

Reborn

By

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FADE IN:

INT. TAVERN - NIGHT

JUDAS speaks to JESUS.

JUDAS

Hey Jesus, go up and get us all a  
round in.

Judas reaches into a bag and hands Jesus a few coins.

JESUS

Alright.

Judas speaks to the other apostles.

JUDAS

He's a good lad our Jesus.

Judas leans in, waves the apostles in closer whilst he  
speaks in a softer tone.

JUDAS

Right lads lean in. I hear the  
Romans are coming for Jesus.

The TEN APOSTLES lean in closer.

MATTHEW

Are you sure?

JUDAS

It's true. And unfortunately  
they're coming for him tomorrow in  
the Garden of Gethsemane.

MATTHEW

That's bad, that's real bad news.

JUDAS

It sure is. And that's why we  
need a lookalike to fool the  
Romans.

MATTHEW

I agree.

MARK

We all agree. Have you a plan?

Judas leans back smiling.

JUDAS  
Already on it boys.

EXT. STREET CORNER - NIGHT

START FLASHBACK

SUPER: EARLIER IN THE EVENING

Judas speaks to MARTHA (19), dressed as a bunny with floppy ears. Stands on a street corner.

Judas brings out his money bag and hands Martha a silver coin.

JUDAS  
I need you to work the streets and  
don't stop until you find me a  
lookalike for Jesus.

MARTHA  
Which one?

JUDAS  
The dude man, Jesus Christ who  
else?

MARTHA  
Oh, my bad.

JUDAS  
When you find him, come to the  
Rayna Tavern okay? We'll be in  
there.

MARTHA  
Okay.

END FLASHBACK

INT. TAVERN - NIGHT

Martha walks in with JOEL (25), arm in arm. He plays with her floppy ears.

MARTHA  
If you're good enough, I'll let you  
try them on later.

Joel looks her up and down.

JOEL

I'd be happy to take 'em off...and  
your ears.

Martha laughs to play along.

In the corner of the tavern sits eleven apostles.

JUDAS

Speak of the Devil, here he is.

MATTHEW can't believe his eyes.

MATTHEW

Jesus Christ with a girl. Why I  
never.

JOHN

Where's the drinks Jesus?

Judas stands up.

JUDAS

Here is the lovely Martha.

Martha extends a hand to PHILIP who graciously gives her a  
peck.

MARTHA

Hi everyone,

She swings her free hand to pat Joel's chest.

MARTHA

Meet Joel.

Joel smiles, gives a small wave before shaking hands with  
Matthew.

JOEL

Hello.

Martha pulls Joel away.

MARTHA

We're off to get drinks.

Martha and Joel walks off as Judas sits down.

MATTHEW

Wow, he's the spitting image.

JUDAS  
 Martha's one of my best  
 workers. I'll let you have her  
 tomorrow night.

MATTHEW  
 Perfect.

Jesus walks over with a tray full of drinks.

JOHN  
 Jesus?

JESUS  
 Sure thing buddy.

Jesus sets the tray down on the table.

JOHN picks up a drink.

JOHN  
 Boy I'm I glad to see you.

JUDAS  
 Aren't we all.

EXT. GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE - DAY

Matthew, Philip, John and Joel are in the center of the garden. Matthew, Mark and Luke are praying whilst Joel stands to survey the area.

JOEL  
 What am I doing here? One moment  
 I'm with Martha, the next I'm here.

MATTHEW  
 Shut up, you'll get us all killed.

JOEL  
 (Gulps)  
 Killed?

Judas walks into the garden with SANHEDRIN, PHARISEES,  
 CAIAPHAS the temple's high priest, and the temple's GUARDS.

Judas walks up to Joel, whispers in his ear.

JUDAS  
 I'm sorry.

He kisses him on each cheek.

Caiaphas steps forward.

CAIAPHAS  
Guards, arrest that man!

ROMAN SOLDIERS burst into the garden, dragging along Jesus dressed as a bunny. Followed by Martha.

ROMAN SOLDIER  
Here's Jesus. I caught him messing  
about with some hooker.

Pharisees walks over to Judas and rips his money bag away.

PHARISEES  
I believe this is mine.

Pharisees empties the bag of coins into his pocket.

He throws the empty bag to Judas' feet.

Judas turns to Martha.

JUDAS  
What have you done? He was suppose  
to be in hiding.

MARTHA  
I didn't stop until I found a  
better lookalike.

Judas waves his arms in the air.

JUDAS  
(Shouts)  
You found thee lookalike!

Martha puts her hands behind her back, looks down and digs her toe into the ground.

JUDAS  
And working off the clock too.

Judas picks up the empty bag.

MARTHA  
I'm sorry.

Judas opens and stares into the bag.

JUDAS  
This'll come out of your wages.

He shakes his head and with his hands on his hips. Glares towards Matthew, Philip and John, who are all crying together in a heap.

EXT. MOUNT CALVARY - AFTERNOON

Jesus hangs from a cross between two thieves. A small crowd have gathered around to pray.

The sun hangs in the sky baking everything within sight.

The heat radiating off the surface from the sparse surrounding land has started to make the mountains quiver in the distance.

JESUS

Make sure they remember me as Jesus  
King of the Jews.

JUDAS

I will my lord.

A THIEF to the right of Jesus speaks.

THIEF

Jesus, I have done nothing wrong,  
remember me in the Kingdom.

Jesus looks over to the Thief.

JESUS

You will be with me in paradise.

Judas raises an eyebrow and speaks to Jesus.

JUDAS

Room for one more?

INT. TUNNEL - MORNING

SUPER: TWO DAYS LATER

BLACK except for a tiny light in the distance.

VOICE (O.S.)

Come towards the light, my lord.

EXT. MOUNT CALVARY - MORNING

A MAN staggers out of a tomb and falls to the ground face first.

He catches a mouthful of dirt.

A FOLLOWER grabs the man's arm.

FOLLOWER  
Here, let me help you up.

The follower falls to his knees and starts to worship.

FOLLOWER  
Thank God, it's Jesus Christ who's  
returned back from the dead.

Joel, with an unkempt hair and beard. Dusts himself down.

JOEL  
No he fuckin' hasn't. My name's  
Joel. And what I'm I dressed as?

FOLLOWER  
My lord. You're dressed as a  
rabbit.

Joel SMACKS his forehead before clenching his fist.

JOEL  
Ahhh, that's the last time I sleep  
with that bitch.

INT. TAVERN - NIGHT

SUPER: ONE YEAR LATER, EASTER SUNDAY

JUDAS  
And that's how everyone remembers  
Jesus. King of the Rabbits.

Judas downs his drink before he smiles at the ten apostles.

FADE OUT.