

THE TWO POPES

Written by

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**Pre-Title:**

Over a black screen we hear the robotic voice of a modern telephone system.

VOICE:

Welcome to Skytours. For flight information please press "1". If you're calling about an existing booking please press "2". If you're calling about a new booking please press "3" ...

The beep of someone (Bergoglio) pressing a button.

VOICE: (CONT'D)

Did you know that you can book any flight on the Skytour website and that our discount prices are internet only ...

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)

Oh good evening I ... oh.

He's mistaken this last for a human voice but ...

VOICE: (V.O.)

... if you still wish to speak to an operator please press one ...

Another beep.

VOICE : (V.O.)

Good morning welcome to the Skytours sales desk ...

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)

Ah. Yes. I'm looking for a flight from Rome to Lampedusa. Yes I know I could book it on the internet. I've only just moved here.

VOICE:

Name?

BERGOGLIO:

Bergoglio. Jorge Bergoglio.

VOICE:

Like the Pope.

BERGOGLIO:  
Well ... yes ... in fact.

VOICE:  
Postcode?

BERGOGLIO:  
Vatican city.

There's a long pause.

VOICE:  
Very funny.

The line goes dead.

**Title: The Two Popes.**

(All the scenes that take place in Argentina are acted in Spanish)

**EXT. VILLA 21 (2005) - DAY**

A smartly-dressed boy is walking along the narrow streets of Villa 21 - a poor area that is exploding with music, street vendors, traffic. He struts past the astonishing murals that decorate the walls of the area.

The boy is heading for an outdoor mass, celebrated by Archbishop Bergoglio. As he walks along we tune into the sermon on VO ...

BERGOGLIO (V.O.)  
Once a young man - his name  
was Francesco Bernadone - was  
walking in the wood...

BERGOGLIO (V.O.)  
Había una vez un muchacho que  
caminaba por un bosque... se  
llamaba Francisco Bernadone.

This fairy tale opening seems at odds with the noisy urban surroundings but as the young man walks, we see the murals on the wall come to life = animated illustrations of the story we are hearing ...

On the dilapidated city wall we see this story from the life of St. Francis begin to unfold.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)

*He found a chapel - a ruined chapel ...one wall had fallen down. So he stepped inside. The crucifix was still on the wall where the altar had been. Afterwards Francesco always said it "captivated his senses". It spoke to him. It said, "Francesco repair my Church." Francesco was a practical man. He said OK, went up to the quarry on top of Mount Subaccio, cut stones, carted them down the mountain and started to repair the broken wall.*

BERGOGLIO (V.O.)

*... de pronto encontró una capilla - una capilla muy venida abajo... con todas las paredes prácticamente destruidas. El muchacho entró... El crucifijo todavía estaba ahí, en el lugar donde había estado el altar. De pronto, Francisco sintió como si alguien cautivara sus sentidos... El crucifijo le habló y le dijo: *Francisco repara mi iglesia.* Francisco era un hombre práctico. Y dijo "Cómo no..." Fue a la cantera en la punta del Monte Subaccio, cortó unas piedras, las arrastró hasta abajo y empezó a reconstruir las paredes que estaban caídas.*

At this point, another boy crosses the mural and we follow him down the street and into the back of a big colorful crowd...

**EXT. VILLA 21 - OUTDOOR MASS (2005) - DAY**

The crowd is the congregation of the big outdoor mass which Bergoglio is con-celebrating with a younger priest - Pepe (38). The story we have been listening to was Bergoglio's sermon. He's finishing now ...

BERGOGLIO:

Even the longest journey has to start somewhere. Even the most glorious journey can start with a mistake. So when you feel lost, don't worry. That's when God is looking for you. And when you think everything is broken - don't worry. God will not give up on it. OK?

BERGOGLIO:

Cualquier travesía, por más larga que sea, siempre comienza en algún lugar. Cualquier travesía, por más gloriosa que sea, puede comenzar con un error. Por eso, cuando se sientan perdidos, no se preocupen. Ese es el momento en que Dios los va a estar observando. Y cuando piensen que todo está perdido, no se preocupen, Dios no se dará por vencido. ¿Entendido?

This isn't a rhetorical question. People shout "si" back but not loud enough.

OK?

BERGOGLIO:

BERGOGLIO:  
¿Entendido?

Now they shout louder.

PICK UP ON the Lorenzo, who has cut through the crowd to join a group of other well-dressed young men, all perched on top of a slab. They're all pals. They're not that interested in what Bergoglio is saying.

BERGOGLIO:  
And now we come to the part of the mass where we normally ask Our Lady to pray for us. But I've been thinking ... we've got lots of troubles here in Villa 21 so maybe it's not fair to leave it all to Our Lady. Who else could we ask to pray for us?

BERGOGLIO:  
Ahora llegamos a esa parte de la misa donde generalmente le pedimos a Nuestra Señora que rece por nosotros. Pero estuve pensando... hemos tenidos muchos problemas, acá, en la villa 21, entonces quizás no es justo dejar todo en manos de Nuestra Señora... ¿A quien más le podemos pedir que rece por nosotros?

He points to a well-dressed young man in the crowd.

BERGOGLIO:  
Hombre, what's your name?

BERGOGLIO:  
A ver... el joven... ¿cómo te llamás?

YOUNG MAN:  
(on edge)  
Lorenzo.

HOMBRE JOVEN:  
(sobre la losa)  
Lorenzo.

BERGOGLIO:  
The name of my team - San Lorenzo!

BERGOGLIO:  
El nombre de mi equipo... ¡San Lorenzo!

This provokes huge, good-natured booing. In Villa 21 they support Huracán. But the young man looks uncomfortable about becoming the object of attention. He's with the well-dressed boy ...

BERGOGLIO:  
San Lorenzo, pray for us.

BERGOGLIO:  
San Lorenzo, reza por nosotros.

The well-dressed young men are looking uneasy. They are drug dealers.

CUT TO:

Pepe and Bergoglio, making their way, people stop them to ask for blessings or just say hi. Someone hands Bergoglio a *mate*. He takes a drink and passes it on.

A woman barges through the crowd to the priests and blurts out some news. The little bell from the local church rings...

WOMAN:	MUJER:
Fathers, it's the Pope. The Pope is dead.	Padres... el Papa... El Papa murió.

**INSERT: ARCHIVAL FOOTAGE**

Straight off that announcement on a street in South America, we cut to the awesome sight of John Paul II's body being carried through the crowd to the Basilica.

**INT. LOBBY WITH ARCHES, THE VATICAN (2005) - DAY**

CARDINAL Joseph RATZINGER (77), (soft spoken, a natural recluse) is walking along a corridor accompanied by his trusted assistant/PA - Paolo.

Paolo has a set of flash cards - a photo on one side and some information on the back. As they walk he shows them - card by card - to Ratzinger, who responds by identifying the people in the photograph - he always gets it right ...they speak in Italian.

RATZINGER:	RATZINGER:
(of first photo). Lula, President of Brazil.	Lula, presidente del Brasile.

PAOLO:	PAOLO:
Correct. Seems like he is saving the country.	Giusto. Sembra che stia salvando il paese.

RATZINGER:	RATZINGER:
(of first photo) Margaret Queen of Denmark ...	Margareth Regina della Dinamarca.

PAOLO:	PAOLO:
Correct.	Giusto.

RATZINGER:	RATZINGER:
Chain smokes. Illustrates children's books.	Grande fumatrice. Illustra libri per bambini.

Another card.

RATZINGER:  
Mr. Blair prime minister of  
Britain, likes to be called  
Tony.

RATZINGER:  
Il Signore Blair primo  
ministro della Gran Bretagna,  
gli piace essere chiamato  
Tony.

PAOLO:  
Good. This one ...

PAOLO:  
Bene. Questo...

RATZINGER:  
Cardinal Arinze of Nigeria.  
Many say he will be the first  
African Pope.

RATZINGER:  
Cardinale Arinze della  
Nigeria. Molti dicono che  
sarà il primo Papa Africano.

PAOLO:  
Will he be?

PAOLO:  
E lo sarà'?

RATZINGER:  
No because we've already had  
three. Admittedly the last  
one died in the year 492 so  
it's not surprising people  
have forgotten.

RATZINGER:  
No perché ne abbiamo già  
avuti tre. Legittimamente  
l'ultimo è morto nell'anno  
quattrocento novantadue,  
quindi non è sorprendente che  
la gente l'abbia dimenticato.

The atmosphere between Paolo and Ratzinger is warm and  
familiar. Paolo has been a trusted aide for years.

He shows another photograph - Bergoglio. Ratzinger doesn't  
respond.

PAOLO:  
Bergoglio - Argentina.  
Leading advocate for reform  
in the Church. He's extremely  
popular in ...

PAOLO:  
Bergoglio - Argentina.  
Principale difensore per la  
riforma della Chiesa. Molto  
benvoluto in...

RATZINGER:  
I know who he is.

RATZINGER:  
Lo so chi è.

A bit sharp. Paolo is quick to pick up on the mood.

PAOLO:  
Perhaps we should leave the  
clergy until later.

PAOLO:  
Forse dovremmo lasciare il  
clero per dopo (più tardi)

As they walk along the corridor, more and more officials tag  
along, hoping for a word. Paolo shows another card.

RATZINGER:  
Yes, yes I know who George  
Bush is.

RATZINGER:  
Sì, sì lo so chi è George  
Bush.

He keeps moving. He seems to have the world at his fingertips. Off the photos of World leaders we

CUT TO:

**EXT. BUENOS AIRES EZEIZA AIRPORT (2005) - DAY**

Bergoglio struggles through the crowd towards Departures.

**INT. BUENOS AIRES EZEIZA (2005) - DAY**

Bergoglio is at security. He puts his bag, his belt and his shoes into one of the trays as it goes through the scanner.

The X-Ray reveals a crucifix inside his bag.

He looks anxiously at his watch. He watches his shoes go by on the conveyor belt.

A security guard approaches and - by instinct - Bergoglio straightens up and puts his hands up, ready to be frisked.

SECURITY:  
I was going to ask you for a blessing your Eminence.

GUARDIA SEGURIDAD:  
Disculpe... Iba a pedirle su bendición, eminencia.

BERGOGLIO:  
Oh. Right. Sure.

BERGOGLIO:  
Ah... Claro... Cómo no...

He blesses the man. This attracts attention and soon 3 other members of security are asking to be blessed.

BERGOGLIO : (CONT'D)  
I think we may be causing a little congestion. How about if I just blessed everyone  
...

BERGOGLIO (CONT'D)  
Creo que si seguimos así vamos a provocar un lío bárbaro... ¿Qué les parece si mejor no los bendigo a todos juntos?

He gets up on tip-toe and blesses everyone. They say amen and then thank you.

**INT. VATICAN SECURITY ROOM (2005) - DAY**

Banks of monitors and keyboards, the feeds of the cameras that are keeping watch over the Vatican where the greatest gathering of World leaders ever seen will take place. On the screens we glimpse Chirac, Bush, Mandela. Ratzinger is overseeing it all.



HEAD OF SECURITY:  
Monarchs and sovereigns take precedence over presidents. Presidents are seated in alphabetical order of country. Extra seating for the Polish delegation.

CAPO DELLA SICUREZZA:  
Monarchi e sovrani hanno la precedenza sui presidenti. I presidenti sono seduti secondo l'ordine alfabetico dei paesi. Posti addizionali a sedere per la delegazione polacca.

As he speaks we:

INSERT:

Footage of the funeral itself.

World Leaders come up to be blessed by Ratzinger.

CUT AWAY TO:

**INT. IMPROVISED CHANGING ROOM - ST PETER'S BASILICA (2005) - DAY**

Ratzinger is standing in front of a mirror, practising his sermon. He tries different intonations. He tries not looking at his notes. He's trying to memorise it.

RATZINGER:  
None of us can ever forget  
... can any of us ever forget  
... we shall never forget,  
never forget how on that Last  
Easter Sunday of his life ...

RATZINGER:  
Nessuno di noi potra' mai  
dimenticare... possiamo mai  
dimenticare?... non  
dimenticheremo mai, mai come  
quell'ultima domenica di  
Pasqua della sua vita...

CUT STRAIGHT  
BACK TO:

**EXT. ST PETER'S SQUARE (2005) - DAY**

Ratzinger is in the pulpit, delivering his sermon with ease and authority.

RATZINGER:

None of us can ever forget how in that last Easter Sunday of his life, the Holy Father, marked by suffering and visibly in pain, came one last time to the window and one last time gave us his blessing ...

RATZINGER:

Nessuno di noi potra' mai dimenticare quell'ultima domenica di Pasqua della sua vita, quando il Santo Padre, segnato visibilmente dalla sofferenza e dal dolore, venne un'ultima volta alla finestra e per un'ultima volta ci dette la sua benedizione...

At this gathering of immensely powerful people, Ratzinger is centre stage. He seems comfortable and capable of the role.

INSERT:

Footage of the Saint Peter Basilica - The Cardinals - including Bergoglio and a few others who will meet later - ranged in front of the coffin in their red robes.

End on the plain, simple coffin of John Paul II standing on display in the midst of all this. A wind blows turning the pages of the bible on the coffin.

**EXT. ST. PETER'S SQUARE (2005) - DAY**

As the Cardinals filter across the square, some are grabbed for interview by TV crews, others greet old friends warmly.

AMERICAN JOURNALIST:

Having bidden farewell to the last Pope, the cardinals will vote for the new Pope, in a conclave, hidden from view, behind the locked doors of the Sistine chapel.

**EXT. VATICAN PARKING LOT (2005) - DAY**

One group of cardinals finds time to banter quietly on their way in. They are Bergoglio, Turkson (warm, intellectual Ghanaian), and Hummes (Brazilian). They banter in English - the lingua franca.

BERGOGLIO:

It'll be like the World Cup - everyone will be hoping for a beautiful game between Brazil (NODS AT HUMMES) and Italy (NODS AT MARTINI) but in the end the Germans (NODS TOWARDS RATZINGER) will win on penalties.

TURKSON:

Yes and everyone will say this is surely Africa's year but then Ghana and Nigeria will crash out in the quarter finals.

HUMMES:

I'm not sure about Brazil. I think it might be Argentina this year ...

He nudges Bergoglio.

BERGOGLIO:

Argentina? No, no, no. I'm a Jesuit. There's never been a Jesuit Pope.

TURKSON:

Exactly what we need. Something there has never been before.

AMERICAN JOURNALIST & US TV REPORTER:

The hidden machinery of the electoral process, unchanged since medieval times, will soon begin *in secret*. The cardinals will have a week of discussions and meetings before the voting. They will have to decide between the tradition supported by the Curia or for reforms supported mostly by non European cardinals.

Cardinals wearing their black cassocks are talking everywhere. Feels like politicians. We see them in mini-buses, at the dining room in Santa Marta, in the gardens, in corridors.

**INT. BATHROOM/ SISTINE CHAPEL (2005) - DAY**

Ratzinger is washing his hands. He pauses. Someone is whistling, a lovely, slow melody in the cubicle. He turns and looks at the cubicle. Out of the cubicle comes BERGOGLIO.

They nod at each other. There is no love lost here. A moment of pause, then Ratzinger's diplomatic skills kick in. He asks a politely neutral question in Latin.

RATZINGER:

What's the name of the song you are singing?

RATZINGER:

Quid est nomen carminis quod cantas?

BERGOGLIO:  
Dancing Queen

BERGOGLIO:  
Regina Saltans

Ratzinger looks slightly puzzled. Bergoglio goes into detail.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
By Abba

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
Cantant Abba

As Ratzinger leaves, Bergoglio carries on whistling.

**INT. CURIA MEETING ROOM (2005) - DAY**

Before the Conclave starts the Cardinals gather at the Curia to talk to each other. Several groups are formed. It feels like the coffee break at a corporate convention.

As they do so, they pass Ratzinger, who is deep in conversation with the elegant, austere, conservative Arinze.

But even as he is having this philosophical discussion, Ratzinger greets each passing cardinal by name.

RATZINGER:  
We have to protect his legacy. The truth is under siege. We need to build strong walls around the gospel.

ARINZE:  
How many winds of change we have known in recent decades, how many ideological currents. We need a voice of certainty.

Meanwhile PICK UP ON Bergoglio, he moves toward his little group of friends. He looks up in wonder. The place is astounding.

The radical Italian cardinal - Martini - leans over his shoulder and mutters to him.

MARTINI:  
The church is too used to this ... to glory, to Europe. Churches that are beautiful but empty. We're like a fire covered in ash. There is still light in there but someone needs to blow the ash away.

BERGOGLIO:  
You?

MARTINI:

It would be better if it was  
someone from outside Europe.

Is Martini lobbying Bergoglio?

Ratzinger comes to the group where Bergoglio is. He's been  
greeting all the Cardinals one by one. Turkson first.

TURKSON:

Danke für die schöne Predigt bei  
der Beerdigung ...

RATZINGER:

Bitte schon. (TO HUMMES) Dom  
Claudio Hummes, a vida era mais  
fácil quando todos falavam Latin.  
Encantado.

Hummes laughs and shakes his hand.

Bergoglio is next. He gets nothing but a handshake, barely  
any eye-contact.

As they move off, Hummes says quietly to Bergoglio.

HUMMES:

No "encantado" for you.

BERGOGLIO:

No.

**EXT. ST. PETER'S SQUARE + ARCHIVE (2005) - DAY**

TV REPORTERS:

The cardinals only communication  
with the outside World will be  
through that chimney. White smoke  
for a new Pope. Black for no  
decision.

We get a close up of "THAT CHIMNEY" - a little tin stove pipe  
on top of the Vatican.

Then we see news reporters from different countries all  
saying the same thing in their various languages. Amusingly,  
each one of them in turn points up to "that chimney" - making  
the same point one after another.

**INT. - STAIRS TO THE SISTINE CHAPEL (2005) - DAY**

Cardinals climbing the majestic stairs, crossing the lobby. Swiss guards line their way as they head towards the doors of the Sistine Chapel.

**EXT. ST. PETER'S SQUARE (2005) - DAY**

The square is full of people watching the pageantry on big screens, telling their rosary beads, holding their breath.

TV REPORTERS

And now the great doors will  
finally be locked. Not be opened  
again until we have a new Pope.

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2005) - DAY**

CLOSE ON: A BIG KEY locking the door to the CHAPEL. The sound of the key turning and then silence.

We see the last few cardinals going to their places.

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2005) - DAY**

A scrutineer calls a cardinal by name. He stands up, walks the length of the chapel, hands over his vote, walks back to his place.

We see cardinal after cardinal go up, vote and sit down - in a kind of ritual choreography.

Until it stops.

SCRUTINEER / CAMERLENGO:	SCRUTATORE / CAMERLENGO:
The results of the first	I risultati del primo
round of voting are as	scrutinio sono i seguenti...
follows...Joseph Ratzinger -	Joseph Ratzinger - 47 voti
47 votes	Jorge Bergoglio - 10 voti
Jorge Bergoglio - 10 votes	

REACTION: BERGOGLIO, shocked. He barely can hear the rest of the votes as the Scrutineer continues ...

SCRUTINEER / CAMERLENGO:	SCRUTATORE / CAMERLENGO:
Carlo Maria Martini - 9 votes	Carlo Maria Martini - 9 voti
Camillo Ruini - 6 votes	Camillo Ruini - 6 voti
Angelo Sodano - 4 votes ...	Angelo Sodano - 4 voti

REACTION: Ratzinger is watching Bergoglio trying to process what just happened. He too barely listens ...

SCRUTINEER / CAMERLENGO:	SCRUTATORE / CAMERLENGO:
Oscar Maradiaga - 3 votes	Oscar Mariadaga - 3 voti
Dionigi Tettamanzi - 2 votes	Dionigi Tettamanzi - 2 voti
Giacomo Biffi - 1 vote	Giacomo Biffi - 1 voto
Others - 33 votes	Altri - 33 voti

REACTION: BERGOGLIO, shocked.

REACTION: Ratzinger looks at Bergoglio trying to understand what has just happened.

**EXT. ST PETER'S SQUARE (2005) - DAY**

Come in again on "that chimney pot". The first puffs of smoke appear.

TV REPORTERS:  
And we have smoke! Is it white? Is it black?

The EXCITED PUBLIC see smoke coming out of the CHAPEL CHIMNEY. They strain to see what color. They stand on tip toe, pull out binoculars.

TV REPORTERS:  
It's Black! It's Black! So no candidate has achieved the seventy seven votes required for an overall majority. We go to another vote.

Sigh of disappointment from the crowd.

**INT. ST. MARTA (2005) - DAY**

The cardinals are queueing at the buffet.

Pick up on Ratzinger talking to a cardinal. He'll make the same speech - discreetly - to one cardinal after another during the lunch break. The dialogue is continuous, but the lines will be repeated in four different situations. At the buffet, seated, standing in a corner with three African Cardinals, talking to a table full of Asian Cardinals.

RATZINGER:  
We need one common point of reference. Interpreted from many angles yes. But one, unchanging eternal truth. Take the traveller who is lost. He takes out a, what?

CARDINAL:  
A mobile phone?

RATZINGER

In my day a compass--Only when it finds True North can the compass help. Without God, humanity has no agreed reference point, no axis mundi.

Pick up on Bergoglio sitting with his friends.

BERGOGLIO:

It's just ten votes.

TURKSON:

No one from the Southern Hemisphere has had so many before. The World just tipped on its axis.

HUMMES:

Martini got nine. That's nineteen votes for real change. If he tells his followers to transfer their votes to you ...

TURKSON:

Like the mustard seed which when it is planted is the smallest of all seeds but which when it grows ...

HUMMES:

The birds of the air make their nests in it.

PICK UP ON Ratzinger giving his pitch to another cardinal. He goes from one table to the next like a groom at his wedding. Networking.

Go back to

Bergoglio, Hummes and Turkson. They talk out of the corners of their mouths.

BERGOGLIO:

Reform needs a politician. Transfer your votes to Cardinal Martini. He has fought for reform for years.

HUMMES:

I already voted for Martini.

TURKSON:

What!?



HUMMES:

(TO BERGOGLIO) You said you didn't want it and I believed you. And now Martini has just asked anyone who voted for him to vote for you instead.

BERGOGLIO:

No. Please.

TURKSON:

(Enjoying the discomfort) The most important qualification for any leader is not wanting to be leader....Plato.

HUMMES:

That's why it must not be Ratzinger. He really wants it.

BERGOGLIO:

Do you feel he wants it? I think he'd rather be in peace writing in Bavaria. Being Pope is like being a martyr.

He looks over at Ratzinger as he says this. Ratzinger spots the look. He knows they are talking about him. He glances at the camera.

A bell rings and we go back to:

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2005) - DAY**

That timeless choreography of cardinals going up one by one to vote. And of votes being counted.

The results of the second vote are announced. Bergoglio is still in there. His vote has slightly increased.

SCRUTINEER :

Joseph Ratzinger 65 ...  
Jorge Bergoglio 35 ...  
Angelo Sodano 4...  
Dionigi Tettamanzi 2...  
Giacomo Biffi 1...  
Dario Hoyos 1...

INSERT:

Shot of "that chimney" and some black smoke.

INSERT:

Time lapse of the Sun going down over the dome of St. Peter's.

**EXT. ST. PETER'S SQUARE (2005) - EVENING**

Now familiar shot of Vatican-watchers sighing with disappointment.

**EXT. BUS PARKING SISTINE CHAPEL (2005) - EVENING**

The cardinals are filing out, ready to be shown into a cavalcade of mini-buses.

PICK UP ON Bergoglio stepping back to let another cardinal get on the bus ahead of him. As he does so, Arinze - who is heading for a different mini-bus - pauses and says something to him discreetly.

ARINZE:

Ratzinger has been here all his life. If he was the man to change things he would have done it by now. I'll join you for breakfast tomorrow. I can bring you fifteen votes if the conversation goes well.

He slides off. That was the most discreet piece of lobbying you ever saw in your life.

Hummes however saw it, through the window of the minibus. He raises his eyes brows meaningfully at Bergoglio as he gets in.

The busloads of cardinals move off.

**INT. MINI BUS (2005) - EVENING**

The bus load of cardinals - including Bergoglio - drives round to the St. Marta. There's a matey, male atmosphere. Hummes, Bergoglio and others in the back of a minibus. Hummes whispers in Bergoglio's ear.

HUMMES:

If the conservatives are taking you seriously... well you're going to have to get a refund on your return flight, Jorge.

HUMMES:

Si los conservadores lo toman en serio, va a tener que pedir el reembolso de su viaje de vuelta.

**INT. BEDROOMS - ST. MARTA (2005) - NIGHT**

Hummes opens his room door and finds an A4 envelope on the floor. He picks it up, frowns.

He looks down the corridor. Every one of the rooms has an identical envelope protruding from under the door.

**INT. ST. MARTA - BREAKFAST ROOM (2005) - MORNING**

Hummes and Bergoglio are collecting their coffee and rolls. Hummes is telling him what happened.

On a nearby table a group of cardinals are conversing. A couple of them have copies of the dossier with them. Some of them glance discretely look at Bergoglio.

HUMMES:	HUMMES:
It's a dossier. About you.	Es un informe. Sobre usted.
About your past.	Sobre su pasado.

A look of anguish on Bergoglio's face.

HUMMES:	HUMMES:
You've got an enemy, Jorge. Could be the government - back home. The last thing they need is to have to pretend to be pleased to have an Argentine pope, when he spends all his time attacking them for neglecting the poor. Or it could come from the leftwing press in Argentina, you know they don't like you either. Or it could be this lot - the Curia. You've got a choice of enemies, Jorge.	Usted tiene un enemigo, Jorge. Podría ser el gobierno de su país... Lo último que desean es verse obligados a fingir que les encanta tener un papa argentino, cuando usted no ha dejado de atacarlos por ignorar a los pobres. O bien podría ser el ala izquierda de la prensa de Argentina... Usted sabe que a ellos tampoco les cae bien... O podría ser alguien de nuestro mismo grupo... La Curia. Usted tiene enemigos de toda clase, Jorge.

BERGOGLIO spots Arinze coming towards him, carrying his own austere breakfast. Arinze turns on his heel, blanking him.

Bergoglio's status has changed over night.

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2005) - DAY**

Back to the choreography of cardinals walking up to vote. Their votes are handed over. They are counted.

**EXT. ST. PETER'S SQUARE (2005) - DAY**

Back to that stove-pipe chimney but this time the chimney is in the foreground, and the crowd is the background. A puff of smoke.

TV REPORTERS:

(WEARY) Black smoke again. This is the second day and the third round of voting so...no, wait. It's white. The smoke is white.

A huge cheer from the square. Bells start ringing.

INSERT:

Shots of more cheering in -

Tokyo,

Manila,

Madrid.

**INT. ROOM OF TEARS / VATICAN (2005) - DAY**

MONTAGE of:

- A) One of three VELVET RED SHOES being selected by the ASSISTANT.
- B) The SHOES being slipped onto the PAPAL FEET...
- C) One of three PAPAL VESTMENTS is selected by the ASSISTANT.
- D) One of three WHITE SKULL CAPS...
- E) The PAPAL RING is lifted from a CRIMSON VELVET PILLOW.

TV REPORTER (V.O.)

The new Pope is taken into the dressing room which has been known for centuries as the Chamber of Tears. Pope John XXIII famously said that no one tells the new Pope whether they are tears of joy or of sorrow. He has to find out for himself.

- F) A SHORT RED CAPE, the MOZZETA, is selected.

G) The PAPAL PALLIUM, a thick red decorated band that encircles the neck with pendants on the end, is lifted from a frame...

H) A GOLDEN MITRE is set into the now RINGED HAND of the NEW PONTIFF...

**EXT. ST. PETER'S SQUARE (2005) - DAY**

- the DOORS of the BALCONY open - and the red-robed Protodeacon - ESTEVEZ - appears, flanked by two SWISS GUARDS.

One of the GUARDS swings a MICROPHONE on a pole in front of ESTEVEZ, as the CROWD falls silent....

ESTEVEZ:

Fratelli e sorelle carissimi  
(the italians roar)  
Queridísimos hermanos y hermanas.  
(the hispanic contingent  
roars)  
Bien chers frères et sœurs.  
(the French roar)  
Liebe Brüeder und Schwestern  
(a German roar)  
Dear brothers and sisters

ESTEVEZ: (CONT'D)

Annuntio vobis gaudium magnum;  
habemus Papam!

The CROWD ROAR, and then fall silent, awaiting the name of the new POPE.

ESTEVEZ (CONT'D)

Eminentissimum ac Reverendissimum  
Dominum, Dominum Josephum Sanctae  
Romanae Ecclesiae Cardinalem  
Ratzinger, qui sibi nomen imposuit  
Benedictum XVI.

ANGLE ON: The GERMAN contingent, identified by a GERMAN FLAG, who erupt in JUBILANT JOY, jumping up and down and screaming like football supporters.

Estevez retires and - a second later - the NEW POPE steps out onto the BALCONY in FULL CEREMONIAL DRESS, wearing mitre. He raises his hands and joins them above his head, as the CROWD begin to CHANT:

CROWD

VIVA PAPA! VIVA PAPA! VIVA PAPA!

CLOSE ON: RATZINGER, smiling.

RATZINGER:  
My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, after the great Pope John Paul II, the cardinals have elected me, a simple and humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord. I am consoled by the fact that the Lord knows how to work even with flawed instruments.

RATZINGER:  
Cari fratelli e sorelle, dopo il grande Papa Giovanni Paolo II, i signori cardinali hanno eletto me, un semplice e umile lavoratore nella vigna del Signore. Mi consola il fatto che il Signore sa lavorare e agire anche con strumenti insufficienti.

REACTION CROWD: Listening, respectfully, but - seem UNEMOTIONAL, COOL.

### **INT. VATICAN (2005) - EVENING**

Bergoglio is talking to Hummes as they leave. We can still hear music and cheering from outside.

CLAUDIO HUMMES:  
What will you do now?

CLAUDIO HUMMES:  
¿Qué piensa hacer ahora?

BERGOGLIO:  
Back to Buenos Aires. Plan my retirement.

BERGOGLIO:  
Volver a Buenos Aires y planear mi retiro.

CLAUDIO HUMMES:  
I was actually asking what you were going to do for lunch. You're too young to retire.

CLAUDIO HUMMES:  
En realidad le preguntaba que pensaba hacer para el almuerzo. Usted es demasiado joven para retirarse.

BERGOGLIO:  
The church has just voted to make sure overdue reforms remain overdue. I can probably do more good as a parish priest.

BERGOGLIO:  
La Iglesia acaba de votar para que las reformas que no se hicieron sigan sin hacerse... Creo que puedo ayudar más trabajando como un simple cura de parroquia.

### **EXT. BUENOS AIRES GALLERIA (2012)- SATURDAY EVENING**

Bergoglio is coming out of a barbershop, having just had his hair cut. Outside the shop is a post office kiosk.

A woman - LISABETTA - is also at the kiosk, buying stamps. Bergoglio goes in for a bit of banter.

BERGOGLIO:  
Don't buy stamps from 'Tonio.  
They don't work.

TONIO:  
There's nothing wrong with my  
stamps.

BERGOGLIO:  
I wrote a beautiful, elegant  
letter to someone a month ago  
and no reply. Sent the same  
letter again, still no reply.  
His stamps don't work.

LISABETTA:  
It doesn't matter how good  
your letter is, Jorge, they  
are never going to let you  
play in goal for San Lorenzo.

Bergoglio sonríe.

LISABETTA: (CONT'D) (CONT'D)  
Maybe you got the wrong  
address.

BERGOGLIO:  
It's quite a well-known  
address.

LISABETTA:  
Who is it?

BERGOGLIO:  
The Pope.

Lisabetta gives Bergoglio a letter.

LISABETTA:  
So Tonio's stamps work. I  
came to bring you this  
letter. It's from the  
Vatican.

PICK UP.

Lisabetta and Bergoglio walk along the galeria. Bergoglio  
takes the letter from the envelope and starts reading.

BERGOGLIO:  
No le compres estampillas a  
Tonio que no sirven para  
nada.

TONIO:  
Mis estampillas no tienen  
nada de malo.

BERGOGLIO:  
Escribí una carta preciosa el  
mes pasado y nunca me  
respondieron. La mandé de  
nuevo y tampoco recibí  
respuesta. Sus estampillas no  
sirven.

LISABETTA:  
(bromea)  
No importa lo bien escrita  
que esté su carta, Jorge...  
nunca van a dejarlo jugar en  
San Lorenzo!

LISABETTA: (CONT'D)  
Talvez la mandó a la  
dirección equivocada.

BERGOGLIO:  
Imposible... Es una dirección  
bastante conocida.

LISABETTA:  
¿A quién se la mandó?

BERGOGLIO:  
Al Papa

LISABETTA:  
Las estampillas de Tonio si'  
funcionan. Vine a traerle  
esta carta. Es del Vaticano.

LISABETTA:  
Why do you want to talk to  
the pope?

LISABETTA:  
Porque quiere hablar con el  
Papa?

PICK UP ON - He hasn't yet read the letter.

BERGOGLIO:  
Already booked my flight.

BERGOGLIO:  
Ya reservé mi vuelo.

LISABETTA:  
No. Seriously? Why? What's so  
urgent?

LISABETTA:  
No. En serio?? Porqué? Qué  
puede ser tan urgente?

Once again he doesn't respond except by looking through the  
letters. He's being evasive. She guesses.

LISABETTA: (CONT'D)  
You're going to resign.

LISABETTA: (CONT'D)  
Usted quiere renunciar.

He looks up.

LISABETTA: (CONT'D)  
You wrote telling him and he  
didn't reply. No. Don't. We  
need you. Maybe that's why he  
didn't reply. Maybe he can  
see how much Buenos Aires  
needs you.

LISABETTA: (CONT'D)  
Le escribí para decírselo y  
él no le contestó. No. No lo  
haga. Nosotros lo  
necesitamos. Tal vez por eso  
no le contestó. Tal vez él  
puede ver cuanto lo necesita  
Buenos Aires.

BERGOGLIO:  
He'd need a good telescope to  
spot that from the Vatican  
palace. (Skim -reading) He's  
summoned me to Rome.

BERGOGLIO:  
Va a necesitar un buen  
largavistas para verlo desde  
el palacio del Vaticano.  
(lee por encima la  
carta)  
Quiere verme en Roma.

LISABETTA:  
Maybe he does have a  
telescope.

LISABETTA:  
Parece que ya se consiguió un  
buen largavistas...



BERGOGLIO:  
I booked my flights BEFORE I  
was summoned.

BERGOGLIO:  
Yo reservé mi vuelo antes de  
recibir este citatorio.

LISABETTA:  
That's quite a coincidence.

LISABETTA:  
Es una coincidencia.

BERGOGLIO:  
There's no such thing as  
coincidences. We're in God's  
hands.

BERGOGLIO:  
Las coincidencias no existen.  
Todos estamos en las manos de  
Dios.

**INT. PRIVATE CHAPEL, VATICAN (2012) - DAY**

Ratzinger alone, praying in Latin, takes his HANDS FROM HIS  
FACE, and finishes praying in a little side-chapel.

RATZINGER:  
Domine exaudi orationem meam.

He makes a weary SIGN of the CROSS, approaches the ALTAR and,  
with a CANDLE SNUFFER, SNUFFS out the flame. Oddly, the SMOKE  
from the flame doesn't rise, but drifts left and right,  
meandering! Ratzinger looks upward, for the cause. He tries  
to waft the smoke upwards.

**EXT. /INT (2012) - NEWS REPORT**

MONTAGE: of news reports of Benedict as Pope.

NEWSREADERS:  
It's "What the Butler leaked" as  
another scandal rocks the Vatican.  
Word today of a new crisis as a  
leaked 300 page dossier surfaces  
which paints a damning picture of  
the curia. Riven with factionalism,  
resisting reform, malpractice by  
the Vatican bank; and even sexual  
misconduct among high-ranking  
members of the clergy. The man who  
leaked the document - the Pope's  
own personal assistant, Paolo  
Gabrielle - has been arrested and  
charged with theft for stealing the  
document.

A) Paolo opens the door for Ratzinger at the private  
entrance at the Vatican.

- B) Paolo pours Fanta for Ratzinger as he dines with other Cardinals.
- C) We could also have a bad quality image of a priest with a prostitute in the street at night.
- D) Vatican Bank seen from outside.
- E) Money.
- F) A Bishop coming out of a fancy car.
- G) On the TV, Paolo is being lead away by some Italian police. Off Paolo's face we -

CUT TO:

**EXT. BUENOS AIRES HIGHWAY TO AIRPORT (2012) - END OF DAY.**

Bergoglio looks out of the bus window at the passing shanty town.

**INT. FIUMICINO - LEONARDO DA VINCI (2012) - DAY**

Bergoglio's battered shoes stroll through Arrivals. He is wearing a black jacket and trousers, like a parish priest.

When he steps through the doors he spots a liveried driver holding up a sign with BERGOGLIO written on it.

DRIVER:

Are you the Cardinal Archbishop of Buenos Aires?

He is. The driver was expecting someone better dressed.

DRIVER:

Eminence ...

He offers to take Bergoglio's bag.

BERGOGLIO:

No, no. It's fine thanks.

**EXT. FIUMICINO - LEONARDO DA VINCI (2012) - DAY**

Bergoglio strolls out of the airport, stops and stares. The car that is waiting for him is a massive Merc.

BERGOGLIO:  
I'm guessing it's that one?

He goes to open the front passenger door. The driver opens the back one.

DRIVER:  
Oh but Eminence ...

BERGOGLIO:  
I prefer to ride up front.

**INT. CAR (2012) - DAY**

The car drives off. As it pulls away, two motorbikes cruise in front of it.

BERGOGLIO:  
Did you hear the story of the time the Pope was out in one of these and he really wanted to drive it himself so he persuaded the driver to give him a go?

DRIVER:  
With respect Eminence I am the Papal driver and I don't recall any such incident.

BERGOGLIO:  
Anyway the driver got in the back, the Pope got behind the wheel and he really let rip - full throttle, way over the speed limit.

DRIVER:  
Whoever told you this was not telling you the truth.

BERGOGLIO:  
So the police pull him over and he winds the window down. The policeman looks shocked. He radios back to his station. He says, boss I don't know what to do. I just pulled a guy over. I don't know who he is but he must be super-important. Because his chauffeur is the Pope.

The driver still hasn't clocked that this is a joke.

BERGOGLIO:  
It wasn't the present Pope by the  
way so ...

Suddenly it clicks and the driver bursts out laughing.

**EXT. ROADS (2012) - DAY**

As they drive towards the Lazio hills...

BERGOGLIO : (V.O.)  
This isn't the way to Rome.

DRIVER:  
The Pope - the present Pope - is in  
his Summer residence.

BERGOGLIO : (V.O.)  
Oh. Summer residence. Maybe that's  
why he didn't get my letters.

**EXT. ROADS IN LAZIALE (2012) - DAY**

As the car draws closer to Castel Gandolfo.

DRIVER:  
Eminence, if you are meeting His  
Holiness this morning he prefers to  
see his bishops dressed like  
bishops and his cardinals like  
cardinals.

BERGOGLIO:  
Really? Do you have a spare  
cardinal's hat.

The driver is taken aback but it's just another joke.

BERGOGLIO:  
It's Ok, I do have my cassock with  
me.

PICK UP ON

The big limo and outriders parked up in a lay by next to a porqueto snack truck. Behind the truck, Bergoglio takes off his jacket and shirt and pulls on a black cassock. Across the lake we can see the dome of Castel Gandolfo.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
(Of the distant town) Is that it?

The driver nods. Bergoglio looks uneasy.

**EXT. CASTEL GANDOLFO (2012) - DAY**

The POPE's Summer Retreat. The LIMO arrives and enters the gate. Evidence everywhere of wealth, and power.

**INT. POPE'S OFFICE/CASTEL GANDOLFO (2012) - DAY**

TRACK IN on: Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict), from behind, as he looks out of the window at the arriving Limo. A nun goes to greet the limo and welcome the guest.

Behind him his new assistant - Roberto - is on the phone. We can just about overhear...

ROBERTO:  
Yes, His Holiness is reading the report as we speak. Yes, His Holiness is very much aware. He will return to Rome very soon.

ROBERTO:  
Si', Sua Santita' sta leggendo la relazione proprio mentre parliamo. Si, Sua Santita' ne e' al corrente. Rientrera' a Roma molto presto.

Roberto hangs up.

RATZINGER:  
Make him comfortable. I'll come and speak with him shortly.

RATZINGER:  
Mettetelo a suo agio. Verro' a parlargli tra breve.

**EXT. GARDEN/CASTEL GANDOLFO (2012) - DAY**

A NUN leads Bergoglio into a stunning, formal, immaculately manicured garden. Fountains bubble. Birds sing. Topiary casts elegant shadows.

NUN:  
His Holiness will join you shortly.

Bergoglio chooses a stone bench upon which to sit. He waits, looks at his watch.

BERGOGLIO:  
Does the Holy Father meet his Cardinals here often?

NUN:  
No. First time.

The servant returns with an umbrella.



**EXT. CASTLE GANDOLFO - HERB GARDEN - DAY**

BERGOGLIO:  
Is this oregano?

BERGOGLIO:  
Questo e' origano?

It is. He plucks a leaf and smells it.

BERGOGLIO:  
It takes me back. My mother  
swore by oregano. It made  
everything taste good. It  
could cure the common cold  
... it could raise the dead.

BERGOGLIO:  
Mi riporta nel passato. Mia  
madre non poteva farne a  
meno. Dava a tutto un buon  
sapore. Curava il  
raffreddore... poteva  
resuscitare i morti.

GARDENER:  
Mine was the same. Shred it  
into the breadcrumbs ...

GIARDINIERE:  
Anche la mia. Lo tritava nel  
pangrattato...

BERGOGLIO:  
I still do it that way.

BERGOGLIO:  
Io lo preparo ancora cosi'.

They're laughing and chatting when we pull back to find  
Ratzinger and Roberto have now entered the garden.

Ratzinger takes a breath, smooths himself down and transforms  
himself from a rattled, edgy old man into a decorous,  
dignified pontiff. He seems to do this with a single breath.  
He glides over to Bergoglio and greets him in Spanish.

RATZINGER:  
Good morning.

RATZINGER:  
Buenos días.

BERGOGLIO:  
Holiness ...

BERGOGLIO:  
Sanctitas...

He kisses Ratzinger's ring and holds the umbrella so it  
shades both himself and the Pope.

RATZINGER:  
Last time we met we spoke  
Latin.

RATZINGER:  
Ultima qua convénimus  
occasione, latine locuti  
sumus

BERGOGLIO:  
It was a very short meeting.  
But please, not Latin. I was  
never the student you were,  
Holy Father

BERGOGLIO:  
Conventus brevissimus  
erat. Obsecro, non Latine.  
Numquam studiosus fui ut tu,  
Sancte Pater.

Ratzinger humorously agrees to slip into English. He displays  
his sense of humour about the irritable cardinals.

RATZINGER:

Latin is useful. Especially when I have to announce bad news to Cardinals. Only 20% become angry as only 20% know what I have said. I'm sorry to have kept you waiting. I know you value punctuality.

BERGOGLIO:

It's a beautiful afternoon. I have my breviary. I take the last hour as a gift of peace from you.

RATZINGER:

My last assistant - Paolo - he would have made sure I got here on time. He was perfect.

BERGOGLIO:

But now he's in jail.

He knows this isn't a sensitive comment.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)

That must have been hard for you.

Ratzinger indicates the bench, inviting him to sit down. The lake is seen behind.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)

We could walk if you preferred.

RATZINGER:

That might not be wise.

Puzzling remark. He clarifies.

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)

Your shoelaces are undone ...

BERGOGLIO:

Oh!

Instinctively he goes to hand the umbrella to Ratzinger so he can tie his laces but Ratzinger doesn't offer to take it. That would be a breach of protocol. So Bergoglio is left awkwardly trying to put down the umbrella and tie his shoes at the same time. It's a power play. While Bergoglio is crouched down Ratzinger takes advantage of his discomfort.

RATZINGER:

You wrote to me asking for permission to resign.



BERGOGLIO:

Oh. Yes. I have my papers with me.

He takes the papers from his jacket but when he looks up.

Ratzinger seats on the bench with the view of the lake behind. Bergoglio catches up, now juggling papers and umbrella.

RATZINGER:

Cardinals are not required to offer their resignation until they're seventy five. Are you ill?

BERGOGLIO:

I have a problem with my lungs.

RATZINGER:

You were born with that. It's not really troubled you so far.

Bergoglio looks askance. Ratzinger makes a gesture for him to seat. He does.

RATZINGER:

It's in your file.

BERGOGLIO:

My file!?

RATZINGER:

We have files on everyone. You have no reason to feel flattered.

BERGOGLIO:

I'm not ill.

RATZINGER:

In fact you're very active. You walk everywhere. Sometimes use a bicycle.

BERGOGLIO:

I also tango. Once a week.

Ratzinger is taken aback at this.

BERGOGLIO

I'm Argentinian. Football and tango are compulsory.

RATZINGER

With ... somebody?

BERGOGLIO

One might look foolish if one attempted the tango alone. So for the sake of the dignity of my office - yes. With someone.

RATZINGER

You have been one of my harshest critics. There's a lot of competition for that title.

BERGOGLIO:

I've never spoken out against you.

RATZINGER:

Not directly. When I made it easier to get permission to use the old Tridentine mass, I was criticized because it contains a prayer for the conversion of the Jews.

BERGOGLIO:

I never said a word.

RATZINGER:

You invited the chief rabbi to a public lunch.

BERGOGLIO:

Rabbi Skora and I go back a long way. Also I'd cooked too much. Wasting food is stealing from the poor.

By now they have strolled into one of those decorative mazes. Preoccupied, they take the twists and turns as they come.

RATZINGER:

You refuse to live in the official Archbishop's palace.

BERGOGLIO:

It's too big for me. Too grand.

RATZINGER:

By living so simply you imply that the rest of us are not living simply enough.

BERGOGLIO:

Surely one can never live simply enough.

RATZINGER:  
On married priests ...

BERGOGLIO  
I was misquoted. I said celibacy  
can be a blessing but it might also  
be a curse.

RATZINGER  
On homosexuality ...

BERGOGLIO:  
All I said was ...

RATZINGER  
You were no doubt misquoted again?

BERGOGLIO:  
Taken out of context.

Ratzinger stops walking and faces Bergoglio.

RATZINGER  
Might I suggest you try telling  
newspapers the opposite of what you  
think?! Your chances of being  
quoted correctly might improve!

Ratzinger seems rattled. Bergoglio composed. He smiles.

BERGOGLIO:  
Yes, Holiness.

They are interrupted by a beep from the watch. Ratzinger  
explains.

RATZINGER:  
My doctor gave it to me. It counts  
your steps and monitors your heart  
beat ... He said "you are in good  
shape for 86, but very bad shape  
for a human being." I believe this  
was a joke.

The watch speaks again.

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)  
I'm patronized by a watch!

BERGOGLIO:  
I know how it feels to be  
patronized.

Benedict gives Bergoglio a look.

The watch pipes up

WATCH:

Don't stop now! Keep moving!

Bergoglio smiles. Ratzinger smiles back. They get walking.

**EXT. CASTEL GANDOLFO - MAZE 1 (2012) - DAY**

They walk through a maze with narrow aisles. Bergoglio is behind Benedict but still holding the umbrella so it protects the Pope. It's not easy.

Again Ratzinger seems not to notice the other man's discomfort. They walk and talk.

RATZINGER:

You openly give the sacraments to those who are out of communion ... to the divorced, for instance ...

Bergoglio comes back on this, cutting the Pope off.

BERGOGLIO:

I believe the sacraments are not a reward for the virtuous. They're food for the starving.

RATZINGER:

So what matters is what YOU believe, not what the Church has taught for hundreds of years.

**EXT. CASTLE GANDOLFO, ARCH - DAY**

Ratzinger walks away looking slightly self-satisfied. He's provoked this explosion. Bergoglio follows.

BERGOGLIO:

Mark 2.xvii - "I came to call sinners," as the Church has taught for THOUSANDS of years.

They walk up - ARCH

RATZINGER:

But if we do not draw a line ...

BERGOGLIO:

... or build a wall to separate ...

RATZINGER

You speak as if all walls are bad.  
A house is made of walls. Strong  
walls.

BERGOGLIO:

Did Jesus build walls? His face is  
Mercy. The bigger the sinner, the  
warmer the welcome. Mercy is the  
dynamite that blows down walls.

RATZINGER

You have answers for everything.  
Don't you? You're clever. Far too  
clever.

Ratzinger walks away.

**EXT. - CASTLE GANDOLFO - TEA TABLE - DAY**

Ratzinger and Bergoglio are having tea.

RATZINGER:

You see my dilemma. You are  
eloquent. You are popular. If I  
allow you to resign, it will look  
like a protest. The Church being  
attacked from all sides. Why would  
you want to abandon her to her  
enemies? Does a shepherd run away  
when the wolves appear?

BERGOGLIO:

I'm not running away. I'll take a  
parish. I'll be a good shepherd to  
its people.

RATZINGER:

Don't you see? You were very nearly  
elected Pope. If you go, that is a  
criticism. The way you live is a  
criticism. Your SHOES are a  
criticism.

Bergoglio looks down at his shoes...

BERGOGLIO: (SMILING)

What is wrong with my shoes? They  
look...

RATZINGER:

Do not make a joke. It's dishonest.  
I am the Pope. Have enough respect  
to show me your real anger.

Bergoglio is on the back foot now.

BERGOGLIO:

Holy Father ...

RATZINGER:

If I allow someone of your standing  
simply to walk away - it will look  
like a protest. Is it a protest?

Bergoglio is on the spot now.

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)

Do you think the Church is failing?

BERGOGLIO:

We are losing people. In America,  
if Lapsed Catholics were a  
religion, it would be the fourth  
biggest one.

RATZINGER

And this is the fault of the  
Church? Not of Western relativism  
and permissiveness, of anything  
goes?

RATZINGER:

You called the church narcissistic.  
Or were you misquoted?

BERGOGLIO:

No. I did say that. It seems to me  
that the Church - your Church -

RATZINGER

My church?

BERGOGLIO:.

OUR Church is moving in directions  
I can't condone ... or not moving  
at all when the times cry out for  
movement. I no longer wish to be a  
salesman...

RATZINGER:

A salesman?

BERGOGLIO:.  
For a product..

RATZINGER:  
A product?

BERGOGLIO:  
That I can't with full conscience  
endorse.

RATZINGER  
...that you don't believe in?

BERGOGLIO:  
It's like we don't belong to this  
world...

RATZINGER:  
"A church that marries the spirit  
of the age ...

BERGOGLIO:  
... will be widowed in the next  
age." Yes yes I know.

RATZINGER:  
When you were leader of the Jesuits  
in Argentina you removed all the  
books on Marxism from the library.

BERGOGLIO:  
For many years I made the  
seminarians wear cassocks all day -  
even when they were working in the  
vegetable patch. And I called civil  
marriage for homosexuals, the  
devil's plan.

RATZINGER:  
You were not unlike me.

There's a flicker of emotion here - as though this change in  
him is a personal betrayal.

BERGOGLIO:  
I changed.

RATZINGER  
No. You compromised.

BERGOGLIO:  
No. I changed. It's a different  
thing.

Ratzinger starts to walk away from Bergoglio again. He has had enough of semantics this morning. ("Changed" - "Compromised" - Enough!)

BERGOGLIO:

Life - the life He gave us - is all change. You are the successor of St. Peter. St. Peter was married!

RATZINGER:

Oh, thank you for telling me. I had no idea.

BERGOGLIO:

We didn't ask priests to be celibate until 12th Century. Angels! Barely mentioned until the fifth century then suddenly angels are everywhere -- like pigeons! Nothing is static in nature or in the universe, not even God.

The Pope stops in front of a pond, turns to Bergoglio - He is tired of all of this.

Pause.

RATZINGER:

God does not change!

BERGOGLIO:

Yes. He does. He is evolving. He moves towards us as we...

RATZINGER:

I am the way! The truth! And the life! Where should we find him if He is always moving?

BERGOGLIO:

On the journey?

Ratzinger stops again. Buzz of dragonflies, insects and birds by the pond. He flicks a fly from his face. He sees a gardener. The gardener looks.

GARDENER 2:

Your Holiness.

Ratzinger waves to him. Smiles.

RATZINGER:

Buon Giorno.



The greeting made the gardener's day.

They walk again, towards a gate.

RATZINGER

This is ego. You think you know better.

BERGOGLIO:

I'm an Argentinian. How does an Argentinian kill himself? He climbs to the top of his ego and jumps off!

This quip is supposed to thaw the ice a little. It doesn't.

**EXT. CASTLE GANDOLFO - WOODS - DAY**

They move through a gate into a wooded area.

Ratzinger looks around, uneasy.

RATZINGER:

I'm not familiar with this part of the garden...

He suddenly seems frail and elderly. Bergoglio takes his arm.

BERGOGLIO:

If there is some shade.

RATZINGER:

Yes, and perhaps we'll find God over there. On "the journey"! I'll introduce you to him.

On a dirty wild path. Walk and talk. The sound of cicadas is suddenly shrill and deafening.

RATZINGER

We defend two thousand years of tradition. But Bergoglio knows better.

BERGOGLIO:

We - have spent these last years disciplining anyone who questions the line on birth control, divorce, being gay.

(MORE)

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)

While our planet was being destroyed, while inequality grew like a cancer, we worried about whether it was alright to say mass in Latin, whether girls should be allowed to be altar servers? We built a wall around ourselves and all the time the real danger was inside with us.

RATZINGER

What are you talking about?

They are in a less well-kept area, with fallen branches, an area where no one goes.

BERGOGLIO:

I think you know. We knew that there were priests ... bishops ... great men of the Church who preyed on children. And what did we do?

RATZINGER:

We are addressing this. No one could have imagined the scale, the difficulty. From the outside, with hindsight this seems simple but when you are trying to lead an organisation that has a billion members ...

Bergoglio cuts him off.

BERGOGLIO:

We heard their confession. And moved them on to their next parish, where they could start all over again.

RATZINGER:

We believed if they showed repentance ...

BERGOGLIO:

"That it was better if nine children suffer than if nine million lost their faith because of a scandal?"

RATZINGER:

No. Of course not. That's grotesque.

BERGOGLIO:  
A bishop. He said it to me.

**EXT. CASTLE GANDOLFO - BENCH IN THE WOODS**

They are now in a little glade with a bench in it. Ratzinger doesn't answer but sinks down onto the bench. Bergoglio is not sure if protocol allows him to sit too.

RATZINGER  
How did you answer him?

BERGOGLIO:  
I ordered him to strip the priest of his priestly ministry, and to initiate a canonical trial in his tribunal. Straight away. I did not think that a few magic words from the priest would make everything alright again.

RATZINGER  
"Magic words"?! Is that how you describe the sacrament of ...

BERGOGLIO:  
Confession cleans the sinner's soul. It doesn't help the victim. Our whole church is in need of forgiveness. Where is our humility? Sin is a wound, not a stain. It needs to be treated, healed. Forgiveness is not enough.

The urbane, calm approach he took at first has gone. He speaks with passion and anger.

Ratzinger responds with forensic cool.

RATZINGER  
You say "we" but you mean Ratzinger.

BERGOGLIO:  
No, Father, believe me.

RATZINGER  
Who was too busy defending our teachings? Who fretted about the words of the liturgy? I am the one you think was to blame.

BERGOGLIO:  
Father ..

RATZINGER  
Your resignation is a protest  
against the Holy See. And you are  
asking me to ratify it.

BERGOGLIO:  
No.

RATZINGER:  
You say you no longer wish to be a  
Cardinal Archbishop. Are you sure  
you still wish to be even a priest?

Ratzinger turns on his heel and goes.

Bergoglio groans. This didn't go well. He puts his head in  
his hands.

Bergoglio walks, alone, towards the residence.

**EXT. CASTEL GANDOLFO (2012) - EVENING**

At the door where she greeted him earlier, the nun is waiting  
holding his briefcase.

NUN:  
The Holy Father has retired now  
until dinner. I'm to show you your  
room.

BERGOGLIO:  
Room!?

**INT. CASTEL GANDOLFO - CORRIDOR (2012) - EVENING**

Bergoglio is following the nun along the intimidating  
corridors. He's not happy here. The nun shows him a room.

BERGOGLIO:  
Thank you, sister.

NUN:  
Oh. I almost forgot. A message from  
your assistant in Buenos Aires ...

She hands him a piece of paper. He unfolds it, troubled.

She shows him to his room. As he goes into his room...

NUN: (CONT'D)  
Is it bad news, father?

INSERT: Shot of the piece of paper in his hand. It's a starting line up for tonight's big San Lorenzo game.

BERGOGLIO:  
I'm afraid so. Lavezzi is not in the starting line up for Argentina and Equador tomorrow.

PICK UP ON Bergoglio trying to pray a little later. He is distracted by the decoration in the room - paintings of saints surrounded by beaming baby-faced cherubim.

**INT. DINING ROOM / CASTEL GANDOLFO (2012) - NIGHT**

Bergoglio comes downstairs. He's lost until the same nun spots him and summons him. She shows him to the dining room.

The nun shows him to his place. He's surprised to see the table is only set for one.

BERGOGLIO:  
What about his Holiness?

NUN:  
His Holiness eats in his room.

BERGOGLIO:  
Was it something I said?

The nun titters.

NUN:  
No, no. The Pope eats alone.

BERGOGLIO:  
Why?

A covered plate is placed before Bergoglio.

NUN: (CONT'D)  
He just prefers it that way. But he has arranged for you both to eat the same meal. It's a traditional Bavarian dish. A favorite. Just as his Mother used to make it.

She takes the lid off the plate. Underneath is a profoundly unappetizing Bavarian soup with noodles. Bergoglio reacts.

NUN:  
Knoedel mit sosse.

There's a lot of sympathy in just saying the name. Bergoglio laughs. The nun joins in. Off their laughter we -

CUT TO:

**INT. PAPAL APARTMENTS (2012) - NIGHT**

Ratzinger eating the same unappetizing soup, alone. He reaches for his wine glass and fills it with ... Fanta.

We can just hear the faint echo of nun-laughter from below.

**INT. CASTEL GANDOLFO - TV ROOM / MUSIC ROOM (2012) - NIGHT**

The Nun shows Bergoglio into a room with a TV in it.

NUN:  
After dinner sometimes he comes  
here to relax.

She goes. Idly, Bergoglio picks up the TV remote and channel flicks. He's looking for the match ...

But an electronic voice says "Bravo". Surprised, Bergoglio looks up to see that Ratzinger has come in - still wearing his white ROBES but over it now a classic BAVARIAN KNITTED VEST.

RATZINGER:  
The watch. 10000 steps. My target.  
We travelled a long way this  
afternoon.

BERGOGLIO:  
Physically perhaps.

RATZINGER places the papers and book(s) on the table and notices without even looking up (he misses nothing)  
BERGOGLIO moving to switch off the TV.

RATZINGER:  
No. Please. I know you love  
football. I've never understood the  
excitement myself.

RATZINGER looks around to find his reading glasses -  
somewhere in the room. Walks in front of BERGOGLIO.

BERGOGLIO:  
Not even during the World Cup? You know, your national team, and mine, we could be in the final together next year. They could be - Germany - a match for Argentina.

RATZINGER mouths a HARD CANDY MINT.

RATZINGER:  
*(disinterested)*  
Yeah. It's good.

BERGOGLIO pulls out his papers, for the POPE to sign.

BERGOGLIO:  
Holy Father, I want you to -- look at my papers.

RATZINGER:  
No, no, no, no -

BERGOGLIO:  
Please, please, this is the reason I'm here.

RATZINGER:  
*(firmly)*  
Nein!

Awkward silence.

RATZINGER:  
Please. I know you like to talk but I'm tired, I'm exhausted. I need to rest. Sit down and just be quiet together. Please sit. That's good... I get so tired. Would you like a tea or coffee?

BERGOGLIO  
No, no. I find if I drink coffee too late at night I can't sleep.

RATZINGER:  
Me, too...

The men sit in silence for several moments. SILENCE.

RATZINGER:  
You know... the hardest thing is to listen, to hear his voice...God's voice.





BERGOGLIO: (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I felt abandoned. God stopped talking to me. I stopped talking to him. So I got on with life. I had Amalia. I had a job. I had a future.

Through the whirl of limbs comes the 19 year old Bergoglio with his girlfriend - Amalia. They are superb dancers, and their moves are replete with passion, drama, technical prowess, códigos and yeta, and milonga, their bodies arching away from each other but contacting at the hip. Hot stuff!

They steal the show and then move to the shadows.

AMALIA:

I don't date bouncers.  
Nothing but trouble.

AMALIA:

Yo no salgo con gente de la noche. Sólo traen problemas.

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:

I'm leaving all this behind.  
Got the job at the laboratory.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:

Eso ya quedó atrás. Conseguí el trabajo en el laboratorio.

AMALIA:

Oh! So, you're a scientist now?!

AMALIA

Ah! Entonces ahora sos un científico...

BERGOGLIO:

Correct.

BERGOGLIO:

Correcto.

He kisses her. She pulls back.

AMALIA:

What are you doing?

AMALIA:

¿Qué estás haciendo?

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:

I'm conducting a little experiment. In chemistry.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:

Un pequeño experimento de química.

He kisses her again.

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:

I have (kiss) a theory (kiss) that if you fuse (kiss) two unstable elements (kiss) something magic happens ...

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:

Tengo (la besa) una teoría (la besa): si uno fusiona (la besa) dos elementos inestables (la besa) sucede algo mágico...

He reaches into the top of her blouse ..

AMALIA:

Stop. What are you ...

AMALIA:

Pará... ¿Qué estás---

... and produces as if by magic a ring. She beams.

**INT. HICKTHIER FOOD LABORATORY (1955)**

Young Bergoglio hands a sheaf of papers to Esther. She scans them.

ESTHER:  
These results are the same as last time.

ESTHER:  
Son los mismos resultados de la última vez.

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:  
Same experiment.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Es el mismo experimento.

She stares at him.

ESTHER:  
No. I mean these are EXACTLY the same. You haven't re-done the experiment. How many times do I have to tell you, we test, test and test again. We live or die by facts. Facts are ... you've had a haircut.

ESTHER:  
Quiero decir que son *exactamente* los mismos resultados. No repetiste el experimento. ¿Cuántas veces te lo tengo que decir? Tenemos que probar, probar y probar de nuevo... Vivimos o morimos por los hechos. Los hechos son---

(se interrumpe, algo le llama la atención)  
Te cortaste el pelo.

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:  
That is a fact.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Eso es un hecho.

She undoes the top of his lab coat.

ESTHER:  
And you're wearing your best shirt.

ESTHER:  
Y te pusiste tu mejor camisa.

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:  
That's also a fact.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Eso también es un hecho.

ESTHER:  
You're finally going to ask her.

ESTHER:  
¡Por fin te decidiste! ¡Le vas a proponer casamiento!

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:  
Now that is speculation.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Eso es especulación.

ESTHER:  
No. That's deduction.

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:  
Well it's incorrect. I  
already asked her. Tonight  
I'm going to ask her parents.

ESTHER:  
So you finally decided that  
you're not going to be a  
priest.

BERGOGLIO:  
That's a logical conclusion.

ESTHER:  
What took you so long?

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:  
I had to, you know, listen.  
(He points up to Heaven) I  
thought He might have other  
plans for me.

ESTHER:  
The last thing this country  
needs is more priests. Go.  
I'll re-do the tests. But  
don't ever try to short-  
change me again. OK?

BERGOGLIO:  
OK.

ESTHER:  
And Jorge - fix your hair.

ESTHER  
No. Es una deducción.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Bueno... Es incorrecta. Ya le  
propuse casamiento. Esta  
noche voy a hablar con sus  
padres.

ESTHER:  
Finalmente decidiste que no  
vas a ser cura!

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Esa es una conclusión lógica.

ESTHER:  
Porqué tardaste tanto?

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Tenía que escuchar a...  
(mira hacia el cielo)  
... vos me entendés... Pensé  
que Él tenía otros planes  
para mi.

ESTHER:  
Lo último que necesita este  
país es otro cura. Andá. Yo  
me encargo de hacer las  
pruebas de nuevo... ¡Pero no  
vuelvas a engatusarme nunca  
más!

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
(asintiendo)  
Prometido.

ESTHER:  
Y, Jorge..., arreglate ese  
pelo!

**EXT. FLORES BASILICA (1955) - EVENING**

BERGOGLIO, dressed in his best clothes, stops to buy YELLOW  
ROSES from a stall in front of the basilica.

As he passes the Church, he hears music playing. That's odd.

**INT. AMALIA'S BEDROOM (1955) - EVENING**

AMALIA gets herself ready for JORGE, pulling on a pretty dress. Putting on make-up. Her Mother puts a flower in AMALIA'S HAIR, and then nods, approving, excited. She knows what's going on.

**INT. BASILICA OF ST JOSEPH OF FLORES (1955) - NIGHT**

Young Bergoglio goes into the church. It's empty. Or so it seems. The music stops.

Suddenly theThe Pope / Contract.

music stops and a priest crosses to the confessional. Seeing Bergoglio he waves him into the confessional. He assumes that that's what Bergoglio was waiting for ...

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:	JOVEN BERGOGLIO:
Oh. No Father. I was just ...	Oh... No, padre... Yo sólo estaba...

But the door of the confessional has closed. Now Bergoglio steps inside.

PRIEST (O.S.)	SACERDOTE (O.S.)
Close the door.	Podés cerrar la puerta.

He dimly sees the profile of a priest through the lattice.

INTERCUT between - BERGOGLIO and his POV of the PRIEST through the LATTICE - and the PRIEST'S POV of BERGOGLIO through the LATTICE.

**INT. CONFESSIONAL BOX/BASILICA OF ST JOSEPH OF FLORES (1955) - NIGHT**

BERGOGLIO kneels there in silence for a long moment, then finally "blesses" himself (makes the sign of the cross). Then-

BERGOGLIO:	JOVEN BERGOGLIO:
Bless me father...	Bendígame padre..
( <i>pause</i> )	( <i>pausa</i> )
...for I have sinned.	... porque he pecado.

UNKNOWN PRIEST:	SACERDOTE:
Yes my son--and how have you sinned?	Te escucho, hijo... ¿Qué pecado has cometido?

BERGOGLIO becomes troubled--and falls silent again.

BERGOGLIO:  
Father - before we start -  
may I ask - I haven't seen  
you before. Where are you  
from?

UNKNOWN PRIEST:  
Parque Patricios. I come here  
to celebrate Mass here now  
and then.

BERGOGLIO:  
Before we speak ... I pray  
you're not a Huracán  
supporter.

UNKNOWN PRIEST:  
Your prayers are answered.  
(beat)  
No, I live close by, in the  
priests' home for the sick.

BERGOGLIO:  
You tend to the sick?

UNKNOWN PRIEST:  
No. I am sick myself. I have  
cancer. Leukemia.

BERGOGLIO:  
(moved)  
Then father, why are you  
here?

UNKNOWN PRIEST:  
Because--when I woke this  
morning at 6 o'clock, the  
Lord told me to come here to  
hear confession. But until  
you, no-one has come, so I  
suppose--he wanted me to be  
here, to speak to you.

BERGOGLIO:  
To me?

UNKNOWN PRIEST:  
Si. Has something been  
troubling you? Your Father  
wants to help you.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Padre... - antes de empezar  
¿puedo preguntarle algo?...  
No lo había visto antes...  
¿De dónde es usted?

SACERDOTE:  
De Parque Patricios, de vez  
en cuando vengo a celebrar  
misa aquí.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Antes de que sigamos  
hablando... ya estoy rezando  
para pedir que usted no sea  
hincha de Huracán.

SACERDOTE:  
Tus rezos han sido  
escuchados...  
(pausa)  
Vivo aquí cerca... En la casa  
parroquial para los enfermos.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
¿Cuida a los enfermos?

SACERDOTE:  
No... Soy uno de ellos. Tengo  
cáncer. Leucemia.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
(conmovido)  
Entonces, padre, ¿porqué está  
acá?

SACERDOTE:  
Cuando me desperté esta  
mañana a las seis, el Señor  
me dijo que viniera a  
confesar... Pero no vino  
nadie... hasta que  
llegaste... Por eso supongo  
que Él quería que viniera  
para que hablara con vos.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
¿Conmigo?

SACERDOTE:  
Sí... ¿Hay algo que te anda  
preocupando? Tu Padre quiere  
ayudarte.

BERGOGLIO:  
Some time ago, father. I  
asked Him for a sign.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Hace un tiempo Le pedí una  
señal, padre.

UNKNOWN PRIEST:  
Perhaps He just gave you one.

SACERDOTE:  
Quizás te la está dando  
ahora.

BERGOGLIO is stunned by this news - and inside him he  
experiences an epiphany -

UNKNOWN PRIEST:  
So now--my son--whom the Lord  
sees--make a full confession  
and free your heart.

SACERDOTE:  
Hijo... ahora que ya sabés  
que el Señor te está  
mirando... Podés confesarte y  
liberar tu corazón.

PICK UP ON the priest giving absolution. There is a little  
crucifix in the room with him. Young Bergoglio touches it as  
he joins in the prayer. Then he gets up and opens the door of  
the confessional onto...

CUT TO:

**EXT. CORDOBA (ARGENTINA) (1955) - DAY**

The confessional door opens onto a beautiful, empty  
landscape. The Young Bergoglio - still in his best clothes -  
walks out across the rocks and sand, looking up at the vast  
sky and far horizon. He steps into the shadow of a great  
rock. The shadow acts like a kind of doorway leading onto ..

**EXT. RICOLETA (1955) - NIGHT**

Young Bergoglio, holding his bunch of roses, sits waiting for  
Amalia. He sees her coming towards him with her chaperone (a  
girl her own age). She smiles. He smiles back. But awkwardly.  
The chaperone moves aside as he walks towards her.

We pull back and watch them approach each other like two  
dancers. He offers her the flowers. She takes them. They face  
each other as though about to dance. But then she turns from  
him and starts to walk away. He stands and watches. We are  
watching the choreography of break-up. As she walks away,  
she looks back one last time.

He watches as she lets the flowers drop to the floor as she  
walks off. Only when she is out of sight does he turn away -  
alone and forlorn.

CUT TO:

**EXT. COLEGIO MAXIMO (1958) - DAY**

YOUNG BERGOGLIO arrives at a seminary, followed by another priest, where he is warmly greeted by the novice master - Fr. JALICS - who will become important to us later.

JALICS:  
Bergoglio?

JALICS:  
¿Bergoglio?

BERGOGLIO:  
Father ...

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Padre...

JALICS:  
Welcome home.

JALICS:  
Bienvenido a casa.

As Young Bergoglio steps inside the seminary ...

**INT. COLEGIO MAXIMO (1958) - DAY**

JALICS leads Bergoglio into the college.

They walk some steps, Jalics continues as they walk away.

JALICS:  
Do you know what you are saying No to?

JALICS:  
¿Sabés a qué estás renunciando entrando acá?

BERGOGLIO:  
Yes. She even has a name.

BERGOGLIO:  
Si. Mi renuncia tiene nombre, además.

JALICS:  
Love has many names. Learn to know her by a new one. Thinking you can live without love, that's a great mistake.

JALICS:  
El amor tiene muchos nombres. Aprendé a conocerla con un nombre nuevo. Pensar que podés vivir sin amor, es una gran equivocación.

BERGOGLIO:  
I still have San Lorenzo.

BERGOGLIO:  
Todavía me queda San Lorenzo.

RATZINGER (V.O)

Have you thought what your life would be like had that priest not been in that confessional booth at that moment?

BERGOGLIO (V.O)

No, I see now there was never any alternative. That priest--that day--finding him... Even if I had passed by, God would have found another way to call me...

**INT. MUSIC ROOM/CASTEL GANDOLFO (2012) - NIGHT**

Ratzinger stares at BERGOGLIO -

RATZINGER:  
You have such certainty.

BERGOGLIO:  
Yes. And now, I'm certain He wants  
me to retire...

RATZINGER:  
Please. Just for this evening. I  
know we have our differences, our  
disagreements, but for this one  
evening let us just be brothers for  
a while. Shall we?

RATZINGER goes over to the piano to close the lid of the  
keyboard. He closes the lid.

RATZINGER:  
Do you play?

BERGOGLIO:  
No. But I know you do. You made an  
album. "Music from the Vatican Alma  
Mater."

RATZINGER:  
That's right, I did. Do you have a  
copy?

BERGOGLIO:  
Yes, yes of course.

RATZINGER:  
I could sign it for you.

BERGOGLIO:  
Well I'm a bit out of practice.  
Let's see. I'll try.

RATZINGER opens the keyboard lid and sits at the piano bench.

RATZINGER:  
I've got this little piece by my  
favourite Czech -- a wonderful  
lullaby. I see what I can do.

RATZINGER looks at the keyboard a moment. Then starts to  
play...



RATZINGER:  
He lived a very tragic life, you know.  
(plays)  
You know the album - It was recorded at a world famous studio in London - I was told I should feel honoured because The Beatles were there - you know the Beatles?

BERGOGLIO:  
Yes. I know who they are.

RATZINGER:  
(laughs) Of course you do.

BERGOGLIO:  
Eleanor Rigby.

RATZINGER:  
Who?

BERGOGLIO:  
"Eleanor Rigby."

RATZINGER:  
I don't know -

BERGOGLIO:  
"Yellow Submarine"

RATZINGER:  
Sorry, I don't know.

BERGOGLIO:  
The album. Yellow Submarine.

RATZINGER:  
That's silly. Yellow Submarine.  
That's very funny.

RATZINGER starts playing the *Schumann Traumerei* -

RATZINGER:  
Anyway, the recording was done in London, at - I can't remember the name of the place - a church or something.

BERGOGLIO:  
Abbey Road.

RATZINGER:  
Yes, an Abbey.

RATZINGER starts playing the Schumann Traumerei

BERGOGLIO:  
You went to Abbey Road?

RATZINGER:  
Oh no. Not in person. That would  
have not been appropriate.

RATZINGER switches tunes, and plays a more uptempo song -

RATZINGER:  
You like?

RATZINGER:  
It's very different! It's  
wonderful.

RATZINGER:  
It's an old Berlin cabaret song. It  
was made famous before the war by a  
singer called Zara Leander.

BERGOGLIO:  
Who?

RATZINGER:  
Zara Leander. She was Hitler's  
favorite singer. She had a deep  
voice. She was Swedish.

BERGOGLIO:  
Sorry, who was it?

RATZINGER:  
Zara Leander. Would you like some  
wine? Next door.

BERGOGLIO  
Oh, si. Grazie.

BERGOGLIO exits, then returns with a DECANTER of wine.

BERGOGLIO:  
For you?

RATZINGER:  
No, no.  
(sings)  
Dah, dah, dah, dee dee...  
(plays)  
Good wine?

BERGOGLIO:  
Good music.

RATZINGER stops playing, closes the lid.

RATZINGER:  
I am afraid at the keyboard, I am  
not infallible. But I enjoy it.

RATZINGER and BERGOGLIO settle down into TWO ARM-CHAIRS in  
front of the TV.

RATZINGER:  
Oh well. There. I get so tired. You  
know?

BERGOGLIO takes out an ENVELOPE, and a PEN and puts them down  
on the coffee table.

An awkward silence follows as BERGOGLIO waits for the POPE to  
pick up the PEN.

Ratzinger leans forward. Is this it? No. He only picks up the  
remote from the coffee table.

RATZINGER:  
A silly little program, a guilty  
pleasure. Wait.

Suddenly Bergoglio is alert, excited by a possibility.

ANGLE ON: The TV, as the POPE finally gets "Kommissar Rex" on  
the TV. Show the OPENING CREDIT SEQUENCE, an astonishingly  
cheesy German crime show, about a DOG. He hasn't been  
listening to Bergoglio - too busy with the TV.

RATZINGER  
It is called "Kommissar Rex". Do  
you know it? It's about a German  
Shepherd dog that solves crimes.  
What trouble he gets into each  
week! Ha! Ha!

BERGOGLIO looks at his watch - anxious - then back at the  
hilariously bad TV SHOW OPENING CREDITS -

RATZINGER  
It takes my mind off things. You  
know, they liken me to a dog-"God's  
Rottweiler" - that is their  
nickname for me. The fierce guard  
dog of the house of God.

BERGOGLIO is in mental pain about missing his football match.

RATZINGER

Oh. The signal is poor today.  
Strange how some days it's good,  
some days it's bad.

Bergoglio clocks this remark. Smiles to himself.

RATZINGER:

It's a small pleasure.

BERGOGLIO:

Small pleasures are important.

RATZINGER:

I lack company. Always alone.

BERGOGLIO:

Isiah 41.x.

RATZINGER:

"Do not be afraid for I will be  
with you." Yes He's there but He  
doesn't laugh, you know. At least I  
don't hear Him laugh. You know. No,  
you don't know. Someone like you  
would not know.

Bergoglio doesn't know how to react. Ratzinger sidesteps any  
emotional response by returning to the TV.

RATZINGER:

But I mustn't spoil your enjoyment  
of the show.

LATER.

BERGOGLIO sits there, as the PROGRAM plays, but his eyes turn  
to the POPE...

...who has nodded off in his CHAIR, emitting a soft snore.  
Held tightly in the POPE's hands is the REMOTE CONTROL.

BERGOGLIO checks the time on his watch, and moves toward the  
sleeping POPE, carefully reaching out for the remote. The  
POPE's GRIP is too intense, and BERGOGLIO cannot prize the  
REMOTE CONTROL FREE. The POPE wakes up, with a SNORT, and  
immediately LAUGHS as he resumes watching the GERMAN  
PROGRAM...

RATZINGER

(to BERGOGLIO)

You enjoy?

BERGOGLIO:  
Yes of course. Thank you.

Ratzinger gets up to go to bed but before he does so, bows his head and begins that beautiful little prayer - the Nunc Dimitis. Bergoglio joins in.

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)  
Nunc dimittis. Let your servant depart in peace now Lord, according to your word..

BERGOGLIO:  
(joining in the prayer) ... For my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared for all the peoples. To be a light to lighten the world.

RATZINGER:  
God grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. Goodnight.

Bergoglio goes to give him a big hug but Ratzinger mistakes the gesture for an incoming handshake and they end up awkwardly holding hands as if about to dance.

**EXT. CASTEL GANDOLFO - NIGHT**

The setting sun sets fire to the lovely mirror of Lake Albano. The sky is full of stars. A shooting star crosses the air. Feels like a Disney movie. But a telephone starts to ring breaking the magic.

A telephone rings non stop.

**INT. CASTEL GANDOLFO - DINING ROOM - MORNING**

A couple of Nuns have set up a buffet breakfast. Bergoglio is mid breakfast when Roberto swans in. In the distance a phone is ringing non-stop.

ROBERTO:  
His Holiness apologizes. He has been called back to Rome. Urgent business. If you could be ready as soon as possible, Eminence. I will arrange for your bags to be collected.

BERGOGLIO:  
Of course. Don't worry about my  
bags. I travel light.

But Roberto doesn't respond. His own phone is ringing now  
too.

**EXT. CASTEL GANDOLFO - MORNING**

Bergoglio comes out carrying his bag.

He is intercepted by the gardener, who passes him a little  
bundle of fresh oregano.

GARDENER:  
I took a cutting. When you  
get home you can plant it.

GIARDINIERE:  
Ho preso delle talee. Quando  
arrivate a casa potete  
piantarle.

BERGOGLIO:  
Thank you. I'll remember you  
whenever I cook with it.

BERGOGLIO:  
Grazie. Mi ricordero' di lei  
ogni volta che le usero'.

Roberto comes to chivvy Bergoglio. A car is waiting.

**EXT. CASTEL GANDOLFO (2012) - HELIPAD DAY**

The car pulls up. Bergoglio climbs out and stares in  
amazement. A helicopter is waiting - Ratzinger already on  
board.

**INT. PAPAL HELICOPTER (2012) - DAY**

Ratzinger indicates the head-set so that they will be able to  
speak to each other.

BERGOGLIO:  
I hope this urgent business is  
nothing too distressing.

But Ratzinger blanks this tenderness.

RATZINGER:  
The plant? Is it basil?

BERGOGLIO:  
Oregano. Your gardener ...

RATZINGER:  
Ah yes. It must be very useful,  
this popularity of yours. Is there  
a trick to it?

BERGOGLIO:  
I try to be myself.

RATZINGER:  
Hmm, when I try to be myself,  
people don't seem to like me very  
much.

The helicopter takes off, swinging into the sky.

BERGOGLIO:  
With regard to my resignation ...

Ratzinger points at the earphones with a "can't hear you"  
gesture.

**EXT. THE VATICAN (2012) - DAY**

A SWEEPING AERIAL of the VATICAN CITY and the dome of ST  
PETERS.

**EXT. HELIPORT (2012) - DAY**

The helicopter lands - still some distance from the Vatican.  
There's a car waiting for Ratzinger.

As soon as he leaves the helicopter Ratzinger is given a fat  
report. Around him stand advisers, CLERGY and non-CLERGY.

BENEDICT opens the REPORT as he is informed of its contents.

*(We do not hear what weighty matters are discussed, but can  
only infer that the crisis is a large one.)*

ANGLE ON: Ratzinger, troubled, heavily burdened, as he  
receives the BRIEFING, climbing into the car. He seems tired  
as he listens to the impassioned arguments and counsel of his  
Curia staff.

Bergoglio has been more or less forgotten.

Roberto appears next to him.

ROBERTO:  
The Holy Father wants to finish his  
conversation with you but first he  
must deal with...an urgent matter.

BERGOGLIO:  
May I know the nature of it?

ROBERTO:  
When the Holy Father is ready I'll  
come and find you.

Roberto goes to the car. Bergoglio is left behind.

**EXT. ST. PETER'S SQUARE (2012) - DAY**

Bergoglio - bag in hand - is leaving the Vatican. He runs into a pack of opportunistic photographers and journalists. We assume they are connected with whatever it is that has brought Ratzinger back to Rome.

AMERICAN JOURNALIST:  
Father would you care to make a  
statement about the latest events?

BERGOGLIO:  
The second goal was never off-side.  
If the referee wasn't blind, San  
Lorenzo would be sitting on top of  
the Primera today.

AMERICAN JOURNALIST:  
Father, the international community  
...

BERGOGLIO:  
Oh! International! No worries on  
that score. Argentina will  
definitely qualify for the World  
Cup.

AMERICAN JOURNALIST:  
Do you have anything to say about  
the latest scandal?

BERGOGLIO:  
I'm just visiting. If you don't  
mind...what IS the latest crisis?

Rebuffed and wondering, Bergoglio moves on. The journalists roll their eyes, thinking Bergoglio is playing them.

AMERICAN JOURNALIST:  
Ok father. I know you can't talk...  
Good luck tonight...



**EXT. STREETS - ROME (2012) - DAY**

Bergoglio glances back at the mighty facade.

He walks towards the Domus Internationalis. He's just an ordinary man, walking through city crowds.

**INT. DOMUS INTERNATIONALIS (2012) - DAY**

Bergoglio is washing his socks in the sink, while watching the TV - a report on about a scandal at the Vatican bank.

*UK FEMALE NEWSREADER:*

*It's the only bank in the World where the ATM gives you instructions in Latin. It's the only bank in the World - says a new report - that operates an off-shore tax haven from the centre of a capital city. Tonight the Italian government has seized tens of millions in deposits from the Vatican Bank. Pope Benedict has been forced to return from Castel Gandolfo - his summer palace - to talk to one of the bank's directors - a priest - Father Scarano. Tonight, the Vatican itself is under siege.*

Bergoglio watches as the TV plays images of Ratzinger leaving the helicopter earlier - the very journey on which Bergoglio was a passenger just a few hours ago.

**EXT. SPORTS BAR, ROMA (2012) - NIGHT**

There's a bar with an Argentinian flag over the door and jerseys on the wall. Bergoglio hurries towards it. He knows it from previous trips.

**INT. RATZINGER'S BEDROOM - VATICAN (2012) - NIGHT**

Benedict kneeling in intense prayer in his bedroom.

CUT TO:

**INT. SPORTS BAR ROMA (2012) - NIGHT**

Argentina are playing Ecuador in the World Club qualifier. Everyone is cheering. Argentina has scored. Bergoglio turns to his fellow fans.

BERGOGLIO:  
You prayed for it to go in.  
You should give thanks that  
it did.

BERGOGLIO:  
Ya que rezaron para que meta  
el gol... ¡Ahora deberían  
agradecer que lo metió!

There's a grudging acknowledgement of this logic.

BERGOGLIO:  
Thank you Lord for the gift  
of El Pipita.

BERGOGLIO:  
Gracias Señor por el talento  
de El Pipita.

FAN:  
Amen.

FAN:  
Amen

BERGOGLIO:  
Help to keep his temper.

BERGOGLIO:  
Te pedimos que lo ayudes a  
controlar su carácter.

FAN:  
Amen. Double amen.

FAN:  
Amen. Doble Amen.

BERGOGLIO:  
Also, God bless our Pope.

BERGOGLIO:  
Que Dios bendiga a nuestro  
Papa también

One fan immediately object to this.

FAN:  
This Pope?! The German. No,  
no, no. Let him bless  
himself.

FAN:  
¿Este papa? El alemán.  
No, no, no! Que él se bendiga  
solo.

Bergoglio is taken aback by the popular dislike for Ratzinger. On the TV the commentator is becoming excited. Another goal maybe. Everyone turns back to the TV. But Bergoglio has lost his sociability. He stands at one remove.

**INT. RATZINGER'S BEDROOM - VATICAN (2012) - NIGHT**

Back to Ratzinger praying. This time we hear his prayer. It's the Nunc Dimittis in Latin.

RATZINGER:  
Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine,  
secundum verbum tuum in pace.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
Let your servant depart in  
peace now Lord, according to  
your word.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
Ahora, Señor, según tu  
promesa, puedes dejar a tu  
siervo irse en paz

**INT. DOMUS INTERNATIONALIS BEDROOM (2012) - NIGHT**

Bergoglio saying HIS prayers. He's praying for Ratzinger.

BERGOGLIO:  
God grant him a quiet night  
and a perfect end.

BERGOGLIO:  
Que Dios le conceda una noche  
serena y un final feliz.

INSERT: The sun comes up over Rome. Big stone pines  
silhouetted against a red sky.

**INT. CORRIDOR VATICAN (2012) - EARLY MORNING**

Roberto almost runs along the corridor. His phone keeps  
buzzing. He keeps having to reject calls.

PICK UP ON him talking to Ratzinger who is being dressed by  
his dresser. Ratzinger is still in his underwear - his  
unusually lengthy underpants and long socks look slightly  
comic.

RATZINGER:  
What do you mean he's not  
here?

RATZINGER:  
Che vuol dire con non e' qui?

ROBERTO:  
I ... we can't find him.

ROBERTO:  
Io... Non lo troviamo.

RATZINGER:  
(frantic) What room did you  
give him?

RATZINGER:  
(Agitato)  
Quale stanza gli avete dato?

ROBERTO:  
I assumed, as a Jesuit, he  
would be staying in the  
Jesuit mother house.

ROBERTO:  
Ho dato per scontato, che  
come gesuita, avrebbe  
alloggiato alla Casa Professa  
dei Gesuiti.

RATZINGER:  
He hasn't stayed there for  
years. He has a problematic  
relationship with the order.

RATZINGER:  
Non alloggia li' da anni. Ha  
un rapporto difficile con  
l'ordine.

CUT TO:

**INT. VATICAN SECURITY ROOM - DAY**

The Head of Security listens to Roberto who is looking for Bergoglio. He turns and gives an order to someone next to him. (improvised)

**EXT. ST PETER'S SQUARE - DAY**

A Swiss Guard standing in front of the gate at Paolo VI listens to the walkie-talkie and looks around.

**EXT. VATICAN - PAOLO VI (2012) - DAY**

Bergoglio - bag in hand - walking back towards the Vatican. There are still hordes of journalists and TV crews. A journalist approaches him with a microphone. Bergoglio doesn't stop walking. The journalist follows him.

PRESS:

Holiness do you have anything to say about the arrest of Father Scarano?

BERGOGLIO:

What do you want me to say?

PRESS:

Will the Vatican be contesting it?

BERGOGLIO:

What? No. It's not like he's been arrested for praying too many rosaries! I can't give a statement, but I can give you a blessing.

Swiss guard interrupts the interview.

SWISS GUARD:

Cardinal! Eminence ...

He leads Bergoglio by the elbow towards the entrance. He talks into his walkie-talkie, saying he's found him.

**INT. VATICAN STAIRS (2012) - DAY**

The young Swiss Guard - in his fabulous uniform is now leading Bergoglio silently up the big stairs..

BERGOGLIO:

I've always wondered ... the uniform, is it comfortable?

No response.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
It can't be easy to keep clean.  
Maybe someone else cleans it?

They come to a door in the middle of the stairs. The Guard stands back to let Bergoglio pass through it but as Bergoglio is about to pass him, he says quietly ...

SWISS GUARD:  
It's not comfortable. But it is based on a painting by Michelangelo so...I'm a work of art.

They go up the stairs that feel like back-stage.

BERGOGLIO:  
You won't be a work of art forever.

SWISS GUARD:  
I'm a student. Economics.

BERGOGLIO:  
Ah! Economics...

SWISS GUARD:  
Eminence, what you said about the trickle-down theory of wealth creation...

BERGOGLIO:  
That nothing trickles down but humiliation and suffering?

SWISS GUARD:  
I quoted it in my dissertation.

BERGOGLIO:  
Did you get a good mark?

SWISS GUARD:  
A-star.

BERGOGLIO:  
Good work. When you finish your studies ... don't be a banker.

The Swiss Guard opens a door.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
That's where we're meeting?

SWISS GUARD:  
I don't know. I was just asked to  
bring you here.

BERGOGLIO:  
Thank you.

Bergoglio goes through the door into ...

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2012) - DAY**

The Sistine Chapel - so vivid, so alive. It's heart-stopping. Bergoglio stops to take it all in. Walks towards the altar.

Bergoglio considers the Last Judgement all alone.

CLOSE ON: His old BLACK SHOES as he crosses the marble floor. He stops at the huge end-panel, with its rendering of HEAVEN and HELL, the ANGELS hauling up to heaven those souls in hellish torment - a powerful depiction of SIN.

A door opens. A figure appears. It's Ratzinger. The POPE walks to BERGOGLIO, whose heart begins to pound, such is the drama of the setting.

RATZINGER:  
I've never been in here when it was  
empty before. I wanted to share the  
moment with you.

They both stand looking up at it, marvelling.

BERGOGLIO:  
If I was Pope I'd be in here every  
day.

RATZINGER:  
What else?

BERGOGLIO:  
What?

RATZINGER:  
If you had been chosen. What else  
would you do?

BERGOGLIO:  
Holy Father ...

RATZINGER:  
This place would be different, I  
think.

BERGOGLIO:

I wouldn't eat alone for a start.  
Apart from the theology, it's not  
good for you.

Ratzinger nods - noticing the concern as well as the  
ideology.

BERGOGLIO:

All through the gospels Jesus is  
always breaking bread, feeding the  
people. Even after he came back  
from the dead he barbecued fish on  
the shore of Lake Galilee ...

He's describing some of the scenes from the frescoes.

RATZINGER:

What else?

BERGOGLIO:

I'd sort out the bank.

RATZINGER:

Good luck with that.

Ratzinger laughs. Bergoglio is thrown.

BERGOGLIO:

The banks almost destroyed my  
country. They beg for deregulation  
like tigers pleading to be let out  
of their cages. They devour  
everything in sight.

RATZINGER:

The Curia's a machine. You put your  
hand inside, it chops it into  
mincemeat. It protects itself. To  
become Pope is to become breakfast.

Ratzinger sounds exhausted and bitter.

Bergoglio looks and walks towards the Ghirlandaio fresco of  
the Vocation of the Apostles (it shows Christ on a beach with  
fishermen).

BERGOGLIO:

The only way to follow Him is to be  
where He is. Where is He? Right  
now? In the bomb craters in Syria.  
On the little beaches welcoming  
refugees. At Lampedusa. In  
hospitals...

(MORE)

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
(referring to the chapel)  
Not here... see?... You're  
beginning to be glad I'm resigning.

RATZINGER:  
For weeks, I've been praying for a  
sign.

BERGOGLIO:  
I don't understand.

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL - (PART 2) - DAY**

They're now seated on the marble bench against the curtain.

RATZINGER:  
When your request to resign came I  
knew I couldn't accept it without  
speaking to you. You had to come  
here. But perhaps you had to come  
here for some other purpose.

BERGOGLIO:  
Like what?

RATZINGER:  
I have made a decision about  
something. A decision of great  
importance for the life of the  
whole Church. For her future.  
Something I ask you to hide in your  
soul, and speak of to no-one.

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)  
Sometimes you notice little things.  
The other night after prayers I  
blew out the candle. Instead of  
rising up, the smoke went down.  
Like Cain's offering. Do you notice  
such things?

BERGOGLIO:  
I bought the tickets for my flight  
here before you requested my  
presence.

Ratzinger looks up at this. It's as though it's a clincher  
for him.

RATZINGER:  
No! Really? That gives me  
encouragement. You are the right  
person. I'm going to resign.



He's thrown this last sentence away so casually that Bergoglio doesn't notice it at first.

BERGOGLIO:  
The right person for what?

RATZINGER:  
To tell. I need to say it out loud  
to someone first.

BERGOGLIO:  
Say what?

RATZINGER:  
What I just said. I'm going to  
resign.

BERGOGLIO:  
Resign from what?

RATZINGER:  
The Papacy. The Chair of St Peter.  
The Bishopric of Rome. I'm going to  
renounce them all.

BERGOGLIO:  
But then...I mean...you can't. If  
you did that, you wouldn't be Pope  
any more.

RATZINGER:  
Yes

BERGOGLIO:  
But you are the Pope...

RATZINGER:  
Yes.

BERGOGLIO:  
Popes can't resign.

RATZINGER:  
In fact it's not without precedent.  
Celestine V did it in 1294.

Ratzinger is not comfortable on the marble bench. He looks to a security guard's cloth chair in the corner of the chapel.

BERGOGLIO:  
Holy Father...You think people will  
not be shocked because this  
happened once before...seven  
hundred years ago!

Ratzinger stands up and goes to grab a chair.

RATZINGER:  
The marble is too cold.

BERGOGLIO:  
I can't breathe... I came here just  
to ask for your signature on a  
piece of paper.

On his way to the chair he points to the door on the opposite  
side of the chapel, as if saying: "*get that other chair for  
you*". Bergoglio goes.

RATZINGER:  
Now you know why I couldn't give  
you that. There will be another  
conclave. It is important that you  
are there.

BERGOGLIO:  
But, Holy Father, you cannot do  
this. You *must* not! Why do the  
Presidents of America and Russia,  
of China, all come to you? Because,  
unlike them, your authority derives  
from the fact you will suffer and  
die on the job. A Pope represents  
service - life long - until death! -  
a martyr for justice and truth. For  
this *all* people come. Forgive me  
but...

RATZINGER:  
But?

BERGOGLIO:  
... Christ did not come down from  
his cross.

Ratzinger is stung. But also reflective, almost wondering.

RATZINGER:  
God always grants you the right  
words.

BERGOGLIO  
The Pope must go on, to the end.  
Be the personification of the  
crucified Christ! If you resign you  
will damage the prestige of the  
papacy forever.

They are now seated facing each other.

Ratzinger seems to think this over before replying.

RATZINGER:  
And what damage will I do if I  
remain?

BERGOGLIO registers this point -

But his thoughts flee and regroup like flocks of starlings.

BERGOGLIO:  
I can't understand how this  
conversation is happening. The last  
time anyone discussed a thing like  
this, these frescoes weren't  
painted. Two Popes? Unthinkable.

RATZINGER:  
In 1978 we had *three*.

BERGOGLIO:  
Not at the same time!

RATZINGER:  
I was making a little joke.

BERGOGLIO:  
A joke?

RATZINGER:  
A German joke. It doesn't have to  
be funny.

BERGOGLIO:  
What would we call you?

RATZINGER:  
Father Ratzinger? Brother  
Joseph?...

German humour again? Ratzinger comes up with a name:

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)  
Pope Emeritus? Would that work?

BERGOGLIO:  
Two Popes. Both commanding  
authority.

RATZINGER:  
Only one would command authority.  
I would hide away...out of the spot-  
light. Silence incarnate!  
"Silentium Incarnatum"

BERGOGLIO:

Even if you are never seen or heard again, you will still exist.

RATZINGER:

For a while at any rate.

BERGOGLIO:

But your *views*, very well known views, will exist. And therefore will have authority still! Could you accept that?

RATZINGER:

There's a saying - the Lord corrects one Pope by giving us the next. I'd like to see my correction.

BERGOGLIO throws up his hands -

BERGOGLIO:

Where would you live?

RATZINGER:

I'll find somewhere. I would keep out of your way.

BERGOGLIO:

"My" way?!

RATZINGER:

Possibly. I think it has to be a possibility ...

Bergoglio isn't going to have that conversation.

BERGOGLIO

Are you being pressured to go? The Curia?

RATZINGER:

If there was pressure from there, I would resist it. I know my reasons are pure.

The Pope stares, neither confirms or denies this -

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)

I'm a scholar not a manager--I have a pace-maker and can no longer see out of my left eye. Governance requires eyes I don't have.

(MORE)

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)

I have fought and fought to do what needs to be done. But I have lost.

BERGOGLIO is amazed to see the POPE humble himself like this.

Ratzinger's watch beeps. "*-Time to walk-*". Ratzinger stands up and starts walking towards the entrance of the chapel. He doesn't need to explain anything.

Bergoglio follows Ratzinger and they both walk and talk back and forth in the Sistine Chapel as if it was a gym.

BERGOGLIO:

It is our weakness that calls forth the grace of god. When we offer our weakness, He gives us strength.

RATZINGER:

I've answered your question... Be satisfied.

BERGOGLIO

With respect, Holiness, it's not I who has to be satisfied. It's 1.2 billion believers. They will need to know why. Otherwise they will think there is some scandal, some plot...

Ratzinger goes quiet. Maybe there IS some mystery?

RATZINGER:

That is the calculation of leadership. A calculation we must both make.

BERGOGLIO:

Both? Why?

RATZINGER:

For weeks I have been praying. I wanted to resign. But the thought that stopped me - what if at the next conclave, they voted for you.

BERGOGLIO:

Then I offered my resignation.

RATZINGER:

Exactly. And I was delighted. One reason I didn't want to resign was...what if you were next.

This is only half in jest. Bergoglio smiles.

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)  
And so you came. And now I've  
changed.

BERGOGLIO:  
You compromised.

RATZINGER:  
No. I've changed. It's a different  
thing. Your approach, your style is  
radically different from mine. And  
I don't agree with most things you  
say and do...

BERGOGLIO smiles -

RATZINGER  
But now I can see a necessity for  
Bergoglio. I cannot do this without  
knowing that there is at least a  
possibility that you might be  
chosen.

BERGOGLIO:  
No. Father, I could never...not me.

RATZINGER:  
We both know, in our hearts, that  
it could be. The Church needs  
change and you could be that  
change.

BERGOGLIO:  
Not, not me, never. It could not be  
me.

RATZINGER:  
Why not?

BERGOGLIO:  
You know why...

RATZINGER:  
I've read your files.

BERGOGLIO:  
(*emphatic*)  
The files are incomplete.

FLASHBACK TO:

**INT. CONFESSIONAL - BASILICA DE FLORES (1955) - NIGHT**

We're back in 1955 with the young Bergoglio in the confessional, as we saw before.

YOUNG BERGOGLIO:  
Bless me father for I have  
sinned.

JOVEN BERGOGLIO:  
Bendíceme padre porque he  
pecado...

PRIEST:  
Go now and sin no more ...

SACERDOTE:  
Podés irte y en adelante no  
vuelvas a pecar.

Young Bergoglio opens the door of the confessional but - as before - it doesn't lead into the peace of the basilica ...

CUT TO:

**EXT. RIVADAVIA (1976) - DAY**

An armored car rumbles by incredibly close. People peep out from behind curtains and shutters, too scared to protest. Soldiers barge past.

Off this unnerving, violent moment we lurch into

**EXT. ARCHIVAL FOOTAGE/ DIRTY WAR/ ARGENTINA - DAY**

In a mix of re-enactments and archival footage

Archive footage: We get the atmosphere of life under the Junta - including footage of tanks and protests.

VIDELA (ARCHIVE)  
*Al pueblo de Argentina. El país  
transita por una de las etapas más  
difíciles de su historia*

Presence of military on the streets.

Civilians are violently approached. Cars are stopped and checked.

BERGOGLIO (V.O.)  
In the 70's, the government was  
overthrown by a military  
dictatorship. At that time, I  
became the head of the Jesuit  
priests in Argentina.

DURING A MASS, BERGOGLIO IS PLACING COMMUNION WAFERS ON THE TONGUES OF THE CONGREGATION WHO FILE FORWARD AND OPEN THEIR MOUTHS...

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
Everybody was a suspect. 30,000 people were killed. Anyone who disagreed, disappeared. Esther, my old boss, my friend, her daughter was among them.

INSERT ARCHIVE of MUGICA'S speech:

PADRE MUGICA:  
No se trata más que de restituir al pueblo, lo que al pueblo le corresponde. Todo ser humano en una sociedad civilizada en la cual se aplique los principios de Jesus Cristo, tiene que tener derecho a su trabajo.

Fr. MUGICA - is gunned down outside his church.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
Many priests were seen as supporters of the armed resistance. Father Mugica, the voice of the poor in Argentina was martyred in 1974... After him many priests and nuns were killed.

The body of a PRIEST is thrown on to the train tracks.

Another PRIEST is shot. The DEATH SQUAD then drive away.

BERGOGLIO:  
This is not a time I am proud of, father.

A nun is dragged, about to be thrown from a military plane.

Bergoglio is being presented to Massera in the lobby of his headquarters. He sees Astiz.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
I felt my job was to make sure my priests were safe. So I talked to Admiral Massera, one of the leaders of the Junta. I tried to reason with him, to compromise.



**EXT. PLAZA DE MAYO (1977) - DAY**

Footage of disappeared and the mothers of Plaza de Mayo.

Esther is in the crowd being interviewed.

ESTHER:

Somos Argentinas, vivimos en Argentina, lo que podemos asegurar es que hay miles y miles de madres sufriendo mucha angustia, mucho dolor, mucha desesperación. Sólo queremos saber dónde están nuestros hijos. Vivos o muertos.

INSERT (ARCHIVE):

VIDELA:

"There's no way we can deal with the disappeared because they disappeared."

**INT. ESTHER'S HOUSE (1977) - DAY**

Esther and Bergoglio are having an argument. Esther's flat is a typical activist's home - full of books and leaflets.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)

Esther was an atheist, a Marxist. Before the dictatorship that didn't matter. Now she thought I was the enemy.

Bergoglio selects the books and put them on a card box, Esther just watches.

ESTHER:

All of them?

ESTHER:

Todos?

BERGOGLIO:

No, this one can stay, the rest I'll take with me.

BERGOGLIO:

No, éste se puede quedar, el resto me los llevo.

ESTHER:

How do you know that they are watching me?

ESTHER:

Como sabés que me están vigilando?

Bergoglio opens a news paper in which Astiz is seen among the mothers protesting. Esther's face turns ashen white. She looks as though she has been hit.

BERGOGLIO:  
This man who "speaks out"  
with you. His name is Astiz.  
Personal friend of Admiral  
Massera. They call him the  
Blonde Angel of Death. That's  
why I'm here. To warn you.  
He's an informer.

BERGOGLIO:  
Este hombre que protesta con  
ustedes se llama Astiz.  
Es amigo personal del  
Almirante Massera. Le dicen  
el Angel de la Muerte. Por  
eso vine hasta acá. Para  
prevenirte. Es un informante.

ESTHER:  
Do you know him? What are you  
doing?  
Why don't you speak out!?

ESTHER:  
Lo conoces? Y que estás  
haciendo acá?  
Porque' no salís a hablar!?

BERGOGLIO:  
If I spoke out I would not be  
able to help you.

BERGOGLIO:  
Si dijera algo, ya no podria  
ayudarte.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
I took her books away for  
safekeeping. Marx, Gramsci,  
Guevara...

Esther's Daughter is arrested inside a bus and dragged to a  
paramilitary car.

PICK UP ON a young woman, weeks later, walking into the flat.  
It's Esther's daughter. She is pregnant

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
She looked at me like a stranger...  
with fear... That was the last time  
I ever saw her. She warned me and I  
didn't listen. Had I listened I  
would not have made the mistakes I  
made.

CUT TO:

#### **INT. SEMINARY LIBRARY (1976) - DAY**

Helped by discontented seminarians, an orderly is taking  
books from the shelves and putting them into a trolley. And  
by a fuming Father JALICS (who we saw greet him when he  
joined the order)

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
I saw my role as to protect the  
Jesuit order and its priests. As  
you mentioned, I purged the library  
of Marxist texts.

**INT. BASILICA (1976) - DAY**

During a MASS, BERGOGLIO is placing COMMUNION WAFERS on the tongues of the congregation who file forward and open their mouths...

BERGOGLIO: The body of Christ...The body of Christ...  
BERGOGLIO: El cuerpo de Cristo... El cuerpo de Cristo.

But then a POOR WOMAN has her MOUTH CLOSED.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
I stuck to the rules.

POOR WOMAN: Remarried.  
MUJER HUMILDE: Me volví a casar, padre.

BERGOGLIO nods, understandingly, and instead of offering her a WAFER, makes the SIGN OF THE CROSS instead, thereby "blessing" her. He then moves on to the next person and resumes setting wafers on tongues....

CUT TO:

**EXT. RIVADAVIA - CAR WORKSHOP (1976) - DAY**

Yorio and Jalics are overseeing a car repair workshop run by young people - it's a slum project (we'll see more of later).

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
I closed down our projects in the slums.

**INT. RIVADAVIA - CAR WORKSHOP (1976) - DAY**

Some teenage boys are working under the bonnet of a truck in a roughly constructed workshop - the walls are made of old billboards. An older man (LUIS) is showing them what to do. Bergoglio arrives. Fr. Jalics sees him and comes to greet him warmly.

JALICS: Jorge, Father Jorge. My dear son.  
JALICS: Jorge, padre Jorge... Mi hijo querido.

He embraces Bergoglio and introduces him to Luis.

JALICS: (CONT'D)  
This is Fr. Jorge. I used to teach him and now he is the head of all Jesuits in Argentina. Oh. And Uruguay.

Warm greetings.

JALICS: (CONT'D)  
The young men are learning skills here. (WRY) They're also learning about injustice - the injustice of their own lives.

BERGOGLIO:  
I need you to close Rivadavia down.

JALICS:  
What?!

PICK UP ON Bergoglio and Jalics have now been joined by two other priests - YORIO and DOURRON.

YORIO:  
We've built this mission from nothing. These are our people.

BERGOGLIO:  
Since Massera took over, I have not lost one Jesuit because...

JALICS:  
Because you don't speak out against the regime. Because you've made us irrelevant.

BERGOGLIO:  
No. I don't speak out. I shelter people in the Maximo. Smuggle people over the border.

JALICS: (CONT'D)  
Te presento al Padre Jorge. Yo fui su maestro y ahora él es el superior de todos los Jesuitas de Argentina... ah... y de Uruguay!

JALICS: (CONT'D)  
Los muchachos están aprendiendo algunas habilidades ...  
(irónico)  
También están aprendiendo sobre las injusticias --- empezando por la injusticia de sus propias vidas.

BERGOGLIO  
Necesito que cierren Rivadavia.

JALICS:  
¿Qué decís?

YORIO:  
No construimos esta misión para nada... Esta es nuestra gente.

BERGOGLIO:  
Desde que Massera llegó al poder, no perdí ni un jesuita porque---

JALICS:  
--- porque no hablás en contra del régimen. Porque nos hiciste pasar por irrelevantes.

BERGOGLIO:  
No... No hablo en contra... Sin embargo le di refugio a muchos en el Máximo... Y ayudé a otros a cruzar la frontera...

YORIO:  
That's not the point. Saving  
a few here a few there. We  
need to save the country.

BERGOGLIO:  
They're watching you. They  
don't like what they see. I  
know this for a fact.

How?

What?

YORIO:  
How do you know that, Jorge?

Bergoglio looks uncharacteristically shifty.

BERGOGLIO:  
My role is to protect the  
order.

YORIO:  
That's our calling now? To  
protect *ourselves*?

JALICS:  
I TAUGHT you in the seminary.  
How do we get to know Christ?  
By following his footsteps.  
Where do they lead? Here.

BERGOGLIO:  
Or to the firing squad.

YORIO:  
And if so, so be it.

YORIO  
Ese no es el punto. Salvás a  
unos pocos por acá y a otros  
pocos por allá... Nosotros  
necesitamos salvar el país.

BERGOGLIO:  
Los están vigilando. Y no les  
gusta lo que están viendo. Lo  
sé. Es un hecho.

¿Cómo?

¿Qué?

YORIO:  
Cómo lo sabés, Jorge.

BERGOGLIO:  
Mi función es proteger a la  
Compañía.

YORIO:  
¿Ese es nuestro llamado  
ahora? ¿Protegernos a  
*nosotros mismos*?

JALICS:  
Yo te lo enseñé en el  
seminario. ¿Cómo llegamos a  
conocer a Cristo? Siguiendo  
sus pasos. ¿Y dónde nos  
llevan esos pasos? Acá.

BERGOGLIO:  
O al pelotón de fusilamiento.

YORIO:  
Si eso es lo que tiene que  
ser, que sea.

BERGOGLIO:  
I am your provincial, and I'm  
begging you - come back to  
the Maximo.

YORIO:  
And if we don't?.

BERGOGLIO:  
You're Jesuits. You made a  
vow, break that vow and you  
are no longer Jesuits.

DOURRON:  
If we aren't recognised by  
the Order, we are no longer  
protected. You could be  
signing our death warrant.

BERGOGLIO:  
(imploring)  
So keep to your vows. Come  
back with me to the Maximo.

Jalics looks at the others before speaking.

JALICS:  
We refuse to cease our  
activities here. You carry  
on taking tea with killers.

BERGOGLIO:  
I will talk to anyone who can  
help me save lives. And you  
will shut down, under  
obedience, your project in  
Villa 11.14, Rivadavia.  
That's an order.

YORIO and JALICS say nothing, but rather turn and walk out.  
BERGOGLIO is furious. He kicks something.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
They disobeyed my orders...  
questioned my authority...

BERGOGLIO  
Yo soy su superior. Y les  
estoy rogando que vuelvan al  
Máximo.

YORIO:  
¿Y si no obedecemos?

BERGOGLIO:  
Ustedes son jesuitas.  
Hicieron un voto, rompan ese  
voto, y dejarán de ser  
jesuitas.

DOURRON:  
Si no somos reconocidos por  
la Compañía, ya no estamos  
protegidos... Podés estar  
firmando nuestra sentencia de  
muerte.

BERGOGLIO:  
(implorando)  
Entonces mantengan sus votos.  
Vuelvan al Máximo.

JALICS:  
Nos oponemos a terminar con  
nuestras actividades acá.  
Podés seguir tomando té con  
los asesinos.

BERGOGLIO:  
Yo voy a hablar con quien sea  
que me pueda ayudar a salvar  
vidas. Y ustedes, bajo  
mandato de obediencia, van a  
terminar con su proyecto en  
la Villa 11.14, Rivadavia. Es  
una orden.

CUT TO:

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2012) - DAY**

Bergoglio and Ratzinger are seated together under the balcony..

RATZINGER:

You made a difficult, perhaps an imperfect choice.

BERGOGLIO:

What is an order if it's not its priests and its people. I missed it. I was supposed to protect them. I failed.

CUT TO:

**EXT. BUENOS AIRES EZEIZA (1976) - DAY**

Father DOURRON is pedalling along a narrow street on his bicycle when he sees military vehicles approach the Mission.

He looks behind him - some troops are walking into place at the other end of the street.

He hides behind a fence.

CUT TO:

**EXT. RIVADAVIA (1976) - DAY**

Soldiers pile out of trucks and run to the Mission.

PICK UP ON Jalics, who is trying to get to the Mission. He almost runs into a group of soldiers who level their weapons at him. He goes down on his knees with his hands in the air.

At the same time the paramilitary take Yorio from the Mission to the second truck.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)

It is not easy to entrust oneself to God's mercy. I know, he has a very special capacity for forgetting our mistakes. God forgets, but I don't.

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL - DAY**

Bergoglio looks up from the memory into the face of Ratzinger.

BERGOGLIO:  
Fathers Jorio and Yalics - my old  
teachers - were taken away and  
tortured for months. Their hands  
were broken.

He looks up at the images of blood and martyrdom that run  
through the frescoes.

BERGOGLIO:  
I went back to Massera. I took my  
tea. I implored for their freedom.  
But it wasn't enough.

**INT. ADMIRAL MASSERA'S OFFICE - DAY**

BERGOGLIO enters the Marine headquarters determined to talk  
to Massera. After a long wait he's taken to Massera's room.

The door opens, Massera is watching a Tennis Match, Villas  
and Borg. He is a big fan.

BERGOGLIO:  
You have two of my priests.  
Fathers Jalics and Yorio.  
You're detaining them...

BERGOGLIO:  
Usted tiene a dos de mis  
sacerdotes. Padres Jalics y  
Yorio. Usted los tiene  
detenidos.

ADMIRAL MASSERA  
I will of course make  
enquiries, Father.

ALMIRANTE MASSERA  
Por supuesto haré la  
investigación pertinente,  
padre.

BERGOGLIO:  
They are not involved in any  
activities.

BERGOGLIO:  
Ellos no están involucrados  
en ninguna actividad.

ADMIRAL MASSERA  
Then why did you kick them  
out?

ALMIRANTE MASSERA:  
¿Entonces porqué los expulsó  
(de la Compañía)?

BERGOGLIO:  
I did not kick them out. They  
were temporarily out of  
communion. A technical issue  
only. Who told you this?

BERGOGLIO:  
No los expulsé. Sólo les  
negué la comunión  
temporalmente. Una cuestión  
técnica, nada más. ¿Quién le  
dijo eso?



ADMIRAL MASSERA:  
We see and hear everything.

ALMIRANTE MASSERA:  
Nosotros vemos y oímos todo.

BERGOGLIO:  
It's been four months. What  
are you doing with them?

BERGOGLIO:  
Ya pasaron cuatro meses. ¿Qué  
está haciendo con ellos?

ADMIRAL MASSERA:  
I am sure they are being well  
taken care of. I've told all  
this to Tortolo

ALMIRANTE MASSERA:  
Estoy seguro de que los están  
cuidando muy bien. Ya he  
hablado de todo esto con el  
arzobispo Tortolo.

BERGOGLIO:  
Monsignor Tortolo

BERGOGLIO:  
Monsignor Tortolo

ADMIRAL MASSERA:  
(losing temper)  
Now look here Bergoglio!

ALMIRANTE MASSERA:  
(perdiendo la paciencia)  
Ya basta, Bergoglio!

BERGOGLIO:  
Admiral! I know full well  
where my priests are, and I  
need them freed!

BERGOGLIO:  
Almirante! Yo sé  
perfectamente dónde están mis  
sacerdotes, y exijo que los  
liberen!

ADMIRAL MASSERA:  
But they're not your priests,  
are they? As you said - a  
"technical issue". You should  
think of the implications  
before you act.

ADMIRAL MASSERA:  
Pero no son sus sacerdotes,  
no es así? Como usted bien  
dijo, "una cuestión técnica".  
Debería pensar en las  
implicancias de sus actos  
*antes* de actuar.

#### INT. ESMA - DAY

JALICS and YORIO sit semi naked in their cells, with sacks  
over their heads...

BERGOGLIO (V.O.)  
My words had no impact. Empty.

RATZINGER : (V.O.)  
Well you did all you could.

BERGOGLIO : (V.O.)  
It wasn't enough. I did what was  
safe... and justified it as trying  
to protect my Order.

RATZINGER : (V.O.)  
Dictatorships take away our freedom  
to choose... we both know that.

BERGOGLIO : (V.O.)  
Yes, or perhaps they reveal our own  
weaknesses. They test who we are.

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2012) - DAY**

The two men are still sitting under the balcony.

BERGOGLIO  
December 18th, 1977.

RATZINGER:  
What is that?

Bergoglio looks haunted.

CUT TO:

**INT. HERCULES MILITARY PLANE (1977) - DAY**

The scream of aero-engines. Esther's hand is grabbed by a  
naval officer and stretched out to its length. Another  
officer injects her with something. She is struggling but the  
injection makes her stop.

WIDE: TWO OTHER WOMEN are being unshackled. They have all  
been drugged.

The DOORS on the AIRCRAFT are then SLID OPEN, and we see that  
the PLANE is flying over Ocean.

One by one the WOMEN are flung to their deaths. They do not  
resist. Cannot resist. Finally it's Esther's turn. She is  
pulled to the edge. And then thrown out into the sea.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
And then they took Esther, my dear  
friend.

BACK TO:

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2012) - DAY**

Bergoglio and Ratzinger still talking together next to  
Michelangelo's Last Judgement with its images of smashed and  
tortured bodies.

BERGOGLIO:

There were so many bodies washed up on the shores that the coast guard complained they could no longer cope.

BERGOGLIO's expression is one of great guilt. The Pope's face is bent in prayer. He finally opens his eyes and looks at BERGOGLIO...

BERGOGLIO:

Where was Christ in the days of the dictatorship - was he having meetings in the presidential palace, or was he being tortured in the prisons. And where was I?

RATZINGER:

Dictatorships take away the freedom to choose. We both know that.

BERGOGLIO:

I could have spoken out in public.

RATZINGER:

And if no one had listened. What then?

BERGOGLIO:

Every choice that Fathers Yorio and Jalics made, I made the opposite. A leader belongs with his people, not hidden away in a palace.

CUT AWAY TO:

**EXT. CORDOBA (MID 1980'S) - DAY**

The figure of Bergoglio walking through the desolate, dusty condor-haunted hills. The image may seem like a metaphor at this point but we'll discover that it's a memory...

RATZINGER: (V.O.)

Perhaps the path appears straight when we look back at it. On the way we often feel lost...

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2012) - DAY**

Ratzinger places his hand on Bergoglio's.

RATZINGER:

You cannot teach mercy without having experienced mercy. Let me show you another Bergoglio, the one you are blind to. Let me reveal you to yourself -

Bergoglio looks up. What's going on? Is Ratzinger defending him?

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)

You talk about your authority. What did you do with that authority? You used it to save dozens of lives.

Bergoglio is surprised that Ratzinger knows this.

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)

It's in the file. You hid families of trade unionists in the seminary. You even drove some of them up to the border yourself.

BERGOGLIO

It wasn't enough.

INSERT: Bergoglio hides activists at Colegio Maximo.

RATZINGER:

Not for your brother Jesuits, no.

BERGOGLIO:

Pride obscured my judgement. The right to say Mass was removed and with it, the protection of the Church. I was supposed to protect them...I failed.

**INT. COLEGIO MAXIMO OFFICE (MID 1980'S) - DAY**

BERGOGLIO surrenders his many keys to the RECTOR...who solemnly watches this stripping away of BERGOGLIO's power...

RATZINGER (V.O.)

They accused you of hard line views, of being right-wing, of having sinned by doing too little, of being egotistical. These are the things that were said about you in the dossier, during the conclave.

CUT TO:

**MONTAGE:**

A) Majestic wide-shots of - mountains, dry hills, peasant farmers working their dry land...

RATZINGER: (V.O.)

You were cast out--removed from your position, stripped of all authority. Your supporters were dispersed, sent abroad and told not to contact you. Finally, in shame ..

B) BERGOGLIO, travelling by BUS, through this landscape.

C) MIDDAY. CORDOBA. BERGOGLIO stands, looking at the Jesuit Residencia Mayor in Cordoba, Argentina.

D) ROOM No. 5 of the simple adobe sleeping cells. The room is small and red. Heavy red curtains, red-tiled floor, red coverlet on the bed. A painting of the Crucifixion is the only adornment. It looks like the cell of a monk or a prisoner. BERGOGLIO enters -

E) Canteen. Bergoglio is serving dinner to a group of old priests.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O)

Two years of introspection, of dark days and nights, of interior crisis.

F) Bergoglio bathes an old priest

G) BERGOGLIO scrubs pots.

H) - Bergoglio unfolds a packet with books related to Liberation Theology.

Bergoglio reads a book related to the Theology of People

Many other books are around.

I) BERGOGLIO sleeps on a simple small bed.

BERGOGLIO(V.O.)

I heard a lot of confessions ...I learned to listen and saw people that I didn't see before.

BERGOGLIO in Room No. 5, sitting on his bed, under the shuttered window, hears Confession through the shutters. Outside the open shutters, a PEASANT admits his sins -

PEASANT 1  
Bless me father for I have  
sinned.

CAMPESINO 1  
Bendígame, padre, porque he  
pecado.

PEASANT 2  
Bless me father for I have  
sinned.

CAMPESINO 2  
Bendígame padre, porque he  
pecado.

PEASANT 3  
Bless me father...

CAMPESINO 3  
Bendígame padre---

BERGOGLIO, on his bed, his back to the wall under the  
shuttered window, weeps.

**INT. SMALL CHAPEL/ CORDOBA (MID 1980'S) - DAY**

BERGOGLIO is saying MASS to a small collection of country  
folk in a simple country CHAPEL.

He moves to the LECTERN to deliver his sermon and looks at  
the simple COUNTRY FOLK.

The COUNTRY FOLK look back at him.

He goes to speak but his LIPS DO NOT MOVE - at first. But  
then he knows what he wants to say...

BERGOGLIO:

I used to have a TV. I like to watch football.

(beat)

My team is--well--I can tell anyone who is interested later.

(beat)

A TV needs--an aerial. And a signal. Some days the signal is bad--who knows why. Like prayer. Some days the signal from God is strong, it goes very well, you feel that connection, really plugged in, in direct communication, but other days--it's all you can do to feel "well, I tried--at least today I tried." You feel you got nothing back. People expect it to be different for a priest, as if God and I have a hot-line, installed by Michelangelo working from a diagram by Da Vinci.

BERGOGLIO:

Yo solía tener televisión. Me gustaba mirar fútbol.

(se detiene un instante)

Yo soy hincha de--- bueno, eso se lo puedo decir más tarde al que esté interesado... Una televisión necesita una antena. Y una señal. A veces la señal es mala, quien sabe porqué... Como cuando rezamos. A veces la señal que nos envía Dios es fuerte y clara, funciona bien, uno puede sentir la conexión, estamos realmente enchufados, en comunicación directa... Pero hay otros días donde uno solo puede decir: "bueno... por lo menos lo intenté"... Porque uno siente que no recibe nada... que no tiene respuesta. La gente piensa que para nosotros, los sacerdotes, funciona distinto, como si Dios tuviera línea directa con nosotros, una línea construida por Miguel Angel gracias a un diagrama de Da Vinci.

INSERT:

Images of Bergoglio, alone, walking on the beautiful and dry landscape of Cordoba.

BERGOGLIO:

(smiles)

What I'm saying is...I am not worthy to deliver a sermon today. The words would be just my words would only be mine...and so most likely wrong or misleading. It would be better that you teach me. I am sorry.

BERGOGLIO:

(sonríe)

Lo que quiero decir es... que hoy no merezco darles un sermón... Mis palabras serían solo mis palabras... y probablemente serían equivocadas o confusas... Son ustedes los que me tienen que enseñar a mi. Eso sería lo mejor. Disculpen.

He moves back to the altar and continues the MASS - the congregation are stunned!

**INT. SMALL CHAPEL CORDOBA (MID 1980'S) - DAY**

In a SLUM CHURCH, during a small MASS for the SLUM DWELLERS, he offers the WAFER (during "COMMUNION") then puts it into the open ouths of the congregation who file forward...

BERGOGLIO	BERGOGLIO
The body of Christ...	El cuerpo de Cristo...
The body of Christ...	El cuerpo de Cristo...
The body of Christ...	El cuerpo de Cristo...

But then one WOMAN has her MOUTH CLOSED. She whispers -

SLUM WOMAN 1	MUJER HUMILDE 1
Father, I am divorced.	(por lo bajo)
	Padre, soy divorciada.

BERGOGLIO nods, then doesn't hesitate, he places a WAFER into the woman's mouth.

SLUM WOMAN 2	MUJER HUMILDE 2
Me too.	Yo también soy divorciada.

He serves her. Then moves to the next man, who also has his mouth closed.

SLUM MAN 1	HOMBRE HUMILDE
Remarried.	Me volví a casar, padre.

BERGOGLIO serves him too, then notices that the next man also has his MOUTH CLOSED.

BERGOGLIO looks at the entire congregation. He shouldn't really be giving communion to any of these people - but does so.

**EXT. SMALL CHAPEL/ CORDOBA (MID 1980'S) - DAY**

Bergoglio is outside of the chapel sharing mate with the people that has just left. He's light and happy.

**MONTAGE CORDOBA LANDSCAPE CONTINUES:**

- A) Bergoglio is walking with some priests.
- B) Bergoglio is sitting on a rock.
- C) Bergoglio is camping by a lake.
- D) Bergoglio is playing football with local teenagers.



**EXT. CORDOBA (MID 1980'S) - DAY**

Bergoglio walks alone along a dirty road. Huge mountains behind. He's insignificant compared to that landscape.

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2012) - DAY**

Ratzinger and Bergoglio are still sitting together.

RATZINGER:

It took years. Until you were noticed. Cardinal Quarracino noticed you at an international conference. You gave a famous speech. I have it here ...

He starts to read it...

**INT. MODERN BUILDING - BUENOS AIRES - 2000 - DAY**

A packed INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCE of PRIESTS and LAY-PEOPLE await the SPEAKER...

BERGOGLIO (our older Bergoglio) is at the lectern, speaking in English.

RATZINGER (V.O.)

We have known tyranny in this country, but--a new tyranny rises up...

BERGOGLIO walks up to the lectern.

Ratzinger's VO fades and Bergoglio's voice comes to the fore.

BERGOGLIO:

A new tyranny rises up. Not just here, but across the world.

He stands there and surveys the large packed congregation, pausing before speaking. A protestor shouts...

PROTESTOR

Who are you to talk about tyranny!  
You were friends with the tyrant!

People join in, booing Bergoglio.

Bergoglio bows his head, taking it, almost expecting it.

BERGOGLIO

A tyranny not just of oppression or repression or terror. A tyranny of unfair economic structures that create huge inequalities.

BERGOGLIO

Twenty percent of the world's population consumes resources at a rate that robs the poor nations and future generations of what they need to survive. Just as the commandment "Thou shalt not kill" sets a clear limit in order to safeguard the value of human life, today we also have to say "thou shalt not" to an economy of exclusion and inequality which idolises money. Such an economy also kills.

ANGLE ON: CARDINAL ANTONIO QUARRACINO, who realises he is hearing something new here, and so takes out a DICTAPHONE to record this. He starts TAPING the ADDRESS...

Here, BERGOGLIO falls silent - and we prelap the POPE's words into the next scene -

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)

There is a phrase now "trickle down economics". Let me tell you, nothing trickles down to the poor but poverty and injustice.

CARDINAL QUARRACINO looks around him to see how BERGOGLIO's message is being received. His POV of: transfixed people, riveted. He turns back to BERGOGLIO, who resumes -

BERGOGLIO (CONT'D)

Every community is called to be an instrument for the liberation, the liberation and the promotion of the poor!

He steps down. The CONGREGATION are not quite sure what they have heard.

Cardinal Quarracino sees Bergoglio surrounded by journalists. Quarrantino approaches to congratulate and talk to Bergoglio but we don't hear what they're saying.

RATZINGER: (V.O.)

You were made bishop. But you did not live like one.

(MORE)

RATZINGER: (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
You renounced luxury. You became  
the "Bishop Of The Slums. You did  
the work you once denied Fathers  
Yorio and Jalics!

**EXT. BUENOS AIRES (2012) - DAY**

A Drone Shot shows two faces of the vast city; firstly showing the affluent skyline of office blocks then we're in the middle of Villa 21. Bergoglio is being driven on a trike through the Villa. The drone follows him from behind. Some people greet him as he walks.

**EXT. VILLA 21 (2002), FOOD KITCHEN AND CLOTHES DISTRIBUTION CENTRE - DAY**

Bergoglio helping out in a food kitchen and distributing clothes.

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)  
I tried to walk the road from which  
I banished them. Every vegetable I  
chopped... Every eviction we  
prevented. Every case we pleaded,  
was some kind of penance.

RATZINGER: (V.O.)  
Yes.

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2012) - DAY**

He is still sitting close to Ratzinger. He looks him in the eye.

RATZINGER:  
My dear son, you have confessed to  
me. Allow me to absolve you.

Bergoglio hesitates. Has he been out-manoeuvred?

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)  
Believe in the mercy that you  
preach.

Bergoglio bows his head.

RATZINGER:  
I absolve you in the name of the  
father and of the son and of the  
Holy Spirit.

Bergoglio looks up. He looks less haunted, more ready.

BERGOGLIO:  
Thank you, Father.

The tourists door opens. Roberto comes in. Two security guards stay close to the door. We're aware of noise outside.

ROBERTO:  
Holy Father, it's nine o'clock,  
they are opening the doors to the  
public.

The doors at the far end of the chapel open. A couple of Swiss Guards come in and take up positions.

RATZINGER:  
Oh, Heaven. The museums...the  
tourists...

ROBERTO:  
Should I delay the opening, Holy  
Father?

RATZINGER:  
No, no. Of course not. Some of  
those people have waited all their  
lives to see this. (TO BERGOGLIO)  
Come ...

The guards hold the entrance door till the Pope has gone. The sound of tourists can be heard outside.

Ratzinger opens a little door and they slip into...

**INT. VATICAN - CHAMBER OF TEARS (2012) - DAY**

As they settle down...

BERGOGLIO:  
Holy Father, are you hungry?

Ratzinger looks startled. No one ever asks him that.

RATZINGER:  
Do you know, I think perhaps I am.

He glances at Roberto, who is taken aback.

ROBERTO:  
I could ask the kitchens to ...

BERGOGLIO:  
No need. There's a place just in  
front of Via de Porta Angelica.  
Excellent coffee and pizzas.

Roberto looks utterly nonplussed. But the Pope nods at him.

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2012) - DAY**

The door is opened, as the tourists enter Roberto crosses the way in the opposite direction.

GUARDS	GUARDIE
No photos, please... Nessuna foto, per favore...	Niente foto, per favore... Nessuna foto, per piacere.

**EXT. ROME - VIA DE PORTA ANGELICA (2012) - DAY**

Roberto - looking painfully uncomfortable - has just ordered at the bar.

BAR:  
To take away?

BAR OWNER:  
Da portare via?

ROBERTO:  
(NEVER SAID THIS BEFORE IN  
HIS LIFE) Yes. To take away.

ROBERTO:  
(IN TUTTA LA SUA VITA NON  
L'HA MAI DETTO QUESTO) Si. Da  
portare via.

**INT. VATICAN - CHAMBER OF TEARS (2012) - DAY**

RATZINGER:  
They call it the Chamber of Tears.  
I came in here Josef Ratzinger, I  
left as Benedict XVI. No one tells  
you if they are tears of joy or  
tears of sorrow.

BERGOGLIO:  
I suppose that's up to you.

RATZINGER:  
Yes. I suppose it is.

Roberto comes in with coffee, fanta and a pizza.

ROBERTO:  
Fathers.

RATZINGER:  
Thank you, Roberto.

He goes. Only when he's gone does Ratzinger allow himself to giggle.

RATZINGER

You know, whenever a Pope eats, there used to be three Jesuits present to act as "food tasters." Lack of Jesuits has poisoned more than one Pope.

BERGOGLIO:

I can take a bite of your slice if you like. Just to be on the safe side. Would you say grace, Father?

RATZINGER:

Thank you Lord, for this food-- that we enjoy here--in this place--outside of time and the-- the relentless concerns of the outside world...

BERGOGLIO begins the Sign Of The Cross, thinking Grace completed...but...

RATZINGER:

...where--if but for a moment-- we may find serenity--peace-- tranquility...

*(silence, then - )*

Lord, your church, your flock is in crisis. Grant us the wisdom--and the strength...

BERGOGLIO thinks again the grace is over, until -

RATZINGER

...to oppose the hypocrisy that disfigures her.

Is it over? Surely it is! Until - the POPE resumes, even more fervently...the knuckles of his folded hands white with strain...something BERGOGLIO notices with concern -

RATZINGER:

St. Francis intercede for us as we seek to repair the church...

The POPE then opens his eyes - and looks DIRECTLY at BERGOGLIO...

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)

Would you like to add anything?

BERGOGLIO:

Amen?

RATZINGER:

Amen.

They pick up the pizza.

RATZINGER:

I was thinking of your teachers -  
Yorio and Jalics - did you ever  
reconcile with them?

BERGOGLIO:

With Jalics. We said a Mass  
together...

FLASHBACK TO:

**INT. SACRISTY - CHURCH, ARGENTINA (1980'S) - DAY**

In the vestry, BERGOGLIO dresses. His back is to the door,  
when it opens and in walks - Fr. Jalics!

BERGOGLIO

Can you make sure the candles  
are lit?

BERGOGLIO

¿Controlás que las velas  
estén encendidas, por favor?

BERGOGLIO turns - and sees Jalics. Tension between them.

JALICS:

Arch-Bishop.

JALICS

Arzobispo...

BERGOGLIO

Jalics.

BERGOGLIO

Jalics.

Silence, then -

JALICS:

I must get ready.

JALICS:

Tengo que prepararme.

CUT TO:

**INT. MASS (1980'S) - DAY**

Bergoglio and Jalics are con-celebrating the mass together.

Jalics pour water on Bergoglio's hand. Bergoglio washes it.  
As he gets the towel to dry, they look at each other.  
Bergoglio is uncomfortable.

PICK UP:

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
The peace of the Lord be with  
you. We can give each other a  
fraternal hug to go in peace.

BERGOGLIO:  
Que la paz del Señor esté con  
ustedes.  
Podemos darnos,  
fraternalmente entre todos,  
un abrazo de Paz.

They both turn to each other. Eyes meet eyes - both have  
compassion for the other.

BERGOGLIO (V.O.)  
We cried. In each other's arms. He  
forgave me.

With his eyes, Jalics forgives, smiling through his tears.

**INT. VATICAN THE CHAMBER OF TEARS (2012) - DAY**

BERGOGLIO has begun to cry, at the memory.

RATZINGER:  
And Yorio?

BERGOGLIO:  
To the end he thought me a traitor.  
And now he is dead. I am still  
divisive in Argentina.

RATZINGER:  
Yesterday you told me that Life is  
never static?  
*(slight pause)*  
You lead, not by power, not by  
intellect, but by how you live or  
the way you HAVE lived.  
*(slight pause)*  
You have changed.

BERGOGLIO:  
But, Father, that man, that doubt  
is still inside me.

Ratzinger looks around - almost as if looking for a clock -  
something distracting - something to deflect the  
conversation.

RATZINGER:  
What is the time I wonder?

Ratzinger gets up and goes to check that they are alone,  
looks at BERGOGLIO - then makes a decision.



RATZINGER:

I am going to introduce you to a man who has not changed and refuses to change, and you are going to hear for yourself the price he has paid. I have to request that YOU hear his confession.

RATZINGER:

My old friend Father Carmine usually hears it but this time I would prefer you.  
I mean, you wouldn't deny me a confession, would you Cardinal?  
(pause)  
Don't be afraid.

BERGOGLIO:

How should I start?

RATZINGER:

I don't know... What do you usually say?

BERGOGLIO: (FEELS WRONG)

How long since your last confession?

RATZINGER:

Eight days. Perhaps.

Bergoglio asks the formula questions and immediately gets nervous - they're not very Pope-appropriate.

BERGOGLIO

And have you sinned greatly in that time? I don't mean to imply that you ...

RATZINGER:

Of course I've sinned - numerous sins - venal sins.

(he begins)

To God - I wish to repent for the sins of my life. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You, Lord, whom I should love above all things.

(pause)

As a child I failed you first--by not having the bravery to taste life. I hid away in books.

(pause)

(MORE)

RATZINGER: (CONT'D)

Then in war I joined the Hitler Youth. Every fourteen year old was ordered to. I deserted. But within the church, I took part in the enforcement - enforcement of the truth.

BERGOGLIO:

Oh?

RATZINGER:

Yes. Rules, you see, defined my life. Obedience under the law. I know now that this has left me empty of the world our Church is meant to help. Is this why, as Archbishop--of Munich I failed you again?

BERGOGLIO:

Go on...

And here, POPE BENEDICT leans in closely to BERGOGLIO's ear.

ECU on: his LIPS, as they begin to move.

WIDE: We do not hear the POPE's CONFESSION. But see it at a distance - hearing nothing, until -

BERGOGLIO moves back from him..

RATZINGER:

Forgive me.

Still BERGOGLIO withholds forgiveness

BERGOGLIO:

He was transferred--from parish to parish?

RATZINGER:

I did not give sufficient attention to the duties assigned to this one priest.

BERGOGLIO:

"Sufficient attention"?! (silence)  
On and on? Village after village?

RATZINGER:

Forgive me

BERGOGLIO:

BUT YOU KNEW?

RATZINGER:

(Avoiding this) I should have known. The facts were sent to me. Evidence was placed on my desk

BERGOGLIO:

So while you were enforcing the truth, the rule, you forgot to love the people you were meant to protect. *(beat)*. You confessed, you said there was more.

RATZINGER

I ask for forgiveness.

Bergoglio touches his shoulder.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)

It's here, in confession, where we are forced to look at the vastness of our failures, that we finally see the vastness of His mercy.

BERGOGLIO sees the Pope's pain - and moves back to him.

BERGOGLIO

If this confession is the sole reason you wish to resign, then it's even more important you stay now and heal this wound. Stay here. Complete the work you have begun.

RATZINGER:

Every reason I give you is never enough. Then listen again...!  
*(powerfully)*

SILENCE!

*(beat)*

I can no longer hear God's voice.

BERGOGLIO:

We all have that experience -

RATZINGER:

*(powerfully)*

I can no longer hear God! I believe in God! I pray...but only silence. How can I reveal his Word to our millions of pilgrims if I do not hear his presence?

BERGOGLIO:

I too ... Mother Theresa ... the Lord Himself cried out why have you abandoned me.

RATZINGER:

No. I have been alone my whole life, but I have never been lonely, until now. You wished for an "extraordinary reason" for my resignation - do you have one now?

BERGOGLIO:

And you have told this to - ?

RATZINGER:

No-one. You. Just you. But these last two days, I have heard him again.

BERGOGLIO:

You see?

RATZINGER:

Speaking to me in the last voice I expected him to use - yours. Yours Cardinal.

BERGOGLIO:

No.

RATZINGER:

I have heard him in you. Perhaps I could no longer hear Him, NOT because He is withdrawing from me, but because He is saying, "go my faithful servant."

Bergoglio helps him out of his chair and faces him, then closes his eyes and folds his fingers...

BERGOGLIO

God, the father of mercies, has sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; May God grant you His pardon and peace and I absolve you of your sins ...

In a more personal tone Bergoglio quotes Ratzinger to himself. There's a tender irony.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
But remember... truth may be vital  
but without love it is also  
unbearable - Caritas in Veritate.

BERGOGLIO walks away, his back turned on The Pope, to say -

BERGOGLIO  
In the name of the Father, and  
of the Son, and of the Holy  
Spirit. Amen.

The POPE and the CARDINAL, at a distance, bless themselves...  
BERGOGLIO now looks very burdened by the truth as the POPE  
rises to his feet -

RATZINGER:  
You have lifted a great burden from  
my shoulders.

BERGOGLIO:  
You have placed a heavy one on  
mine.

Bergoglio opens the door to leave but the Sistine Chapel is  
packed with tourists. He quickly closes the door again.

BERGOGLIO  
Is there another route? Shall I  
call security?

RATZINGER:  
I've been hiding behind security  
for too long. They're my people.  
I'm their Pope. For now. Let's go.

Bergoglio grins. Opens the door. They go out into the fray.

#### **INT. SISTINE CHAPEL (2012) - DAY**

Ratzinger and Bergoglio cross the crowded Sistine Chapel.  
They try not to draw too much attention to themselves but it  
soon becomes clear that the Pope is in the place.

People crowd around Ratzinger, asking for his blessing and  
for selfies.

Roberto and the security are waiting rush to rescue the Pope  
but Bergoglio waves them away.

BERGOGLIO  
Look. He's happy. Let him enjoy the  
moment.

Bergoglio steps back, watching and smiling at the fuss and the grace with which Ratzinger tries to deal with it.

A barrage of cellphones point at Ratzinger, most of them with flashes on.

GUARDS  
Nessuna foto, per favore...

When Ratzinger finally gets free he walks with Bergoglio.

**EXT. VATICAN FORECOURT (2012) - DAY**

Bergoglio is carrying his bags to a car, where sits the same driver we saw earlier.

RATZINGER  
(beat)  
You will be pleased to go home I expect?

BERGOGLIO  
Speaking English is exhausting.

RATZINGER  
(nods)  
Terrible language--so many exceptions to every rule. Remember Cardinal -  
(pointing to himself)  
"silence incarnate".

He looks up at the building.

RATZINGER:  
You know the story of St. Francis? How when he heard God asking him to restore his church, he thought he meant bricks and mortar? Remember poor St. Francis. Remember even he was wrong sometimes.

Bergoglio goes in for a hug. Once again it's a bit awkward - Ratzinger is not used to being hugged - but this time at least they're both going for the same thing. They end up in a slightly odd embrace.

BERGOGLIO:  
You know Francis loved to dance. He would have learnt to tango.

RATZINGER:  
Too late for me.

BERGOGLIO:  
Easier than you think. Look.

RATZINGER  
Nein, nein. No, no, no, no.

BERGOGLIO:  
I will lead.  
My right leg, your left.

BERGOGLIO then proceeds to do the first TANGO steps with the Pope.

ANGLE ON: the SWISS GUARDS. Trying not to watch as -

- BERGOGLIO tries to lead the POPE in a dance... accompanying the effort by quietly singing a tango ...

The Pope is a lousy dancer. They finally stop and laugh, as the POPE waves to ROBERTO, who approaches with a farewell GIFT...

BERGOGLIO goes to the waiting car. The same driver as last time. He greets the driver warmly. The driver opens the front door. Smiles. Bergoglio enters the car watching and admiring, as the POPE goes back inside.

**INT. APOSTOLIC PALACE (2013) - DAY**

A routine canonization service. 60 Elderly bishops and cardinals are half asleep while Ratzinger reads from a prepared speech.

RATZINGER:  
Dear Brothers,  
I have convoked you to this Consistory, not only for the three canonizations, but also to communicate to you a decision of great importance for the life of the Church. After having repeatedly examined my conscience before God, I have come to the certainty that my strengths, due to an advanced age, are no longer suited to an adequate exercise of the Petrine ministry.

RATZINGER:  
Fratres carissimi,  
Non solum propter tres canonizationes ad hoc Consistorium vos convocavi, sed etiam ut vobis decisionem magni momenti pro Ecclesiae vita communicem. Conscientia mea iterum atque iterum coram Deo explorata ad cognitionem certam perveni vires meas ingravescente aetate non iam aptas esse ad munus Petrinum aequae administrandum.

PICK UP ON a cardinal muttering a translation to another cardinal.

BISHOP:  
Wait. This can't be right.  
Excuse me ...

He looks at the next cardinal.

CARDINAL:  
Excuse me did I hear  
correctly? Did I translate  
this right?

The Pope keeps talking.

RATZINGER:  
For this reason, and well  
aware of the seriousness of  
this act, with full freedom I  
declare that I renounce the  
ministry of Bishop of Rome,  
Successor of Saint Peter,  
entrusted to me by the  
Cardinals on 19 April 2005,  
in such a way, that as from  
28 February 2013, at 20:00  
hours, the See of Rome, the  
See of Saint Peter, will be  
vacant and a Conclave to  
elect the new Supreme Pontiff  
will have to be convoked by  
those whose competence it is.

BISHOP:  
Aspetti. Mi devo essere  
sbagliato. Mi scusi...

CARDINALE:  
Mi scusi ma ho sentito bene?  
Ho tradotto bene?

RATZINGER:  
Quapropter bene conscius  
ponderis huius actus plena  
libertate declaro me  
ministerio Episcopi Romae,  
Successoris Sancti Petri,  
mihi per manus Cardinalium  
die decima nona Aprilis anni  
bis millesimi quinti  
commissum renuntiare ita ut a  
die vigesima octava februarii  
anni bis millesimi decimi  
tertii, hora vigesima, sedes  
Romae, sedes Sancti Petri  
vacet et Conclave ad  
eligendum novum Summum  
Pontificem ab his quibus  
competit convocandum esse.

Like an autumn breeze blowing up dead leaves, the Pope's  
words disturb rank upon rank of elderly clerics one by one.

CUT TO:

#### **INT. CATHEDRAL KITCHEN (2013) - DAY**

Bergoglio is in the kitchen with Lisabetta watching EWTN or  
similar while preparing a meal. He's laughing. Lisabetta is  
seated, being served. This is in Spanish but the TV is in  
English.

LISABETTA:  
You're requested to give a  
speech at ... what? What are  
you laughing at.

LISABETTA:  
Lo invitan a dar un discurso--  
- qué pasa? De qué se ríe?



BERGOGLIO:  
He did it in Latin! He always  
makes difficult announcements  
in Latin so that only a few  
of the cardinals will  
understand ...

BERGOGLIO  
¡Lo dijo en latín! Siempre  
que tiene que decir algo  
embromado lo dice en latín...  
y así sólo lo entienden unos  
pocos cardenales...

Lisabetta still doesn't know what's going on. On EWTN the  
commentator has suddenly flipped into panic mode.

COMMENTATOR:  
It seems that the Pope has  
just made an extraordinary  
announcement. We're waiting  
for a translation.

COMENTARISTA:  
It seems that the Pope has  
just made an extraordinary  
announcement. We're waiting  
for a translation.

BERGOGLIO:  
(TO LISABETTA) He just  
resigned.

BERGOGLIO:  
(a Lisabetta)  
El Papa acaba de renunciar.

LISABETTA:  
He what?

LISABETTA:  
¿Qué?!!!

COMMENTATOR:  
We apologise for the delay in the  
translation. It's because no one  
has had to use this word in this  
context for a thousand years. The  
Pope has RENOUNCED the papacy.  
We're witnessing a papal  
renunciation.

Off her astonishment we

CUT TO:

**EXT. VATICAN - DAY**

The College of Cardinals arriving for the Conclave, just as  
at the beginning of the film.

Lots of journalists taking photographs. In the front of  
shot, a bus pulls up and Bergoglio gets off and walks in  
unnoticed by the press.

**EXT. ST. PETER'S SQUARE - DAY**

That tin pot chimney again - smokeless at the moment.

**INT. SISTINE CHAPEL - DAY**

The CARDINALS file up to the CHALICE to cast their vote.

ANGLE ON: a reluctant-looking BERGOGLIO, sitting there, looking very weighed down, dazed, fearful of election.

Beside him sits the ARCHBISHOP HUMMES, an old friend, who pats BERGOGLIO on the leg. BERGOGLIO would like to smile but can't.

The first two SCRUTINEERS read the ballots silently and mark them on a TALLY...and then pass the ballot to - the THIRD SCRUTINEER, who calls out the name.

THIRD SCRUTINEER

Bergoglio!  
(next ballot)  
Bergoglio!  
(next ballot)  
Bergoglio!  
(and so on...)

Applause breaks out - spontaneous applause from the Cardinals! - everyone has been keeping count. Everyone knows he's won.

THIRD SCRUTINEER

Bergoglio!  
(next ballot)  
Bergoglio!  
(and so on...)

ANGLE ON: BERGOGLIO, as he opens his eyes. He looks at all the happy faces looking at him, applauding. Some rise to their feet. One or two CHEER. He stands up.

BERGOGLIO:

May God forgive you all for this.

Beside him, HUMMES is grinning, and applauding too. They hug.

HUMMES:

No se olvide de los pobres.

**EXT. ST PETER'S SQUARE - NIGHT**

Come in on the tin-pot chimney. White smoke begins to spill from it.

The square is filled with umbrellas, it's a rainy night.

The crowd strains its eyes - raises binoculars - it's white!

VATICAN WATCHER:  
SMOKE! SMOKE! It's white!

We hear the hubbub, outside, of the vast CROWD. Guarding the doors to the balcony are TWO SWISS GUARDS.

THREE sets of PAPAL ROBES, of three different sizes, and FIVE sets of RED SHOES, await the new Pope.

Enter, the PROTODEACON (Cardinal Jean Louis Tauran)...

...the GUARDS open the doors to the famous balcony, and Tauran steps outside - to a huge roar (OFF) before the doors are closed again. We thereafter hear his speech (OFF-STAGE)...

TAURAN:  
Fratelli e sorelle carissimi  
(the italians roar)  
Queridísimos hermanos y hermanas.  
(the hispanic contingent  
roars)  
Bien chers frères et sœurs.  
(the French roar)  
Liebe Brüeder und Schwestern  
(a German roar)  
Dear brothers and sisters

TAURAN : (CONT'D)  
Annuntio vobis gaudium magnum:  
HABEMUS...PAPAM!

Enter BERGOGLIO, the new POPE FRANCIS (wearing the SCARLET ROBES of a CARDINAL)....with a NUN and the CAMERLENGO.... He removes his SCARLET robes, stripping down to a simple WHITE CASSOCK with a SILK SASH. He looks at the THREE SETS of RED VELVET ROBES, with ermine collars.

But instead of choosing, he turns to the nun.

BERGOGLIO  
Do you have a phone?

BERGOGLIO  
C'e' un telefono?

She looks amazed.

BERGOGLIO (CONT'D)  
I'd like to call the Pope.  
Pope Benedict.

BERGOGLIO (CONT'D)  
Vorrei chiamare il Papa. Papa  
Benedetto.

She dials for him.

**INT - MATER ECCLESIAE (2013)- NIGHT**

Telephone rings in Mater Ecclesiae but nobody is around to pick up.

Ratzinger is watching the announcement on TV.

His staff, two Nuns and a priest, are with him in the room.

None of them hears the phone. On the TV we see...

**EXT - SAINT PETER'S SQUARE (2013) - NIGHT.**

On the balcony ...

TAURAN:  
The Lord Jorge Mario,  
Cardinal Bergoglio, who has  
taken the name Francis.

TAURAN:  
Eminentissimum ac  
reverendissimum dominum,  
dominum Georgium Marium,  
Sanctae Romanae Ecclesiae  
Cardinalem Bergoglio, qui  
sibi nomen imposuit  
Franciscum.

**INT. VATICAN - CHAMBER OF TEARS (2013) - NIGHT**

A GREAT ROAR from the crowd as the Vatican Bells ring out...  
BERGOGLIO (POPE FRANCIS) is still looking at the ROBES and  
the RING.

NUN  
Nobody answered, Holy Father.

CAMERLENGO  
You must choose, Holy Father.

BERGOGLIO:  
I will wear what I am wearing.  
Thank you.

CAMERLENGO  
But -

BERGOGLIO:  
Please. Thank you.

CAMERLENGO  
And the shoes? At least the red  
shoes! They are part of a tradition  
going back to ...

He will wear what he is wearing already...simple BLACK SHOES.

BERGOGLIO:  
My own are fine. Thank you.

Then he is offered the scarlet stole.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
No. Thank you. The carnival is  
over.

He looks around the Room of Tears.

He closes his eyes. For a second he sees, in his mind's eye,  
Ratzinger smiling at him saying the line about Francis being  
always happy.

He opens his eyes and shakes these thoughts off.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
If there have to be tears, let's  
make them tears of joy.

He goes through to the balcony.

**EXT. BALCONY / VATICAN (2013) - NIGHT**

He waves to the crowds, to a huge cheer.

BERGOGLIO:  
Buona Sera.

**INT. ROOM NEXT TO BALCONY / VATICAN (2013) - NIGHT**

The CAMERLENGO reacts with surprise at this break with  
tradition...

CAMERLENGO  
*(whispered, to the NUN)*  
Buona Sera?

**EXT. BALCONY / VATICAN (2013) - NIGHT**

BERGOGLIO:  
Good evening. You all know  
that the duty of the Conclave  
was to give a bishop to Rome.  
It seems that my brother  
Cardinals went almost to the  
ends of the Earth to find one-  
-but here we are.

BERGOGLIO:  
Buonasera. Voi sapete che il  
dovere del conclave era di  
dare un vescovo a Roma.  
Sembra che i miei fratelli  
cardinali siano andati a  
prenderlo quasi alla fine del  
mondo -- ma, siamo qui...

REACTION CROWD, EMOTIONAL, AMUSED, in thrall (in stark contrast to how they reacted to BENEDICT's LATIN address.)

BERGOGLIO:  
Above all, I'd like to make a prayer now for our Bishop Emeritus Benedict XVI. Let's pray together for him...Pater nostro qui est en ciello..

BERGOGLIO:  
Prima di tutto, vorrei fare una preghiera per il nostro Vescovo Emerito Benedetto XVI. Preghiamo tutti insieme per lui... Padre nostro che sei nei cieli...

**INT. TV ROOM/ MATER ECCLESIAE/ VATICAN (2013) - NIGHT**

Benedict watches the ceremony in his room. It's an emotional moment for him. He knows this is also a personal message for him.

**EXT. VATICAN BALCONY (2013) - NIGHT**

Bergoglio is addressing the crowds in Italian.

BERGOGLIO:  
And now let us begin this journey, this journey together, a journey of brotherhood in love, of mutual trust.

(pause)  
Before the bishop blesses the people, I ask that you would pray to the Lord--to bless me  
-

BERGOGLIO:  
... E adesso incominciamo questo cammino, questo cammino insieme, un cammino di fratellanza, d'amore, di fiducia fra noi.  
(pausa)  
...Prima che il vescovo benedica il popolo, Vi chiedo, che voi, preghiate al Signore affinche' benedica me...

In another break with tradition, he bends to touch his head on the balcony. The great crowd falls completely silent!

**INT. FLAT IN BUENOS AIRES (2013) - DAY**

Lisabetta is watching these events on TV. She starts to cry. Her husband comes in.

HUSBAND:  
You OK?

MARIDO:  
¿Qué pasó? ¿Estás bien?

LISABETTA:  
Yes. Of course. I just feel so bad for him. He'll never have his life back. He'll never come home again.

LISABETTA:  
Si... si... Estoy bien... sólo me siento triste por él... Acaba de perder la vida que tenía. Nunca más va a volver a casa.

**EXT. - VILLA 21 (2013) - DAY**

In a community centre in villa 21 people gather around Padre Pepe watch the same images on a TV.

**INT. ROOM NEXT TO THE BALCONY. / VATICAN (2013) - NIGHT**

The NUN, CAMERLENGO and the protodeacon - TAURAN - all bow deeply.

BERGOGLIO:

Where are all the other cardinals?

NUN

It's the custom to leave you alone,  
Holiness.

BERGOGLIO:

I don't want to be alone. I want  
company. How am I getting home?

CAMERLENGO

You are home, Holy Father.

BERGOGLIO:

I would like to spend the night in  
my old room. With my brother  
Cardinals.

CAMERLENGO

I shall arrange the limousine.

BERGOGLIO:

No, no, no, no. I will go with the  
other Cardinals.

CAMERLENGO

In--in the...?

BERGOGLIO:

The Mini-van. You can say it. The  
Mini-van.

CAMERLENGO

The Mini-van.

BERGOGLIO:

There! It didn't hurt you.

**INT - MINIVAN (2013) - NIGHT**

Bergoglio dressed in white is in the mini-van with other cardinals.

**INT. ST. MARTA (2013) - DAY**

Bergoglio is on the phone. He's making the call with which the film opened.

We hear the robotic voice on the other end of the line.

VOICE:

Did you know that you can book any flight on the Skytours website. Our discount prices are internet only...

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)

Oh good evening I...oh.

He's mistaken this last for a human voice but ...

VOICE: (V.O.)

...if you still wish to speak to an operator please press one...

Another beep.

VOICE : (V.O.)

Good evening welcome to the Skytours sales desk...

BERGOGLIO: (V.O.)

Ah. Yes. I'm looking for a flight from Rome to Lampedusa. Yes I know I could book it on the internet. I've only just moved here.

VOICE:

Name?

BERGOGLIO:

Bergoglio. Jorge Bergoglio.

VOICE:

Like the Pope.

BERGOGLIO:

Well ... yes ... in fact.

VOICE:

Postcode?



BERGOGLIO:  
Vatican city.

There's a long pause.

VOICE:  
Very funny.

The line goes dead.

**INT. ST. MARTA CORRIDOR (2013) - DAY**

Bergoglio opens his bedroom door and is amazed to find a Swiss Guard standing outside.

BERGOGLIO:  
Excuse me.

The guard does not speak.

BERGOGLIO: (CONT'D)  
Are you supposed to stand there all night?

SWISS GUARD 2:  
Yes, Holy Father.

BERGOGLIO:  
Do you know how to get the wifi in here? I need to book a flight and apparently it can only be done online. I'd be really grateful if you could help...

The Guard takes his cell phone from his pocket...

SWISS GUARD 2:  
Of course, Holy Father...Where to?

BERGOGLIO:  
Lampedusa

SWISS GUARD 2:  
How many seats ?

BERGOGLIO  
Just me.

SWISS GUARD 2:  
Would they let you go alone, Holy father?

**ARCHIVE FOOTAGE**

Bergoglio arrives in Lampedusa on a boat followed by 40 other boats! There's a huge crowd waiting for him.

**EXT. LAMPEDUSA 8TH JULY 2013 - DAY**

Bergoglio - Pope Francis - preaching and teaching among the refugees on the island of Lampedusa.

Footage of Lampedusa.

Bergoglio goes up the stairs inside the Vatican followed by 14 refugees.

Bergoglio shows the refugees the Sistine Chapel.

Bergoglio has lunch with lots of refugees.

**INT. SANTA MARTA (2014) - DAY**

Passing through the dining room Bergoglio catches a familiar smell. He spots a tray of media-lunas. He asks the server who is behind the counter...

BERGOGLIO

Media-lunas? We have these all the time back home. Can I take them?

SERVER:

How many Holy Father?

BERGOGLIO

I'll take them all. I'll take them to Brother Benedict.

**EXT. MATER ECCLESIAE / VATICAN (2014) - DAY**

Establisher of the former convent in the south-west corner of the Vatican City.

**INT. MATER ECCLESIAE / VATICAN (2014) - DAY**

CAPTION: **Summer, 2014**

BENEDICT at his desk, he begins to write - he's working on a new huge theological book. A knock on the door.

Enter POPE FRANCIS - wearing his SAN LORENZO FOOTBALL SCARF, carrying the tray with media-lunas.

BERGOGLIO:  
Sorry to disturb you. I just  
thought you'd like to try these.

Ratzinger tries one.

BERGOGLIO:  
Media lunas. They're the classic  
Argentinian treat. What d'you  
think?

Ratzinger nods as he finishes it.

RATZINGER  
How are you, Holy Father?

BERGOGLIO:  
Adjusting, Holy Father.  
What are you writing?

RATZINGER  
Replying to a journalist who  
believes God is nonsense, and  
belief in God the source of all  
evil. He has written me 30  
intelligent questions. He would  
like to publish my reply. Do I  
have your permission?

POPE FRANCIS raises an eye-brow:

BERGOGLIO  
"Silence incarnate"?

BENEDICT shrugs. The two men smile.

**EXT. VATICAN GARDEN / GROTTA OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES (2014) -  
SUNSET**

The two POPES walk in the gardens, swapping trade secrets. We  
hear some of their conversation while they walk away.

RATZINGER:  
You are now under great pressure.  
How are you coping?

BERGOGLIO:  
I cannot relax, Holy Father, until  
I know the outcome...

**INT. TV ROOM/ MATER ECCLESIAE/ VATICAN (2014) - NIGHT**

A slice of pizza is taken from a cardboard box placed on a coffee table. There's also a couple of bottles of beer.

The TWO POPES sit before the TV. Bergoglio is once more wearing his FOOTBALL SCARF.

Is the World Cup Final between Germany and Argentina!

Bergoglio and Ratzinger sing their NATIONAL ANTHEMS along with their teams.

Footage of the Game... 0-0, scoreless. Missed shots on goal. The GERMAN player, SWEINSTEIGER, has a head knock and his face is covered in BLOOD.

Bergoglio seems quite pleased with the injury to the dangerous Sweinsteiger. When Ratzinger looks to Bergoglio to denounce the violence, Bergoglio shrugs "that's football."

Ratzinger takes an increasing interest in the game...and Bergoglio starts to become a little annoyed by the unexpected enthusiasm.

The game ends. 0-0.

RATZINGER:

So-it is over. We both win.

BERGOGLIO:

No, no, no, no, no. Now we have extra time. I can't bear this.

TENSION is now high in the room, and BOTH POPES are fully engaged in the result...

In SLOW-MOTION as the ball is passed to MARIO GOTZE - who takes the ball on his chest, then flips it over the KEEPER into the GOAL. GERMANY 1 - ARGENTINA 0

While Bergoglio's world comes crashing down - Ratzinger becomes super-animated, even FIST-PUMPING in CELEBRATION, much to Francis's chagrin, who tries but fails to smile.

In the EXCITEMENT, Bergoglio almost topples the COFFEE TABLE. Ratzinger, as a precaution, extinguishes the SMALL CANDLE that sits there.

CLOSE ON: The SMOKE from the EXTINGUISHED CANDLE, rising up, up, up, heavenward, in a fine black trail.

**ENDS**