

L.A. Tinas
Pilot: "The Reunion"

by
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Based on a story by
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Pilot: "The Reunion"
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FADE IN:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO: LIVING ROOM SET - NIGHT

Video texture, broadcast quality: Bright lights, a snazzy living room set with four elegant empty seats, two on each side of the moderator, ANDY COHEN (30s), cute and charming. He stands, clutching his note cards, a bright television smile adorning his face.

A studio audience is finishing their applause as he addresses the camera:

ANDY

The world has come to know these beautiful ladies as the hippist, hottest, most spicy Latinas in Los Angeles. Welcome to the reunion show of the Hispanic women you always want MUCHO of - say hello to stars ELIZABETH, BRUNA, VERONICA and IVONNE - the L.A.Tinas!

Audience goes wild.

Glamorous and gorgeous the stars of "the L.A.TINAS": ELIZABETH, BRUNA, VERO and IVONNE high-heel it on set and take their places in the empty chairs around him. They wave at the crowd and make nice.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Hola ladies!
(L.A.tinas greet him back)
I've been so excited about doing this reunion show!
(off their happy reactions)
Let's start at the beginning. The season opened at your house, Elizabeth.

ELIZABETH

Yes Andy, that's right. We were having Shabbat dinner and Bruna joined us at the last minute cuz she needed a break from her four children.

ANDY

Shabbat. What is Shabbat for those in our audience that don't know.

ELIZABETH

Shabbat is a traditional Jewish meal that happens on Friday night at sundown. It's part of the Sabbath. We serve things like Challah, gefilte fish, matza soup...

BRUNA

...Black beans, plaintains, pork. At their house it's all "Cubanized."

ELIZABETH

(explaining)

I'm Catholic Cuban and my husband is a Brooklyn Jew.

ANDY

Cubanized, Bruna?

BRUNA

I'm just saying, Shabbat at their house is not "traditional." Especially now that her mom lives there too.

ELIZABETH

Ay, don't remind me....
Let's just say I like to think of my home as 50-50. It's "Jew-Banized."

CUT TO:

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE, DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Film texture, this is not a reality show: Seated at the head of a large dining room table laden with traditional Shabbat dinner is MICHAEL SETH RUBENSTEIN (40s). Classical music plays softly in the background.

MICHAEL

(in mid-toast)

...and finally to my beautiful wife, I am so lucky to have her in my humble life.

Their son, ZACK RUBENSTEIN (10), raises his juice glass too.

ZACH

To mom!

Next to Zack sits Elizabeth basking in the attention.

Next to her is Bruna, also raising her glass:

BRUNA

Here, here.

(background music changes
to salsa)

Nice playlist, Mamita.

Panning across the table the food and setting changes progressively from traditional Shabbat to distinctly Cuban.

Seated at the other end of the table and mashing up the mint in her Mojito (a Cuban rum-drink) with her fork is Elizabeth's mother, ESPERANZA 70s. She is a brash, potty mouth, super-judgemental Cuban woman.

ESPERANZA

Salud, Carajo! Now come on let's eat already que I'm starving.

ELIZABETH

Ay Mami, please. Don't use that language in front of Zack.

ESPERANZA

Bueno, then feed me.

The maid, LIDIA, (50s) enters the dining room with a few serving utensils and sets them down.

The doorbell rings.

ELIZABETH

Ay, who could that be?

The door bell rings now repeatedly. Lidia dutifully goes to answer it.

ESPERANZA

Coño. Let's eat, I don't give a shit who's at the door.

ELIZABETH

(scolding)

Mami! Zack is right here.

ZACK
 (to Elizabeth, sweet)
 I don't care.

ELIZABETH
 (to Zack)
 I care.

ESPERANZA
 (with a wink to Zack)
 I'm with Zackito, I don't care
 either.

MICHAEL
 Who is it Lidia?

Lidia returns.

LIDIA
 It's for Ms. Elizabeth. And Ms.
 Bruna, I think you want to come
 too.

ELIZABETH
 For me? Who is it?

LIDIA
 I think it's Carmen Miranda.

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE, FOYER

Dressed head to toe in a flashy Carmen Miranda outfit stands
 VERONICA crying unabashedly. Eye liner running down her
 pretty face.

BRUNA
 Veronica! Pero que te pasa? What
 happened?

ELIZABETH
 Come in baby, sit down.

VERONICA
 (thru tears)
 He... he...

BRUNA
 He? He who?

ELIZABETH
 Your boyfriend?

Through the tears, Veronica nods yes. She can barely get the words out:

VERONICA
 (thru tears)
 He ...asked me... to marry him!

CUT TO:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO: LIVING ROOM SET - NIGHT

Everyone's in mid laugh.

ANDY
 (to Veronica)
 Veronica, I thought one of your main priorities is to get married and start a family of your own.

VERONICA
 Yes, of course it is! But I couldn't accept.

BRUNA
 She has issues.

VERONICA
 (to Bruna)
 He has issues!
 (to Andy)
 How can I marry a man that has a problem with me being Latina?!

ANDY
 (confused)
 Huh?

Veronica is obviously Latin by appearance and accent.

VERONICA
 He loves me, I believe that but he has a problem with my crazy Latin culture.

ELIZABETH
 Ay Vero, calm down.

ANDY
 (incredulous)
 It does seem counter intuitive. You are so clearly Latina.

IVONNE
Ay come on, Veronica!

Compared to Ivonne - who more extreme Latina - Veronica is like Doris Day.

IVONNE (CONT'D)
You don't even have an accent! You are so totally gringa-Americana!

CUT TO:

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE, FOYER - NIGHT

As Michael and Zack enter the foyer to see what all the commotion is, Bruna and Elizabeth continue trying to calm Veronica.

The doorbell rings excitedly again.

Elizabeth opens the door and finds IVONNE dressed a sexy tight dress and with more luggage than any one person needs.

IVONNE
(affectionate)
Surprise Mijita!

ELIZABETH
Eh? Ivonne pero what are you doing here? I thought you were living in Spain again.

IVONNE
Y que? So what? Can't a girl surprise her LA girlfriends with un visit?
(almost screeching with delight)
Aaaaaaaayyyyy! Bruna y Veronica!
How perfect! The gang is all here!!!
(seeing Veronica's costume)
Mijita? Is it Halloween?

Veronica just cries.

ELIZABETH
She sings at a Brazilian restaurant.

IVONNE
Vero speaks Brazilian too?

VERONICA
(crying emphatically)
I fake it! ...Just like the love of
my life!

IVONNE
Huh? (beat) Mamita, it's okay -
nobody really speaks Brazilian.

BRUNA
(to Michael and Zach)
No, no, because they actually speak
Portugese.

Michael guides Zack quietly as Elizabeth mouths to him
silently, "I'm sorry!"

BLAM! Suddenly salsa music is blaring. The ladies look back
towards the dining room and discover Esperanza dancing by
herself mojito in hand.

IVONNE
(calling to her)
Hola Señora Esperanza! It's me,
Ivonne!

ESPERANZA
(oblivious, to the music)
Aaazuca!

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO: LIVING ROOM SET - NIGHT

ANDY
So what happened Ivonne? What's
the real reason you came to LA.

IVONNE
I have always loved this country
and I wanted to be with my best
friends.

VERONICA
Ivonne.

IVONNE
(off her)
I have always wanted to try acting
in Hollywood.
(MORE)

IVONNE (CONT'D)

I have done many soap operas in Mexico and Spain. I was also a model.

BRUNA

Ivonne.

IVONNE

I am in the middle of launching a new lingerie line too.

ELIZABETH

Ay yai yai.

VERONICA

Ivonne, just tell him.

IVONNE

(beat)

And I am being blackmailed.

ANDY

Blackmailed?!

IVONNE

Ay yes, Cabrones!

(to Andy)

I'm sorry.

ANDY

It's okay.

IVONNE

Well then: estos hijos de putas they are black mailing me!

CUT TO:

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE, GUEST ROOM - NIGHT

Veronica and Ivonne settle into the guest room with the help of Elizabeth and Bruna.

Dressed in Elizabeth's old t-shirt and sweat pants, Veronica sits cleaning the trail of mascara tears on her face.

Ivonne speaks to the gang from the privacy of the bathroom.

IVONNE (O.C.)

Pues si! Those stupid assholes are now saying that if I don't give them \$50,000 they are publishing those nudie photos of me.

BRUNA

Pero - Ivonne, why do you care?
Everybody knows you were a playboy
bunny.

ELIZABETH

You design sexy lingerie - how can
this bother you?

IVONNE (O.C.)

Of course, I don't care about the
puñetero pictures! But my family!
My parents and *my grand parents* - I
can't do that to them... (beat)
*...AND they will make my life a
living hell!*

ELIZABETH

(just to the Veronica &
Bruna)
That's the real reason.

VERONICA

Your grandfather is still in
politics?

BRUNA

(answering Veronica)
Nena, he is going to run for
president of Spain.

VERONICA

Coño.

IVONNE

(stepping out of bathroom)
Si, so instead of giving in to
those hijo de putas, I'm here.
Visiting my best friends!

Ivonne is dressed in extremely sexy baby doll lingerie. Her
hair is perfectly quaffed as if for a photo-shoot. The
ladies are stunned.

IVONNE (CONT'D)

Que?

BRUNA

Were you expecting some action
tonight?

They laugh like only good friends do.

IVONNE

This is how I dress for bed....
Que? Why are you laughing?

VERONICA

(to Elizabeth)

Thank you for putting me up too.
You're a good friend.

ELIZABETH

(to Veronica)

Of course, Honey. Now do me a
favor and just let it rest for
tonight. Tomorrow you can face the
situation again with Barry and work
this out. I'm sure it's not what
you think.

VERONICA

(defeated)

I wish that were true.

And with that Veronica takes her turn in the bathroom. The
others are left looking at each other.

BRUNA

Ivonne, keep her off that phone
tonight. She is going to text
herself into hysteria again. You
know how she is.

IVONNE

(discreetly)

Yes, of course. Pobrecita.

EXT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE, FRONT PORCH

The front door opens. As Bruna steps out with Elizabeth her
cell phone begins to ring.

BRUNA

(to Elizabeth)

It's De'Shane.

(into phone)

Hi Baby. How are the kids
behaving?

CUT TO:

INT. BRUNA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

On the phone to Bruna is DE'SHANE JEFFERSON, retired NFL running back.

He sits on a bare sofa without cushions as four children (NAMES TO COME) of varying ages wreak havoc in background using the cushions as weapons. A lamp comes crashing down to the floor.

DE'SHANE
(forced calmness)
Oh, they're great. I was just wondering when you were coming home....

A toddler screams in utter delight beside De'Shane's head. After the child is finished, there is more worry in De'Shane's voice.

DE'SHANE (CONT'D)
You're not spending the night there, are you baby?

EXT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE, FRONT PORCH

Bruna on the phone, Elizabeth waits at the door.

BRUNA
No honey, I'm coming home. It got complicated tonight. I'll explain later.... Okay, bye. Love you.

ELIZABETH
"Complicated" is not what I wanted tonight.

BRUNA
You know how it is. When people get in trouble they come to you. You're the Mama.

ELIZABETH
I don't know how I feel about that. It makes me sound so old.

BRUNA
Not old... mature.

ELIZABETH

(joking)

Fuck you.

BRUNA

Remember what we girls figured out so long ago: "Sometimes out of the chaos..."

ELIZABETH

...A little good comes out." I know.

BRUNA

I gotta go. Hellish day tomorrow at the studio. We're shooting SELMA HAYAK (*replace with actual celebrity*) for the cover. I am going nuts with all the things I have to get in the studio for her. Only white flowers, she drinks only fresca, and her sushi has to come from Urasawa in Beverly Hills, (*Replace with product placement* - Bitch, the list goes on and on.

CUT TO:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO: LIVING ROOM SET - NIGHT

ANDY

(to Bruna)

Tell us about this shoot, Bruna.

BRUNA

Okay, so as Editor in Chief of L.A.tinas--the magazine--I produce all the big fashion shoots including of course, the cover. Celebrities sell magazines so we have to use them and it's always stressful.

ANDY

As this day was.

BRUNA

It was the worst! It took forever to schedule. Selma needed all these things - which is normal - it's not my first celebrity shoot. We barely had a budget.

(MORE)

BRUNA (CONT'D)

AND on top of it all: two of my production assistants came down with the flu. We say in Spanish, "estaba yo hasta mi ultimo pelo" - I was on my last hair.

ANDY

As in you had figuratively pulled out all your other hairs.

BRUNA

Yes.

ELIZABETH

Wait a minute, wait a minute! But before this thing blew up at the studio that morning back at my house--

CUT TO:

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - MORNING

Arguing, Veronica and Ivonne prepare themselves breakfast.

Lidia, used to the antics, sits peacefully waiting for them to finish.

VERONICA

And what about you? You are so upset about these damn blackmailers but you don't face them, instead you run away.

IVONNE

Veronica, I am not running away, I am wiping my ass with them. There's a difference. That's what you should be doing.

VERONICA

Que? What does that mean?

IVONNE

All night long you wouldn't stop texting. I told you to stop and now I'm in a bad mood because I couldn't sleep.

VERONICA

I was crying softly.

IVONNE

That's not my favorite song to
sleep to. Okay?

VERONICA

(to Lidia)

Where is Elizabeth again?

LIDIA

She's dropping Zack at soccer camp.

Veronica gets a text, looks at it and becomes teary. She starts to text him back but Ivonne suddenly grabs the phone from her hand and throws it out the window.

VERONICA

Ivonne!

IVONNE

I didn't do that on purpose. It
just happened.

(sincere now)

Vero, give it a break. You're just
going around in circles. Text him
when you're less emotional.

Elizabeth walks in. They turn to her with purpose.

ELIZABETH

Que pasa?

VERONICA

(accusing)

Ivonne threw my phone out the
window!

IVONNE

(accusing)

Veronica didn't let me sleep all
last night!

ELIZABETH

Coño. I am the mother.

BLAM! Salsa music goes on in the other room at full blast.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

(calling out/frustrated)

Ay Mami, PLEASE!!

(angrier)

MA-MI! Ya! Turn that down!!

ESPERANZA (O.C.)
 (to the music)
 Aaaazuucca!

Turning back to Veronica and Ivonne who look her expectantly Elizabeth makes up her mind.

ELIZABETH
 I've got an idea: Let's go visit
 Bruna on the set of her photo shoot
 with Selma Hayak.

Ivonne and Veronica jump up and down like little girls.

	IVONNE		VERONICA
Yaaay!		Yaaay!	

CUT TO:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO: LIVING ROOM SET - NIGHT

ANDY
 Elizabeth, your mom is a trip.

ELIZABETH
 Yes, I know. That's a nice way of
 putting it.

ANDY
 Why do people love her so?

ELIZABETH
 People think she's funny. Which I
 love of course, but it's not so
 funny to me...
 (connects with sadness)
 My mom has dementia. I don't wish
 it on anyone. Day to day, I never
 know which of my mothers I'm going
 to get. Good Mami or
 devil/demon/monster Mami.

Elizabeth's heart breaks a little. The girls rally around her.

VERONICA
 Elizabeth, it's okay.

ELIZABETH

(keeping it together)

The truth is I'm never enough for her. I will always be the "bad-daughter."

VERONICA

She's crazy, Cuca. Nothing she thinks is right. You know that. You're a good daughter.

ELIZABETH

Yeah, I know - I think I know that - but in my heart, I can't help it. I want her to see... well, I just want her to see me.

BRUNA

Andy, it's like this: When Esperanza loses it she gets kicked out of assisted living facilities because she drives everybody crazy. She can be uncontrollable and horrible.

IVONNE

She is a trouble-maker.

BRUNA

And Elizabeth takes this shit on in her very home.

ELIZABETH

It isn't that horrible.
(off looks of friends)
Okay... it's horrible.

CUT TO:

EXT. STUDIO 22, SECURITY DOOR - DAY

Bruna stands at the door, walkie-talkie headset in her ear and not looking pleased.

BRUNA

Oh my god - what are you doing here?

Elizabeth kisses her cheek then pushes herself in past her, followed by Veronica and Ivonne.

INT. STUDIO 22, STAGING AREA - DAY

ELIZABETH

(to Bruna)

I left you a message and I texted you that we were coming.

BRUNA

What part of that was asking me if it's okay? Really girl, you know the stress I'm going thru.

ELIZABETH

Mija, what about my stress?!

(privately to Bruna)

Dude, I had to distract them. Veronica is really heart broken and Ivonne - well, she needs something to do or she'll start world war 3.

They see Ivonne now going through the rack of clothes and Veronica is staring sadly at herself in the make up mirror.

BRUNA

(realizing)

Wait - actually. Maybe this is a miracle. Veronica! Ivonne! Come here.

(calling to Veronica & Ivonne)

Listen, can you two help me? Two of my p.a.'s have the flu and can't make it. Can you work for me today?

Veronica nods and Ivonne smiles.

IVONNE

I don't know what a Peeyaay is but I am happy to help you!

CUT TO:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO: LIVING ROOM SET - NIGHT

ANDY

So you hired your best friends with no experience to Production Assist on a photo shoot with celebrity, Selma Hayak.

BRUNA

I did.

Andy just smiles.

BRUNA (CONT'D)

You gonna ask me what happened?

ANDY

I think I'll let Selma tell us.

On a monitor we see SELMA HAYAK sitting at a remote location on camera. The audience cheers.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Welcome Selma!

SELMA

Hi Andy! Hi ladies!

ANDY

Selma, so what was it like that day in Studio 22.

SELMA

Ay, you know. I was just kidding around you know, being all exaggerated. I was so happy to be part of the 1st episode of L.A.tinas.

ANDY & THE L.A.TINAS

(surprised)

You were?

CUT TO:

INT. STUDIO 22, STAGING AREA - DAY

Veronica, Ivonne are now outfitted with headset walkie talkies. They stand with Elizabeth and watch from a distance as Selma enters the stage with her entourage including beefy BODY GUARD (40s). Selma greets the fashionable photographer, FABIO (30s) and Bruna with a kiss.

VERONICA

(whisper)

She is so pretty!

IVONNE

(clearly challenged)

She's short.

ELIZABETH
 (to herself, knowing)
 Oh boy.

Bruna calls to Ivonne.

BRUNA
 Ivonne, come.
 (to Selma)
 Selma, this is Ivonne - she is
 going to be your personal p.a. on
 set today. Anything you need,
 she'll take care of it.

IVONNE
 Hi.

SELMA
 (looking at Ivonne's sexy
 boobs first)
 Hi.

Selma finally looks up at Ivonne and is met by Ivonne's ego.

IVONNE
 Don't worry, it happens all the
 time. They are perfect. AND they
 are real.

BRUNA
 (worried)
 This way to hair and make up,
 Selma.

EXT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE, GARDEN BY THE KITCHEN WINDOW - DAY

JUAN (60s) the family gardener picks up Veronica's phone from
 the grass outside the kitchen window.

EXT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE, PATIO - DAY

Juan hands Michael the cell phone. Michael takes it into the
 house.

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY

Michael puts the cell phone on the kitchen counter and leaves
 the room.

The phone starts ringing but it's Esperanza that comes in and answers it.

ESPERANZA
 (into phone, friendly)
 Quien carajo is it?

INT. STUDIO 22, STAGING AREA

Bruna is busy producing while Elizabeth entertains herself flirting with Photo Assistant, TONY (20s).

ELIZABETH
 --You're just saying that! I am way
 older than 25.
 (lies)
 I'm in my... 30s.

Bruna can't resist a fake cough at Elizabeth's nerve.

TONY
 (to Elizabeth)
 No way, you're so hot I never
 would've thought that.

BRUNA
 (to Tony, in charge)
 Tony get back to work. She's
 married, she's over 40 and she will
 never cheat on her husband.
 (to Elizabeth)
 Stop it, you P.T.. You are slowing
 my crew down, you attention whore.

Embarrassed Tony walks away.

ELIZABETH
 (to Bruna)
 And what the hell is a P.T.?

BRUNA
 What you are; a prick-tease.

ELIZABETH
 Oh. Okay.

BRUNA
 And don't forget I also called you
 an attention whore.

They're interrupted by the Stylist, CHEREE (20s) approaching Bruna in a huff.

CHEREE
 (bitchy)
 Bruna, where did you get this assistant from? You know those dresses cost a minimum of \$2000 each?!

WHOOSH TO:

INT. STAGE 22, WARDROBE AREA - DAY

Veronica is steaming clothes and crying at the same time. Her face is a mess of mascara and eyeliner again.

WHOOSH BACK:

INT. STUDIO 22, STAGING AREA - DAY

BRUNA
 Fuck.

Bruna is interrupted by Ivonne who storms up and does not look happy.

IVONNE
 Esa hija de puta just called me una FRESCA! Pero quien carajo does she think she is--

BRUNA
 (exasperated)
 Ivonne, oh my god: that's a drink. A Fresca. Look in the cooler its a diet soda named Fresca.

IVONNE
 Are you sure? Because she said it to my face--

BRUNA
 It's a fucking drink! Go get it!

Ivonne spins around and angrily heads back the way she came.

ELIZABETH
 (realizing)
 Oh Bruna. I'm so sorry. I didn't
 realize que--

Elizabeth is interrupted by the door of the studio opening wide. In walks all-American red-headed and handsome, BARRY (30s).

BRUNA
 (seeing him)
 Me cago en la mierda.

ELIZABETH
 (sees too)
 Oh shit.

BARRY
 (calling out)
 Veronica? ...Veronica!

WHOOSH TO:

INT. STAGE 22, WARDROBE AREA - DAY

Upon hearing Barry, Veronica screams and covers herself in the expensive dress she was prepping.

Another Scream! Cheree, freaking out in response, tries to wrestle the dress from Veronica. They scream at each other.

BARRY
 (to Cheree)
 Get your hands off her!

CHEREE
 Security!!! Security!!! Oh my God--
 Fashion Police!!!

BRUNA
 (running in with
 Elizabeth)
 Barry! What are you doing here?!
 This is a closed set!

Selma's Body Guard grabs Barry.

BARRY
 (struggling)
 Veronica listen! You have to
 listen!

BRUNA

(to Body Guard)

Take it easy - we know him. He's not dangerous, just love sick.

BARRY

Veronica. Listen to me please.

ELIZABETH

Let him go, big guy.

The Body Guard releases Barry and reading from a small note in his hand he reads in Spanish with a big American accent:

BARRY

Mi querida, Veronica. Desde el momento que to conoci.

SUBTITLE: My dearest Veronica, since the moment that I met you.

BARRY (CONT'D)

Mi vida cambio al mejor. Y respire por la primera vez el holor dulce de el amor verdadero.

SUBTITLE: My life changed for the better. I breathed in for the first time the sweet scent of true love.

Veronica releases her death grip on the dress over her head and looks at Barry.

BARRY (CONT'D)

(checking his notes)

Para de dar me patada en los juegos y casate con migo, coño.

SUBTITLE: Stop kicking me in the balls and marry me for fuck's sake.

ELIZABETH

(to herself / realizing)

Mami.

After a tense moment, Veronica runs into Barry's arms.

VERONICA

Oh Barry!

YET another SCREAM! The Body Guard, Bruna and Elizabeth run in Selma's direction.

INT. STAGE 22, MAKE-UP STATION

The crew stands back as Selma and Ivonne are in the midst of a wrestling match. Body Guard pulls Ivonne off of Selma.

SELMA
Hija de puta!
(seeing Bruna)
Que carajo is this operation?!

IVONNE
Calle te la boca, come mierda!

SELMA
(to Bruna)
I have never in my life! NEVER
have I been slapped by anyone -
ANYONE!

IVONNE
You are jealous!
(indicating her own body)
You will never have this!

SELMA
(gathering things)
Bruna, this is unacceptable! --I ---
I--NEVER!
(when she can't find the
words)
Aaaaarrggghh!

Taking her bag and her entourage with her Selma storms out. The Body Guard releases Ivonne as she defiantly squirms out of his grip.

IVONNE
(shouting)
Shorty! ...Midget! Get out of
here!
(calling after her)
Vete Vieja!

BRUNA
(to Ivonne)
Have you fucking lost your mind!?

CUT TO:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO: LIVING ROOM SET - NIGHT

Audience is laughing.

ANDY

Wow, now that is an ending!

IVONNE

Andy, I have proof that I did not intentionally slap her. I thought she had a cucaracha on her ear!

ANDY

A what?

VERONICA

(laughing)

A cockroach. That big palmetto bug. We call them cucarachas.

ANDY

And here I thought it was just a song.

IVONNE

(laughing too)

It is so funny! I'm sorry but I thought that her bluetooth was a roach so I was trying to help her by slapping it off her face. We found it later.

BRUNA

It's true it was there as she described so I have to believe her.

Ivonne shows everyone the bluetooth and it does make some bizarre sense.

ELIZABETH

It was all a misunderstanding. I mean at first glance it does look kinda like a roach right?

ANDY

Selma? So are you guys cool now?

Back on the monitor Selma thinly veils how she really feels with a movie-star smile.

SELMA

Andy, I am perfectly fine with it all. I just would like everyone to see this little video that I emailed your producer earlier so that my reaction is understood. This came from the phone of my PR person who takes random videos of me to include in my blogs for my fans.

ANDY

Okay.
(to production)
Can we play it? ...Yes, here it is.

CELL PHONE VIDEO FOOTAGE:

--We see Selma looking at herself in the mirror applying mascara.
--She speaks presumably into her bluetooth but we can't hear exactly what she says.
--Ivonne is placing a Fresca with a straw on the table beside her.
--Ivonne spots the bluetooth on Selma's ear.
--Ivonne slaps Selma with some gusto and pleasure on the opposite side of Selma's face.
--The bluetooth flies off Selma's head on impact in the other direction.
--The video camera perspective jumps and abruptly ends.

BACK TO SCENE

Stunned silence. Everyone looks at Ivonne. A few beats and:

IVONNE

I don't mess around with cucarachas!

WHOOSH TO:

INT. STAGE 22, MAKE-UP STATION

BRUNA

(angry)
Pero Ivonne: Estas loca o que?! You slapped Selma Hayak! ...On MY set!

Ivonne searches the floor for the bluetooth.

IVONNE

She had a roach in her ear!

BRUNA

Oh my god, I'm going to have a nervous breakdown.

IVONNE

Aha! I found it!
(showing Bluetooth)
Does this not look like a cucaracha?

ELIZABETH

Regardless, you don't just slap people! You tell them or you flap your hands or something. You don't slap!

IVONNE

Well, I slap.

ELIZABETH

(noticing)
Where is Veronica?

They look and see just as Veronica and Barry walk out the door of the stage, arm and arm.

IVONNE

At least one good thing happened.

ELIZABETH

(remembering)
Sometimes out of the chaos a little good comes out.

FABIO

(to Bruna)
What are we going to do? We're all set up. We can't just cancel. We have to pay full rate on everybody.

BRUNA

I'm ruined! The company will go bankrupt and I'll have to get rid of the studio. No cover. The deadline is today and no cover for the fucking magazine!

ELIZABETH

No, no, no Bruna. No. We are not going to let that happen. Can't we call a different celebrity?

BRUNA

(sarcastic)

What do you think? It's so friggin easy to get a celebrity? I'm sure they'll be knocking the door down to get in here in what? --15 minutes? --An hour? --A day?!

ELIZABETH

Okay Sarcastica, okay.

IVONNE

Bruna, I know you're a little bit mad at me right now.

(Off Bruna's glare)

But you know... I am a celebrity in Spain. I have been on soap operas and I have a new lingerie line coming out.

ELIZABETH

And you have a scandal.

IVONNE

Well yes, they are black mailing me those hijo de putas con gana de joder.

Bruna looks at the photographer, he shrugs.

BRUNA

(thinking)

Hmmm. The black mailing story might be a good angle.

IVONNE

Oh no, I don't want to--

(Elizabeth pinches her)

Ay!!

(behaving)

...Ay okay, fine. I might as well come out with it myself.

BRUNA

She's not known in the U.S. but whatever, I don't have a choice.

Bruna begrudgingly gestures to the photographer for him take Ivonne.

IVONNE

Ay! I am so happy! A second good thing has happened!

BRUNA

(to herself)
Yeah, real good.

ELIZABETH

(to Bruna)
Hang in there, Amiga. Everything's okay. It was bound to happen. It's not Ivonne's fault your P.A.'s got the flu.
(off Bruna)
Come on, face it....
(starts laughing)
It's actually kind of funny.

BRUNA

Coño, Elizabeth, don't start.
(she can't resist)
She slapped Selma Hayak!
(laughing)
The bluetooth was a roach!

ELIZABETH

(laughing)
Thank goodness she didn't throw a shoe at it Miami style!

They laugh like only good friends can.

CUT TO:

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO: LIVING ROOM SET - NIGHT

ANDY

So it all worked out, huh?

BRUNA

Look, Andy - I never want to go through that again!
(to Selma)
Selma I'm so sorry. I should've never hired my friends. I had no idea what would happen!

Selma on the monitor, smiles.

SELMA

It's okay. You and me we're cool.... Just keep that crazy bitch away from me.

Audience laughs.

ANDY

And here is the cover.

On the monitor Selma is replaced by Ivonne's cover of L.A.Tinas magazine.

Ivonne is BOOB-alicious. It is so sexy it seems almost funny.

IVONNE

Ay, that was my favorite photo.

BRUNA

(to Andy)

And believe it or not, the magazine sales are up.

IVONNE

Thanks to my cover!

ANDY

Really? An unknown on the cover? No offense, Ivonne.

BRUNA

It just goes to show, tetas sell.

ANDY

Tetas?

L.A.TINAS

Tits.

ANDY

And you, Veronica? That was pretty impressive what Barry did.

VERONICA

You know, I have to admit, it caught me off guard. He always seemed so uncomfortable around me when I was speaking in Spanish or when I'm you know, being what I am, Argentina.

ELIZABETH

Well, maybe that's because he's embarrassed that he can't speak Spanish or that he is so American. It's intimidating, you know.

VERONICA

I know... I know... I guess. Well, anyway, I told him he has to ask me again, when I'm more reasonable.

IVONNE

Que bueno!

ANDY

Well then, we have one final surprise. Veronica....
(enjoying the moment)
Barry has made a special request of the producers.

VERONICA

Que?

Barry comes out, handsomely dressed. He walks up on stage and bends on one knee, a ring box in his hand.

ELIZABETH

Ay, how sweet!

Veronica, overwhelmed gets out of her chair and walks over to him.

BARRY

Veronica, would you do me the honor and be my wif--

IVONNE

--Barry?

BARRY

(shocked/looking at Ivonne for the first time)
Ivonne?!

Close up on Andy, Bruna and Elizabeth.

ANDY, BRUNA & ELIZABETH

Uh-oh.

THE END.