

ACT FIVE

INT. PYRE'S HOME / BACK YARD - DAY

The yard is filled with STREAMERS, BALLOONS, and far too many CAKES! A HALF DOZEN LDS RELIEF SOCIETY WOMEN are busy preparing a giant party. Rebecca is on a PHONE.

START>>>

REBECCA

You are in real trouble. But you're also the sweetest husband in the world. But I'll tell you what: we'll never get through all these cakes.

INT. UTAH POLICE STATION / PYRE'S DESK - INTERCUT

Pyre's on a PHONE, a view of Mark and a CLOCK: 12:33.

PYRE

How's my mom handling the racket?

REBECCA

Oh...She's not awake yet. But...

Her floral dress hemmed to the ground, the old Relief Society President, late 60s, rushes up to the phone.

RELIEF SOCIETY PRES.

We've got it in hand, Brother Pyre!

Pyre smiles. This is the upside of being LDS: plenty of community, family, helpful hands, and joy to go around.

REBECCA

Are you still okay to meet with the Bishop tonight?

PYRE

Right. The girls' baptism interview. Yes. Actually, can you ask if he has a minute for me after? I could use his counsel on this case, and--

REBECCA

And I'll wake your mom up. You're right. She'd love this. I love you.

<<<STOP

PYRE

Thank you. Love you too, Becca.

Pyre hangs up. ON: the Desk Cop staring at Pyre, worried.

INT. PYRE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Pyre tip-toes in. Ready for bed, Becca sends a wordless question. Pyre lifts his eyes to the sky in thanks: the girls are asleep. As Pyre changes into fresh CLOTHES:

START>>>

REBECCA

What about your mom?

PYRE

She's up having "morning" cereal. I checked--all the doors are locked.

REBECCA

What did uh, the Bishop say?

PYRE

Same old...Anti-psychotics.

(Becca waits)

There're moments she's still RIGHT THERE. When we talk at night, or take our walks. The medications, they'd take anything left of her along with 'em.

REBECCA

She was so scared today, Jeb...And you know it's temporary. In the Celestial Kingdom, you'll have her back. Restored. "Right there." All the time. You know that's true, don't you?

PYRE

I know...I do...I've been thinking--

REBECCA

I've warned you about doing that.

PYRE

(nearly laughs; then)

I just...I think it might be wise to postpone the girls' baptisms.

Becca stops what she's doing. This is a big deal.

REBECCA

Why?

PYRE

I think it'd be good to get this case behind me. Clear my head, so my heart can be in it.

She sits down on the bed with him.

REBECCA

Are you okay?

PYRE

I just...

REBECCA

My parents are coming up from Arizona, and our congregation...It wouldn't go unnoticed. It's highly unusual.

PYRE

Don't you think I know that?

REBECCA

(building anger)

People will assume our girls failed their interview. It could be humiliating for them. And us. No. I can't agree to this. I've waited my whole life for this! I've worked so hard to make it perfect! And my parents!

PYRE

I can assure you I've prayed on it.

REBECCA

DO NOT do this to me! And to them!

PYRE

Becca! I've made my decision. And as our priesthood holder, I need you to back me up on this. I am not asking!

REBECCA

You're pulling that old chestnut out?!

She nearly rolls her eyes. This isn't an authority he often uses...but it is how things work in LDS families.

PYRE

I don't want to have to, but...

REBECCA

No. You're right. You're right!

Pushing down fury, she gets under the covers in her HOLY GARMENTS. He kneels beside the bed, so they're eye to eye. There's a lot of love here, but she's angry.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Stop staring at me.

He makes puppy dog eyes at her, and touches her nose.

REBECCA (CONT'D)

You know what, Jeb?!

PYRE

What?

REBECCA

*I acknowledge and accept that you are indeed the man of this house, and as such, you are our priesthood holder.
(he waits for it)*

But do not ever forget that it's me who chooses when, or if, I ever "hold" your "priesthood" again.

It's LDS dirty talk! And it's so surprising that Pyre snorts a laugh! That breaks the tension. Now fully in control of this moment, Becca reaches down under his garments and grips his "priesthood!"

A hot beat between them...until they hear Pyre's mother singing an OLD LDS HYMN in the kitchen.

PYRE

*You know I have to go back to work.
(she grips him harder)
In the name of Jesus Christ...*

REBECCA

Don't you dare.

<<<STOP

He makes a decision, and leaps at this chance to have sex, gladly letting her take control, both trying their best to keep quiet--as to not to wake the girls or draw his mom's attention! What's clear: being LDS doesn't mean married couples can't have a helluva time in bed.

CUT TO BLACK:

END ACT THREE