

The Truth on Starfish Island - Vers. 2.3

by

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Based on a story by Denis, Isela, Kacey, Liam & Conor  
O'Brien

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EXT. BELIZE CITY HARBOR. DAY

A group of workers are gathering in the early morning. near the dock of the Ramada Hotel in Belize City. Off in the hazy horizon we see the massive cruise ships, too large to enter the harbor and full of tourists wanting to see another place and its people. DAVIS O'GRADY, and his daughter STACEY and sons TREVOR AND COLIN approach the dock.

STACEY

So Dad, this is where everyone meets and then our cousin picks us up here and we go to Starfish Island.

DAVIS

OK, but why here?

STACEY

To pick up all the workers.

DAVIS

So run this by me again.

COLIN

Dad, it's like a fake island.

TREVOR

(glaring at Colin)

Shh.

He pulls Davis aside.

TREVOR

Dad, they have the cruise ships, some people want to go ashore, but others want to get the Belize 'experience.' So they go scuba diving on the reef and then they go to the island for several hours and then they go back to the boat. Sweet and simple.

DAVIS

And Starfish Island?

COLIN

It's like a sand bar...

STACEY

With a bar on it, and food and beach chairs...and starfish.

DAVIS  
And all these people.

Stacey says hi to few women.

STACEY  
(turning back to him)  
They all work there for our cousin.  
Actually this lady is our cousin too,  
vehicle, over here.

A middle aged Hispanic women approaches. NAZLI is clearly a manager or boss type.

NAZLI  
Hello.

STACEY  
This is my Dad, DAVIS O'GRADY

They embrace awkwardly.

DAVIS  
So glad to finally meet you again. I  
think we may have met 20 years ago?

NAZLI  
That was my sister.

The boat arrives and begins backing in.

COLIN  
Alright! Hi Amir!

The captain, AMIR waves from the boat. All of the workers line up to board. A mate on board jumps to dock with a tie line and secure the boat for boarding, a small gangplank is set up. Folks begin to board.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

Davis his family join part of the crew up on the flight bridge. They head towards the cruise boats. Amir, a bearded man in his fifties drives the boat. His rugged face is worn from the sea but also from smiling, as he casts a pleasant look most of the time. The sun is rising as the boat gains speed. Colin is invited by cousin to drive the big boat.

AMIR  
Colin, hold it steady.

Amir turns to Davis.

AMIR

You and my cousin you make beautiful children.

DAVIS

Thanks. They all look like her.

AMIR

Good thing.

Kids strain to laugh at the joke.

AMIR

So you are a producer?

DAVIS

Yes, for many years.

AMIR

What do you produce?

DAVIS

Well, mostly commercials all my life.

AMIR

No movies?

DAVIS

Only one doc, I really want to make a feature, but you can't a movie funded unless you have made a movie, if you can't get a movie made then you can't get funded to make the movie you need to make. It is endlessly frustrating. I was hoping on this trip I could have a story or something I could use for the movie.

AMIR

A movie, to shoot here?

DAVIS

Why not? I mean we can have great locations and weather, we just need a compelling story, you know with an American and something happening and then, of course, a happy ending.

AMIR  
A chick flick?

Everyone laughs.

DAVIS  
Yes.

Amir takes back control of the boat as they approach the cruise boats.

AMIR  
We will go by them and to to the island first and then return.

DAVIS  
Which is which?

Davis points at the two huge ships.

AMIR  
This one is ours, we have a contract with Norwegian and sometimes with Carnival, depending on the cruise.

He turns away from the big boats and heads towards some small islands.

DAVIS  
And now?

AMIR  
Now we head to the island to set up the day.

INT. STARFISH ISLAND CABIN.DAY

Three workers are there prepping the day and waiting for the rest of the crew. These three men live there. BODDER, a strong hearty Jamaican is harping on the mysterious JOSE, who refuses to shave and is looking ragged. The quiet RASHAD looks on.

BODDER  
Why do you look like this?

JOSE  
Leave me alone.

BODDER  
Why are you so damned ugly.

JOSE

Please.

BODDER

Why are you here?

JOSE

Stop.

The horn of the approaching boat breaks it up.

BODDER

Here we go, another day on Starfish  
Island, a Belizean getaway. Ha ha ha.

Jose looks oddly at him laughing at himself. He and Bodder  
head out to meet the boat.

INT. NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE. DAY

CAROL BORDEAUX is dressing in her stateroom. Her friend LYNN  
is shocked at her prepping to leave.

LYNN

I thought you didn't get off cruise  
boats?

CAROL

I don't, except at Starfish Island.

LYNN

And the reason is...?

CAROL

Amir, he's the captain of the boat,  
he's cute and also one of the first  
people I talked to after I was  
rescued. I was brought South on the  
cruise boat that was in Mexico when  
they found me and then then his boat,  
the Desire, was used to bring to the  
mainland so I could fly out of Belize  
City. and this boat goes to Starfish  
Island, not the mainland. It's safe  
and fun.

LYNN

Are you snorkeling too?

CAROL

No, but you can.

LYNN

I am taking the boat into the city, I need to get some gifts for my 2 nieces.

Announcement on the boat.

ANNOUNCER

The boat for the Starfish Island Snorkeling and Island lunch will be here at 9:30 on the lower starboard loading deck. Passengers who selected this boat will be required to check in 10 minutes prior. No unaccompanied children under 17 years old.

EXT.STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

Folks are unloading all the gear and supplies. Davis, Stacey, Colin and Trevor get off the boat and go onto the small resort island. The island is like one big club on a sandbar. There are a few hundred beach chairs. There is a large bar area, an eating area, a gift shop and some service buildings. At the far end of the island is undeveloped and there is one cabin there. Colin points over past the cabin.

COLIN

There are going nudist down there.

Davis looks puzzled.

STACEY

According to Amir, the Europeans like topless bathing and they need to develop an area for that so they are going to divide up the island so when the European folks come they can be dealt with on the nudist end of the island.

Both boys laugh at the nudist comments. Amir approaches.

AMIR

So they told you of our plans?

DAVIS

Yes, the nudist folks have green money too.

AMIR

Yes, even with no place to put it.

All laugh.

AMIR

So, we will unload, eat breakfast and then you can join me on the Desire when we go pick up the cruise passengers, I think you will like it.

Loud reggae music is blasting all of a sudden.

AMIR

Got to have this place hopping when they arrive.

Crew members are opening all the beach chairs and setting up the gift shop, hammocks are being hung and breakfast for the staff is being served.

AMIR

Let's eat.

They head over to get Belizean Styled Egg burritos and and OJ and fresh fruits.

INT. STARFISH ISLAND KITCHEN.DAY

Jose and Rashad are cleaning pots and pans, Bodder is cooking and talking to the employees as they come to get their breakfast. He is assisted by two women.

EXT.STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

Davis, the kid and Amir are seated and eating breakfast.

DAVIS

So, the crew, the island, they are all by day only?

AMIR

Yes, and this is a private island, only for cruise customers. They pay us by contract. We sell drink and trinkets, but our revenue is by contract.

DAVIS

Lovely. He holds up his OJ.

They clink glasses.



DAVIS

Cheers.

Amir jumps up and waves them to the other side of the island,

AMIR

He kids, let's show your Dad why we call this Starfish Island.

They all follow Colin and Trevor who have a head start, past the big bar area with three bartenders and perhaps 60 stools. They are setting up, and along by the gift shop, out to the East end of the island and there in the water is a giant sandbox, or fenced in area with very large Starfish inside the seaside pen.

DAVIS

Wow.

Colin jumps into the pen. and Picks up a Starfish big as a pizza and holds it up.

COLIN

Dad look.

DAVIS

Very cool.

AMIR

We keep four or five here, you wait you will see a host of people taking pictures of themselves and the starfish later.

Davis jumps in and takes one in his hand for a picture by Stacey.

INT. NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE. DAY

The crew is preparing the people waiting on the lower deck for the pickup to Starfish Island. A ship's OFFICER is walking along the line of people waiting and is talking. He walks by Carol who is waiting alone.

OFFICER

Remember this is a boat to Starfish Island. This boat is not going to the mainland. If you are going to the mainland, you need to be at the aft deck to meet the other boat there. This trip has optional scuba diving,

and remember, your drink and food beyond the general buffet is extra to you. They do take credit cards and American Dollars....Remember, this is a boat to Starfish Island...

CUT TO

INT. STARFISH ISLAND KITCHEN.DAY

Bodder is back with the dishwashers. He yells at Jose.

BODDER

What are thinking about, what goes on in that Mexican mind of yours?

JOSE

(in Spanish)

Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

They are interrupted by the boat's horn.

EXT.STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

An Asian man, WU, is showing some martial arts moves to TREVOR and COLIN.

WU

After maintaining composure and balance, move to a position to get to a point to pivot and flip the intruder on his back.

He demonstrates on Colin, easily dropping him to the ground. Stacey is impatient.

STACEY

That's the horn, let's go, we're going to pick up the people.

Trevor flips Colin again and they chase each other to the boat. Davis walks with Stacey.

DAVIS

Wow, interesting place.

STACEY

You haven't seen anything yet Dad.

INT. NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE. DAY

The office is still babbling as the crowd has swelled to 85 people.

OFFICER

Remember, this is a boat to Starfish Island. If you are going to the mainland...

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

They are back on the tour boat. Only a small crew is aboard along with Davis and kids. 4 Dive leaders, 3 support crew, and Amir and Bodder.

AMIR

These boats are incredible. They are so large they cannot come into the Port of Belize City. So the support boats and associated businesses are important to Norwegian and the other cruise lines as well.

DAVIS

Fulfilling the need of the customer.  
(smiles)

AMIR

Yes we provide a service and offer something unique with Starfish Island.

DAVIS

How do you get paid?

AMIR

We have a contract for the boat, they are counted by them and us and we bill per person. Price includes snorkeling and lunch. Drinks and gifts from the gift shop are extra.

DAVIS

Very cool.

INT. NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE. DAY

They are ready and hear the final call for Starfish Island.

OFFICER

Starfish Island Passengers be ready.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

The 55 foot Desire was dwarfed as they approached the massive cruise liner. 12 stories up people on the deck were waving. Amir continued to talk to Davis.

AMIR

My friend, my friend Carol is on this boat. She may, she may have your movie.

DAVIS

A lady, on this boat? You know her?

AMIR

Sure do.

He begins to side line the cruise liner. The door on the side of the liner opens and a small crew emerges on the small deck to assist in meeting the Desire.

INT. STARFISH ISLAND CABIN.DAY

Jose is under his bed and pulls out a small box, he has papers wrapped some id's and some American & Mexican cash in there. He looks and then wraps them up again. He also has a badge. He holds it. Then he returns it to the box.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

The boat is secured to the liner and folks are boarding and being checked off by the officers on the cruise line. Carol sees Amir and they embrace.

AMIR

Nice to see you again, thanks for stopping.

CAROL

You know this is the only stop I get off on cruise boats.

They laugh and folks get aboard.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

Bodder is on the microphone as they head to the reef.

BODDER

Hello, my name is Jose, welcome to the Desire, the host boat for Starfish

Island. Myself, Captain Amir and all the crew welcome you to the boat and ask you to listen up as we take the 20 or so minute ride out to the reef. When we get there we will split up into groups and be snorkeling along the barrier reef. It is important that you listen to the guide and that you ask for assistance if you need it. We don't need any superheroes. If you are tired you can stay on the boat. If you are not snorkeling, we will serve you the Happy Juice now. Other wise you must wait until you snorkeling is over. The Happy Juice is tasty but also is an alcoholic drink and with the sun you might get very happy.

INT. HOUSE BELIZE CITY. DAY

Davis' wife ISELA is with her mother BELITA in their family home on Daly Street. Belita is suffering from mild dementia.

BELITA

Where are the kids?

ISELA

At Starfish Island Mom, with Amir and Nazli. They are there for the day. Now let's go through your stuff and get this room organized. I am taking Davis and the kids to Big Creek tomorrow.

BELITA

Where are the kids now?

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

The crew is handing our snorkeling gear to all the snorkelers. Davis and his daughter are with intermediate group. The boys are with advanced. Trevor has a GoPro.

BODDER

Remember to keep you life vest on at all times. If you want to go lower into the water ask the crew how to adjust your vest. Remember the Happy Juice is waiting.

They begin to lower everyone into the water.

BODDER

The great barrier reef is the 2nd longest reef of its kind in the world. It has protected Belize for thousands of years from strong Atlantic storms.

As he drones on. Amir is talking to Carol on the flight bridge.

AMIR

You look well. This has been a good year?

CAROL

Yes, I am healthy, work is excellent and I love my new townhouse. Thank you for asking. What about you? Not married still?

AMIR

Not again, no never.

They laugh and clink their paper cups.

EXT. OCEAN REEF. UNDERWATER DAY

Angle of peoples feet. and bathing suits. Camera is POV on Trevor's head. A sequence of underwater beauty shots set to music.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

Amir and Carol are still talking.

INT. NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE. DAY

The Officer is talking to his crew about the duties ahead in the coming days.

OFFICER

Tomorrow we move to Big Creek, a port in the South. A new deep sea port. We also will go our new Starfish Island. We haven't named it yet, but the folks who built Starfish are building this one. We will bring 50 or so people over to try it, so let's get some volunteers. The rest can go ashore and Zip line and the Tubing on the Rivers.

INT. HOUSE BELIZE CITY. DAY

Isela and Belita are still sorting clothes.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

The group is re-boarding the boat and the snorkel gear is thrown aside. Happy Juice begins to flow.

BODDER

Remember one thing today, to smile.  
This is a place for fun and laughter,  
we're going now to Starfish Island.  
It's time for the Happy Juice to flow.

Deck hands are handing out red solo cups half full of rum punch.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

On the flight bridge Davis is still talking to Amir as Bodder entertains and primes the crew for Starfish Island.

AMIR

So she's onboard, Carol, so after we get back to Starfish Island for a while you can speak with her and we can talk movie, OK?

DAVIS

OK!

Davis high fives Stacey.

INT. STARFISH ISLAND CABIN. DAY

Jose is packing his 2 travel duffel bags. Another man comes in and speaks Spanish to him. He responds in Spanish.

JOSE

Vamos a la nueva isla de las estrellas de mar después de hoy. 4 de nosotros aquí de ir abajo de la costa a la cala grande (We are going to the new Starfish Island after today. 4 of us from here going down the coast to Big Creek.)

They are interrupted by the Desire boat horn again.

EXT.STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

The boat is docking and the "Bodder-Happy Juice" show is in full swing.

BODDER

And now we have arrived at Starfish Island. We hope you have enjoyed the trip so far, but as they say in the movies, you ain't seen nothin yet! All of the island is yours to enjoy, except the living quarters on the north end of the island. We have a bar and food concession, a gift shop and of course, STARFISH. Those of you with the most Happy Juice, remember, the steps and ground are still hard like they were yesterday and please be careful and enjoy Starfish Island!

People begin to de-board the boat.

EXT. STARFISH ISLAND OUTSIDE BAR.DAY

Jamaican music is blaring and people are laughing and the bar is rocking as the new tourists arrive. Another boat like the Desire had already docked so many folks were on the island. The Elvis impersonator hangs out in costume after performing on the boat. A meal is served at the buffet and specialty items like american styled chicken fingers and burgers are extra. The gift shop is teeming with Belizean trinkets and shirts and is doing a brisk business.

EXT. STARFISH ISLAND OUTSIDE BEACH TABLES.DAY

Amir and Carol are at a big round table with a beach umbrella about 200 yards from the bar. Davis shoos away his kids and joins them.

DAVIS

It's a pleasure to meet you.

AMIR

The big shot movie guy.

DAVIS

Stop.

CAROL

I appreciate you talking to me as well, I love Amir and he helped me at



the worst time of my life. But I also think it is time to tell the important story.

DAVIS

I am flattered and I hope they find this last character, soon!

CAROL

Me too.

Several workers pass by in the background including Jose.

CAROL

It's funny it was day just like this in a place like this where it all started a few years ago.

CUT TO

INT. CARNIVAL CRUISE LINE. DAY

TITLE CARD: 3 Years Earlier

Carol and her friend MAGGIE are preparing to leave the ship. They both have their visors, sunglasses and fanny packs, so they do not need their purses.

CAROL

Have you ever been to Playa Del Carmen?

MAGGIE

No, but it's a little commercialized. I am going to take a ferry down to Tulum for the day. Want to come, it's great down there?

CAROL

I don't know, I'm on a boat, then I take a boat to the mainland and then take a boat? I think I will stay ashore here and shop the place down! I have my niece's wedding coming up.

MAGGIE

Your loss! See you tonight.

Maggie leaves. Carol looks at a picture of her and her niece, puts it in her fanny pack.

EXT. CRUISE TRANSIT BOAT TO PLAYA.DAY

A packed cruise ferry transports the folks from the cruise liner into Playa Del Carmen. Carol is enjoying the view. Maggie is nearby talking with her other friends.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

Carol and Maggie are chatting after leaving the boat.

CAROL

So I am looking for a colorful blouse for Ally.

MAGGIE

I'll keep my eye out! I'll see you back on the Big Boat tonight!

CAROL

Have fun.

Maggie heads for the Ferry.

EXT.STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

TITLE: PRESENT DAY

Davis is deeply ensconced in the story. He raises his hand to stop her.

DAVIS

In hindsight, was it crazy to cruise the streets alone?

CAROL

No, people do it all the time. It was wrong place wrong time.

AMIR

This story though, what a strange twist.

Carol shushes Amir.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

TITLE: 3 YEARS EARLIER

Carol walks along the streets, seeing a beautiful white church she stops in.

INT. CHURCH. DAY

Carol takes a seat in a pew. She quietly prays, a few others are present including a policeman, all praying quietly.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

Amir and three crew members are shoving off and heading out.

AMIR

Off to Playa! Let's go boys.

BODDER

Why Playa?

AMIR

There's a guy there, a whiz with these boats, gonna have him check the engine out and we get a day or two to piss off in Mexico!

They high five.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

Carol exits the church and begins to cruise the nearby shops. As she does a pick up truck with four Federale's, or State Police, armed to the teeth, passes by.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

Amir is at the wheel and they cruise up the coast.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

Carol walks along and sees hats for sale. A short round Mexican MAN offers her a hat.

MAN

You like a hat pretty lady?

Carol smiles and takes look and selects a hat.

MAN

Want to see yourself on Mexican TV?

Carol laughs is clearly confused. The man returns with a large mirror and places it in from of Carol to see herself.

MAN

See you are on Mexican TV!

Carol laughs and is clearly more relaxed.

CAROL  
Great, I will take it, how much.

MAN  
200 Pesos!

Carol opens her fanny pack to get her money and all her credit cards and passport fall to the ground. She goes down to get it and is helped by a Police officer. OFFICER GARCIA hands her her passport.

CAROL  
(in bad Spanish)  
Muchos Gracias!

OFFICER GARCIA  
(in perfect English)  
No problem M'am. Have a nice day.

INT. STORE IN PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

MUSIC BEGINS

Carol is dress shopping in a small boutique. Flash cuts of her trying on different dresses.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

MUSIC CONTINUES

Carol is strolling. More Federales go by. She stops and admires a street artist doing a portrait.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

MUSIC CONTINUES

Amir and crew are still heading North to Playa, loud music is playing above the boat noise.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

MUSIC CONTINUES

Carol is now sitting for a portrait.

EXT. ALLEY PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

MUSIC CONTINUES

Tight, low shot,(obvious POV of camera) of two men we see black military style boots and they are wearing green fatigue style pants and have firearms. We cannot see their faces.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

MUSIC CONTINUES

Amir and the boys passing into Mexican Waters.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

MUSIC CONTINUES

Carol has her picture and has it rolled up and in a tube. She begins walking again down the street. There is a side alley with lots of carpets and tapestries. She turns down it.

EXT. ALLEY PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

MUSIC CONTINUES

One of the two men hands a vendor in the alley some pesos and the guy leaves. They follow Carol down the alley.

EXT. ALLEY PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

MUSIC CONTINUES SLOWER

Carol is at the end of the alley and is looking a masterfully woven rugs of many colors and sizes. Suddenly she is overtaken by a rug over her head and she is suddenly on the ground and being rolled into the rug. The two men have access to a door in the side of a building in the alley and in they go with rug. On the ground is the tube with her portrait and a bag with a hat and dress.

MUSIC FADES

EXT.STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

TITLE CARD: PRESENT DAY

Amir, Carol and Davis are not speaking at all, reflecting on the abduction. They are interrupted by Colin and Stacey.

STACEY

Hey whatya guys doing? Dad, the Elvis guy is going wacky over by the gift shop. Jailhouse Rock song, really out there! You gotta see this.

COLIN

Dad, you should see where the guys  
sleep that live here on the island.

DAVIS

You guys shuffle off for a little bit  
we're having a little talk...Thank  
you.

The two kids leave.

DAVIS

We'd all be scared for our lives, what  
did you do what did you think?

CAROL

At first I just freaked but you can  
only scream so long so I started to  
figure out what was up and tried to  
find out quickly what they wanted.

DAVIS

And what did they want?

Close up on Carol.

CUT TO

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

TITLE CARD: THREE YEARS EARLIER

Cut into same perspective of Carol, alone in a room, one  
window, which is boarded up, a door and few pieces of office  
furniture. She is handcuffed to heavy iron drain pipe passing  
through the office from an upper floor. She hears the street  
sounds and music in the town square seemingly right where she  
is. She calls out and hears her voice barely above the street  
noise.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

Amir is entering the Playa area and is navigating to a  
specific dock area.

BODDER

Where going?

AMIR

To Adair's place.

BODDER

Who is Adair, what kind of name is that?

AMIR

He is an American, from Texas I think. Anyway he knows these boats. They say he just listens to it and know what it needs!

BODDER

Well I am listening to the rhythm of my heart and need beer and women, in that order.

AMIR

Well we have a couple of days here, so relax, I got a cheap flat from my cousin and we can act like tourists for a change.

EXT. ALLEY PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

A young boy picks up the tube and the bag as he appears from behind the rugs. He looks around and runs.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Carol is alone, somewhat stunned and crying.

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA INDUSTRIAL DOCKS. DAY

Amir is docking the Desire.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Two policemen walk together down the street. The boy who ran with the tube and bag peers out from behind a doorway as the policemen pass.

EXT. STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

TITLE: PRESENT DAY

Amir is amazed and chimes in.

AMIR

How could you not yell and scream and how long were you alone? Did you know who put you there?

DAVIS

Did you lose hope?

CAROL

Not really, I kind of got a weird vibe right away that I wasn't going to die and that became evident right away.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

TITLE CARD: 3 Years Earlier

She is startled by a noise of someone entering. It is a WOMAN, of maybe 45 years, native to Mexico. She is speaking Spanish fast but very softly. She has 2 plates of food, one with Tamales and the other with Rice and Beans. She approaches Carol.

CAROL

Who are you, where am I, what do you want, what do they want?

WOMAN

(in Spanish)

Tengo comida para usted, la como por favor. No conozco a estos hombres, le dijeron alimento necesario.

CAROL

Holy shit...um, My Llamo Carol.  
(Realizes she knows no Spanish) Fuck this. (Speaking Softly) Who are you? Where am I? Why have they taken me?

The woman makes the sign of the cross, pushes the food to her and hurries out of the office suite.

CAROL

(to no one)

What the hell am I gonna do? I guess I will eat.

She pulls the food closer and begins to eat.

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA INDUSTRIAL DOCKS. DAY

Amir is talking to ADAIR CROW about his boat. They have finished on the big stuff and now Adair is recommending restaurants and night life to Amir.



ADAIR CROW

It's going to be ready but it'll be three days or so from what I hear. Sounds like the pistons are shuddering and there is a manifold leak. But you boys should go to Mickey's place. North side of town.

AMIR

And?

ADAIR CROW

Saloon type place, pool tables, pretty girls for sale or rent.

BODDER

Now we are talking, boss where we staying?

AMIR

Federico Hotel on the main town plaza, a few blocks from the beach. Near everything.

ADAIR CROW

You come tomorrow we'll talk rope, railings and a few other things, you guys will need to upgrade for the tour boat inspectors.

Adair's assistant interrupts the scene and the meeting breaks up.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN.NIGHT

Carol has fallen asleep. The door opens and two men enter. They are armed and appear to be the same guys from the alley earlier. The music outside has changed. It is evening and we can hear steel drums, reggae and hip hop and the party town is come to life.

CAROL

(loudly)

WHO THE FUCK ARE YOU, WHAT THE FUCK DO YOU WANT WITH ME?

Both have sun glasses, one has a BANDANA over his lower face, he come to her and un shackles her and he points to the bathroom.

BANDANA MAN

You. go. Now.

She rushes in there and closes the door.

INT. BATHROOM OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Carol is in the bathroom. There is a window that has been boarded up from the inside. A toilet only and nothing else. She is struggling to keep her composure.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

The two men leave water and other food packages on the floor near her chair.

INT. BATHROOM OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

She waits a while after she is sure she is alone and exits the bathroom.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Carol walks over and begins to look at the food. She looks over at the door and walk over to try and open it. She is taken down from behind by the bandana man.

BANDANA MAN

(English with a Spanish accent)

Listen, we will go to the ATM soon and you will get your money out for me. You have three cards. Let's hope you can get some money.

The door unlocks. The other man enters, holding a paper, he hands it to Bandana Man.

BANDANA MAN

Your niece Alison. Is a lovely girl.

He shows her her picture and her address and other information.

CAROL

You people are sick.

BANDANA MAN

No games, we get the money. Let's go.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN.NIGHT

Bandana man is holding Carol's arm, they travel out of the building and go about three doors down to the bank ATM. They enter.

INT. ATM ROOM BANK-PLAYA.NIGHT

Bandana man stays right next to her. The other man puts his hand over the camera.

BANDANA MAN  
(hands her her cards)  
Let's go.

She enters the 1st card and enters her pin.

BANDANA MAN  
Take out the max amount.

CAROL  
How much is that in Pesos? A million?  
(jerking her body) Ha ha.

Bandana man stiffens his grip. He presses withdrawal and the max amount is listed, they enter that amount that and money is dispensed.

BANDANA MAN  
Get the balance.

He gives her another card. The other man continues to block the camera.

INT. NIGHTCLUB PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Bodder and Amir are grooving at a beachfront joint. Lots of girls and there are dancing girls on stage. Hundreds of men are in the club which spills out onto the beach.

BODDER  
I like Playa.

AMIR  
Remember you have a fiancé.

BODDER  
No ring yet boss.

They are interrupted as Adair Crow and another man, CHIP, enter the club.

ADAIR CROW  
 What did I tell you! And this is the  
 place! Guys this is Chip.

CHIP  
 Hey guys.

AMIR  
 Hi I'm Amir.

BODDER  
 Bodder, hey.

ADAIR CROW  
 Chip is FBI, down here to chill out,  
 with me.

BODDER  
 That's cool.

AMIR  
 I appreciate a lll that work. Where do  
 you live.

CHIP  
 NY. (waves at the waitress) Beers for  
 all!

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

The door opens, the woman is leaving and the men, returning  
 with Carol, push Carol into the empty suite and slam the  
 door. She is alone and walks around the room.

INT. NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE. NIGHT

Carol is reported missing and the entire ship is searched per  
 protocol.

EXT. STARFISH ISLAND OUTSIDE BEACH TABLES.DAY

TITLE CARD: PRESENT DAY

Carol has them all captivated.

DAVIS  
 Oh, my, God. What where you thinking,  
 you must have tried to escape? Was  
 anyone looking for you? I am sorry for  
 so many questions.

CAROL

They were humane, they gave me food and shelter and they did not strike nor abuse me, this was about money.

DAVIS

And what about escaping, screaming?

CAROL

Turns out this place was a recording studio or radio station, and had insulated walls, they couldn't hear me anyway, and this was busy Playa to boot, and the noise was constant outside.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

TITLE CARD: 3 Years Earlier

It's morning and Carol is asleep on the floor. The woman is cleaning up and goes to leave. Carol is startled by the door opening and then runs to the lady grabbing her arm.

CAROL

Where am I? What is it, what do they want?

Bandana man appears out of the hallway and grabs the woman from Carol and pushes Carol inside and slams the door.

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA INDUSTRIAL DOCKS. DAY

Amir, chip and Adair having coffee.

AMIR

I love it here but the crime. What is up with that?

CHIP

Uptick in kidnapping?

ADAIR CROW

Yes, unfortunately. Like so many resort communities. We do have less drug crime than a lot of places. We are on the wrong side of Mexico to be involved with border stuff.

AMIR

And why is Belize different?

ADAIR CROW

I know, the court system.

AMIR

Those Brits may have grabbed all the Mahogany but they left us with a good system compare to a lot of our neighbors.

AMIR

Chip, why Playa?

CHIP

I know Adair for years, but also Ricardo, my pal, he is a Federale. He comes unto NY to chill and I come here. We don't get distracted in another's country with the petty crimes of the day.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Carol is alone.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Two cops go down the street. A small boy is shooting video on his phone of them from behind some retail racks.

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA INDUSTRIAL DOCKS. DAY

Men are still talking.

CHIP

Yes, Federales are more like our FBI or kind like State Police. Although they do kind of bring their own law.

ADAIR CROW

Explain that one, Mr. Bill of Rights.

CHIP

OK, so one day these drunk guys were driving across the badlands and weaving all over the road and throwing out beer bottles and all that jazz. My buddy Ricardo and his partner came upon the scene, got alongside their car and forced them off the road. They stopped and went over to the car and shot out all four of the tires and

left them there, drunk and helpless.  
They made their own law!

AMIR

I love it.

CHIP

Local cops here, however..I don't  
know.

ADAIR CROW

I know! Oh how do I know?

CHIP

Do tell us.

ADAIR CROW

Some American Producers were here  
shooting a Music Video in Puerto  
Morelos. We all have dinner and then  
they decide to drive back to their  
hotel. They are staying in one of  
these all inclusive resorts. I tell  
them, don't drive, take a taxi. They  
say, we can do it, I don't drink, blah  
blah blah. That's why I rent a car.  
Anyway, they are going home along a  
beach road and almost back to their  
resort when they get pulled over for  
speeding. The funny thing is, these  
roads are unkempt and full of ruts,  
you couldn't even go 5 miles per hour  
in some places or you will ground out  
your vehicle.

AMIR

So what happened then?

CUT TO

EXT. MEXICAN ROAD.NIGHT

We see the rental SUV traversing the bumpy road. A pickup  
truck cop chases the SUV, both are going 5-10 mph on the very  
bumpy road in a slo motion chase.

ADAIR CROW

(voiceover)

They pulled over and over to the car  
came Officer Garcia. He has about  
12,000 in cash, split into Mexican and

US money.

Officer comes to passenger side, Producer OBRIEN is sitting there and not driving.

OFFICER GARCIA

Hello folks, do you know why I stopped you? You were going an unsafe speed for this road.

OBRIEN

We are barely moving on this road. It is full of bumps sir.

OFFICER GARCIA

May I see your passports please. Have you been drinking?

OBRIEN

No sir.

OFFICER GARCIA

I think you better tell me now exactly what you were doing, and if you were drinking, tell me you are not and it is proven you were, you will spend the weekend in Mexican jail.

ADAIR CROW

(narrating)

O'Brien was sober but his partner MITCHELL had but one Marguerita at the restaurant with us in Morelos. He was worried.

Officer Garcia comes back to the car with passports and the car registration.

OFFICER GARCIA

Have you gentlemen considered what I have told you?

Mitchell clears his throat.

MITCHELL

I had one Marguerita.

OFFICER GARCIA

And you sir?



OBRIEN

I do not drink sir.

OFFICER GARCIA

(turning an obvious corner)

It is good you are straight with me and I see your good men on your way to a working vacation, so it seems we should be able to clear things up here instead of waiting until Monday for the courts to open. How much money do you have?

ADAIR CROW

(narrating)

This is where it gets interesting, O'Brien, a crafty minded guy from NY, had his money across all his pockets and he was wearing cargo pants and had a total of six pockets. He reaches into his front right, he later told me he had about 400 dollars worth of pesos in his pocket from production. The cop saw the pesos and quickly deduced there was a bit more, O'Brien was good, he went into his US \$ pocket with 12 thousand or more and slipped out just 2 x 100 dollar bills.

OFFICER GARCIA

Ok, so that is good 6000 pesos and Oh, so 200 US and there will nothing on file with the court house.

He turns to leave them and turns back.

OFFICER GARCIA

If you get pulled over again, tell them I pulled you over already.

He winks and leaves.

CUT TO

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA INDUSTRIAL DOCKS. DAY

All are laughing.

AMIR

\$600 dollars.

CHIP

(seriously)

Truth is, Garcia is a crooked man and he has shaken down a lot of people, you I have him in my sights.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Carol is alone.

EXT. OCEAN REEF. UNDERWATER DAY

Fish swim by.

EXT. ALLEY PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Policeman is taking off his police shirt and putting it in a backpack styled bag. Another one joins him, neither see the little boy again watching.

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA INDUSTRIAL DOCKS. DAY

Chip continues.

CHIP

Guys like this crap-hole Garcia make the whole hemisphere unsafe. We have our freedoms because of a rule of law, and sure there is always a bad egg or two, but they really make it hard when these guys prey on simple tourists.

ADAIR CROW

And that is why the Federale's are different. They are compensated and also recruited to be men of integrity and they are the great men of this country in many respects. A lot of these local characters are on the take cause they got no money. It's a poor country.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Carol is dozing off and the door opens, the two men have returned. The sound of their military styled boots fills the empty room with sound. Carol looks up as she awakes ready to swear and such but stops herself. She relents and gets up and ready to head to head to the ATM. A certain decorum has broken out.

CAROL

(voice-over)

I knew I wasn't going to be assaulted or raped at this point and the two men had some character, some moral compass of some kind and I saw it was about money.

INT. ATM ROOM BANK-PLAY.NIGHT

This time a third man is waiting at the ATM and he blocks the camera and the the tow, led by Garcia hand her each card and watch her withdraw.

EXT. STARFISH ISLAND OUTSIDE BEACH TABLES.DAY

Back to the present and Carol speaks.

CAROL

I didn't know how long the cards would hold out, I had three and only so much in each account. I think had 1200 in checking and 800 on one master card and 600 available on the other, I am a woman you know, my cards were a bit maxed out if you know what I mean.

DAVIS

What about the ship, were they searching for you?

INT. NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE. NIGHT

The Captain and chief of security are meeting.

CAPTAIN

We have to leave soon. Leave a man here and we'll move along at dawn.

Maggie bursts into this meeting followed the ship's officer.

MAGGIE

Did you find her, what are you doing.

OFFICER

I apologize Captain.

He pulls on her arm, the Captain relaxes all with a "calm down" hand gesture.

CAPTAIN

I know we're all concerned, especially you, but this is an onshore problem .

MAGGIE

What do they say, what are they doing?

CAPTAIN

They are doing everything they can, the Federal agents are involved, a task force as well. We will find her. This boat, will leave tomorrow however.

MAGGIE

I can't leave here without her! I can't stay either, I have no hotel or a way home.

She appears panicked.

CAPTAIN

Mr. Larson will get you accommodations here in Playa Del Carmen for a few days and a plane ticket, but only for a few days, I am sorry but this is out of my hands. You best get your things. God Bless you.

MAGGIE

Thanks.

She cries and is escorted by the ship's officer.

CAPTAIN

(to security officer)  
God I hope they find her.

INT. NIGHTCLUB PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Chip, Amir, Adair, Chip & Bodder are among a big group in the packed bar. Great music. A good time is going on.

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA TOURIST DOCKS. NIGHT

The cruise line shuttle is dropping off Maggie and 2 security officials from the cruise line. They hustle into a Taxi.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Carol is alone the empty suite.

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA INDUSTRIAL DOCKS. DAY

The sound of the cruise ship horn breaks the morning silence. Adair Crow is drinking his coffee and watching the sunrise. Chip appears, somewhat surprising him.

ADAIR CROW  
Up early Yankee boy.

CHIP  
You think expats have a lock on sunrise beach activities? Listen, Adair, there's been an abduction again. This time from the big cruise line. I am meeting the Federales and Cruise line people in an hour. Can I use this as a base of operations?

ADAIR CROW  
Anything you need. Anything at all.

Chip gives him a stern but deliberate stare.

CHIP  
That is a very high compliment my friend. You know what they say, be careful what you ask for!

They high five.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Police cars and news media have gathered near the docks. A Federale, OFFICER RICARDO Riverol, is being interviewed on camera.

OFFICER RICARDO  
We have the ability and the desire to stop these people and return the American woman safely. We will not tolerate this here in Mexico and especially here in beautiful Play Del Carmen.

Chip and a few others watch from the sideline. Reporters are shouting questions.

REPORTER  
Do you have any clues at all.

OFFICER RICARDO

I won't comment on an ongoing investigation, but you can call the toll free number here and let us know if you saw anything or saw Carol at any time. We have heard from people that saw her shopping and in the church, so let's keep the information flowing and let's find her. No more questions.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Officers are panning out across the city with photographs of Carol. Officer Garcia and his partner are patrolling the streets and pass the alley and the little boy watches them handing out photos of Carol. He runs when Garcia looks at him. Garcia and his partner laugh.

INT. CHURCH. DAY

Chip and Ricardo are inside the church talking to the priest.

INT. HOTEL PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Maggie is on the phone with the United States.

MAGGIE

Yes I will call you as soon as I know anything. Make sure have cancelled all the credit cards and call the local police like I told you in case this is kidnapping for ransom. I am meeting with the Security people and the police later.

EXT. BREAKFAST CAFE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN.

Amir, Bodder and a few others are eating.

AMIR

I hope to leave today. Adair said today, one more part.

BODDER

It's nice here, I get why the Americanos like it!

AMIR

Cool your jets, we have to go back and make this Starfish thing really work.

BODDER  
Look at this.

He shows the newspaper to Amir with the missing woman story on the headline.

BODDER  
Woah.

AMIR  
This is what Chip was talking about.  
The unrest in the tourist town caused  
by bad apples.

BODDER  
Wonder if it was a bad cop.

CUT TO

EXT. ALLEY PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

In the alley the two Policemen are arguing.

OFFICER GARCIA  
(in Spanish)  
You can't lose your cool now. We have  
nothing to fear and we must stay the  
course just like we planned.

COP 2  
What do you mean? We have the whole  
world and TV reporters looking for us.

OFFICER GARCIA  
No one is looking for 2 cops right  
now. They are looking for bad guys not  
good guys.

Garcia's laughter makes the other Cop crazy mad.

COP 2  
Tonight we finish this process!

He rushes out of the alley and doesn't see the little boy,  
but Garcia does.

OFFICER GARCIA  
Hey, kid, come here.

The kid runs away and quickly disappears and Garcia looks  
pensive.

INT. HOTEL PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Maggie is on the phone again and the two security officers from the boat are with her.

MAGGIE

(on phone)

Yes, we have some information and now that the cards are frozen at least they can't get anymore cash. There are police everywhere and there is even a tip line and the calls are coming in. I will call you. I know, I know, love you, bye.

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA INDUSTRIAL DOCKS. DAY

Amir and Bodder are waiting for Adair Crow on their own boat.

AMIR

Supposed to be today. Looks done, we gotta go. This whole Starfish thing is taking off, we are getting bookings. My brother was right!

BODDER

And down South, that is the future.

They fist bump.

EXT. STREETS OF PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Chip and Officer Ricardo are walking down the main street near the beach. They casually pass and acknowledge Officer Garcia and his partner on the opposite side of the street. Officer Garcia sees the little boy but cannot react due to the Federale looking back at him.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Carol sleeps. The caretaker woman is cleaning leaving food.

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA INDUSTRIAL DOCKS. DAY

Amir and Bodder are joined by Adair Crow.

ADAIR CROW

Amir, we need to do one more thing and you can go. You know the Federale asked by Chip if you can take the women, when they find her, down to



Belize and so she can leave from there  
or join the boat.

AMIR

Did they find her?

ADAIR CROW

No, but this is a pattern behavior,  
they milk the ATM cards until they are  
shut off then they bail on the victim.

AMIR

Bail, do they kill them?

ADAIR CROW

The pattern says no, they want to fade  
into the wind and murder makes for  
longer investigations. So, they  
usually let them go, especially  
Americans, unless it's a kidnapping  
but that is more exotic. This Chip guy  
is the real deal and they are all  
working to stop this action on  
tourists.

AMIR

So he's not on vacation.

ADAIR CROW

Supposed to be, but him and Ricardo  
and homing in one a few bad guys and  
they are hot on this one as the same  
MO as the ones they are trying to  
solve. They'll have the girl back soon  
I do believe with the Credit Cards  
shut off!

AMIR

And they want to transport the girl  
why?

ADAIR CROW

I think they know they have a bad cop  
here and we're are going o see some  
action this time. Just a hunch, but  
this gringo wasn't born yesterday.

BODDER

(gives himself the sign of the  
cross)

Oh boy.

INT. HOTEL PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Maggie is freaking a bit. One cruise line person is still with her.

MAGGIE

(to Cruise line official)

What do I do, they are going to killer her. Aren't they? I know they are.

Where are the police. Maybe we shouldn't have turned those cards off!

Shit!

The official gives her a concerned look and then looks at his watch says nothing.

MAGGIE

(pissed)

You're a big help.

She storms into the bathroom and shuts the door.

EXT. OUTDOOR CAFE PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

Chip and Ricardo are eating at a street side cafe. Folks are passing by.

CHIP

Whatcha thinking my friend?

OFFICER RICARDO

I am thinking I smell a rat. One we need to stop.

CHIP

And....

OFFICER RICARDO

And, I think we know where they are coming from, and they always go to the ATM at night, they know that we are onto them so they will try and move to another location.

CHIP

And...

OFFICER RICARDO

And they are going to make a mistake and we're going to nail em. Right my American friend?

They are interrupted by two police cars going by with lights flashing. Ricardo checks his phone, no message.

OFFICER RICARDO  
Probably just drunks on the beach.

EXT.BEACHSIDE PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

About a block away on the beach is the little boy drinking a soda. He is watching all the fishing boats go out for the late day run. He hears Garcia and begins to run.

OFFICER GARCIA  
Hey you, boy, come here, I want to talk to you.

Boy runs across the street and Garcia tries to follow. Pickup truck with armed Police turns down the street along with a big beer truck and the boy disappears into an alley before Garcia can cross the street.

EXT. ALLEY PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Boy runs down the alley and turns onto busy street.

EXT. OUTDOOR CAFE PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

Chip and Ricardo are getting the bill. The boy runs up and hands Ricardo his phone.

OFFICER RICARDO  
Hello there.

He takes the phone.

EXT. ALLEY PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Garcia runs down the alley.

EXT. OUTDOOR CAFE PLAYA DEL CARMEN.DAY

Chip and Ricardo are watching stuff on the boys phone Garcia from the alley and his partner from across the street both see this and make eye contact.

INT. HOTEL PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Maggie has her head in her hands.

EXT. ALLEY PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Boy is showing them where the girl was abducted. He brings them to small door in an adjoining sub alley and there is her picture in a tube. He also hands them the bag with the hat and dress. There is a receipt. Ricardo is on the phone as they all go to that vendor.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. DAY

Just outside the door the two cops and caretaker woman are arguing in Spanish.

BANDANA MAN

We need to just go away for a while, there is no need to keep her. Let's just go.

COP 2

She knows us, we can go to jail for years. We have to at least bring her somewhere way far away and buy some time...or

WOMAN

Stop.

They hear the sound of sirens.

COP 2

We are moving her somewhere

He opens the door.

INT. POLICE STATION PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Ricardo and Chip and two other Federales are in the local PD station. There is an uneasiness as they confront the local chief about the bad cops. The little boy is in the police station talking to some ladies.

OFFICER RICARDO

So we need to find officer Garcia and Officer Fuentes. We don't know if anyone else is compromised chief so I am in charge. OK?

CHIP

They are going to dump her somewhere and run for it.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

The food is on the counter. The woman is bringing water to Carol and the 2nd cop puts something in the food. The woman comes back into the kitchen to get the food for Carol.

BANDANA MAN

Feed her now we are going to go out in the car in a little while.

INT. POLICE STATION PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Chip and Ricardo are trying to apply their best assets in the right places but have no clue where the men will surface.

CHIP

We don't have the manpower to roadblock the roads do we?

OFFICER RICARDO

No this is not NY Metro.

CHIP

Look they are trying to use the cards again maybe.

OFFICER RICARDO

No, but they are near here, they have to be.

CHIP

And the two officers.

OFFICER RICARDO

Both clocked out and no sign of them. Neither one married.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

The woman is cleaning in the kitchen and finds a prescription bottle. She comes out to where Carol is eating and Carol is falling asleep. She heads for the door. Looks at the two cops.

WOMAN

(in Spanish)

You are pigs, you are pigs, pray to God to save you.

She runs out the door. Cop 2 chases here for a moments and Garcia stops him.

BANDANA MAN

(Garcia)

Let's go, we need to take her for a long ride up the coast.

They start to move her.

INT. POLICE STATION PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

The Woman walks into Police Station.

EXT. EMPTY OFFICE BUILDING NEAR PLAZA. NIGHT

They load her into Garcia's car.

OFFICER GARCIA

(pushing Cop 2)

Hector, you clean up that office and clean it good and then get on that motorcycle and follow me up to my cousin's house near Puerto Morelos. They think we will go South, we will go North.

He points to a motorcycle. He drives away with Carol.

INT. POLICE STATION PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Woman is telling her story to Chip and Ricardo.

WOMAN

(in Spanish)

I could not believe that they drugged her to move her after treating her OK until then. The other cop was definitely more worried about himself than anything else.

OFFICER RICARDO

(in Spanish)

Where are they now?

WOMAN

The man, Garcia, drove off with her and left the mean one to clean up, I will show you.

They get up to go to the location.

INT. EMPTY OFFICE SUITE. PLAYA DEL CARMEN.NIGHT

Cop 2 is cleaning up. He hears the door rattle. The woman calls out to him to open, he does and Ricardo and Chip rush in and subdue him quickly.

MUSIC START

INT. AUTOMOBILE. NIGHT

Garcia is driving and Carol is still groggy in the back seat. The road is coastal and bumpy. The terrible bumpiness wakes Carol up and she begins to sense the end of the ordeal is near.

MUSIC CONTINUES

INT. NIGHTCLUB PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Bodder and Amir are alone having a beer enjoying the view.

MUSIC CONTINUES

INT. POLICE STATION PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

They have Officer Valverde in custody and are questioning him.

MUSIC FADES

CHIP

Why did you do this, how many times  
did you do this.

Valverde is somewhat listless having been knocked around a bit.

OFFICER RICARDO

(in Spanish)

This is the real deal my friend. And if anything happens to the American woman then we are talking the death penalty...Firing squad? Ha Ha. (To Chip in English) We are a bit more direct here in Mexico and not too many appeals either!

He slams his hand down.

OFFICER RICARDO

Tell me, where are they going?

COP 2  
I do not know, I really do not know.  
Maybe Morelos.

CHIP  
Puerto Morelos. That's North, shit I  
thought they would go South, more  
options.

They hear squawking on Police Radio.

CHIP  
(to Ricardo)  
What's up.

OFFICER RICARDO  
Driving on the beach, report of  
someone driving on the beach.

CHIP  
That's it.

OFFICER RICARDO  
Of course he can go about 3 kilometers  
on that beach before getting back on  
the crappy roads. Let's go.

Valverde is squirming.

COP 2  
(in Spanish)  
It was all Garcia, I just did what he  
said. I was nice to her, I cared about  
her.

OFFICER RICARDO  
You cared about her long enough to  
lock her up for days, steal her money  
and now, now she's on the run with a  
crazy cop. You better hope that they  
cut a deal with you. You better hope.

INT. AUTOMOBILE. NIGHT

Garcia is driving down the beach and is weaving around  
people, structures and lifeguard stations. Carol is awake and  
is holding her wrists against the seatbelt assembly. The weak  
rope knots set up by Valverde are giving way as the car  
bounces up and down.



INT. POLICE CAR. NIGHT

Chip and Ricardo are zooming towards the action.

CHIP  
Got a feeling on this?

OFFICER RICARDO  
No I don't. So far no assault and no  
violence, that's a good sign.

CHIP  
Except this escape.

Radio squawks with information.

INT. AUTOMOBILE. NIGHT

Garcia is about to leave the beach. Carol is now free and reaches up to choke him. He swerves and crashes into a lifeguard tower knocking it over. She loses her grip as he regains control of the car. She hits him in the head and he again swerves, this time hitting a rock and then running up the beach exit ramp, then into a palm tree, car rolls to the right 45 degrees. Carol is hurt, Garcia is not, and he begins to climb out of the broken window. She is bleeding and has a broken arm and is dazed as he climbs out of the wreck.

INT. POLICE CAR. NIGHT

Chip and Ricardo get news of the crash.

CHIP  
How close

OFFICER GARCIA  
10 minutes.

He steps on the gas.

EXT. BEACHSIDE EXIT. NIGHT

Garcia is out of the car and hesitating, harboring a bit of guilt about leaving her there. He reaches for his weapon and realizes he left it behind. He hears sirens and sees the beach police cars closing in. He heads off into the darkness off the beach.

INT. POLICE CAR. NIGHT

Chip and Ricardo are riding. Radio breaks in with cops at

scene.

OFFICER RICARDO  
(in Spanish)  
Make a perimeter. He can't go too far.

CHIP  
How many units?

OFFICER RICARDO  
4 maybe 5.

CHIP  
Ouch.

EXT. MEXICO STREET. NIGHT

Officer Garcia is slinking through the dark streets trying to find a vehicle to borrow. A Taxi with the lights off approaches. Garcia crouches down. Taxi stops. TAXI DRIVER rolls down window.

TAXI DRIVER  
(in Spanish)  
Get in, get in you fool.

Sirens and lights are louder.

OFFICER GARCIA  
Why should I trust you?

TAXI DRIVER  
What choices do you have friend?

Sirens are closer. Garcia jumps in the cab.

TAXI DRIVER  
On the floor!

EXT. BEACHSIDE EXIT. NIGHT

Chip, Ricardo and many cops at the scene. Carol is pulled from the car and is being stretchered into an ambulance. The Fire Department is arriving and putting foam around the area as fluid is leaking.

CHIP  
Where is he, what are we doing about it?

OFFICER RICARDO

Mexico at night! Where do we start with our manpower. We need information, we can't run everywhere, right now he is on foot so I made a perimeter with 4 cars and he'd have to pass one of those spots. But there is so many ways, Chip; beach, boat, car, woods.

CHIP

This is killing me.

INT. TAXI. NIGHT

The taxi is passing the checkpoint, he knows the cop and is chattering in Spanish.

EXT. BEACHSIDE EXIT.NIGHT

Ricardo and Chip watch the ambulance leave.

OFFICER RICARDO

Let's go back and see Officer Valverde and find out about the money. We can't talk to the woman till morning, they just sedated her.

Chip is holding the weapon he retrieved from the car. Looks like Mr. Garcia is unarmed.

INT. TAXI. NIGHT

Garcia and the Taxi Driver are now hurdling down a two lane road. The driver turns off the road, pulls off to an impromptu rest area created over the years.

TAXI DRIVER

(yelling to Garcia on the floor in the back.)  
Get out, get out.

Garcia gets out.

TAXI DRIVER

Get in the front seat.

Garcia gets in and sees the taxi driver has small pistol.

TAXI DRIVER

Put these on.

He hands handcuffs to Garcia. He reluctantly puts them on.

TAXI DRIVER

Oh, and give me all the money you fleeced from the American, if you do so I will bring someplace safe to escape for a while. If not you can get out and walk and I will call the police and tell them their comrade is in handcuffs running into the woods. Your choice Mr. Policeman, freedom or cash.

INT. POLICE STATION PLAYA DEL CARMEN. NIGHT

Chip and Ricardo are chatting outside the interview room.

CHIP

He had very little cash on him. They drew money from three cards for three days straight, Garcia must have all the cash.

OFFICER RICARDO

Probably a dead end but I have to go ask him where he went one more time.

INT. TAXI. NIGHT

Garcia is exiting the taxi at a Sugar Plantation. There is a help wanted sign on the gate. As Garcia gets out, the Taxi Driver throws him the handcuff keys and drives away. A wad of cash is at the driver's feet.

EXT. DOCKSIDE PLAYA INDUSTRIAL DOCKS. DAY

Amir and Bodder are ready to leave, Adair approaches.

ADAIR CROW

Gents, Officer Ricardo and FBI guy are coming over and asking a favor.

AMIR

Ah they found her.

EXT. HOSPITAL. DAY

Two heavily armed Federales are opening the door as Ricardo, Chip and Carol exit into a waiting SUV.

EXT.SUGAR PLANTATION.DAY

Garcia is working the fields in the hot sun.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

Carol is on board the Desire with Chip, Ricardo and Amir and Bodder.

CAROL  
(voiceover)

I wan't easily sedated and I didn't trust Mexican Police. Once I met Chip I wouldn't let him leave my side and I took the boat to Belize to fly home. Maggie was hysterical but she flew home from Cancun. I really appreciated Amir and we became friends. If he would just move to the States we could be more than friends!

CUT TO

EXT.STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

TITLE: PRESENT DAY

All of them are laughing and Amir is a bit embarrassed. They hear a ship horn.

DAVIS  
Are we leaving? Now?

He looks at his watch.

AMIR  
No, that's Adair Crow with the Desire-2, the new boat for down South. He's got some new hands for us, we'll keep them here and bring our trained guys down to the new island.

DAVIS  
Very Exciting.

CAROL  
Exciting ins the bog Party down there in a few days.

AMIR  
Yes, pulling out all the stops. We

have 6 new Starfish, big ones for their too. And a few surprises!

DAVIS

Thanks for telling the sory, wow. And they never caught that other guy either?

CAROL

No, it's funny he was the nicer guy.

AMIR

You know what else is funny, Chip and Ricardo both retired and started a private detective/security outfit for resorts. My brother hired them! You will see them down there as well.

Horn honks twice.

AMIR

Time to get the cruise line folks back to their boats.

CAROL

See you all in a few days.

All say goodbye.

COLIN

Dad we don't have to go back to the cruise boat we can stay here and watch the Elvis guy.

TREVOR

Dad they have little kayaks.

STACEY

Oh boy, I am laying in the sun for another 1/2 hour.

EXT. BELIZE CITY HARBOR. DAY

The Desire is dropping off the workers and Davis and kids.

AMIR

I will see you all down South.

DAVIS

Thanks for all you have done, wow, a great time.

INT. HOUSE BELIZE CITY. DAY

The kids rush in and tell their Mother everything.

TREVOR

Mom you should have see this, it was incredible. They're so many people on these big boats...

COLIN

(interrupting)

So many people and some hot blondes.

STACEY

be quiet Colin!

Davis kisses his Isela and his Mother in Law.

DAVIS

Did you miss us? Tomorrow we head South so pack all your stuff up and clean up that room downstairs!

INT. AUTOMOBILE. DAY

Davis and the family are in the rental car headed South.

DAVIS

Is your Mom going to be OK for a few days?

ISELA

She'll be fine. I am having my Aunt check on her and my sister will be back from the States by Saturday.

STACEY

Dad, where are we staying down there.

DAVIS

Amir's brother Zaid has some units he rents out, like condos...on the beach!

TREVOR

I am going fishing.

COLIN

I am going body surfing non stop.

Isela taps on the window.

ISELA

Look kids, look at the Sugar trucks lined up to sell their sugar cane to the sugar plant.

DAVIS

That's interesting. Amir said that folks from the sugar plantations often come to work for him as they offer more pay and a better environment.

ISELA

Yes a lot of these guys are Hondurans and Guatemalans looking for any job.

STACEY

Dad, how much do they make anyway.

DAVIS

In the sugar field not much, they pay them but charge them room and board and food, so it's sort of slavery, they never make enough to leave. Amir says they pay a good day rate and a lot of them stay on and get better jobs.

ISELA

My cousins are so nice, they hire these people and give them opportunity. Bodder came here from Jamaica with nothing but the clothes on his back.

STACEY

Beauty of capitalism, right Dad?

DAVIS

(smiling)

Right honey!

EXT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

The new island is buzzing with construction and preparation for the opening party. Folks are making a podium and lawn chairs and hammocks are being placed around the island. The gift shop, bar and food prep kitchen are completed and in full operation. A crew is assembling a living quarters structure for the 4-5 men who live on the island as caretakers. Amir and Adair have parked the two boats and come ashore greeted by Chip and Ricardo.



AMIR  
Officer Ricardo, nice to see you!

OFFICER RICARDO  
Call me Ricky, my American styled  
name.

CHIP  
And call me El Chippo! Adair you old  
salt, how are ya?

ADAIR CROW  
I am excellent, I see you folks  
specialize in clients with great  
locations.

OFFICER RICARDO  
If you have to work shouldn't it be  
beautiful?

All laugh.

CHIP  
You guys, let me show you some of the  
security upgrades we have here on the  
new island.

OFFICER RICARDO  
Your Prime Minister will be here  
tomorrow for the opening too, a good  
chance to test our system.

INT. RESORT CONDO.DAY

Davis and family settle into a beachside Condo. Everyone is  
excited.

EXT.NEW STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

Chip and Ricardo are showing off their toys.

CHIP  
We have cameras all over the island,  
wirelessly connected to a central hub.  
If no one is monitoring it, it rotates  
from camera to camera and we can watch  
from our phones if we want.

OFFICER RICARDO  
We have central human resources too,  
so we can put all their faces and

other biometrics into the system. So, we can identify people quickly and have a secure perimeter for event like tomorrow.

Adair points up.

ADAIR CROW

What are those?

CHIP

Drones my man, drones. This is a much bigger island than the other and services 3 times as many folks in one day. They have added the kayaks, sailboats and some scuba.

OFFICER RICARDO

As this island gains a higher profile and more liners dock here due to deep water port, we will have to be vigilant of all types of characters.

A new boat is honking a horn as it docks, many helpers rush over.

OFFICER RICARDO

A lot of vendors. A lot of loose ends.

He walks over and talks to a couple of security guys.

ADAIR CROW

(to Amir & Chip)

Tomorrow will be crazy around here, you ready?

CHIP

Born ready.

INT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND SLEEP QUARTERS.DAY

Bodder brings Jose and the others into the sleep quarters which is 60% completed and guys are working on it.

BODDER

Every has their on little room here. Now put you shit away and let's help set up.

Jose and the guys walk into their spaces.

EXT. RESORT CONDO.DAY

Kids are in the pool and parents are relaxed. Davis is truly relaxed but a bit hyped as well.

DAVIS

Honey, you know I love you.

ISELA

Yes, and?

DAVIS

I'm gonna make a movie.

A beach ball hits him in the head.

ISELA

Good, I hope that knocked some sense into you.

EXT.NEW STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

Chip is talking to Ricardo and the island's chief of security.

CHIP

Everybody is screened except those workers from Starfish North.

OFFICER RICARDO

Those guys are OK, he has had them there for years.

CHIP

It's a brave new world, everyone will be fingerprinted and photo'd, period.

OFFICER RICARDO

That's all well and good but not before tomorrow.

CHIP

I just have a funny feeling.

OFFICER RICARDO

Like these guys are going to show up on some database G-Man?

He points to Jose, Bodder and the others helping to set up the eating tables and other furniture.

CHIP

We are going to have complete control  
of this island before it really opens!  
That's what we do.

OFFICER RICARDO

Yes!

He fist bumps him and dismisses the security chief.

CHIP

I want to know more about these guys.

OFFICER RICARDO

So investigate. I have to get the crew  
ready for the Prime Minister's  
arrival.

He walks off and Chip is standing there looking at Amir's  
workers.

INT. RESTAURANT.NIGHT

Davis and his family are at a local restaurant. Amir and his  
brother Zaid join them for dinner.

AMIR

Folks this is Isela's cousin, my  
brother Zaid.

ZAID

Hi everyone. Thanks for coming. Hi  
cousin.

He embraces Isela.

ZAID

Let's have a nice meal before  
tomorrow, it will be a bit crazy.

ISELA

I love what you have done with the  
Starfish Island idea, wow.

ZAID

It is is great for Belize. I am proud  
of all the people who have gathered to  
work with us here at Big Creek.

DAVIS

Big Creek?

ZAID

My company. The Big Creek Company  
employs over 200 people now!

ISELA

Wow. That is great and good jobs too.

ZAID

We like to think we are the new  
Belize! The best of the new  
generation! Cheers!

EXT.NEW STARFISH ISLAND.NIGHT

The crew of workers is eating at the big tables near the bar area. A few contractors are finishing up as well. Chip is still on the island working details. He see the Amir boys eating and laughing. He goes into the kitchen area.

INT. RESTAURANT.NIGHT

The group is enjoying dinner and stories of the cousins' childhood adventures are being recounted to the chagrin of Trevor, Colin and Stacey.

AMIR

Your brother and I went fishing and  
broke the boat we were in.

ZAID

And then I had to go rescue them, but  
I didn't have a boat, so I borrowed  
Mr. Marato's...but he wasn't home.

ISELA

The he thought his boat was stolen and  
he called the police.

kids are irritated and bored.

COLIN

Mom, can we go back to the room.

TREVOR

Please, I want to fish off the pier.

ISELA

Stacey take these boys will you.

The three kids get up and leave the adults.

ISELA

So, the Prime Minister too?

ZAID

Yes, I am ready for a nice day, weather is good, the work has been done and we really are putting this part of Belize on the map.

AMIR

Yes and the jobs and the PR are so important. The addition of the security team opens us up to well heeled vacationers from LA and NY as well.

ISELA

Security? Not just for tomorrow?

ZAID

We hired a security company, they are former FBI and Mexican Agents, the work across the Caribbean. They are making us a real company, a real employer and a this country can stand out as it always has a jewel in Latin America. We have a legal system, we have a working economy here. We intend to keep improving that.

AMIR

Apparently my brother is the John D. Rockefeller of Belize!

Laughter.

ZAID

I do believe the best economic policy is a job!

EXT.NEW STARFISH ISLAND.NIGHT

MUSIC STARTS

The crew members are finishing eating and Chip is nearby with a radio in his hand, but he is watching the workers. They all disperse bringing their plates to feeding building into the dishes window and into a busboy tub. There is no one washing dishes. The last one is Jose and he puts his silverware and glass into the tub and throws all the paper products away. He then leaves for his quarters. Chip moves right on the glass

and secures it in his hand with a towel and carries it off to the security office.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE. NIGHT

MUSIC CONTINUES

Chip is alone and dusts the glass with fingerprint powder and see the prints, he captures them onto the transparent paper and then scans them into a digital file.

INT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND SLEEP QUARTERS.NIGHT

MUSIC CONTINUES

Jose and the others are settling in for the night. Jose reaches into his duffel and pull out the box with his possession. He opens the bag and holds his badge.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE. NIGHT

MUSIC CONTINUES

Chips has created an email and it is addressed to the FBI. Her attaches the fingerprint file and hits send.

MUSIC FADES

EXT. DOCK AT BIG CREEK.DAY

Hundred or so people are waiting, there is also some Police and BDF officers waiting. Davis and his family join the throng.

DAVIS

Wow, big crowd.

STACEY

Dad, Amir is bring in the Desire and the new boat to bring us all out to the island.

COLIN

And they are bringing guests from the cruise ship.

TREVOR

And there's cops everywhere, even in boats, look.

He points to the BDF Patrol boat heading out to the island.

ISELA  
And the prime minister?

DAVIS  
Helicopter of course.

Horns of the 2 boats sound as they approach.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE. DAY

Chip is on his email and gets a response from his FBI friend, saying he is sorry but he is out of the office.

CHIP  
Shit!

He types another message pleading with his pal to tap into the bureau for this information. In walks Ricardo.

OFFICER RICARDO  
What's up Chip?

CHIP  
I have a fingerprint of one of Amir's guys and I want to run it by my FBI pal who is out on location and cannot help me.

OFFICER RICARDO  
Let me do it?

CHIP  
What you mean?

OFFICER RICARDO  
We'll run it through Interpol and they'll check the FBI database. This is crazy though, all those guys come from the sugar fields, many don't even have an ID at all. But I'll handle it.

He pushes Chip out of the way and uses the laptop.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

They are cruising to the island with guests, additional security men, local officials and caterers.

DAVIS  
Cool day for a party!



AMIR

Oh yes, big day for my brother, too, a long time and a lot of hard work.

COLIN

Dad, look.

He points to the helicopter.

AMIR

He's going to get the Prime Minister now.

INT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND KITCHEN.DAY

Bodder is pushing Jose and the other workers to hurry up.

BODDER

Let's go, Tamales, Rice and Beans, & Conch Salad for 100 people. They are bringing some chickens and some salads from the mainland but most of it on us. We are showing what Starfish Island is and we want to deliver let's go.

EXT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND.DAY

The final podium pieces are in place and microphones are being tested. Chip and Ricardo are supervising the scene.

CHIP

You know this Prime Minister?

OFFICER RICARDO

No, I don't. He'll be like they all are, he'll be full of himself, tell us all about it and then he will leave!

Laughter. A WORKER approaches.

WORKER

They're approaching.

CHIP

Thanks.

They head over to the dock area. The 2nd boat is loading first and most of the workers are on that boat, including the greeters; beautiful women that host the party.

CHIP  
This is organized.

He raises an eyebrow at the fine looking hostesses.

OFFICER RICARDO  
Always love the women.

CHIP  
Keeps me young pal.

OFFICER RICARDO  
This boat is going out to get the  
cruise passengers now, I am going to  
go with them, unless you want to.

CHIP  
Carol is on the boat?

OFFICER RICARDO  
Yes sir.

CHIP  
I'll go.

The final guys are off the Desire2 and Chip heads aboard,  
Adair is at the wheel of the boat.

INT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND KITCHEN. DAY

Crew is cooking and cutting and loading food into serving  
trays. Jose is bringing out the tamales to main serving  
table. As he heads out the Desire2 is passing that end of the  
island on the way to get to the cruise boat and Chip and Jose  
lock eyes for a moment.

BODDER  
(yelling from in kitchen)  
Lose, vamos! Move it!

EXT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

Davis and kids are off of the Desire and are looking at the  
splendid spread at the Island Center and music is playing and  
beach chairs, kayaks, Hammocks are all laid out. They notice  
the Starfish Sign at the South end.

COLIN  
Dad the Starfish are here!

The kids run off towards the Starfish.

ISELA  
Ah to be young.

DAVIS  
This is a wang dang of a party. That Carol woman I told you about will be here too. I think Amir really likes her, you know, a lot.

ISELA  
He never really settled down. He was married years and years ago for like 2 months or something. Great guy. Zaid married a beautiful girl from up North, she will be here today.

They are now next to the Starfish area, a protected area you can go inside and pick up the Starfish and take pictures with them. They are large and colorful.

STACEY  
Mom, look!

She holds it up for a picture.

TREVOR  
I'm a real star.

He is holding 2 of them.

DAVIS  
Be careful.

Other guests have now caught up with them and a crowd has gathered.

ISELA  
Kids, let's go.

They exit that area.

INT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND KITCHEN.DAY

Bodder is talking to Jose.

BODDER  
Listen, I want you on the line serving the tamales.

JOSE  
I don't want to serve.

BODDER

The Prime Minister is here, he is half Mexican, I want a Mexican on that line today, OK?

JOSE

OK.

EXT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

The helicopter is landing on the West side of the small island. Party Security is keeping folks away with a rope fence. The Prime minister steps out with one security man. Davis is watching with the kids.

TREVOR

Not exactly secret service protection.

DAVIS

Ha.

Amir approaches.

AMIR

Politicians hate to waste time, he'll be speaking soon. And here's comes the cruise passengers.

The horn of the Desire2 honks as it is parking. The group walks over towards that dock.

AMIR

Carol is excited to be here. The idea of the Starfish Island Resort works for here, she likes the safety and the style.

Isela appears.

ISELA

I think she likes your style.

They are at the dock and the passengers are disembarking. Carol is walking off with Chip.

AMIR

(nervously)

security everywhere today. I should go check on my men across at the feeding area.

Amir exits quickly and Carol, Chip and other guests head towards the center area where the speech will be.

ISELA  
He DOES like her.

DAVIS  
And so the G-Man.

COLIN  
What's a G-MAN

The loudspeaker is on.

ANNOUNCER  
Attention Ladies and Gentlemen,,  
welcome to Starfish Island. I ask you  
all to the center of the Island and I  
will introduce The Prime Minister of  
Belize. I also ask you to recognize  
all the workers, security and island  
staff all working to make this a great  
day for Belize and for Starfish  
Island. But First the President of Big  
Creek, Zaid Flores

Applause.

ZAID  
Welcome to Starfish Island. Today we  
celebrate the birth of another  
location and another place for jobs,  
growth and to express the beauty and  
splendor of Belize to tourists in a  
lovely way. We are proud of  
relationships with the big lines,  
especially Norwegian and we hope to  
continue to grow and expand the  
offering of Starfish Island as we  
offer service to large cruise liners  
and compete with Big Cities in Mexico  
and the Caribbean for the Cruise line  
business. Starfish Island is our  
little jewel and the new Starfish  
Island shines just a little brighter.  
Enjoy today. After the Prime Minister  
Speaks there is a lovely lunch, get a  
picture with a Starfish . Rid in  
Kayak, swing in the hammock, soak up  
some sun or just have a cocktail or  
to. Thanks for coming.

Applause.

ANNOUNCER

Ladies and Gentlemen, I'd like to introduce the PRIME MINISTER of Belize

PRIME MINISTER

Welcome everyone and welcome to Belize those of you not from here. I am proud to say that I have known Zaid and his family a long time and their commitment to growing Belize and making a better and not necessarily just bigger destination is notable and fits into my picture for the future of our great country...

INT. SECURITY OFFICE. DAY

Chip and Ricardo are in there and have camera control station here. The sound of the speech drone son even inside the building they can hear it.

CHIP

Still no word from Interpol?

OFFICER RICARDO

Trust me.

He sees something on the cam.

OFFICER RICARDO

You see that?

CHIP

What?

OFFICER RICARDO

A boat.

CHIP

And.

OFFICER RICARDO

There shouldn't be any boats.

CHIP

Probably a fisherman, I will go see.

Chip steps out. Officer Ricardo checks his email.

EXT.NEW STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

The Prime Minister drones on as Chip goes to check out the boat that passed.

PRIME MINISTER

...And all of the People of Belize believe, as I do, that we cannot just create new taxes without new opportunities...

Chip sees the boat with 2 man, moving away slowly.

CHIP

Hey!

They laugh and throw a bottle overboard. Chip turns away and returns.

INT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND KITCHEN.DAY

Bodder is all buttoned up and giving final orders to his guys, Jose is right up front.

BODDER

Boys, this is the big time. The Prime Minister and lot of cool people are out there, do your best and stay focused on excellent service.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE. DAY

Chip returns.

CHIP

A couple of drunk fishermen.

OFFICER RICARDO

had a feeling. He is almost done speaking, let's get out there, he will eat first and leave and then we can dial all this down one notch.

They exit the control center.

EXT.NEW STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

The Prime Minister completes his comments.

PRIME MINISTER

...And thank you all. And God Bless

Belize.

Applause.

ANNOUNCER

Now folks we have grand buffet. We ask you allow the Prime Minister a chance to eat first as he has a busy schedule leading our country. Make sure to try the Tamales!

The Prime Minister and his staff are already at the food line. Chip and Ricardo are watching the scene. Jose is serving along with others as folks come through get stuff served to them The Prime Minister says hello to Jose in Spanish.

PRIME MINISTER

(in Spanish)

Hello

JOSE

Hello, sir. Please try the Tamales, I made them like my mother taught me in Mexico.

PRIME MINISTER

Where in Mexico?

JOSE

Meridia.

PRIME MINISTER

That is where my mother's family is from. Of course I will try them.

He proceeds down the line and the general public is now filing through. Davis, Isela and the kids, followed by Carol and Amir.

DAVIS

What a spread, mmm smells great.

AMIR

Try these Tamales Carol.

As Carol sees the Tamales and Jose serves them there is a double clutch moment where she locks eyes with Jose and then he looks away.



CAROL  
 (to Amir)  
 Amir, what is Conch Salad?

Ricardo turns and leaves the area for a moment.

OFFICER RICARDO  
 (to Chip)  
 I'll be right back.

Ricardo Exits the area.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE. DAY

Ricardo gets another piece of radio equipment and checks his email. He is startled, and prints out the information. He rushes out and picks up his radio to talk to Chip.

EXT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

As he exits the Prime Minister is leaving as predicted. He and his security man are about to approach the area of the helicopter. The 2 FISHERMEN have reappeared in their boat nearby and are now armed and racing from the edge of the water towards the Prime Minister.

OFFICER RICARDO  
 (into radio)  
 Scarlet Fever, Scarlet Fever.

He pulls out his pistol.

FISHERMEN  
 (in Spanish)  
 You have ruined this country, you have  
 ruined this country!

They are within striking distance.

OFFICER RICARDO  
 (shouting)  
 Down, Down Mr. Prime Minister

Ricardo fires across and wings one of the men. The Prime Minister is covered on the ground by his security man. Chip arrives behind Ricardo.

CHIP  
 STOP.

Now the two fishermen have moved away from the helicopter and

are headed for the main population. People are scattering.

OFFICER RICARDO

Oh yeah, guess what, the Jose guy is  
the cop from three years ago in  
Mexico.

CHIP

The COP!

OFFICER RICARDO

Yes, finally, but first these 2  
enchiladas.

Ricardo shoots and takes down one of the two men. A few guys  
rush to that guy, the lone fisherman scoots into the crowd  
and goes towards the docks side of the island.

CHIP

(to Jose across the way)

I see you Garcia!

Jose knows his gig is up and turns and runs. Chip is going  
after him and the crowd is in the way. Then, Chip is  
distracted by screaming. He moves that way. He looks back and  
Jose is nowhere to be seen.

CHIP

(to Ricardo)

You get that side, let's get him.

Ricardo goes around one side of the small gift shop building  
and Chip goes to the other. As he comes around the side of  
the building the fisherman takes a shot and hits him above  
the knee. He goes down. The Fisherman then turns towards the  
Desire. Amir, Carol, Davis and others had been moving closer  
to the boat in the mayhem but had not reached there. The  
Fisherman runs over and grabs Carol and puts a gun to her  
head rights as Ricardo and the others approach.

OFFICER RICARDO

Don't hurt her.

FISHERMAN

I won't, but I need a boat.

He turns and brings Carol with him step by step into the  
desire as the crowd including Ricardo and other armed men  
watch.

FISHERMEN  
I need a driver.

Amir volunteers.

AMIR  
I will be the driver, it is my boat.

He boards and they are set free from the dock. Ricardo is on a megaphone.

OFFICER RICARDO  
(on a megaphone)  
There are Police boats and other security measures, please surrender.

Boat pulls away.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

The boat is pulling away and the fisherman implores Amir to go faster.

AMIR  
Take it easy I know the waters.

FISHERMAN  
Faster.

He waves the gun while holding tight onto Carol.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE. DAY

Ricardo is on the radio and is launching his drones.

OFFICER RICARDO  
(on the radio)  
The is Ricardo at Starfish Island Big Creek Base, please notify all police and BDF craft of the Desire Tour boat which has been stolen by a a crazy person who is armed and has two hostages.

He waves to another fellow who is starting the drone flight.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

The boat is now moving faster. Amir is steering the boat. The Fisherman handcuffs carol to the railing of the boat and goes up behind Amir and knocks him out. He takes control of the

boat and it changes direction and he heads for a small island.

FISHERMEN  
(yelling)  
Soon I will be free.

He is now in shallow water but appears to know the area.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE. DAY

Ricardo is watching drone screen footage.

OFFICER RICARDO  
Where is he?

OFFICER  
They veered off sir.

Ricardo slams his fist.

OFFICER RICARDO  
FIND THEM!

The men increase their search area.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

They are in a thicket of Mangrove trees and small islands. The Fisherman is surprised by Jose (Officer Garcia, who was hiding below deck. He attacks the fisherman who fights back. The boat is then loose and veers towards land, stopped by Garcia who is then attached by the fisherman who loses his gun. Carol meanwhile is dangling outside the railing still handcuffed to the railing.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE. DAY

The men are excited.

OFFICER  
Found them sir.

Ricardo and others watch.

EXT. DESIRE TOUR BOAT. DAY

The boat is now moving slower but weaving as both men struggle to control the boat. Garcia finally has the boat straight and kicked the fisherman to the floor, now the fisherman has a second wind and charges, however Amir has

awakened and he trip the fisherman who falls right in front of Garcia who pins him. Amir slows the boat down and rushes to help Carol.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE. DAY

Ricardo and his men are astonished.

OFFICER RICARDO  
Never saw that coming.

EXT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

Desire and the BDF boat are docking back at the island. Garcia and the Fishermen are in handcuffs and Amir is piloting his boat. as they approach the dock Carol approaches Garcia.

CAROL  
Thanks I guess....I never understood why.

OFFICER GARCIA  
It was money, just money, I am so sorry. I never wanted you to get hurt.

CAROL  
I guess you're right and no abuse, I hope something better some for you, I really do.

Amir has docked and Ricardo and an injured Chip board the boat.

OFFICER GARCIA  
Officer Ricardo, we have met before. Senor Amir was completely in control and deserves credit for taking down the fishermen, I was just hitching a ride, I am not running any more.

Ricardo laughs.

OFFICER RICARDO  
It wasn't quite like that. I saw it from the drone. You took this guy down, you are still a cop at heart and when push came to shove you did the the right thing. That goes a long way in my book and I will tell the prosecutor in Quintana Roo the same

thing.

OFFICER GARCIA

Thanks.

CHIP

Nice work Garcia, but I was always going to catch you, and I did.

OFFICER RICARDO

Stop the Kojak stuff.

CHIP

Kojak? Who loves you baby?

Laughter.

OFFICER RICARDO

Let's get this clown out of here.

The men remove Fishermen and then Garcia.

AMIR

Well this was great first day. Thanks you security guys.

CAROL

(to Amir)

Thank you.

EXT. NEW STARFISH ISLAND. DAY

Everyone is at several tables, music is playing and all are eating and drinking. Zaid raises a glass for a toast:

ZAID

Here it to my brother Amir the Hero and greatest brother in the world.

People toast. small dialogue continues.

DAVIS

Well kids that was an adventure, got stuff for your "What did I do This Summer " thing you will have to write when you get back to school?

STACEY

Dad you shouldn't said that word.

DAVIS  
What word?

                                  STACEY  
School!

Laughter.

                                  CAROL  
                                  (to Amir)  
I have to go back to the States. Will  
you come visit?

                                  AMIR  
Yes, yes I will.

The horn toots.

                                  ANNOUNCER  
All Norwegian Line passenger please  
load onto the Desire 2 at this time.

Amir turns to Carol.

                                  AMIR  
You can ride with me.

They get up and head to the Desire.

                                  ISELA  
                                  (to Davis)  
Well isn't that interesting?

Michael Jackson song comes on,

                                  ISELA  
C'mon honey let's dance.

They join other on the dance floor. The two boats pull away  
one with just Amir And Carol.

FADE

INT. AIRPLANE. DAY

The family is staggered across two rows, Davis and Isela in  
the row front of the three kids.

                                  COLIN  
I am going to work on Starfish Island  
next summer.

STACEY

You are not.

COLIN

Am too.

STACEY

Am not.

COLIN

Amir told me.

TREVOR

You think he's gonna pop her?

ISELA

Who popping who?

TREVOR

Amir, popping the Carol girl, Dad can you make a movie about all this?

DAVIS

Think so. Think So.

Shuts eyes. Smiles.

FADE TO BLACK.



