



rain

VIVA MÉXICO!

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(ENGLISH VERSION)

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FADE IN:

EXT. LA STREET - NIGHT

JOHN BLOOM (mid 40s, disheveled yet handsome) walks down a dark, sketchy neighborhood.

He enters a convenience store.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - NIGHT

John meanders the brightly-lit aisles. Ennui and lethargy engulf his overall demeanor.

He grabs some large CHIPS and a six-pack of CORONA BEERS and places them on the counter.

CASHIER
Hey.

JOHN
Hey.

The CASHIER scans the items: "\$18.00"

CASHIER
One or two?

JOHN
Two.

The cashier puts TWO INDIVIDUAL CIGARETTES on the counter.

John throws twenty bucks and takes the beer and the two cigarettes.

JOHN (CONT'D)
Thanks.

EXT. LA STREET - NIGHT

John comes out of the store and keeps walking.

He takes out a cigarette and dangles it in his mouth as he pats his jeans and pockets for a lighter. Nothing.

JOHN
Dammit...

He walks by TWO YOUNG GUYS leaning against a wall passing a JOINT back and forth.

JOHN (CONT'D)
Hey, you got a light?

YOUNG GUY
Yeah man.

The Young Guy takes out a LIGHTER from his pocket and hands it to John.

JOHN
(while lighting his cig)
Smells good.

YOUNG GUY
Acapulco Gold.

YOUNG GUY 2
Yo, don't I know you from
somewhere?

JOHN
I don't think so.

He hands back the lighter.

YOUNG GUY 2
Aren't you the guy from the Peloton
commercials?

JOHN
(ignoring him)
Thanks.

YOUNG GUY
No problem.

John keeps walking.

YOUNG GUY 2
I think that was him. You know, the
one with the puppets.

YOUNG GUY
Oh yeah...

John turns the corner.

EXT. DARK ALLEY - NIGHT

He passes a DARK ALLEY where TWO THUGS are harassing a WOMAN.

WOMAN
Help! Help!

John stops.

He looks at the situation. Big sigh, like he almost doesn't want to deal with it.

He balances the cigarette on a little dent on the wall, then heads towards the Two Thugs.

He taps one on the shoulder and when he turns, John PUNCHES HIM HARD, SENDING HIM TO THE FLOOR!

The other man takes out a KNIFE and swings it at John.

John ducks and with some unexpected SWIFT MOVES DISARMS THE MAN AND KNOCKS HIM OUT TOO.

He turns to the Woman.

JOHN

You okay?

WOMAN

(collecting herself)

Yeah. Yeah. I think so. Thank you so much!

JOHN

No problem.

John turns around, picks up his cigarette, and is about to resume his walk when--

WOMAN

(calling)

Hey! Wait!

John turns.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

(approaching)

Wait... Aren't you the guy from the Peloton commercials?

INT. LIVING ROOM - JOHN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The room is dark, with a few practical lights on.

John is lying on the couch, chip crumbs on his shirt, WATCHING YOUTUBE SHORTS on his phone. The pale blue light illuminates his comatose expression.

The short video clips are as moronic and familiar as you can expect:

--Two people arguing about pronouns.

Swipe.

--Someone hitting himself jumping across a pool.

Swipe.

--A young girl doing a provocative dance routine with a large wildfire happening in the background.

Swipe.

--A cute dog doing something funny.

John laughs. He grabs the chips only to discover the bag is empty.

He grabs the chips bag and lifts it up to his face; the last few crumbs mostly falling onto his shirt.

He's finally had enough video clips for the day so he turns off his phone.

The piercing silence of time/life wasted settles in.

He sits up on the couch and stares at his reflection on the black screen TV. Messy. Semi-Drunk. Out of shape.

On the table in front of him lie five empty beers and two cigarette butts.

There are also two YELLOW PILL CONTAINERS. One says: PROZAC. The other: ZOLOFT.

He rubs his face, sighs, gets up, stumbles his way to his bedroom, and passes out on the bed.

EXT. THE CITY OF LA - EARLY MORNING

*MUSIC: *Saudade*, by Thievery Corporation.* (Music cues added to help clarify tone).

SUPER TITLES over establishing shots of LA.

The grass is always greener on the other side unless the other side is East LA, where the grass is always dying.

So from West to East: we show the wealth. The beauty. The convertibles... And the poor. The messy. The homeless.

A city of contradictions.

INT. BEDROOM - JOHN'S HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

John's RINGING CELL PHONE wakes him up. He grabs the phone and answers.

JOHN
(rough)
Yeah?

EXT. DAN'S OFFICE - SAME TIME

DANNY (mid-30s, nicely dressed, talent agent) is walking around his slick modern office with a nice view behind him.

DANNY
John! Get up! I got something for you!

INTERCUT -- DANNY AND JOHN PHONE CALL:

JOHN
Who is this?

DANNY
It's... What do you mean who is this? It's fucking Danny!

JOHN
Oh. It's been a minute.

DANNY
You sound rough. Have you been drinking?

JOHN
No. No. Not at all.

DANNY
Good. Cause I got you a gig.

JOHN
Is it another commercial? Cause I don't think I can--

DANNY
Fieldwork, baby!

JOHN
(perks up)
Wait. What? Are you serious? Where?

DANNY

Mexico! Your flight leaves in three hours.

JOHN

Mexico?

DANNY

Southern Mexico. State job.

JOHN

State? Not Federal?

DANNY

You want State. A good way to get back into it. Fuck up some low-level crooks.

JOHN

How's the pay?

DANNY

It's good, but after taxes and my 10 percent, it's actually shit. At least you get to stay in a nice hotel.

JOHN

How shit?

DANNY

It's all about getting you out there again. Remind the people what you can do.

JOHN

How shit, Danny?

DANNY

I emailed you the flight info. They'll pick you up once you get there, so wear the uniform.

JOHN

Danny--

DANNY

Good luck.

JOHN

How shit?

Danny hangs up.

JOHN (CONT'D)
Fucking agents.

John lies back on his bed.

His phone rings again.

JOHN (CONT'D)
Yeah?

DANNY
I said get up! You're late!

JOHN
All right, all right! Jesus.

INT. MULTIPLE - JOHN'S HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

John takes a shower. Brushes his teeth. Packs his bags.
Throws in a RAMONES T-SHIRT. And the Prozac and Zoloft.

He puts his SUPERHERO OUTFIT ON! It's a bit tight.

He grabs his SHIELD. The design at the front is a BALD EAGLE!

INT. CHECK-IN COUNTER - LAX - MORNING

Captain Bald Eagle (CBE) is standing at the check-in line.
He's flying economy.

A KID, 10, taps him on the back:

KID
Captain, can you sign my shirt?

CBE turns to the kid.

KID (CONT'D)
Oh, sorry, I thought you were
someone else.

The Kid turns and leaves. He's wearing an AVENGERS T-SHIRT.

WOMAN AGENT behind the check-in counter calls:

WOMAN AGENT
Next.

CBE approaches the woman. Hands over his passport.

WOMAN AGENT (CONT'D)
Hi. Where are you traveling to?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Mexico.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

CBE looks out the window: a medium-sized city surrounded by mountains. Even from far away, it looks run-down.

He pours the rest of his MINIATURE VODKA into his soda water and finishes the drink.

A STEWARDESS passes by.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Excuse me...
(holding up the mini-vodka)
Can I get another one of these
little guys?

STEWARDESS
Sorry sir, but we're about to land.
Please bring your seat upright.

INT. BAGGAGE RECLAIM - MEXICAN AIRPORT - DAY

As CBE waits for his luggage, he looks at a small airport TV with ENGLISH CAPTIONS:

NEWS ANCHOR (ON TV) (SPANISH)
...Governor Eduardo Pena has
announced he's enlisted the
services of superhero Captain Bald
Eagle to help with the
investigation of the five missing
congressmen...

INT. PICK UP GATE - MEXICAN AIRPORT - DAY

CBE looks at all the chauffeurs with PICK-UP SIGNS: none of them show his name.

One by one, they find their corresponding passengers and leave.

CBE checks his phone. No signal.

He aimlessly walks about the airport, dragging his luggage with the one crazy wheel that keeps pulling to the side.

EXT. TAXI BOOTH - MEXICAN AIRPORT - DAY

CBE approaches a taxi booth.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
English?

WOMAN IN BOOTH
(accent)
Yes. Where are you going?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Where does the Governor live?

WOMAN IN BOOTH
What?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
The Governor. Where does he live?

WOMAN IN BOOTH
In the State Palace.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
That's where I'm going.

EXT/INT. TAXI - DAY

While the TAXI DRIVER (40s, cross-eyed) harangues, CBE looks out the window at the Mexican streets: kids begging for money, street dogs, graffiti, slums, barely any modern buildings.

TAXI DRIVER (SPANISH)
...I have many friends who were deported back. They're all pissed at the gringos, but I think we should be more pissed at our own government. There are no opportunities here because of the corruption. Fucking crooks. I'm still waiting for the Governor who condemns South America for making all the drugs, and gives the middle finger to the United States for swallowing them. God damn gringos. What do you think? You look pretty American back there.

The driver looks back at CBE, who's in a full-blown superhero outfit.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
What? Sorry, I don't speak Spanish.

EXT/INT. SECURITY GATE - GOVERNOR'S PALACE - DAY

The taxi stops at a SECURITY GATE. An OFFICER comes out.

OFFICER (SPANISH)
There's no access beyond this
point.

TAXI DRIVER (SPANISH)
This guy says he has a meeting with
the Governor.

The Officer looks in the back seat. He taps on the window.
CBE rolls down his window.

OFFICER (SPANISH)
Name?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Captain Bald Eagle.

The officer mumbles into his radio. He gets something back.

He turns to the SECURITY BOOTH and waves to ANOTHER OFFICER
to let them in.

The gate opens. The taxi drives in.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - GOVERNOR'S PALACE - DAY

The taxi drives to the main entrance where CARLOS ESTRADA
(30s, chubby, balding) is waiting for them.

The taxi stops.

Carlos opens the door for CBE.

CARLOS
(accent)
Hello Captain. My name is Carlos.
I'm an advisor to the Governor.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
My luggage is in the trunk.

CARLOS
Don't worry, we'll take care of
that for you.

From his car, the Taxi Driver looks up at the luxurious Governor's Palace:

TAXI DRIVER
(to himself)
Fucking crooks.

INT. HALLWAY - GOVERNOR'S PALACE - DAY

Carlos and CBE walk and talk as CBE looks at the beautiful interior decor.

CARLOS
Please accept our apologies,
Captain. It seems the driver we
sent to pick you up didn't take
into account the time difference
between LA and here.

CAPTAIN BOLD EAGLE
It's two hours.

CARLOS
Yes, he knows that now.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
And do you?

Carlos stops. Turns to CBE.

CARLOS
Word of advice, Captain. You're in
Mexico now. Southern Mexico. I
recommend you adjust your
expectations.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
What do you mean?

CARLOS
Are you familiar with Salvador
Dalí? The painter?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Of course.

CARLOS
Did you know he called Mexico the
only country more surreal than his
paintings?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Huh.

CARLOS

Yeah...

Carlos resumes his walk. CBE follows him.

INT. OUTSIDE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - DAY

KARLA (20s, the Governor's secretary) is sitting at her desk outside the door of the Governor's office.

She's painting her nails pink.

She hears the footsteps of the two men approaching but doesn't bother to look up.

CARLOS (SPANISH)

Karla, is the Governor available?

SECRETARY KARLA (SPANISH)

Yeah, go ahead. He's expecting you.

Carlos grabs the knob of the door and turns it, but the door won't open. He jiggles the knob. Nothing.

SECRETARY KARLA (SPANISH) (CONT'D)

(focused on her nails)

You have to turn the handle and push up at the same time.

Carlos does this and the door opens.

INT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Carlos and CBE enter.

GOVERNOR EDUARDO PENA (40s, Caucasian, handsome) is busy discussing something--ad lib--with his other advisor: SERGIO (30s, lanky, mustache).

CARLOS (SPANISH)

(clearing his throat)

Mr. Governor. Captain Bald Eagle, sir.

The Governor turns and excitedly walks to CBE.

GOVERNOR PENA

(accent; excited)

Ah, yes! Captain. Come in. Come in. Welcome to Mexico! How are you?

They shake hands.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Good, sir. Thank you.

GOVERNOR PENA
Man of few words. I like that.
Everybody here talks too much and
says too little. This is my senior
advisor, Sergio.

SERGIO
(accent)
How was your flight, Captain?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
It was fine, but nobody picked me
up at the airport.

SERGIO
Sorry to hear that. Do you care for
a drink? Take the edge off.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Oh. Umm... Okay, yeah, sure,
thanks.

SERGIO (SPANISH)
Carlos, get the Captain a drink.
(to CBE)
Maybe a margarita?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Yeah. Sure.

SERGIO
With some salt on the rim?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Why not?

SERGIO (SPANISH)
And some salt on the rim, Carlos.

CARLOS (SPANISH)
Of course.

Carlos heads to a regal MINI-BAR in a corner of the room.

GOVERNOR PENA
Captain, you must be wondering why
we've brought you here.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
You want me to find the people
responsible for the kidnapping of
the five congressmen.

GOVERNOR PENA
I see you've done your homework...

The Governor leads CBE to a LARGE SCREEN nearby. Sergio follows them.

GOVERNOR PENA (CONT'D)
But we already know who's
responsible for the kidnappings.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
You do?

GOVERNOR PENA
Sergio?

Sergio clicks on a remote control.

ON THE SCREEN appears a photo of a JUAN ROJO (late 30s, brown skin, dark eyes, shoulder length hair, good jaw-line, slight indigenous features).

SERGIO
Juan Rojo. Born and raised here in
the State Capital by a single
mother--

GOVERNOR PENA
Who unfortunately hung herself in
her apartment two years ago.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Ouch.

SERGIO
Confirmed IQ of 148, chess prodigy,
undergrad at Princeton at 17,
Harvard Law by 20, recruited and
trained through an acceleration
program by the CIA. Then suddenly
went M.I.A. in Moscow three years
ago after killing Igor Stravinsky.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
The billionaire?

GOVERNOR PENA

Yes. Owner of Oxy Petroleum. The company responsible for the oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico last year.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I thought he committed suicide.

GOVERNOR PENA

Billionaires don't commit suicide, Captain.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

But Mexican mothers do?

Beat.

GOVERNOR PENA

Yes. Some do.

SERGIO

Juan Rojo has now resurfaced as the head of the Cartel Cartel here in the capital.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

The Cartel Cartel?

SERGIO

The Cartel Cartel has been gaining control over other narco groups in the region, while at the same time enjoying huge populist support.

GOVERNOR PENA

You see Captain, it's this combination that makes the Cartel Cartel particularly dangerous.

Carlos hands CBE his margarita along with a tequila shot.

CARLOS

Here you go, Captain. Salt on the rim and a tequila shot.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Tequila shot?

GOVERNOR PENA

It's tradition. Goes with the Margarita.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Oh. Okay. Well, if it's
tradition...

CBE gulps the tequila shot in one go. He starts coughing.

CARLOS
Good stuff, no?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
It's strong.

SERGIO
Anyway Captain, the point is we
can't get close to Juan because the
people protect him. And every day
he's gaining more and more support.

CBE takes a sip from the margarita. He's pleasantly surprised.

GOVERNOR PENA
Your mission, Captain, is to lead a
Special Forces unit and capture
Juan Rojo.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
How do you want him delivered?

Another sip.

GOVERNOR PENA
Alive would be ideal.
(whispering)
But dead would be preferable.

Karla knocks on the door and comes into the room:

SECRETARY (SPANISH)
Excuse me Mr. Governor, but the
press is here and getting
impatient.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Send them in.

Kara fully opens the doors. In come a pack of REPORTERS and CAMERAMEN.

Carlos takes the drink away from CBE's hand.

The Governor puts an arm around CBE, and with the other a thumb up to the press who start taking a thousand pictures.

SERGIO
Smile guys. Say tequila!

GOVERNOR
(fake smiling)
Tequila!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
(forced smiling)
Tequila!

Off the camera flashes--

EXT. DRIVEWAY - GOVERNOR'S PALACE - DAY

Carlos escorts CBE out to an SUV with polarized windows.

CARLOS
The car will take you to the hotel,
where you'll receive further
instructions.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
What about my luggage?

CARLOS
It'll be waiting for you in your
room.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Thank you, Carlos.

CARLOS
No problem.

CBE jumps in the back seat of the SUV.

CARLOS (CONT'D)
Anything you need, don't hesitate
to call me.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I don't think I have your number.

CARLOS
You take care now.

Carlos closes the door.

The car drives away

EXT/INT. SUV - DAY

The car races through several streets. The city is worn down. Poor.

CBE relaxes in the back seat as the SUV takes an ABRUPT TURN INTO A SIDE STREET. THEN SUDDENLY STOPS.

CBE looks out the window. They're clearly not at the hotel.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
(to Driver)
I don't think this is the--

The back door suddenly opens and a LARGE MAN DRAGS CBE OUT OF THE CAR, ONTO THE FLOOR, AND PUNCHES HIM HARD!

CBE stops the next incoming punch and kicks the Large Man back and gets up.

The DRIVER, along with SEVERAL OTHER BIG GUYS that come out of the alley, start fighting CBE.

CBE puts on a decent fight, but he's rusty, out of shape, a bit drunk, and they finally manage to knock him out.

CUT TO BLACK.

HARD OPEN:

INT. NARCO'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

A BUCKET OF COLD WATER WAKES CBE UP!

He's sitting on a chair; his hands TIED BEHIND WITH ROPE.

He sees his SHIELD on a table nearby, next to a pile of GUNS and COCAINE packages.

The room is hot and crawling with tattooed, mean-looking guys.

SORDOMUDO (40s, short hair, face scars, clearly the leader) loudly drags a metal chair across the room and takes a seat in front of CBE.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
(to his cohorts)
Look at this puto. Why do gringos
love spandex so much?

CALACA (20s, skinny, creepy, and always on edge):

CALACA (SPANISH)
Because they're fat, boss. Keeps things compressed.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Captain, any Spanish?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
No.

SORDOMUDO
Then I speak English. I'm bilingual.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Good for you.

SORDOMUDO
You think we stupid, uh? You think a bunch of stupids can take over a State? You couldn't do it.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I think it's easier for stupid people to think they're smart.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
(to his cohorts)
Ha. I like this puto.
(to CBE; in English)
Tell me Captain, what cinematic universe do you belong to?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
The one where you end up on the floor, and my foot on your head.

Sordomudo gets impatient and takes out a large, sharp, RUSTED KNIFE. He plays with the knife as he talks, waving it in the air.

CBE follows the sporadic movements of the knife with uneasy eyes.

SORDOMUDO
Do you know a rusted blade does not give tetanus? It's a myth. But sometimes the myth, Captain, is more powerful than the truth.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
So I've heard.

Sordomudo puts his knife next to CBE's ear.

SORDOMUDO
Sound gives us balance.

Sordomudo sticks his other hand into CBE's mouth and grabs his tongue and pulls it out.

SORDOMUDO (CONT'D)
But taste gives life flavor.
(beat)
So, Captain, tell me, would you
rather be unbalanced?

Sordomudo starts SLIDING THE BLADE delicately over CBE's flesh, superficially cutting him above the ear, across his cheek, all the way to the edge of the mouth.

SORDOMUDO (CONT'D)
Or would you rather be--

CBE moans, trying to say something.

SORDOMUDO (CONT'D)
What's that, Captain?

Sordomudo lets go of his tongue.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I was trying to say...
(beat; stretching his jaw)
It's hard to answer any questions
when you're holding my tongue.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Ha!
(to cohorts)
This puto really wants to die.

CALACA (SPANISH)
Let's oblige him.

The PROFESSOR (40s, looks just as mean as the others but has glasses on):

PROFESSOR (SPANISH)
Boss. The video?

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Yes! Where's the mask?

The Professor gets up, opens a box, and takes out a real-looking HUMAN FACE MASK.

He hands it to Sordomudo.

When Sordomudo puts the mask on, we realize the mask is an EXACT REPLICA OF JUAN ROJO'S FACE!

The Professor takes out his phone to STARTS RECORDING.

Sordomudo, wearing the mask, stands up. He pulls CBE's head back and AIMS THE KNIFE AT HIS NECK.

PROFESSOR (SPANISH)
Boss. You need to use another
knife.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Shit.

Sordomudo looks around.

The Driver that kidnapped CBE is resting his weight on a comically LARGE MACHETE like it's a cane.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Felipe. Pass me that machete.

FELIPE hands the machete to Sordomudo, who then presses it to CBE's neck, taking aim.

CBE tries to get his hands untied, but the knot is tight.

SORDOMUDO (CONT'D)
Any last words, Captain?

CBE uneasily looks at the sharp machete blade pointing at his neck, swinging back and forth, when--

A SUDDEN KNOCK ON THE DOOR.

Everyone looks a bit puzzled by this.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
(relieved)
I think there's someone at the
door.

SORDOMUDO
(taking off the mask)
Calaca...

Calaca stands up and walks to the door. Just as soon as he's about to open it--

A GROUP OF FOUR MEN IN SKI MASKS KICK THE DOOR DOWN AND STAMPEDE IN!

They start SHOOTING and FIGHTING the narcos. Ultra-graphic.

The narcos start fighting back.

Chaos ensues.

CBE has no idea what's happening, so he helps the men with ski masks as much as he can while still being tied to the chair.

ACTION SEQUENCE!

Amongst the chaos, two men with ski masks pick CBE up--chair and everything--and rush him out of the room.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Wait, my shield!

But there's no time...

Narcos, knives, and bullets everywhere.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE NARCO'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The ski men throw CBE in the back of a RED PICKUP TRUCK parked outside and then jump on it too.

They keep shooting at the narcos as the car drives away.

EXT. BACK OF RED PICKUP TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

CBE, still tied to the chair, looks at the four men with ski masks sitting around him.

One by one they take their masks off.

One of them is a woman. And the last one to do so, reveals he's JUAN ROJO!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
(alarmed)
You!

CBE tries to get up but Juan PUNCHES him in the face and he gets knocked out.

Again.

CUT TO BLACK:

INT. CBE'S ROOM - CARTEL CARTEL'S HQ - MORNING

CBE wakes up on a small bed. The room is humble. Poor. But he has fresh clothes on.

Treating his wounds is GABY AGUILAR (mid-30s, black hair, kind features). She finishes squeezing a sponge filled with blood into a bucket.

CBE touches his face. It's sore but cleaned and healed.

Gaby slaps his hand away.

GABY (SPANISH)
Don't touch your face!

She gets up, grabs the bucket, and leaves the room with it, leaving the door ajar.

CBE can hear music coming from beyond. He slowly gets up from the bed and walks out.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - CONTINUOUS

*Music: *Acid*, by Ray Barreto.*

Large semi-open area: laminated roof, no walls.

Music. Food. Beer. Dogs. Chickens. Children running around. Old men on hammocks. People watching a Mexican soap opera on an old TV. Two women playing ping-pong on an improvised cement table.

IT'S A WHOLE COMMUNITY!

At a long table, sitting on plastic chairs, CBE sees Juan and the rest of the individuals that were on the pickup truck.

Juan is playing CHESS against EL BRIAN (40s, suffers from severe VITILIGO).

Juan waves to CBE:

JUAN
(in perfect English)
Captain! Come! Join us!

CBE reluctantly sits down at the long table with the rest of the men.

JUAN (CONT'D)
Are you hungry? Thirsty?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I--

JUAN

You want a beer?

(Spanish)

Lucha, get the Captain a beer.

LUCHA (30s, with multiple scars on her face) grabs a beer, pops it open with her teeth, and hands it to CBE.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

(impressed)

Thanks.

JUAN

(introducing his team)

That's Lucha. This is Antonio but we call him El Brian because he's getting whiter than Anderson Cooper. And where is... Oh, over there. That's Papi-Chulo.

PAPI-CHULO (30s, metrosexual) is combing his hair in front of a broken mirror hanging on a dilapidated wall.

JUAN (CONT'D)

Are you hungry?

(Spanish)

Diego, bring some tacos for the Captain.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I'm not that hungry.

JUAN

Of course you are.

DIEGO AGUILAR (13, Gaby's son) comes over and hands a plastic plate with three authentic-looking tacos to CBE.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Thank you.

Diego nods and smiles at him admiringly.

CBE sees Gaby a bit farther away, hanging his washed SUPERHERO UNIFORM on a clothesline.

JUAN

Here, put some lime on that. And some salt. And some salsa. Start with the green

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
What's wrong with the red?

JUAN
You're not ready for the red. Trust
me.

Juan moves all these dishes close to CBE.

Then makes a move on the chessboard. El Brian looks flustered
over the move.

JUAN (CONT'D)
Go ahead. Eat, Captain. Eat.

CBE takes a bite. It's tasty.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Not bad.

JUAN
Not bad? You're coming from Taco
Bell land and all you have to say
is *not bad*?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I mean... No, yeah, it's good.

JUAN
Too little too late. How's the
head?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
A little sore.

JUAN
Yeah, sorry about that. But I had
to, given the circumstances.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I've been in Mexico for 24 hours
and I've already been kidnapped
twice.

JUAN
Hey, better than being sliced open.
Cheers.

They clink beers.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
(while eating)
So where am I, exactly?

JUAN
You're here, with us.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I guess there's no reason to tell me.

JUAN
Au contraire, Captain. You can leave whenever you want.

CBE looks around at all the guys carrying guns.

JUAN (CONT'D)
You don't believe me?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
No. Not really.

JUAN
I know you have instructions from the Governor to kill me.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
So why did you save me?

JUAN
Let me show you something. Bring your plate.

They stand up. CBE brings his taco plate.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
(to El Brian)
I have forced checkmate in five.
Take your time to find it.

Juan and CBE walk and talk:

JUAN (CONT'D)
I'm sure you heard about the missing congressmen.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
(still eating)
I heard you were responsible.

JUAN
For once, they are right.

Juan opens the door to a--

INT. DARK CLOSED ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CBE peeks inside: FIVE MEN IN SUITS ARE SITTING WITH THEIR BACKS AGAINST THE WALLS, HANDS TIED, TAPE OVER THEIR MOUTHS.

They look up at CBE like scared puppies.

Juan closes the door.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - CONTINUOUS

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
What are you doing with them?

JUAN
We have a plan.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Do you plan to kill them?

JUAN
No. No. Of course not. We don't do that. Do you want some more tacos?

Juan leads CBE to a table with a large selection of food.

JUAN (CONT'D)
We have al pastor, chuleta, bistek, puerco, cecina--

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I have no idea what any of that means.

Juan serves CBE two more tacos.

JUAN
You will.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
So... What? Are you asking for a ransom or--

JUAN
Not at all. We don't care about money here.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
You're a narco organization that doesn't care about money?

JUAN
Who said we were narcos?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
The Governor.

JUAN
Of course he did.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I mean, don't you call yourselves
the Cartel Cartel?

JUAN
They gave us that name! Bunch of
idiots. Do you even know what the
word Cartel means?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
A narco group?

JUAN
Cartel, from the Latin *Conexus*,
meaning connection. A coalition
with a shared purpose. No Captain,
we aren't narcos. We saved you from
them.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
So what are you?

JUAN
(with arms wide open)
We, Captain, are the people.
(beat)
All of this, everyone you see here,
and hundreds more that you don't,
we've been screwed over so many
times we don't even trust our own
fathers anymore. We're in crisis.
So we've gotten together to fight
back.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Against who?

JUAN
The man that was about to cut your
throat... You remember him?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
You don't forget a face like that.

JUAN
They call him Sordomudo. Deaf-mute.
He has a thing for cutting tongues
and ears.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
What the fuck?

JUAN
(calling)
Lucha!

Lucha, nearby, turns.

JUAN (CONT'D)
Lucha. Open your mouth.

Lucha opens her mouth. She's MISSING HER TONGUE. It looks grotesque.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Jesus.

JUAN
That was a Friday afternoon with Sordomudo. He killed her husband and two daughters.

CBE recoils from this news.

JUAN (CONT'D)
What did Sordomudo do before he was going to Vincent Van Gogh you?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
He put a mask on.

JUAN
Of what?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Of...
(remembering)
You!

JUAN
The thing is, Captain, that all the things you hear in the news back in gringolandia, well, it's simultaneously not that bad and a lot worse. Yeah, you can live in fairyland Mexico if you have enough dough, but it's also pretty much a failed State at this point. The narcos have taken over the country. The only reason the Government is still in place is because they're in cahoots.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

But... How can that--

JUAN

And we're the resistance. They want to get rid of us, of me, but they have to convince the big players first.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I... I don't understand.

JUAN

Their plan was to hire you, showcase you to the press, and then Sordomudo, pretending to be me, would kill you on camera. Then they would leak the video of the beheading, and the government would finally have evidence to go after our coalition with the support of the international community. They would militarize the State, a State whose leadership is actually controlled by Sordomudo.

(beat; off CBE's
expression)

You still seem confused...

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I just don't understand why they would hire me then.

JUAN

I mean....

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

What?

JUAN

Don't take this the wrong way Captain, but they needed someone they could actually capture.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

(offended)

What did you just--

JUAN

Did they get you drunk before they attacked you?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Uhh...

JUAN

Don't feel bad. I know what you're capable of. You're just missing a little motivation. A little purpose. Am I right or am I right?

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)

Fuuuuuuuuuuckk!!!

El Brian, still sitting in front of the chess board, finally realizes he's lost the game.

He grabs the chess board and throws it across the room.

Beat.

Juan turns back to CBE like nothing happened.

JUAN

And those five congressmen we captured...

(Spanish)

Papi-Chulo, where are the pictures of the Congressmen? Please show them to the Captain.

Papi-Chulo comes over.

He swipes through a couple of PHOTOS ON HIS PHONE SHOWING THE CONGRESSMAN WITH PROSTITUTES, SNORTING DRUGS, GIVING MONEY TO SORDOMUDO, etc.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)

Papi, your fucking thumb is on half these pictures!

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)

It's this new phone. The dual lens, when you hold it, it's not good.

JUAN (SPANISH)

Thanks, Papi. Don't quit your day job.

Papi-Chulo leaves.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Why don't you just leak them?

JUAN

Like that would change anything.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

What about the police?

JUAN

Never trust the police. They go to the highest bidder and we're not them. No Captain, we have something better. You see, the Mexican politician has more in common with a thespian than with a volunteer. We're draining the swamp. The proper way. Taking back our State. And we need your help.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

My help?

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)

(interrupting)

Boss, you have a call.

JUAN

(to CBE)

Just a sec.

Juan walks off with El Brian.

CBE looks around. He sees Gaby hanging clothes on the clothesline. He walks to her.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Hey.

Gaby looks at him. She's coy.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)

Do you speak English?

GABY

(heavy accent)

A little.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I just wanted to thank you...

(pointing at his face
wounds)

For taking care of me.

(beat)

I'm John, by the way.

He stretches out his hand. She leans over and kisses him on the cheek instead.

GABY

Gaby.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 (caught off guard)
 Oh. Um, well, it's nice to meet
 you, Gaby.

Juan comes back and puts a hand around Gaby's shoulder.

JUAN
 I see you met Gaby. Sordomudo
 killed her husband a year ago. He
 was one of our best men.
 (Spanish)
 Thank you, Gaby.

Gaby, with one last look at CBE, turns and leaves. CBE
 follows her with his eyes.

Juan notices.

JUAN (CONT'D)
 So, are you ready?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 To kill the narcos, topple the
 government, and help you rescue the
 State?

JUAN
 No man. It's Wednesday. Football
 day.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 Football?

JUAN
 Or soccer, for you illiterates. I
 still don't understand why you guys
 call football a sport you play
 mostly with your hands.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 Because... Actually, I never
 thought about it that way.

JUAN
 And make sure you wear your
 costume. People need to see you're
 alive and well.

EXT. OUTSIDE SOCCER STADIUM - DAY

Juan, CBE, Lucha, El Brian, and Papi-Chulo walk through the
 dense crown of soccer fans heading to the stadium.

The street is lively with music and vendors and all the crazy things you experience going to a Mexican soccer game.

Papi-Chulo's tight shirt is unbuttoned to nipple level, showing his chest muscles.

He offers a cheeky smile and a wink to some young girls.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Easy there, Papi.

People look at Juan and salute and nod at him with reverence.

A KID runs up to Juan and hugs him at the waist.

JUAN (CONT'D)
El Brian.

El Brian takes out 500 PESOS and gives it to Juan, who in turn gives it to the Kid:

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
On you go, Luis. Say hello to your parents for me.

EXT. SOCCER STADIUM - AFTERNOON

The group has settled into their seats among the crowd.

Lucha purchases several large prepared beers and passes them down the line.

El Brian and Papi-Chulo don't hold back on the insults to the other team. They all drink and get involved in the game.

JUAN
(to CBE, loud, over the cheers)
Soccer is the equivalent of the American Dream. A hope machine. But the dream doesn't exist. Think about it. 130 million people play a single sport in this country and we still fucking suck at it.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Yeah, why is that?

JUAN
Because it's rigged. The best players have to pay to play. But they have no money. Nobody has money.

(MORE)

JUAN (CONT'D)

Sometimes this is all we have. It's the reason elections always coincide with a major soccer game. So that nobody votes.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

That's fucked up.

JUAN

You don't see it 'cause the government controls all the media, but you can't put a lid on this level of suffering and despair. Change has never come from within the system, it comes from the ground up, from thousands of people that can still remember a better time, but can't taste it anymore.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Or see it.

JUAN

Exactly!

(beat)

You have to ask yourself, Captain: what does it mean to be a superhero? You can't save the world because we all know that's bullshit. But you can help change it. People forget there was no toilet paper when Jesus was alive.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

What is that supposed to mean?

JUAN

It means that you're one of us, Captain. Whether you like it or not.

JAGUARES (home team) scores a goal. Everybody cheers. Beer gets thrown everywhere.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - NIGHT

Juan says goodbye to his squad and they retreat to their humble chambers. Ad-lib.

He walks to CBE, who is smoking a cigarette, having a moment, looking at the night sky.

It's dark and quiet.

JUAN

As you can see Captain, you are free to go. Nobody is watching you.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

It seems that way.

Juan pats him on the back, turns around, and starts walking away.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)

Juan.

JUAN

(turning)

Yes, Captain?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

If I were to decide to spend the night, where could I--

JUAN

You already have a room. You woke up in it today.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Right.

JUAN

Sleep well, Captain.

Juan walks away.

CBE stares at the night sky. Some dogs bark in the distance.

INT. JUAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Juan enters his room: small but nice, with hundreds of BOOKS stacked against the walls.

He turns on his speaker and plays some music.

He takes off his shirt. He's in amazing shape, but has old scars across the whole body and fresh bruises from yesterday's fight when he rescued CBE.

He heads to a COOLER nearby. Opens it. Takes out a BEER and an ICE PACK.

He pops the beer open against the corner of the bed in one swift move.

He ties the ice pack to his shoulder with duct tape. It's painful.

He heads to a DESK, where there's a small ALTAR with CANDLES and a PICTURE of an older indigenous woman. Clearly his MOTHER.

He lights up the candles as he studies the position of the CHESSBOARD that lies in front of the altar (playing himself).

He grabs a BLACK NIGHT on the chessboard and SLAMS it on a different square.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Governor Pena slams his PIECE against the CHECKERS board lying on his desk. (Chess vs checker's quip.)

He's standing behind it, mad as hell.

Sergio and Carlos sit on the other side of the desk like scolded children.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
God dammit! How did this happen?

CARLOS (SPANISH)
Maybe he escaped. He is a superhero, after all.

SERGIO (SPANISH)
He didn't escape. Rumor is he was saved by the Cartel Cartel.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Fuck! This isn't good.

The Governor starts pacing around his office.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Are they trying to recruit him?

SERGIO (SPANISH)
It's very possible.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Fucking Sordomudo, he had one job to do. Now everything's a mess. We need to find a way to get rid of him.

CARLOS (SPANISH)
Of Sordomudo?

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
No, you idiot! Of the Captain.

CARLOS (SPANISH)
Oh. Yeah. Maybe we can deport him?

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Carlos, please don't talk anymore.

SERGIO (SPANISH)
I think I have an idea.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
(turning to Sergio)
What is it?

Off Sergio's machiavellian look--

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - DAY

CBE is SPINNING DIEGO'S SOCCER BALL on one finger with amazing speed.

Diego stands next to him in awe.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Nod bad, uh?

DIEGO (SPANISH)
I think you should be our *portero*.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
(spanish)
Portero?

DIEGO
(mimicking the action)
Catches ball.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Oh, the goalie?

DIEGO
Yes! Goalie. Superhero goalie.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Okay. Sounds good! I'm *portero*.
(looks up)
Give me a sec.

CBE sees Gaby carrying a HEAVY BAG OF GROCERIES a few feet away so he runs to help her.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)
 (approaching)
 Hey.

GABY
 (Spanish)
Hola.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 (grabbing the bag)
 Let me help you with that.

GABY
 (Spanish)
Muchas gracias.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 (repeating in Spanish)
Muchas gracias.
 (beat)
 Thanks a lot?

GABY
 Yes. Good!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 I'm learning.

GABY
 If you say so.

CBE stops for a second. Watches her go. Then runs after her.

EXT/INT. MONTAGE - CBE GETS TO KNOW MEXICAN CULTURE

*MUSIC: *Latinoamérica*, by Calle 13*

-CBE walks through the streets with Juan and the squad.
 (*OUTSIDE THE MAIN AREA CBE ALWAYS HAS HIS COSTUME ON*)

-Mexican faces.

-Mexican architecture.

-Street vendors selling pirated superhero movies.

-Street kids selling candy at stop lights.

-CBE chasing chickens. Hens. Getting in shape.

-Gaby is in a made-up classroom teaching a bunch of kids Spanish grammar. CBE sits amongst the students behind a tiny desk, taking notes.

-CBE plays soccer on a dirt field with young kids. He grabs Diego and picks him up and tickles him. Gaby smiles at them.

-CBE tries the RED SAUCE with his tacos for the first time. He holds it for a beat, but ultimately can't stand the hotness and drinks the Coca-Cola next to him. Everyone laughs.

-CBE plays ping-pong on the improvised cement table with Papi-Chulo.

-Some community women give CBE and the squad haircuts.

-CBE helps Gabby patch her leaking roof.

-CBE shows the kids of the community some fight moves.

-CBE and the squad raid a narcos establishment.

-CBE and the squad set a large pile of drugs on fire.

-CBE at the Stadium with the guys for another soccer game. He's the one yelling the most now. Throwing beers.

-CBE helps Gaby carry her groceries.

-Juan, CBE, the squad, and several women from the community--including Gaby--dance salsa. Gaby teaches CBE how to move, and soon they're dancing hot & heavy.

-CBE playing hopscotch with the kids in the community.

-CBE tries the RED SAUCE again with his tacos. Everyone looks at him in expectation. He swallows the taco. Beat. He smiles. Everyone bursts into laughter and pats him on the back.

He's passed the final test!

END OF MONTAGE.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - AFTERNOON

Juan sees CBE and Gaby talking and walking together in the distance.

He turns to the group in front of him: El Brian, Papi-Chulo, and Lucha.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Are we ready for tomorrow?

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)
Yes, boss.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Lucha?

Lucha gives the okay sign.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Papi, are the pictures good to go?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
Stapled and everything.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Okay. Good. Let's set them up
early, before the city wakes up.

Everyone nods.

EXT. THE CITY - EARLY MORNING

Air shot. Establishing.

INT. MARCELA'S APARTMENT - EARLY MORNING

A beautiful, expensive apartment.

MARCELA (40s, rich white lady) eats breakfast with her SON
(10, rich white kid) dressed in a fancy school uniform.

A MAID cleans the dishes behind them.

Hanging on the wall there's a FRAMED PICTURE of Marcela and
her HUSBAND on either side of Governor Pena.

EXT. OUTSIDE MARCELA'S APARTMENT - EARLY MORNING

Marcela and her son step out of the building. Marcela is
lavishly dressed.

MARCELA (SPANISH)
Hello Eric.

ERIC (SPANISH)
Hello ma'am.

ERIC (40s, brown skin, her chauffeur) greets them and opens the back door of a nice car.

EXT/INT. CAR - EARLY MORNING

MUSIC: AVE MARIA, orchestra.

Marcela looks out the window as several POLICE CARS and an AMBULANCE pass by.

EXT. SCHOOL - MOMENTS LATER

The car parks in front of the school. Eric gets out and opens their door. Marcela and her son alight.

There's a CROWD OF PEOPLE GATHERED OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL. They are taking pictures of *something*...

Marcela forges her way through the crowd of 20 or 30.

When she reaches the front line she sees it: A NAKED MAN TIED TO A LIGHT POLE!

The only thing on him is a PHOTOGRAPH that's covering his penis.

His mouth is taped over and his face is bruised.

IT'S HER HUSBAND!

MARCELA

Alejandro!

Marcela lets go of her son's hand and tries to cover her husband.

MARCELA (SPANISH) (CONT'D)

Eric, help me!

Eric jumps into action. He takes off his JACKET and hands it to Marcela and tries to untie the Congressman.

Marcela tries to cover her husband with the jacket. That's when she notices the picture covering his genitals.

SHE GRABS THE PHOTO AND SNAPS IT OFF!

Alejandro moans in agony because the picture was STAPLED TO HIS PENIS!

The crowd recoils in vicarious pain.

Marcela looks at the picture: IT SHOWS HER HUSBAND MID-INTERCOURSE WITH TWO PROSTITUTES!

Off her incredulous expression--

EXT. PARK - DAY

ANOTHER NAKED CONGRESSMAN tied to a tree with a photo showing his illicit activities stapled to his penis.

EXT. FOOTBRIDGE - DAY

ANOTHER NAKED CONGRESSMAN tied to the rail of a footbridge over a busy intersection.

A photo showing his illicit activities is stapled to his penis.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

ANOTHER NAKED CONGRESSMAN tied to a lamp post, a photo showing his illicit activities stapled to his penis.

Cars honk at him as they pass by.

EXT. CONGRESS BUILDING - DAY

In front of the Congress Building, ANOTHER NAKED CONGRESSMAN tied to a WOODEN CROSS with his incriminating picture stapled you know where.

Above and behind the Congressman, smudged on the building wall with red paint, the words in Spanish: "TRUTH AND JUSTICE."

INT. CHURCH - DAY

EXTREME CLOSE-UP: of Juan's face.

PULL-OUT: reveals he's at church, praying with dozens of humble-looking people at either side of him.

END OF MUSIC.

EXT. CHURCH - DAY

Juan, CBE, and the squad stand next to each other outside the church.

People pass one by one and shake their hands.

An emotional woman hugs Juan.

El Brian slips each person a 200-peso bill.

The line is long. Even the PRIEST is in line. When he gets to the front, he conspicuously blesses Juan and CBE with holy water.

PRIEST (SPANISH)
May God bless your mission.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Thank you, Father.

The Priest then takes the money and skittles away.

INT. MULTIPLE - GOVERNOR'S PALACE - DAY

Carlos hastily walks through different rooms. He holds a manila ENVELOPE under his right arm.

41 He reaches the Governor's office. Karla the secretary is 41
painting her nails green.

Carlos looks at her, and without asking, opens the doors to the office.

INT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Carlos enters the Governor's office. Sergio and The Governor are SNORTING COCAINE.

CARLOS (SPANISH)
Ehem...

The Governor turns.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
(wiping off)
Carlos!

CARLOS (SPANISH)
Sorry to interrupt Mr. Governor,
but I think you should see these
reports.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Yes. Yes. Come in. Let's see them.

Carlos lays the reports on the Governor's desk.

The Governor, using a SHARP LETTER OPENER WITH A SMALL MEXICAN FLAG at one end, cuts the folder open.

He takes out pictures of the naked congressmen being released all over the city.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
How many have been released?

CARLOS (SPANISH)
All five of them. Across the city.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Finally some good news!

CARLOS (SPANISH)
Not exactly... These photos were attached to their, uh, genitalia.

Carlos shows the Governor the PHOTOS of the congressmen doing their shenanigans.

The Governor reviews the photos, gets flustered, and throws them to the floor.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Juan?

CARLOS (SPANISH)
And Captain Bald Eagle, sir.

SERGIO (SPANISH)
He's getting stronger. More popular.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Juan or the Captain?

SERGIO (SPANISH)
Both.

The Governor stands up and walks around the room:

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Are we containing the situation?

CARLOS (SPANISH)
(picking up the photos)
I'm making sure the media ignores the story.

SERGIO (SPANISH)
 (checking his phone)
With all due respect, Mr. Governor,
the story is already circulating.

 GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
This is getting out of control.
 (beat)
What does Sordomudo say?

 SERGIO (SPANISH)
He's angry. Juan and the Captain
have been raiding his
establishments.

 GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Wait...
 (beat; idea)
Wait, wait, wait... This could be a
good thing.

 SERGIO (SPANISH)
What are you thinking, Governor?

 GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
What if instead of trying to
contain the situation, we throw
gasoline on it? Let them kill each
other. Gets rid of all our problems
at once.

 SERGIO (SPANISH)
Then we clean up the ashes and look
like heroes.

 GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Exactly!
 (excited)
We need to find the Captain's
weakness and share it with
Sordomudo.

 CARLOS (SPANISH)
A lot of innocent people would die,
Governor.

 GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Sometimes you have to prune some
branches for the tree to thrive.

 SERGIO (SPANISH)
I like it.

Carlos smiles at them without showing any teeth. You can tell he's hiding his discomfort.

INT. SORDOMUDO'S HEADQUARTERS - DAY

The room is stuffy. Hot. Latino music is playing from a speaker.

Sordomudo and the Professor are sitting on a couch, COUNTING COCAINE PACKAGES AND ROLLS OF MONEY.

Sordomudo finishes with his pile and moves it to the Professor.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Where are these going?

PROFESSOR (SPANISH)
First to Sinaloa, then to Miami and
New York.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
That's why them gringos work so
much.

The Professor finishes counting the rolls of money and adds them on his old-school calculator.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
How much?

PROFESSOR (SPANISH)
A million three.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Why so low?

PROFESSOR (SPANISH)
Juan and his crew are eating into
our profits.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
I need to get rid of those fuckers--

A knock on the door.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Come in.

Two narcos, PEPE and ANDRÉS, enter the room.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
What do you want?

PEPE (SPANISH)
We ran out of merch, boss.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Already?

ANDRÉS (SPANISH)
The streets are thirsty.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Good. Sort it out with the
Professor. I don't want our numbers
to be off.

ANDRÉS (SPANISH)
Yes, boss.

EXT. HILLTOP - LATE AFTERNOON

Juan sits at the top of a hill that overlooks the community
and part of the city. He's smoking a CIGARETTE.

CBE, with TWO BEERS, sits next to him.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I was wondering who took my
cigarettes.

JUAN
Who ratted me out?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Papi-Chulo.

CBE hands Juan one of the beers.

JUAN
Of course.
(opens beer with lighter)
Ahh, *cerveza*.

CBE grabs the pack of cigs and takes one out. Juan lights
CBE's cig for him

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Thanks.

JUAN
Cheers.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Cheers.

They clink beers and drink and smoke away.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)
(looking out)
It's a nice view.

JUAN
Gives one perspective.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
We've been doing some good work
these past few weeks.

JUAN
It's not enough. We're going too
slow.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
How long have you been in this
fight?

JUAN
2 years.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
That's a long time.

JUAN
Since they killed my mother.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
And said it was suicide?

JUAN
(off CBE's look)
God bless our Governor.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I'm sorry that happened.

JUAN
We all have our shit to deal with.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Do you miss her?

JUAN
(deflecting)
Like you were a heroin addict,
right?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
(taken aback)
What the... How did you--
(MORE)

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)

(off Juan's look)

I keep forgetting you used to work
for the fucking C.I.A.

JUAN

Is it true?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Yes, it's true.

JUAN

And... What happened?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

(slightly uncomfortable)

Well, umm, one of the needles was
laced with Super Soldier Serum.

JUAN

Holy shit... How did that happen?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

That's a longer story.

JUAN

This was in California?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

West Virginia. That's where I'm
from. And yeah, it changed
everything. Well, almost
everything.

JUAN

What do you mean?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

You gain things, people see you
differently, you can do things
others can't, but deep down inside
you're still the same person.

JUAN

Unless the change is sincere and
profound, people always default to
their defaults.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

That's... very true.

Drink. Smoke.

JUAN

So is that why you're, like, umm...
Superhero-ish. No offense.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Ha. Non-taken. But yes. I didn't
get the full dose.

JUAN

Well, depends on who you ask.

They chuckle and look out at the beautiful view.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Can I ask you something?

JUAN

Whatever you want.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Why did you bring me here? Like, is
it just to fight?

JUAN

I can answer that in several
different ways.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I want the truth.

Juan turns to CBE.

JUAN

The truth is my loyalty will always
be to my people, always. But I
can't do this alone. I needed a
weapon of mass destruction. So I
saw an opportunity. And in the
process of chasing the opportunity,
I found a friend.

Beat.

They quietly smile at each other.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I need to recover my shield.

JUAN

Your shield?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I need it. We need it. It's
important.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)

Then we can go after Sordomudo and the Governor. Get to the root of the problem.

JUAN

I know where to look.

EXT. BACK OF RED PICKUP TRUCK - DAY

*Music: *Pozo*, Lisandro Aristimuño.*

CBE, Juan, Lucha, and Papi-Chulo are riding the back of the pickup truck driven by El Brian.

Juan closes his eyes and feels the air brushing against his face.

It's atmospheric.

EXT. BACK OF RED PICKUP TRUCK - NARCO TERRITORY - DAY

They enter a rough neighborhood. The streets look dangerous. Hookers. Gangsters. Everyone stares at them menacingly.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

How do we know my shield is here?

JUAN

If it's anywhere, it's here.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

But--

JUAN

Patience Captain. If we don't find it, it will find us. Keep your eyes open.

They slowly drive through the streets.

They cross the two narcos, Pepe and Andrés, who are chatting to a TEENAGER, CLEARLY SELLING HIM DRUGS.

Then CBE sees Pepe wearing his RAMONES T-SHIRT!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Stop! Stop the car!

JUAN (SPANISH)

El Brian, stop the car!

El Brian parks the car.

JUAN (CONT'D)

What is it?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

That guy. He's wearing my shirt!

JUAN

Where?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

The fat guy with the Ramones shirt.
Oh man, he's stretching it!

JUAN (SPANISH)

Let's go boys. Those two.

Everyone, except for El Brian, jumps out of the car. With their guns raised, they quickly circle the men.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)

Put your arms up! Now!

Pepe, Andrés, and the Teenager try to run, but Papi-Chulo and Lucha block the way.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)

(to Teenager)

Where do you think you're going,
precious?

Juan and CBE slam Pepe and Andrés to the ground!

JUAN (SPANISH)

(menacing)

Move a finger and you'll never move
anything ever again.

Papi-Chulo takes the BAG OF GOODS from the Teenager's hands.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)

What do we have here? Weed? That's
it?

Lucha grabs the bag, opens it, and smells it. She shakes her head and passes the bag back to Papi-Chulo.

He smells the bag.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)

What the... This is fucking
oregano!

(handing back the bag)

Keep eating your vegetables.

TEENAGER (SPANISH)
Oregano is a herb.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
Oh, is it?

Papi-Chulo starts SLAPPING the teenager as a mother would.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Are you going to keep doing drugs?

TEENAGER (SPANISH)
No. Never again.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
Is Oregano a vegetable?

TEENAGER (SPANISH)
No.

Hard slap!

TEENAGER (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
I mean, yes! Yes! It's a vegetable.

Papi-Chulo lets go of the Teenager.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
Good. Now go! Beat it!

The shaken Teenager takes off.

Pepe and Andrés are still face-down on the sidewalk.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Where did you get the shirt?

PEPE (SPANISH)
I bought it.

Juan presses a thumb against Pepe's eye. He starts screaming in pain.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Where did you get the fucking shirt?

PEPE (SPANISH)
It was a present.

JUAN
That's funny.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
What did he say?

JUAN
He said it was a present.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Oh, that *is* funny. Should I help
you with the other eye?

JUAN
I would be honored.

CBE presses his thumb hard against Pepe's other eye.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
(watching)
I guess you don't really need eyes
to sell oregano.

PEPE (SPANISH)
(in pain)
Okay, okay! Stop! Please stop!

They stop.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Where did you get it?

PEPE (SPANISH)
(reeling)
Over there.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Where?

PEPE (SPANISH)
(pointing at a house across
the street)
There.

JUAN (SPANISH)
In the house?

PEPE (SPANISH)
Yes!

JUAN
(to CBE)
It's in that house.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Let's go.

JUAN (SPANISH)
 (loud)
 El Brian, let's go!

El Brian comes out of the car and along with CBE and Papi-Chulo start crossing the street.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
 Lucha.

Lucha nods. She takes out her gun and points it at Pepe.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
 Quietly, Lucha.

Lucha takes out a SHARP KNIFE instead and SLICES Pepe and Andrés's neck. It's graphic. (*Like the violence in Mexico.*)

Juan and Lucha join the others across the street. They stand against the wall of the house, next to the entrance.

They can hear TV noises coming from within.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
 (quietly)
 One... Two...

INT. PROFESSOR'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

THREE NARCOS and THE PROFESSOR are sitting on a couch eating GUACAMOLE from a HUGE BOWL and watching a soccer game when--

Juan and the squad SLAM THE DOOR OPEN AND START SHOOTING!

The Professor jumps behind the kitchen counter and starts SHOOTING BACK.

MORE NARCOS come out from a hallway and join the fight.

ACTION SEQUENCE!

CBE shines in particular: his skills evidently getting better and sharper. But he does get RAZED by a BULLET in the arm.

The squad shoots the narcos down.

Eventually they get rid of all of them, except for the Professor, who manages to escape through the back door.

JUAN (SPANISH)
 Everyone okay?

They all nod.

JUAN (CONT'D)
 (to CBE)
 You're bleeding.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 It's just a scratch.

JUAN
 Okay. Look for your shield.
 (to the squad, in Spanish)
 Help him look.

CBE and the squad start looking for the shield throughout the house.

There are dozens of DEAD BODIES on the floor. Blood everywhere.

Juan sits down on the couch arm, grabs the abandoned bag of chips, dips one into the guacamole bowl, and eats it while watching the soccer game on the TV.

JUAN (CONT'D)
 (re the guacamole)
 Mmmm...

The squad comes out of the hallway.

JUAN (CONT'D)
 (eating)
 Any luck?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 No. Nothing.

JUAN
 Huh.

Another chip.

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)
 Boss, we need to go. This place
 will be crawling with narcos soon.

JUAN (SPANISH)
 All right. Let's bounce.

Juan grabs the guacamole bowl.

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)
 You're taking the guac?

JUAN
 Yeah, it's good!

The squad heads to the door when:

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Stop!

Everyone turns to CBE.

JUAN

What?

CBE walks to Juan, who is holding the bowl at hip level.

With one finger, while Juan stills holds it, CBE slowly lifts the bowl above eye level.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)

Holy six-pack Jesus!

The bowl being used for the guacamole is actually CBE's SHIELD!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

My shield!

Everyone except CBE bursts into laughter. CBE turns to Juan and gives him a stern look.

JUAN

(trying not to laugh)

No, sorry. Not funny.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - NIGHT

*DIEGETIC MUSIC: *Mi Fe*, by Adan Jodorowsky.*

El Brian and Papi-Chulo are playing PING-PONG. El Brian hits a ball that skims the side area of the table.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)

That was out!

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)

That was in!

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)

Just because you're white now doesn't mean you get to invent the rules.

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)

I'm pretty sure that's exactly what it means.

Some feet away, at a sink, CBE is WASHING and WAXING his SHIELD.

Juan comes over and hands him a beer and pats him on the back.

JUAN

Happy?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I feel whole again.

JUAN

That was good work today. We sent a message.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Sordomudo is next.

JUAN

He's a different animal. We need to plan carefully.

(seeing the wound on the shoulder)

I'll get somebody to clean that up for you.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

It's nothing.

JUAN

We need you in top shape, Captain. No room for mistakes.

Juan pats CBE on the back and leaves. As he passes by the ping-pong table:

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)

Don't let Papi's good looks distract you, El Brian. He always cheats points off me.

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)

Don't I know it.

JUAN (SPANISH)

Good night, boys.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)

Good night, boss.

INT. CBE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

CBE takes off the top part of his uniform and sits on his bed.

He pours a shot of tequila and gulps it. He refills the glass.

He takes out a cigarette and is about to light it when there's a knock on the door.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Come in.

The door opens.

It's GABY!

She's holding a box of medical supplies.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)

Oh. Hey.

GABY (SPANISH)

I'm going to clean your injury.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

You don't have to.

She ignores him and approaches the bed where he's sitting and kneels in front of him.

She slowly pulls further down the top of his uniform, revealing his muscular upper torso.

She soaks a cloth in soapy water and starts cleaning the wound. CBE grimaces.

GABY

Don't be a pussy.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

(pleasantly surprised)

Oh.

CBE grabs the tequila shot and takes a small sip.

Without saying a word he presses the glass to Gaby's lips. She opens her mouth and he pours the rest of the tequila in.

Then *she* grabs the tequila and refills the glass.

She takes half and now she approaches the glass to *his* lips and pours the tequila into *his* mouth.

He grabs her and pulls her to him.

Music intensifies.

They kiss passionately.

He lays back on the bed. She's sitting on him, legs on either side of his torso.

He plays with her hair.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)
So beautiful...

She takes off her FEATHER EARRINGS and places them on the bedside table.

He pulls her to him again and they kiss passionately.

She tries to take off his superhero outfit but this is easier said than done.

They laugh through the whole silly awkward dynamic, making the best of it, actually getting comfortable with each other.

She finally manages to take the uniform off.

GABY
(Spanish)
Por fin!

They laugh, kiss, and start having sex. We see superhero ass-cheeks.

The whole thing is romantic, intimate, tasteful, Latino.

Then the CAMERA SLOWLY PANS, revealing, through the crack of the door, SOMEONE SECRETLY TAKING PICTURES OF THEM!

EXT. THE CITY - EARLY MORNING

The sun rising over the city.

INT. CBE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

CBE wakes up. Gaby is next to him, sleeping. He caresses her smooth, brown skin. She opens her eyes. Smiles.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH)
Good morning.

GABY (SPANISH)
Good morning.

They start kissing when DIEGO, carrying a soccer ball, barges in.

DIEGO
Captain, the game--

He sees his mother in bed with CBE.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
Oh.

Diego starts closing the door.

GABY (SPANISH)
Diego. Honey. It's okay.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
What's up, buddy?

Diego lifts the soccer ball.

DIEGO (SPANISH)
Game today.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Oh. That's right.
(Spanish)
One minute.

Diego steps out and closes the door.

CBE gets up from the bed. He starts putting his clothes on.

GABY (SPANISH)
You're leaving?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I have to. I'm the goalie. Some say
it's the most important position.

GABY
Nobody says that.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - CONTINUOUS

CBE steps outside feeling slightly hungover. It's early and the area is empty.

Diego is touching CBE's shield, admiring it.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Pick it up.

DIEGO
What?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH)
Pick it up.

DIEGO (SPANISH)
It's too heavy.

CBE picks up the shield.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Only to those who are not worthy.

CBE THROWS THE SHIELD to an open area like a frisbee.

The shield travels at an insane speed across the air, then curls back to CBE, who catches it nonchalantly with one hand.

Diego looks mesmerized.

CBE hands the shield to Diego. He grabs it... and manages to hold it up!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
See? It likes you.

The shield suddenly pulls down to the floor, hitting the concrete with a large *THUMP*. We appreciate its weight just by the reverberating sound it makes.

CBE grabs the shield and puts it aside.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
(to Diego)
With time.

CBE grabs his soccer cleats, rubs Diego's head, and together they head to the soccer field like father and son.

EXT. DUSTY SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Soccer game. The field is made of pure dirt.

CBE is keeper. A kid shoots the ball. CBE stops it and starts running with it to the other side of the field.

The kids try to stop him but he moves fast.

Several kids jump and hold on to his legs and waist and try to bring him down.

The crowd, including Gaby, laugh and smile at the situation.

INT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - DAY

The Governor is talking on the phone.

GOVERNOR PENA (TO PHONE) (SPANISH)
 No, Mr. President.
 (beat)
 I understand. It's being taken care
 of as we speak.
 (beat)
 I hope to see you soon as well.
 (beat)
 Yes. Great.
 (beat)
 Goodbye.

The Governor hangs up just as Sergio lands some papers in front of him.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
 What's this?

SERGIO (SPANISH)
 Your latest approval numbers.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
 And?

SERGIO (SPANISH)
 Not good. But I have the media
 saying they're up.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
 Good. We need to keep up the
 narrative. We might have a pathway
 towards the presidency.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - DAY

CBE, Diego, and Gaby return from the game.

The mood is lively with music and food. Juan is on barbecue duty.

JUAN
 Captain! You want some chicken?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I'd love some.

JUAN
And beers are in the cooler.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Perfect.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Diego, who won?

DIEGO (SPANISH)
We lost.
(pointing at CBE)
He missed a penalty.

JUAN
You missed a penalty against 12-
year-olds?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I slipped right before.

JUAN
Sure. Of course you did.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Seriously. The field literally has
no grass.

JUAN
It has glass...

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Yeah, what the hell?

JUAN
By the way, I have a surprise for
you this afternoon.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
What surprise?

JUAN
Just make sure you wear your
uniform so you blend in.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
That literally makes no sense.

JUAN
It will.

EXT/INT. PICKUP TRUCK - LATE AFTERNOON

CBE, Juan, and Lucha ride on the back of the red pickup truck. El Brian is driving.

CBE takes out a cigarette and tries to light it, but the wind doesn't let him.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Dammit.

JUAN

Give it.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

I got it.

JUAN

Give it to me.

CBE passes the cigarette and the lighter to Juan.

Juan pulls his shirt OVER HIS HEAD to cover himself from the wind and lights the cigarette.

He pulls his shirt back down and reveals the CIGARETTE LIT in his mouth, along with a condescending grin.

JUAN (CONT'D)

Not all superheroes wear spandex.

Juan passes the cigarette back to CBE and the lighter to Lucha.

Lucha takes out a HUGE BLUNT and lights it, then passes the lighter to a perplexed CBE.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Really?

JUAN

Weed is not the problem.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Where's Papi-Chulo?

JUAN

He stayed back. He wasn't feeling well.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Maybe it was your chicken.

JUAN

You leave my chicken out of this.

CBE takes another puff of his cig but the wind has blown the cigarette off.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Fuck.

CBE grabs the collar of his outfit, but it's too tight to stretch it over and cover his face.

Lucha smiles triumphantly.

JUAN

Pendejo.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

An SUV is parked in a dark alley. A MAN walks to the car.

The car turns on its high-beam lights, blinding the man's vision.

The man blocks the light with his hand and that's when we discover the man is PAPI-CHULO!

The car turns to its low-beam lights and Sergio descends from the car!

Papi-Chulo walks to Sergio.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)

Long time no see--

SERGIO (SPANISH)

Lift your arms.

Papi-Chulo lifts his arms. Sergio pats him down. He finds his phone.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)

I need that.

SERGIO (SPANISH)

You'll get it back.

Sergio opens the back door of the SUV. Papi-Chulo climbs in. Sergio closes the door.

EXT/INT. SUV - NIGHT

Sitting in the back seat of the car is Governor Pena.

In the driver's seat is Carlos, who looks back and smiles at Papi-Chulo as Sergio opens the front door and hops into the co-pilot seat.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
So... Sergio says you're reliable.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
I am.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
How long have you been working for Juan?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
I don't work for him.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
How long?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
A year and a half.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Does he trust you?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
With his life.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Do you trust him?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
I'm tired of his shit. It's not a life. I want more.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
How is his relationship with Captain Bald Eagle?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
They've become good friends.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Do you know how to get to him?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
I do. But first I want some guarantees.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
What do you want?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
Money.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Obviously.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
And protection when shit hits the fan.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
We'll protect you.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
And my criminal record--

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
What record?

Beat. Understanding.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
I need my phone to show you.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Sergio...

Sergio passes the phone back to Papi-Chulo.

Papi-Chulo opens his phone and shows the Governor PICTURES OF CBE AND GABY HAVING SEX.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
Her name is Gaby. She lives in the community.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Does he like her or just fucks her?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
He likes her. And her little kid too. Diego. Here's a picture of him.

CARLOS (SPANISH)
I don't think we need the kid.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
We need everything we can.
(back to Papi-Chulo)
Okay...

The Governor turns to Sergio in the co-pilot seat.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Call him.

INT. WRESTLING ARENA - SAME TIME

Juan, CBE, El Brian, and Lucha walk into a full Mexican WRESTLING ARENA.

There's a fight going on already between TWO FIGHTERS and their MIDGET SIDEKICKS.

One of the fighters, BLUE DEMON, jumps from the third rope, wraps his legs around the other fighter's neck, and with an acrobatic move launches him across the ring.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Not bad.

JUAN
Mexico has some of the best
wrestling in the world.

An USHER approaches them.

USHER (SPANISH)
Juan! You honor us with your visit.
Please, follow me.

JUAN
Thank you.

The Usher takes them to their seats in the front row as the fight continues.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
It looks pretty real.

JUAN
Sometimes it is.

Juan and the squad sit down in the front row.

Midget #1 waiting behind the ropes sees Juan. He climbs down from the ring and heads to shake his hand.

MIDGET #1 (SPANISH)
Juan, hello, thank you for--

All of a sudden one of the fighters, BLUE DEMON, comes from behind and SLAMS MIDGET #1 WITH A CHAIR.

Midget #1 falls to the ground hard.

MIDGET #1 (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
What the hell?

BLUE DEMON (SPANISH)
That's what you get for sleeping
with Lucia.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Who's Lucia?

BLUE DEMON (SPANISH)
My wife.

JUAN (SPANISH)
He slept with your wife?

BLUE DEMON (SPANISH)
Why don't you mind your own
business, you fucking hack.

JUAN (SPANISH)
What did you call me?

BLUE DEMON (SPANISH)
You heard me, you pussy-ass, gringo-
loving, dick-sucker.

Juan stands up confrontationally.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Say that again.

Blue Demon grabs the chair and SLAMS IT AGAINST JUAN!

Juan clumsily falls to the row behind him, on a group of men,
knocking the popcorn out of their hands.

CBE reacts and punches Blue Demon, sending him many feet
away.

Midget #2 jumps from the ring on top of CBE and starts
punching him in the head.

Juan grabs a piece of popcorn laying on his chest and eats it
as the group of men he fell onto push him off.

Juan stands up, rubbing his head. He notices one of the men
has a T-SHIRT WITH GOVERNOR PENA'S FACE ON IT that says: "I'm
with him." (In Spanish.)

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Really?

T-SHIRT MAN (SPANISH)

Really.

Juan turns to the crowd and yells:

JUAN (SPANISH)

Fuck Governor Pena!

The crowd cheers.

T-Shirt Man looks at a different part of the crowd--clearly more affluent--and yells:

T-SHIRT MAN (SPANISH)

Viva Governor Pena!

That part of the crowd now cheers.

Juan turns to T-Shirt Man:

JUAN (SPANISH)

Your nose is bleeding.

T-SHIRT MAN (SPANISH)

(touching his nose)

No it's not.

Juan PUNCHES T-Shirt Man on the face.

He falls back on his FRIENDS. He touches his nose. Now it's bleeding.

JUAN (SPANISH)

Told you.

T-SHIRT MAN'S FRIENDS jump in and tackle Juan.

Lucha and El Brian tackle them.

The two different crowds join in and start fighting each other.

ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE!

Meanwhile, CBE is somehow now inside the ring fighting against Blue Demon while trying to shake off Midget #2 from his back. (His superhero outfit making him look like a real wrestler.)

MIDGET #2 (SPANISH)

(with each punch)

Take it! Take it! Take it!

CBE manages to grab Midget #2 and throws him across the arena, where he SLAMS AGAINST A MAN SELLING POPCORN, bringing him down.

MIDGET #1 (SPANISH)
Hey, that's my brother, you
asshole!

Midget #1 runs towards CBE and headbutts him in the balls.

The whole crowd cringes and "oooo"s.

CBE slowly falls down.

EXT/INT. BACK OF RED PICKUP TRUCK - NIGHT

Juan, Lucha, and CBE ride in the back of the pickup truck. El Brian is driving.

They all look comically beaten-up, especially CBE, who's holding a plastic bag with crushed ice over his groin.

JUAN
(to CBE)
I told you, sometimes it's real.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - NIGHT

As the car pulls up to the main area, they hear SCREAMS and YELLING and GUNFIRE and see multiple FIRES around!

JUAN
No, no, no...

El Brian stops the truck and they all jump off and start fighting the narcos raiding the community.

CBE is particularly effective and disarms several narcos with some fancy moves.

Juan finds Papi-Chulo standing next to the open-kitchen counter. He looks stunned. Puzzled.

Juan grabs Papi-Chulo and pulls him down behind a counter to protect him from incoming bullets.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Papi, what happened?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
I...

JUAN (SPANISH)

Come on.
(slaps him)
Wake up. We need you.

CBE is fighting several narcos at once when he hears someone calling:

GABY (O.S.)
(calling)
John! John!

Juan and CBE turn.

In the distance they see Sordomudo. He's dragging Gaby into a VAN!

JUAN
(to himself)
Oh no.

Calaca, next to him, has Diego under his arms!

GABY
Jooooohn!!!

Sordomudo PUNCHES HER IN THE GUT to shut her up, and throws her in the van, along with Diego.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Gaby!!!

Juan and CBE start running after them.

CBE dodges bullets and jumps obstacles and punches and kicks narcos out of his way.

SORDOMUDO
(to driver)
Go! Go! Go!

The van takes off with the back doors still swinging open. CBE runs after it.

Sordomudo UNLOADS HIS WEAPON ON CBE!

CBE blocks the bullets with his shield. But one of the bullets RICOCHETS AND HITS HIS RIGHT FOOT!

CBE screams in pain and drops to the floor.

He sees the van drive away, with Gaby and Diego inside it.

Sordomudo looks back at CBE with an evil grin on his face, and closes the back doors of the van.

The main area is in shambles. The narcos have been pushed out, but there are still fires and chaos to deal with.

Dead bodies and injured men, women, and children cover the grounds.

Juan is crouched down, attending to a moribund OLD MAN.

He has been shot in the stomach multiple times, and his wounds are clearly fatal.

Juan holds up the Old Man's head, trying to make him comfortable.

Juan gets close to the Old Man's lips to hear what he's trying to say:

OLD MAN (SPANISH)
(whispering)
Save us.

Juan, with watery eyes, looks at the Old Man, who dies in his arms.

Beat.

Juan closes the Old Man's eyes.

He looks up and sees CBE limping his way to him.

JUAN
You're hurt!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
They took Gaby and Diego. We need
to get them!

JUAN
You can barely walk.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
We can't leave them alone with that
animal!

JUAN
Let's take care of that injury
first.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
We need to go! NOW!!!

Juan stands up, his face close to CBE's, confrontational:

JUAN
I'm responsible for more people
than Gaby and Diego. Just because
you slept with her--

CBE, insulted, THROWS A PUNCH AT JUAN!

Juan stops the punch with one hand. Maybe he's stronger than what he lets on, even though he looks pretty strong already.

JUAN (CONT'D)
STOP! Why do you think they took
Gaby out of everyone?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
You think they know?

JUAN
Of course they know! Wake the fuck
up! They knew we weren't here!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
But how did they--

JUAN
We have a rat in the house.

CBE suspiciously looks at the people around him, most of which are wounded or attending to the wounded.

JUAN (CONT'D)
If you go they'll kill you too. I'm
sorry. There's nothing we can do
right now.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
But he's going to--

JUAN
They're no use to him dead. We'll
rescue them tomorrow. Tonight is
for prayer and mourning.

INT. CBE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

CBE stumbles drunk into his room. He's holding a half-empty bottle of tequila.

He sees Diego's SOCCER BALL in the corner of the room. It's like a dagger to his heart.

He yells in anger and PUNCHES THE CEMENT WALL, leaving a noticeable DENT on it. He's clearly been getting stronger.

INT. JUAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Juan walks into his room. He heads to his desk where the CHESSBOARD is, and stares at himself in the MIRROR above it.

His expression is a mixture of sorrow and anger.

He looks down at the chessboard. With one swift move, HE SLAMS IT AGAINST THE WALL!

INT. DARK SCARY NARCO ROOM - NIGHT

Gaby is sitting on a chair in a dark and scary room. Her lip is swollen and her face bloody.

Sordomudo enters the room dragging a chair. He puts the chair in front of Gaby and sits on it.

He has his trusted RUSTED KNIFE in his hand.

He places the knife under Gaby's chin and slowly lifts her face with it.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)

I can see why he likes you.

GABY (SPANISH)

Where's my son? I want to see him.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)

He's fine. A little bruised but fine. Feisty little guy, that one.

GABY (SPANISH)

You son of a bitch. He's going to come for me.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)

I hope he does.

Sordomudo puts his rusted knife next to Gaby's lips

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)

Maybe we should encourage him.

He slides his knife from Gaby's lips to her ear.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)

Huh. Nice earnings.

INT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - NIGHT

The Governor is sitting on a couch smoking a cigar. A SEMI-NAKED WOMAN is massaging him.

In front of them is a coffee table covered with lines of COKE.

Sergio rushes into the office:

CARLOS (SPANISH)
Governor!

He realizes the situation.

CARLOS (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Oh. Sorry. I didn't know--

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
What is it, Carlos?

CARLOS (SPANISH)
Sordomudo attacked the Cartel
Cartel and took the woman and the
boy. I thought you should know.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Thank you, Carlos.

CARLOS (SPANISH)
Of course.

Carlos starts to leave. Stops. Turns.

CARLOS (CONT'D)
What do you think will happen now?

Beat.

GOVERNOR PENA
War.

INT. CBE'S ROOM - MORNING

CBE is sitting on his bed. He looks down at his injured foot.

He grabs the nearly-empty tequila bottle and pours a splash over the wound.

It hurts. A lot. He takes a drink from the bottle.

Then he hears a LOUD CRY coming from the main area.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - MORNING

CBE, with his shield, limps out of his room. Everyone is coming out to see who was screaming and why.

There's a WOMAN holding a SEMI-OPEN BOX. She lets go of the box and stumbles back.

Juan runs and catches her before she hits the ground.

He lays her gently on the floor, then turns to the open box.

When he sees what's inside he covers his mouth. Appalled. Disgusted.

CBE, already fearing the worst, slowly limps to the box.

Juan looks up at him.

JUAN

Captain...

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

What's in it?

JUAN

Captain...

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

What's in the box, Juan?

JUAN

Don't...

CBE finally reaches the box, and that's when we see what's inside: AN EAR WITH A FEATHER EARRING.

CBE lets go of his shield and collapses to the floor.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

No, no, no...

Juan puts an arm on the Captain's shoulder.

JUAN

We'll get him.

CBE looks up, revealing a red and furious face.

He grabs his shield, gets up, and starts running to the red pickup truck.

JUAN (CONT'D)

Captain! No!

Juan gets up and runs after him.

CBE tries to run faster but his injured foot gives way and he falls down on one knee.

He tries to get up again but Juan reaches him and hugs him from behind.

JUAN (CONT'D)
We'll get him. I promise we'll get
him.

Back at where the box is, El Brian kneels next to it.

There's a crumpled piece of paper inside the ear. A NOTE. He grabs it and reads it.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
What does it say?

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)
It's an invitation.

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
For when?

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)
For tonight.

Off their looks--

EXT. BRIDGE UNDERPASS - LATE AFTERNOON

Sordomudo, Calaca, The Professor, and several other narcos are standing under the bridge.

Behind them, hanging from the bridge, are TWO MEN AND A WOMAN with ropes around their necks. It's seriously disturbing.

The red pickup stops.

Juan, CBE, El Brian, Papi-Chulo, and Lucha alight from the car and start walking towards Sordomudo and company.

They stop like 30 feet from them.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
(re the hanging people)
Do you like what I've done with the
place?

JUAN (SPANISH)
You're too blind to realize you're
ruining your own country.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
It was already ruined. We're just
taking over now.

JUAN (SPANISH)
The country doesn't belong to you
or the government, it belongs to
the people.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Ahh, Juan. Idealistic to a fault.
Always trying to do the right
thing, and always failing.
(beat)
Lucha. Quick. What's 2 plus 2?

CALACA
Too real, boss. Too real.

SORDOMUDO
(waving his knife)
Do you remember, Lucha?

Lucha flips him off.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
I guess you do.
(turns to CBE; in English)
Captain. Did you like my present?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Motherfucker. Where is she?

SORDOMUDO
She's resting. She's had a long
day.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
And the boy?

Sordomudo whistles.

From one of the black vans behind them, a Narco pushes Diego
out into view.

He has his mouth covered with tape and his hands tied.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)
Diego!

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
All limbs, organs, and appendices
are still intact... For now.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
If you hurt him I swear--

SORDOMUDO
Yeah, yeah, yeah... Spare us the
superhero shit. If you want to save
him, come and get him.

CBE tightens the grip on his shield.

JUAN
(quiet)
Don't. These are not all the men
they brought.

CBE looks up at the bridge. He can distinguish several Narcos
hiding behind the rails.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Sordomudo. It's time. Let's end
this once and for all!

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
What are you proposing?

JUAN (SPANISH)
Tomorrow. September 16. The Zocalo.
Winner takes all.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Independence Day? Wanna make sure
the Governor will be there, eh?

JUAN (SPANISH)
He should see what his State has
turned into.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Fine. Good. Great! Then everyone
can see who's really in charge.

JUAN
(to CBE)
Let's go.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
I'll be looking for you.

SORDOMUDO

This is not Hollywood, Captain.
This is Mexico. We cancel people a
different way here.

Using his blade, Sordomudo mimics slicing his own neck.

The squad starts retreating to the pickup truck.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)

Goodbye Lucha. It was good to see
you again.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

What did he say?

JUAN

He said we better get ready.

EXT. BALCONY - GOVERNOR'S PALACE - NIGHT

The Governor is smoking a FAT CIGAR on the balcony
overlooking the Zocalo: the city's beautiful main square.

He hears a knock on the open door. Without turning to see who
it is:

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)

Come in, Sergio.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)

Hello Mr. Governor.

The Governor turns.

The Professor is holding Sergio, pointing a GUN AT HIS
TEMPLE.

Next to them is Sordomudo.

And next to Sordomudo is Calaca, holding a KNIFE to Carlo's
throat, who is clearly scared shitless.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)

You've lost weight.

CALACA (SPANISH)

(about Carlos)

Unlike this fat fuck.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)

Why are you here? We had an
agreement--

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
I'm sure you've heard about the
little quarrel that's going to
happen in your backyard.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Independence Day.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
It's funny that we celebrate that.
Mexico is, after all, the perfect
dictatorship.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
What do you want?

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
I want to keep things as they are.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
You're worried you'll lose.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Please, Governor. Don't insult me.
I'm just being cautious.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
I'm staying out of this.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
And so are the police and the
military.

Sordomudo gets closer to the Governor. Takes his cigar from
his mouth and puts it in his.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Or else...

Sordomudo grabs The Governor's testicles, squeezing them
hard.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
(in the Governor's ear)
I imagine you want to keep these?

The Governor is clearly in pain; his face turning red.

Sordomudo puts the cigar back in the Governor's mouth and
gives him two amicable slaps on the cheek.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
 No military, you hear me?
 (to his crew)
 Shall we, boys?

Calaca licks Carlo's ear before he lets go of him.

CALACA (SPANISH)
 I'll see you later, fatty.

Calaca, The Professor, and Sordomudo leave.

EXT. THE CITY - EARLY MORNING

Air Shot. Establishing. The city waking up.

A rooster crows, announcing the first light of the day.

INT. CBE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

CBE tends to his wounded foot. It looks better. Then looks at Diego's soccer ball in the corner.

His expression morphs into one of anger and determination.

INT. SORDOMUDO'S BEDROOM - MORNING

In front of a mirror, a shirtless Sordomudo swings his famous RUSTED KNIFE in the air with crazy agility.

There are two NAKED WOMEN sleeping on his bed.

INT. GOVERNOR'S PALACE - MORNING

The Governor looks at himself in front of a large mirror as Sergio comes along and puts the Governor's sash around him.

INT. JUAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Juan is kneeling down and praying in front of his altar when El Brian comes in.

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)
 Ready boss?

Juan opens his eyes. He stands up and looks at the PHOTOGRAPH OF HIS MOTHER.

He turns to El Brian.

JUAN (SPANISH)

Yeah.

EXT/INT. BUS - DAY

A LARGE BUS covered with Jaguares logos (local soccer team) rides along.

Inside the bus, we see the professional SOCCER PLAYERS listening to music and getting ready for the game.

INT. TRANSMISSION ROOM - NETWORK BUILDING - DAY

The room has a large camera pointing in the direction of TWO NEWS ANCHORS, a MAN and a WOMAN, who are sitting at a long desk.

Behind them, on a large screen, we see footage of the Jaguares bus going through the streets.

MAN ANCHOR (SPANISH)

...Happy Independence Day everyone!
And what a gift to have this game
moved forward to this day.

WOMAN ANCHOR (SPANISH)

Yes, it is! We can see the Jaguares
bus on its way to the stadium...

EXT/INT. TAXI - SAME TIME

The Taxi Driver (the same one that picked CBE from the airport at the beginning) is listening to the woman anchor on the radio:

WOMAN ANCHOR (V.O. RADIO) (SPANISH)

...for the biggest game of the
year.

INT. TV ROOM - APARTMENT - SAME TIME

A FATHER and his SON are sitting on a couch in a humble room watching the NEWS ANCHORS talk about the game.

They got all the snacks ready for it.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - DAY

CBE grabs his shield and stands in the middle of the main area.

People are running around. It's busy.

He sees Papi-Chulo a few feet away combing his hair in front of a mirror. Papi-Chulo looks back at him.

They silently nod at each other.

EXT. SOCCER STADIUM - DAY

The Jaguares bus parks at the stadium.

The soccer players start descending from the bus and entering the stadium.

INT. LOBBY - NETWORK BUILDING - DAY

Juan, El Brian, and Lucha walk into a large and modern building.

They KNOCK-OUT THREE SECURITY GUARDS and step into the elevator.

INT. TRANSMISSION ROOM - NETWORK BUILDING - DAY

The news anchors are still talking about the upcoming soccer game--AD LIB--when the doors of the elevator open and the squad walk into the room.

A PRODUCTION ASSISTANT is the first to approach them.

PA (SPANISH)
I'm sorry, this is a closed area--

Lucha hits the PA in the stomach.

El Brian SHOOTS at the ceiling!

Everyone turns and stops what they're doing.

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)
(gun up)
Nobody move!

Juan walks to the show's PRODUCER:

JUAN (SPANISH)
Cut the transmission.

PRODUCER (SPANISH)
I can't.

Juan takes out his GUN and points it at the Producer's forehead.

JUAN (SPANISH)
I said cut it!

INT. SORDOMUDO'S BASE - DAY

Sordomudo, Calaca, The Professor, and an ARMY OF NARCOS are loading up on an insane amount of WEAPONS for the big battle.

In the background, a small TV is set to the CHANNEL WITH THE NEWS ANCHORS.

Then all of a sudden the transmission cuts to SMPTE COLOR BARS.

INT. TRANSMISSION ROOM - NETWORK BUILDING - DAY

El Brian heads to the news anchors. Grabs the man by the arm.

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)
Let's go. Get up.
(to Woman Anchor)
You too darling.

JUAN (SPANISH)
(to the sound guy)
Hook me up.

SOUND GUY (SPANISH)
I, umm...

Lucha shoves the SOUND GUY and points a gun at him.

JUAN (SPANISH)
I wouldn't fuck with her if I were you.

INT. GOVERNOR'S PALACE - DAY

The Governor is walking around his office talking on the phone as Sergio and Carlos watch him. Carlos is biting his nails.

GOVERNOR PENA (TO PHONE) (SPANISH)
 Yes, Mr. President...
 (beat)
 The city is thriving. And
 everywhere I go people speak very
 highly of you. They're very happy.
 (beat)
 I know.
 (beat)
 Oh, yes, of course, I'd love to go
 to Washington with you!
 (beat)
 Okay. Great. Talk soon. Bye, bye.

The Governor hangs up the phone. He turns to Sergio and Carlos.

THE GOVERNOR (SPANISH)
 No leaks, okay? Shut down the State
 internet if you have to.

INT. TRANSMISSION ROOM - NETWORK BUILDING - DAY

Sound Guy finishes putting the mic on Juan.

SOUND GUY (SPANISH)
 Okay. You're all set.

JUAN (SPANISH)
 All right. Are we ready?

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)
 Go for it, boss.

MAKEUP GUY (SPANISH)
 (to Juan)
 Do you want some makeup?

JUAN (SPANISH)
 No. But thank you for offering.

Juan heads to where the desk was before.

El Brian stands next to the cameraman, pointing the gun at him now.

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)
 Don't fuck this up.

Lucha gives a thumbs up to Juan. Juan nods back at her.

INT. TV ROOM - APARTMENT - DAY

The Father and the Son are angry that their TV transmission has gone to SMPTE COLOR BARS.

The son stands up and hits the TV.

SON (SPANISH)
It's not working.

FATHER (SPANISH)
Harder.

The son hits the TV one more time and the screen POPS BACK TO LIFE, but with the image of Juan looking straight into the camera:

FATHER (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
What the--

JUAN (ON TV) (SPANISH)
Two hundred and twenty-three years ago, a cry for Mexican independence first shook the foundations of our beautiful land...

INT. TRANSMISSION ROOM - NETWORK BUILDING - SAME TIME

Juan, looking straight into the camera:

JUAN (TO CAMERA) (SPANISH)
...And today, we find ourselves again at the watershed moment between fulfilling the promise of our great nation or relinquishing our land to the oppressive powers holding us down. I ask you, my brothers and sisters, are you happy with your situation? Do we not work longer hours for less money? Do we not live in a country where nepotism means family values? Where all the best museums are private collections...

EXT/INT. TAXI - SAME TIME

The Taxi Driver turns up the volume of his radio to hear the speech.

JUAN (V.O.) (SPANISH)
 ...and the fake war on drugs has
 only exacerbated the violence in
 our country...

TAXI DRIVER (SPANISH)
 (to himself)
 Fucking crooks.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - SAME TIME

CBE and many others of the community are standing around the
 TV, watching Juan:

JUAN (ON TV) (SPANISH)
 ...Governor Pena keeps saying that
 things are working well, that we
 have to continue on this path, but
 we all know that's a lie...

EXT. SOCCER STADIUM - SAME TIME

The spectators already in their seats watch the speech
 broadcast on the big STADIUM TVs:

JUAN (ON TV) (SPANISH)
 ...Because the only thing that
 works well in this government is
 corruption and oppression...

INT. TRANSMISSION ROOM - NETWORK BUILDING - SAME TIME

JUAN (TO CAMERA) (SPANISH)
 ...While your kids go hungry, the
 politicians get fatter and fall
 asleep at congress. The government
 and the narcos have stolen
 everything from us. Our money, our
 kid's education, our peace of mind,
 and...

EXT/INT. SORDOMUDO'S BASE - SAME TIME

Sordomudo and all the narcos are leaving their base, NOT
 noticing that Juan is on TV.

JUAN (ON TV) (SPANISH)
 ...most importantly, they have
 stolen our hope...

INT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - SAME TIME

The Governor, Sergio, and Carlos are watching Juan on TV:

JUAN (ON TV) (SPANISH)
 ...We all know Governor Pena and Sordomudo are not enemies...

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
 Sergio!

SERGIO (SPANISH)
 I'm on it.

Sergio pulls out his phone and rushes out of the room.

INT. CANTEEN - SAME TIME

A BUNCH OF PEOPLE sit and stand around the canteen staring at the multiple TVs on which Juan keeps talking:

JUAN (ON TV) (SPANISH)
 ...We know they work together to keep us in a perpetual state of fear and poverty to prevent us from rising up...

INT. MARCELA'S APARTMENT - SAME TIME

Marcela, Alejandro (her corrupt congressman husband), and their kid sit on the couch scared to death as a group of INTRUDERS WITH MASKS ransack their beautiful, expensive apartment.

All the while, on the TV in front of the couch:

JUAN (ON TV) (SPANISH)
 ...The corrupt system has bequeathed us a sense of despair and impotence and we all suffer because of it...

INT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - SAME TIME

JUAN (ON TV) (SPANISH)
 ...We have stopped believing that a better country is possible. That violence is common. That greed is the only way to succeed. This is wrong, brothers and sisters. Terribly wrong...

Sergio comes rushing back into the room:

 SERGIO (SPANISH)
 They took over the State Network.
 The police will be there in five
 minutes.

 GOVERNOR PENA
 God dammit!

Carlos seems to quietly be enjoying the speech.

INT. MECHANIC SHOP - SAME TIME

SEVERAL MECHANICS have stopped what they're doing and are listening to Juan on a small TV dangling from the ceiling.

 JUAN (ON TV) (SPANISH)
 ...Mexico has the potential to be a
 beautiful and righteous nation. We
 are a country rich in resources,
 with good and kind-natured people
 and a terrific sense of humor...

INT. TRANSMISSION ROOM - NETWORK BUILDING - SAME TIME

 JUAN (TO CAMERA) (SPANISH)
 We need to restore those values
 and elevate our kinship instead of
 succumbing to the self-interest of
 a few. We need policy to fix what's
 broken, instead of policy that
 strengthens what is already
 inefficient. Friends and family,
 brothers and sisters, my
 countrymen, the time has come to
 fight back and end the plutocracy.
 Today! Right now! Let's march to
 the Zocalo and show The Governor
 and Sordomudo that when the people
 stand together, we cannot be
 defeated!

Beat.

EXT/INT. CARTEL CARTEL'S MAIN AREA - AFTERNOON

*Music: *Gimme The Power*, by Molotov.*

CBE and the rest of the community watching the speech start cheering.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH)
Get ready! Let's march!

Everyone, including Papi-Chulo, women, men, and young folks grab their weapons: guns, knives, pitchforks, machetes... and start marching to the streets.

EXT. SOCCER STADIUM - AFTERNOON

Part of the crowd starts to leave the stadium.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - SOCCER STADIUM - AFTERNOON

The soccer players keep getting ready for the game, oblivious to what's happening.

EXT. STREET NEAR NETWORK BUILDING - AFTERNOON

The POLICE CARS dispatched to the Network Building run into a street BLOCKED by pedestrians, who start throwing stones at the cars.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE NETWORK BUILDING - AFTERNOON

Juan, Papi-Chulo, and El Brian come out of the building. They are greeted by cheers from a large crowd.

JUAN (SPANISH)
(to Lucha, quietly)
Go. Now.

Lucha takes off in a different direction.

Juan turns to the people cheering. He raises his hand.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Let's get our State back!!

More cheers.

They all start marching down the street towards the Zocalo.

EXT. CITY STREETS - AFTERNOON

Nearby, CBE leads a large group of people through the streets.

More and more people come out of their houses and apartments and join the march.

INT. GOVERNOR'S PALACE - DAY

The Governor is looking at the TV.

The NEWS ANCHORS are back behind the desk like nothing happened.

WOMAN ANCHOR (SPANISH)
 ...And the players are about to
 take to the field...

Sergio gets off the phone:

SERGIO (SPANISH)
 Mr. Governor. We secured the
 building, but Juan escaped. He's
 marching to the Zocalo.

GOVERNOR PENN
 (to himself)
 Shit...

SERGIO
 Also, I have the President on line
 2.

Long beat.

GOVERNOR PENA
 I'm not available.

EXT. ZOCALO - AFTERNOON

The Zocalo, a large open area in the middle of the city, is bounded by The GOVERNOR'S PALACE and the METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL, which has a large BELL TOWER.

At one end of the square, the army of narcos is lining up.

PROFESSOR (SPANISH)
 The machine guns are here.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
 Get them in place.

TWO MACHINE GUNS roll into the Zocalo, joining Sordomudo and the narco army.

EXT. STREET LEADING TO ZOCALO - AFTERNOON

Juan and his crowd, and CBE and his crowd, come together and join forces.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

Ready?

JUAN

Ready.

Beat.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE

That was a pretty good speech by the way.

JUAN

Did you put subtitles on or...

CBE smiles at him, and together they lead the march to the Zocalo. It's a massive amount of people.

EXT. METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL - AFTERNOON

Lucha stealthily turns a corner and sees a POLICEMAN protecting a small SIDE-DOOR to the cathedral.

She runs up to him and KNOCKS HIM OUT!

She looks through the policeman's uniform and finds a set of KEYS.

She turns to the door and opens it.

INT. METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL - CONTINUOUS

Lucha runs through a dark, damp, and claustrophobic PASSAGEWAY that leads to a cramped set of STAIRS that spiral all the way up to the top of the cathedral.

She starts running up the stairs.

EXT. GOVERNOR'S PALACE BALCONY - AFTERNOON

The Governor stands right underneath the doorway between the balcony and his office so that he can see the Zocalo, but he can't be seen from it.

He observes the two machine guns in position, as well as the narcos lined up next to them.

CARLOS (SPANISH)

Governor...

Carlos hands the Governor a set of BINOCULARS.

Through the binoculars, the Governor sees Juan and CBE marching to the Zocalo.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
More than I expected. Are we well protected?

SERGIO (SPANISH)
Governor, I think we should call in the military.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
No. It could force a coup.

SERGIO (SPANISH)
This is already a coup!

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
This is nothing! Make sure we have enough people protecting the entrance to the Palace.

SERGIO (SPANISH)
Yes sir.

EXT. SOCCER STADIUM - AFTERNOON

The soccer players come jogging onto the field. They stop.

THERE ARE BARELY ANY PEOPLE LEFT IN THE STADIUM! They've all gone to join the fight!

EXT. CITY STREETS - AFTERNOON

Juan and CBE march on. More and more people join in, including a BAND OF MARIACHIS.

They all march together. Hundreds. Maybe thousands.

INT. TV ROOM - APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

As the Father turns up the volume of the TV, his Son is looking out the window at the massive crowd marching down the street.

SON (SPANISH)
Dad, maybe we should---

FATHER (SPANISH)
 (looking at the TV; eating
 snacks)
 Shhh, the game is about to start.

EXT. ZOCALO - AFTERNOON

Juan, CBE, and everyone else arrive at the Zocalo, opposite Sordomudo and the narcos.

They spread out like soldiers on a battlefield. The chants go quiet.

Sordomudo, the Professor, and Calaca stare at Juan, CBE, El Brian, and Papi-Chulo like a scene from a western.

Juan has his eyes on the Governor's Palace Balcony, which resides behind and above the narco army.

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
 (calling)
 Bring the kid.

Diego gets shoved to the front line. Sordomudo grabs him and puts his rusted knife to his throat.

CBE takes a step forward. Juan holds him back.

JUAN
 Not yet.

NARCO'S SIDE

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
 Get the machine guns ready.

PROFESSOR (SPANISH)
 (yelling)
 Get the machine guns ready!

The cars aim their machine guns in the people's direction.

PEOPLE'S SIDE

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH)
 Shields!

All the women and men that we've seen in the Cartel Cartel community suddenly pull out HUNDREDS OF CBE-TYPE SHIELDS, BUT THEY'RE PAINTED/DECORATED MEXICAN STYLE.

NARCO'S SIDE

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
 What... The...

PEOPLE'S SIDE

JUAN (SPANISH)
 Smoke! Now!

A dozen or so men from within the crowd all of a sudden hand-throw SMOKE GRENADES.

The grenades land somewhere in the middle of the Zocalo, halfway between the narcos and them.

The Zocalo starts to get covered in smoke.

JUAN (CONT'D)
 El Brian!

El Brian, with two fingers in his mouth, WHISTLES LOUDLY.

EXT. BELL TOWER - AFTERNOON

Lucha, standing next to a MASSIVE BELL at the top of the cathedral overlooking the Zocalo, hears the whistle.

SHE RINGS THE BELL!
(Just like in Mexico's 1810 Independence Day.)

EXT. ZOCALO - AFTERNOON

All the narcos turn and look up at Lucha sounding the bell.

THEN, THE SOUND OF A THOUSAND CHARGING FOOTSTEPS COMES FROM THE SIDE STREETS!

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
 Cover the flanks!

CALACA (SPANISH)
 Flanks?

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
 (distracted, he lets go of Diego)
 The sides, you idiot! They're coming from the sides!

PROFESSOR (SPANISH)
 Cover the sides!

The Narcos are clearly not very organized, and turn from side to side, confused as to what to do.

Diego notices he's free and STARTS RUNNING TOWARDS THE PEOPLE'S SIDE.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
(to himself)
Diego!

Juan looks to his right and sees Papi-Chulo, El Brian, and hundreds of Mexicans ready to fight.

He looks to his left and sees CBE, the Taxi Driver, The Mariachis, and many more.

Beat.

JUAN
(Spanish)
VIVA MÉXICO, CABRONES!!!!

EVERYONE
(Spanish)
VIVAAAAAAA!!!!

Juan CHARGES towards the narcos!

CBE, El Brian, and everyone else follow suit.

EVERYONE EXCEPT PAPI-CHULO, WHO LINGERS BEHIND.

Diego is running as fast as he can through the smoke clouds to the people's side.

A poetic sight seeing him run alone in the vast Zocalo as the two armies are about to clash.

NARCO'S SIDE

SORDOMUDO (SPANISH)
Fire!

The narcos start FIRING THEIR GUNS, unsure of where to aim because of the smoke.

Diego keeps running. Bullets pass him on either side until CBE, who has run past everyone, reaches him just in time and covers him with his shield.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH)
You're okay?

DIEGO (SPANISH)

Yes!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH)

Okay! Keep running!

CBE lets go of Diego and starts running against the narcos again, catching up.

Many of the bullets ricochet off the shields the men and women are carrying. But many hit legs and arms and heads and PEOPLE START TO DIE!

The machine guns kill dozens.

From across the smoke screen BULLETS also start coming their way and the NARCOS START GETTING SHOT TOO.

More people charge in from the side streets.

LUCHA ALSO STARTS SHOOTING NARCOS FROM THE BELL TOWER.

Juan and CBE are the first to cross the smoke screen, charging at the narcos at full speed like an old-school civil-war battle.

Juan is at the front.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)

Juan!

CBE throws his SHIELD at ground level like a frisbee. Juan JUMPS ON THE SHIELD!

He travels on it for a few feet like a surfboard, then just before reaching the narco's front line he kicks the shield forward and with a back-flip lands on his feet.

SLOW-MO: The shield hits the head of a Narco and BOUNCES OFF, just in time for CBE TO CATCH IT AS HE JUMPS OVER A KNEELING JUAN AND FLIES INTO THE CROWD OF NARCOS!

EL BRIAN (SPANISH)

(in awe; to himself)

He *is* an eagle!

Now too close to use their guns, the narcos pull out their KNIVES AND MACHETES and they all start fighting!

The people use their PITCHFORKS and MACHETES and even the Mariachis start slamming their GUITARS and TRUMPETS against the narcos.

EXT. BELL TOWER - AFTERNOON

Up in the tower, Lucha doesn't have a clean shot anymore.

She takes a LONG ROPE from her backpack and ties it to the bell, and starts RAPPELLING DOWN THE TOWER.

EXT. ZOCALO - AFTERNOON

CBE, with fancy superhero skills, is everywhere in the battlefield, saving lives while fighting narcos.

Juan and El Brian also do well. Everyone coordinating together.

Diego is on the floor, crawling through the chaos, trying to get away.

Sordomudo, The Professor, and Calaca have joined the fight with full intensity, killing many. They can seriously fight too.

INT. ZOCALO SIDE-STREET - AFTERNOON

Papi-Chulo is scurrying around the side of the Zocalo, avoiding the battle.

He turns into a narrow alley, then lifts up a SECRET FLOOR LID that looks like it was part of the street.

Making sure nobody can see him, he steps into the secret passageway and closes the lid behind him.

INT. SECRET PASSAGEWAY - CONTINUOUS

Papi-Chulo reaches a heavy door. He presses a MODERN INTERCOM next to it.

INTERCOM VOICE (SPANISH)

Who is this?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)

Tell the Governor Papi-Chulo is here. I have a plan to win this for him.

INT. BALCONY - GOVERNOR'S PALACE - CONTINUOUS

Sergio, next to the Governor, gets a call on his phone.

SERGIO (SPANISH)

Yes?

(turning to the Governor)

Governor, Papi-Chulo is at door X.
He says he has important
information to win this.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)

Let him in.

EXT. ZOCALO - AFTERNOON

The battle has reached its zenith.

In the midst of it all, El Brian and Calaca clash and start fighting.

After a tense back-and-forth with machetes, CALACA STABS EL BRIAN AND KILLS HIM!

Juan sees it:

JUAN

El Brian!!!

Juan charges toward Calaca.

Furious and thirsty for revenge, he disarms him and is about to kill him when ANOTHER MACHETE stops his own.

IT'S THE PROFESSOR!

Calaca gets up, and with The Professor they start fighting Juan. 2 VS 1 is too much for Juan, and he appears to be losing.

But then Lucha arrives to help!

Together they turn the tide of the fight, and with a series of moves, Juan manages to STAB CALACA, and then helps Lucha and together they KILL THE PROFESSOR!

Beat.

Juan and Lucha look at each other and smile for a second...
UNTIL THE TIP OF A RUSTED KNIFE SUDDENLY POPS OUT OF LUCHA'S CHEST!

Juan is speechless. Stunned. Heartbroken.

Juan and Lucha share a last moment, looking at each other, before she falls down to the ground, revealing SORDOMUDO BEHIND HER!

Juan is seriously mad now!

He yells and launches against Sordomudo.

He does well, attacks with power, and just when it looks like he might be able to kill Sordomudo, Calaca, moribund on the floor, manages to SLICE JUAN ON THE CALF!

Juan yells and falls to the ground.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
 Didn't I kill you already?

He grabs the KNIFE Calaca just used to cut him, and stabs him, finally KILLING HIM for good.

From the floor, Juan looks up and sees Governor Pena leaning over the balcony, looking down at him.

Juan is about to get up when Sordomudo, taking advantage of this tempo, jumps on Juan with his rusted knife.

Juan stops the incoming blade by grabbing Sordomudo's wrist.

Sordomudo pushes hard against him, his knife getting dangerously close to Juan's face!

SORDOMUDO
 (with anger and disdain)
 There will be no revolution today.

Sordomudo's knife is an inch away from Juan's eye... when out of nowhere CBE COMES RUSHING IN AND TACKLES SORDOMUDO!

They roll on the floor for a moment, then separate.

Juan gets up, looks at CBE, then up at the Governor on the balcony.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 (to Juan)
 Go.
 (re Sordomudo)
 I got him.
 (beat)
 Go!

Juan nods, THROWS CALACA'S KNIFE TO CBE, and hastily limps his way to the Governor's Palace.

Sordomudo in turn grabs a SECOND KNIFE from the floor.

They size each other up, circling each other like wrestlers.

SORDOMUDO
Come and get it!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
You come and get it!

SORDOMUDO
Wait! Weren't you in a Peloton
commercial?

Triggered, CBE yells and attacks with full rage.

Sordomudo dodges and counters. He's extremely versatile with his knives.

CBE blocks the attack with his shield, then kicks Sordomudo back.

They go back and forth. It's a highly tactical, fast, skillful fight between the two.

CBE and Sordomudo clash blades and they both lose them. But Sordomudo still has his other famous RUSTED KNIFE.

But it's not enough.

CBE, shield and arms only, definitely starts kicking Sordomudo's ass... until Sordomudo manages to cut him on the shoulder.

They separate.

CBE grabs his shoulder. It's bleeding.

SORDOMUDO (CONT'D)
In Mexico superheroes bleed. And
die!

Sordomudo charges with full force against CBE and tackles him to the ground.

The rusted knife falls a few feet away.

CBE tries to get the knife, but Sordomudo takes out another smaller POCKET KNIFE and sticks it onto CBE's right foot, where he was already injured.

CBE recoils in pain and falls back.

Uh-oh. He's in trouble...

Sordomudo sees his opportunity!

SLOW-MO: Sordomudo grabs his rusted knife, turns to vulnerable CBE on the floor, and charges forward, his eyes full of evil.

He's ready to kill our vulnerable superhero, when--

DIEGO, WITH CALACA'S KNIFE, COMES RUNNING AND SCREAMING AND STABS SORDOMUDO IN THE STOMACH!!!

END SLOW-MO.

Long Beat.

It seems everyone has noticed what just happened.

Sordomudo falls to the ground.

The battle slows down.

The narcos, realizing their leader has been stabbed, stop fighting.

CBE musters the strength to get up. He limps to Diego.

He takes the knife from his hand and drops it to the floor.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH)
You saved my life.

DIEGO (SPANISH)
I need a goalie on my team.

CBE puts an arm around Diego and turns to one of the narcos.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH)
Is his mother alive?

NARCO #1 nods.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Release her.

Narco #1 starts to move. CBE points to the Mariachis.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
Go with him. Make sure he doesn't
run away.

The Mariachis go with Narco #1 like he's their prisoner.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
(to all the narcos)
Drop your weapons!

All the narcos slowly drop their weapons, surrendering.

Sordomudo, bleeding out on the floor, STARTS TO LAUGH. CBE turns and walks to him, ready to kill him.

Sordomudo, with a shaking hand, reaches for his pocket and takes something out.

A PHOTOGRAPH!

SORDOMUDO
(laughing, moribund)
Your rat.

CBE grabs the photograph. It's a picture of him and Gaby making love!

There's a THUMB in the corner of whoever was taking the picture!

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Papi-Chulo...

Sordomudo starts laughing even more like a maniac.

CBE grabs the rusted knife and leans over Sordomudo.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)
Be quiet.

CBE slowly sticks the knife into Sordomudo's neck.

SORDOMUDO CHOKES, GASPS, AND DIES!

The Zocalo is left covered in blood and dead bodies.

The surviving narcos and people look around at the incredulity that is a civil war.

Dead quiet.

People from nearby buildings that were too scared to fight start coming out and filling the Zocalo.

CBE looks up at the Governor's Palace.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)
(to himself)
Juan...

INT. STAIRS - GOVERNOR'S PALACE - AFTERNOON

Juan heads up another set of stairs.

He encounters a GUARD on the way. He hastily disarms him, knocks him out, and takes his GUN.

INT. OUTSIDE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

TWO SOLDIERS are guarding the front door of the Governor's Office.

125 Juan appears from the hallway and before the soldiers can react, he SHOOTs THEM BOTH!

INT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

The Governor, Carlos, and Sergio hear the gunshots.

 SERGIO (SPANISH)
Get behind the desk.

The Governor takes cover behind the desk.

Sergio, with his gun held steady, hides behind a column.

Carlos takes out his own gun and hides behind the couch.

INT. OUTSIDE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Juan makes his way to the door and SLAMS IT OPEN!

INT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

The room looks empty. Too empty.

Beat.

Juan walks in. Gun up.

Then, from behind the column, Sergio comes out and SHOOTs at Juan!

The bullet HITS HIS SHOULDER, but it gives Juan time to spin around, SHOOT AND KILL SERGIO!

Beat.

Juan limps to the desk, where he sees The Governor quivering behind it.

 JUAN (SPANISH)
Hello Governor.

Juan grabs the Governor by the collar and pulls him up.

GOVERNOR PENA (SPANISH)
Wait! Stop! Stop! I'll give you
anything you want.

JUAN (SPANISH)
Freedom cannot be bought.

Juan slams the Governor on the desk.

He immobilizes his hands with his own suit jacket, gags his mouth with his shirt, and using the SHARP LETTER OPENER WITH A MEXICAN FLAG AT ONE END...

HE STABS THE GOVERNOR ON THE CHEST!

Beat.

Sigh.

JUAN (CONT'D)
(quiet)
For my mother.

Suddenly, CBE rushes into the room yelling:

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Juan... It was Papi--

CBE notices Juan leaning over the Governor, who he has just killed.

JUAN
It's all right, Captain. It's over
now. It's finally over.

CBE limps farther into the room.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
It was Papi-Chulo.

JUAN
What?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
The rat. It was--

At that moment we see PAPI-CHULO COME OUT FROM BEHIND THEM WITH A GUN AND HE SHOOTS CBE SEVERAL TIMES IN THE BACK!!!

CBE falls forward, but Juan catches him just before he hits the floor.

JUAN
 Captain...

He looks up at Papi-Chulo, who points the gun at him. Juan's face is the definition of sorrow.

JUAN (SPANISH) (CONT'D)
 Papi... Why?

PAPI-CHULO (SPANISH)
 We all do what's best for us. Now
 I'm the Govern--

A GUNSHOT GOES OFF!

We think it's Juan that got shot, but then Papi-Chulo's blood starts to drip on him.

We realize that it was Carlos, from behind the couch, that has shot Papi-Chulo!

PAPI-CHULO FALLS TO THE FLOOR. DEAD.

Juan turns to Carlos, who just nods back at him.

Juan turns to the Captain--still holding onto him. He looks pale; his wounds bleeding profusely.

JUAN
 (emotional)
 Captain...

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 (dying)
 It's okay. It's okay, Juan.

JUAN
 The wounds... They're--

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 I know... I know...

Carlos meanwhile walks to the Governor to remove his sash.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE (CONT'D)
 I want to thank you.

JUAN
 For what?

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
 For reminding me of my purpose.

JUAN
(emotional)
It's been an honor fighting with
you, Captain.

Beat.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Tell her...
(coughing blood)
Tell her I loved her.

JUAN
I will.

From the balcony, he can hear thousands of voices cheering.

CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE
Go. Go with your people. Be free.

CBE takes a last breath and dies with his eyes closed.

A single tear slides down Juan's cheek. But we can tell he's holding back a river.

The cheers from the Zocalo get louder.

Juan takes a deep breath and gently settles CBE on the floor.

CARLOS
Juan...

Juan turns and looks up at Carlos. He's holding up the GOVERNOR'S SASH, OFFERING IT. A big stupid smile on his face.

Juan grabs Papi-Chulo's gun lying on the floor, casually aims it at Carlos, and SHOOTS HIM IN THE HEAD!

No room for mercy. This is a fucking revolution!

Juan gets up and slowly starts limping towards the balcony. He's exhausted. Scratched. Drenched in blood--his and others. He has injuries in every corner of his body.

Yet he continues.

He reaches the balcony. He stops under the door frame.

He looks back:

IT'S QUITE THE IMAGE: Sergio dead in a corner. The Governor dead on the desk, a small Mexican flag sticking out of his chest. Carlos dead on the floor next to him. Papi-Chulo's inert body a few feet away.

And in the middle of the room, on the floor, a small pool of blood, but... CAPTAIN BALD EAGLE IS NO LONGER THERE!!!

*MUSIC: *Una Palabra*, by Carlos Varela.*

Juan chuckles. He understands.

He turns and steps onto the balcony. Thousands of people fill the entirety of the Zocalo.

They all cheer and whistle as soon as they see Juan--his long black hair waving in the air; his black, piercing eyes scanning the massive crowd.

Amongst them he finds Gaby with a BANDAGED EAR HUGGING DIEGO, WHO IS HOLDING CBE'S SHIELD!

They look at each other.

Juan's barely-noticeable shake of the head tells her all she needs to know about CBE.

She takes it in, remains strong, bites her lip, releases, and gently nods back at him.

JUAN turns his gaze to the massive crowd cheering him on. Men. Woman. Children. Mariachis. Even the crosseyed Taxi Driver...

All cheering for a new future!

A new hope!

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END