?

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Incredible, Estrella. They gave me a massage where a woman walked on my back, and then we ate lobster and my mom told me about the ponies. Do we still have those?

ESTRELLA

No, there was an incident, anyway, I'm very glad you had a good time. Bueno, I'll leave you so you can get some rest. I cleaned up your room and left your diary on your bed.

Estrella exits the room and closes the door behind her.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

Right the diary...with the letters...please be a normal letter in a normal diary filled with normal things.

María sits on her bed and opens the diary. Unfolds the letter.

MARÍA DEL CARMEN

(Reading)

"Dear Gloria, I hope you're doing well and are still receiving my letters. I can't even imagine how many have failed to reach your hands, but if you're reading this, then you need to know that your entire life has been a lie. Gloria, I know this is hard to believe, but the people who raised you are murderers. You're not a Calderon. You're MY daughter."

(Gasps)

Oh come on!

GLORIA (VO)

Sorry, little sis. Looks like your fairy tale life only lasted one day.

END