

LOS ISCARIOTES

SEQUENCE 1: STREET-EVENING

Sister María walks along the street. When she arrives at the building she is looking for, she knocks the main door. After some moments, Marta opens the door and they talk.

MARTA

Good evening.

MARÍA

Good evening. I am looking for sister Ana.

MARTA

Excuse me?

MARÍA

Sister Ana. From the Convent of Saint Christine. We were living together there.
Is not this her address?

MARTA

Wait a moment, please.

Marta closes the door. After some moments, she opens again.

MARTA

Come in. I'll take you to a person who can help you.

Marta and Sister María go into the building.

SEQUENCE 2: ODISEO'S OFFICE-EVENING

Marta and Sister María arrive at Odiseo's office. He is sitting at his desk and watching in his laptop some files about the argentinian writer Jorge Luis Borges.

ODISEO

Sit down, please.

Excuse me, Sister María. I was reviewing some documents from the great Jorge Luis Borges.

MARÍA

How do you know my name?

ODISEO

Don't worry. Sister Ana has been talking so much about you. How are you? And your trip, it has been ok?

MARÍA

Yes, yes, no problems at all, Mister ...

ODISEO

My name is Odiseo Guereca and these are Sister Marta and Sister Judit. We are the new family of Ana. She will be back very soon ... Well, what Ana has told you about her new life?

MARÍA

Not really much. And I'm quite worry about it. I am not really sure about your congregation's position with respect to Rome.

ODISEO

Well, let say we are quite away from them due to different interpretations of the Jesus Christ's Passion.

MARÍA

What kind of interpretations are you talking about?

ODISEO

Please, do you mind to read the next paragraph from Borges. It is the highlighted text. Please.

MARÍA (*reading*)

“In the Drama of the Cross there were intentional and unintentional actors -- all of them indispensable, all of them fatal. Unintentional were the priests who handed out the pieces of silver, unintentional was the multitude that asked for Barabbas, unintentional was the Governor of Judea, unintentional were the Roman soldiers who erected the cross of His martyrdom and nailed the nails and cast lots for His garments. The intentional actors were only two -- the Redeemer and Judas. The latter cast down the thirty pieces of silver that were the price of Salvation and went and hanged himself. At the time, like the Son of Man, he was thirty-three years old”.

ODISEO

Have you ever thought about the role of Judas Iscariote in the Bible?

MARÍA

What kind of role? Judas betrayed our Lord?

ODISEO

In that case, why it was necessary to identify a Master predicating everyday in the synagogues and performing miracles in the presence of thousands of people? He was not known enough?

MARÍA

That's true. However, we know that sometimes Jesus Christ and his apostles needed to be hidden because they were wanted ...

ODISEO

But here they are, all the miracles and the Sermon on the Mount. They were done in front of so many people. But, coming back to the role of Judas, how can we talk about betrayal when Jesus Christ already knew what it was going to happen? In passion, both Jesus Christ and Judas carry out a prefixed role.

MARÍA

We, the Christians, we need to be guided by the Holy Bible. In every one of the four Evangels ...

ODISEO

Evangels!! The work of simple fishermen that hardly could read or write!!

MARÍA

This has no consequence because the Evangelists were inspired by the Holy Spirit.

ODISEO

Do you know the work of Borges?

MARÍA

No, I haven't read anything.

ODISEO

But you should! You will find a lot of answers. I apologize for my mindlessness, Sister, but as you already know this subject is so interesting!

ODISEO

I'm sorry. *(the phone rings, Odiseo talks to the phone)* Yes? ... ok ... see you tomorrow, then. *(Speaking to María again)* Just a little drawback. Sister Ana won't be here until tomorrow. But no worries. If you like you can stay here tonight.

MARÍA

I thank you very much but I don't want to be a burden. I will look for a hostel ...

ODISEO

Don't worry, this is also your house. Do you want to call your Superior for them to look for some church to stay?

MARÍA

No, no, it is not necessary. If you don't mind, I will stay here. Thank you.

ODISEO

Wonderful. We can continue with our discussion tomorrow. Sisters Marta and Judit will take you to your room. Have a nice night.

MARÍA

Thank you. I'll see you tomorrow.

Marta and Judit, who carries María's suitcase, guide María to her room.

SEQUENCE 3: MARÍA'S ROOM-EVENING

Marta, María and Judit go into the room. Meanwhile Judit puts María's suitcase on the bed, Marta and María speak.

MARTA

Do you want something for dinner?

MARÍA

No thanks, I am not hungry. I ate something before coming here.

MARTA

Are you sure? It's no problem ... Ok, we will leave you to rest.

Marta and Judit leave the room. María looks at around the room. In the desk, she sees one Bible and one book with Jorge Luis Borges's tales. After that, María opens her suitcase.

SEQUENCE 4: MARÍA'S ROOM-MORNING

María wakes up. She gets up and looks for her habit. She cannot find them. In this moment, Marta and María go into the room carrying some clothes and the breakfast.

MARTA

Good morning Sister. Here is your breakfast.

MARÍA

Have you taken my habit?

MARTA

Yes, we took it yesterday night to wash it.

MARÍA

But ...

MARTA

I apologize. We didn't want to wake you up because it was so late and you looked so tired. But we have got some clean clothes.

MARÍA

But, what is this? Where is my habit?

MARTA

It won't be ready till this afternoon. Put this on instead please.

MARÍA

No way, please tell Sister Ana to come in.

MARTA

She is still not back.

MARÍA

How is this possible? There is something wrong here. This is not normal. Where is Odiseo?

MARTA

In his office.

María puts on one housecoat from the suitcase and she runs until Odiseo's office. Marta and Judit follow María.

SEQUENCE 5: ODISEO'S OFFICE-MORNING

Odiseo is in his desk. María arrives and she talks to Odiseo without sitting.

MARÍA

What is happening here? Where is Ana?

ODISEO

Don't worry. She may be about to arrive. Please, Sister, calm down, take a seat and tell me what is wrong?

MARÍA

I don't want to relax! Tell me what has happened to Ana!

ODISEO

There is nothing wrong. She has been visiting some colleagues in Oviedo and she is a little late, that's all!

MARÍA

And what has happened to my habit? Why have they taken it?

ODISEO

Is that right?

MARTA

Yes, but as I have already explained to her we have taken it just for cleaning. It will be ready this afternoon.

ODISEO

Why didn't you ask me before? I beg you pardon. I didn't have any idea ... We will return it as soon as possible. Please, sit down, this is only a misunderstanding. You have had nothing for breakfast. If you want the Sisters to bring something for you ...

María sits down. In this moment Ester (Ana for María) goes into the office. María stands up and Ester and María embrace each other.

ESTER

Sister! It's so nice!

MARÍA

Ana. I miss you so much!

Ester goes with María to one chair. Ester kiss Odiseo and she sits down in other chair next to María.

MARTA

Welcome Sister Ester.

ESTER

Thank you.

ODISEO

How is everything going?

ESTER

Wonderful. I will tell you in a minute.

ESTER (*talking to María*)

What a wonderful idea to divulgate together the Words of God!

MARÍA

Of course, as before. When are you coming with us to the Covent?

ESTER

Come back? No, I am not coming back. María, I have found the Truth. The truth of Prophet Borges. Master, didn't you show her the writings of the Prophet?

ODISEO

No I didn't, Sister Ester. I have been waiting for you.

MARÍA

Sister Ester?

ESTER

Sister Ana stays back in the past. María, I've been born again!

ODISEO

The knowledge of the Truth implies some sacrifices. To renounce to our past and to adopt a new identity is one of them.

MARÍA

Ana, what does this mean?

ESTER

We are going to reveal the truth hidden by our God for 2000 years!

ODISEO (*reading one book*)

"God soaped to become man for the redemption of the human race; we might well then presume that the sacrifice effected by Him was perfect, not invalidated or attenuated by omissions. To limit His suffering to the agony of one afternoon on the cross is blasphemous. God was made totally man, but man to the point of iniquity, man to the point of reprobation and the Abyss. In order to save us, He could have chosen any of the lives that weave the confused web of history: He could have been Alexander or Pythagoras or Rurik or Jesus; He chose and abject existence: He was Judas".

Odiseo puts the book on the desk and continues talking.

ODISEO

This is the Truth that Our God reveals to Prophet Borges: the identity of His Son. The Son of God is Judas Iscariote.

ESTER

Our sins were redeemed through the pain and humiliation of God becoming man. But this pain was not physical but moral. The humiliation goes on for who has been considered for 2000 years as the worst of the traitors!

MARÍA

But, Ana, how can you believe in all this crazy story?

ODISEO

This is not crazy Sister. Everything is here.

MARÍA

Why do you ask me to come? Why? For this?

ESTER

You can't still realize, we have been elected for divulgate the Good New.

MARÍA

Let me go, please, I can't ...

María burst into tears.

ESTER

Don't worry. Everything is ok, everything is ok.

ODISEO

Marta, Judit, Take the Sister to her room. She needs to have rest.

Marta and Judit guide María to her room. Ester remains in the office and speaks to Odiseo.

ODISEO

Don't worry. This is always happening to all of you.

ESTER

I know. She will change shortly.

ODISEO

Well, let's change the subject. I'm very excited about knowing the details of our situation in Oviedo.

SEQUENCE 6: MARÍA'S ROOM-MORNING

María is reading one book in her desk. Ester goes into and they embrace each other.

ESTER

How are you María?

MARÍA

At last! How did you leave me alone for a whole day?

ESTER

That was the best. Yesterday you get very nervous.

MARÍA

We need to go back to the Convent again.

ESTER

Come here.

Ester and Maria sit down on the bed.

ESTER

I've seen you have already started to read. Go ahead and you will find all the answers.

MARÍA

But they are only fairytales. What do you see on them?

ESTER

All the writings of Borges are just a very big labyrinth of words. They hide an only essential meaning. And all the clues you need to go straight to the centre of the labyrinth are just here. You only need to go on reading.

MARÍA

I can't understand. Why God wants to keep his sacrifice in secret?

ESTER

It was needed. Judas has been humiliated for 2000 years for forgiven our sins. Now, the time is over and our job is to divulgate the Good New.

Listen, What do you about the Turin's Shroud and the Holy Cloth from Oviedo? Do you believe in all that? Do you think that they covered Jesus' Body and that they contain some traces from his blood?

MARÍA

Yes, of course.

ESTER

And do you remember the fire on the Guarini chapel the night on April the 11th 1997?

MARÍA

Yes, the fire that was about to destroy the Turin's Shroud? It was a miracle that it was not burned!

ESTER

That's right. That year, one month and a half, the first study for cloning animals from genetic material coming from adults was published. Dolly sheep.

MARÍA

Yes, yes, but I don't know what ...

ESTER

Don't you realize? We can clone Jesus Christ! Do you think it is possible to clone God?

ESTER

The Vatican doesn't believe on it neither. This is why they start the fire on 97. Trust me. Everything is here. (*Ester shows one book of Borges*)

María, look at me. I've come just to say goodbye. Tomorrow I'm going to Turin.

MARÍA

How is this possible? You can't go. What will I do?

ESTER

You need to stay here until you are ready. Don't worry, the sisters will take care of you and master Odiseo will be your guide.

MARÍA

No, no with him. All this is very strange. Why are you all women but him?

ESTER

María, 2000 years before God took men for keeping his sacrifice in secret. Now He is taking women for revealing the Truth.

MARÍA

Don't leave me here. Take me with you!

ESTER

You can't. Not now. But, don't worry, trust me.

Ester kiss María and leaves the room.

SEQUENCE 7: CORRIDOR-MORNING

Judit waters some plants. Marta, who carries some papers, asks her.

MARTA

Sister, where is the master? There are some news from Turin.

JUDIT

Down in the terrace, with Sister Ruth.

Marta goes to one window, she opens it and speak to the terrace.

SEQUENCE 8: TERRACE-MORNING

MARTA

Report from Turin. Sister Ester is coming back. She is bringing a present back.

Odiseo and María are at the terrace. María dresses the clothes of the sect. Odiseo kiss María and both of them go out the terrace.

THE END