

BEATRIZ AT DINNER
BEATRIZ & DOUG

INT: DINING ROOM

BEATRIZ is gathered at the large dining table with other guests of Kathy's including the wealthy businessman Doug. She has been drinking wine as he has his whiskey.

BEATRIZ

I would just like to say to Kathy and Grant thank you for having me tonight. I know you were not expecting me, but I love Tara. I love your family. And I love being in your house. And it's an honor to meet all of you. And I would like to give you all treatments, free, of course, as my way of saying thank you for including me tonight.

DOUG

A treatment? What do you mean? We're getting free massages? All of us at the same time?

BEATRIZ

You would have to come to the center in Santa Monica. I have an office.

DOUG

You have an office? Good for you.

BEATRIZ

We have many treatments. Rolfing, breath therapy...

DOUG

Rolfing, huh? You go to school for that?

BEATRIZ

Well, when I first came to the United States a long time ago...

DOUG

Did you come legally?

BEATRIZ

Yes.

DOUG

How'd that work?

BEATRIZ

I had family here on my mother's side.
When my grandmother died...

DOUG

And they're all citizens? I'm just
curious because a lot of people come
here illegally. I am interested how you
did it. Anyway. So you came here
however, who cares, and then?

BEATRIZ

I found a job at a health food market.
I didn't speak any English, so my job
was just to clean and lay out the fresh
food. But there was a pharmacist there,
Dr. Shibari. And he taught me
everything about alternative medicine,
all the therapies. He was like a father
to me, the father I wish I had.

DOUG

Good for you. You're working. You're
contributing.

BEATRIZ

So, Doug, you build hotels?

DOUG

Yeah, I don't build them, no. I just
own them.

BEATRIZ

You own hotels? Have you ever owned any
in Mexico?

DOUG

Yeah, a few.

BEATRIZ

Did you have one in Tlaltecuhтли?

DOUG

Tlalte... what?

BEATRIZ

Tlaltecuhтли.

DOUG

I don't know. I don't even know where that is.

BEATRIZ

In Guerrero, north of Acapulco.

DOUG

I partner on a hotel in Cancun and one in San Miguel.

BEATRIZ

This was a resort with a golf course. It closed. It was only open for a year.

DOUG

Mine don't close.

BEATRIZ

This hotel destroyed my whole town. All these people had to leave their homes with nothing and nowhere to go. My family too. There were protests. A lot of people were killed by the Mexican police. Assassinated. It's a fact. They dug up all the canals, cut away the mangrove trees. It was an American hotel. I can't remember the name. It was 40 years ago.

DOUG

I'm old, sweetheart. I'm not that old.

BEATRIZ

When I first saw you, I thought I knew you from somewhere. And then you started speaking about people protesting your hotel.

Babcock Studios

Scene used for educational purposes.

DOUG

It's not a hotel. It's a shopping center. And no one's getting kicked out of their homes except maybe a few birds.

BEATRIZ

For a moment, I thought you were that man, that man that bought the land in Tlaltecuhтли. For a minute, I freaked out, you know? Really, because I have to say if you had been that man, I would've thought that fate brought us together.

DOUG

For what?

BEATRIZ

I don't know. Revenge, maybe? I should kill you or something? But you're not that man. You're another man.

DOUG

Many men do what I do.

BEATRIZ

One man, many men.

DOUG

So you believe in fate, huh?

BEATRIZ

Yes.

DOUG

So do I. I think we all have a destiny to manifest. And if we don't, it hurts the soul. If the brass ring is there, there's a reason. And if we don't grab it, we...We regret it for the rest of our lives.

BEATRIZ

I always felt that my fate was to heal people.

BEATRIZ (CONT'D)

And that's what I've tried to do. But there's so many sick people. Every day, more come. They have cancer, they are dying. It's like a war, and I'm just a nurse in the middle of a battlefield. It's too much. I'm tired. Doug, you think killing is hard, huh? Try healing something. That is hard. That requires Patience. You can break something in two seconds. But it can take forever to fix it, a lifetime, generations. That's why we have to be careful on this earth, and gentle.

DOUG

Sounds like you have a pretty tough job.

BEATRIZ

Yes, and there are moments where I think... Instead of trying to heal all these people... It'd be better just to find the source of all the suffering. Destroy the source, you know?

DOUG

What's the source? What, you think I'm the source? You give me too much credit.

BEATRIZ

What I think is all your pleasures are built on other's pain.

DOUG

Look, I'm a big boy, okay? Listen, honey, I think you have a great depth of feeling that you project onto the world. But to be honest, the world doesn't need your feelings. It needs jobs, it needs money, it needs what I do. The world doesn't need you. No. The world has more than enough of it.

Babcock Studios

Scene used for educational purposes.

BEATRIZ

There is another type of cancer that is killing this earth, Doug. The world is dying. You do see that. Or are you blind? You think that you can hide up here behind this gate, and that everything is gonna be all right? No, it's coming for you.

DOUG

What the fuck is going on here?

BEATRIZ

It will touch you.

DOUG

How many years until we're both dead? Twenty years, thirty years? We're dying. Humans are dying. The elephants are dying. Bees are dying. The world is dying. What are you gonna do? Accept it and enjoy yourself. You should try to enjoy yourself. It's not all so sad, is it?

BEATRIZ

I know I know you.