

Ou Topos
by Maura Campbell

233 Crescent Road, Burlington, VT 05401
Ibsen3000@yahoo.com; 802/578-4857

CAST OF CHARACTERS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Miro
Raphael (also speaks as Roman)
Green
Nova
Piedad
Candace
Maurice
Dr. Thomas

Note: Characters can be doubled, Nova and Dr. Thomas
Green and Maurice

SETTING

Various interiors including offices and a dormitory room

TIME

Two futures

SCENE 1

MIRO

The sequence yes the sequence is

RAPHAEL

I can't actually it repeats there

MIRO

Yes and but if you slow it down listen

RAPHAEL

What

MIRO

No it's listen

RAPHAEL

I hear that

MIRO

Do you hear that

RAPHAEL

Three eights no six sixteenths

MIRO

It's a

RAPHAEL

Yes a

MIRO

Rhythmic let's try something suppose you put it in

RAPHAEL

I know

MIRO

Listen

RAPHAEL

Try this

MIRO

That is outstanding

RAPHAEL

Wait yes it that's familiar I've heard that

MIRO

Gorgeous

Try adding flutes yes RAPHAEL

I'd say eastern MIRO

Definitely RAPHAEL

But it could be the flutes MIRO

What have you got GREEN

It's strange but I think it's music a code MIRO

Of course it's music you're playing it as music GREEN

But it resolves do you hear la RAPHAEL

Mid eastern I'd say GREEN

We said eastern RAPHAEL

We shouldn't GREEN

Why listen RAPHAEL

It's GREEN

You know what's strange RAPHAEL

Add trumpets and speed it up do you see MIRO

Change the let me now it's four four if I do GREEN

That's hot but you know what's strange RAPHAEL

Wow MIRO

Oh man
GREEN

It's two streams look do you see that
RAPHAEL

Can't be
MIRO

It is
RAPHAEL

It is
GREEN

It's
MIRO

It is
GREEN

It is
RAPHAEL

Two look at that and together they
GREEN

What do you think
RAPHAEL

What do you mean what do I think
GREEN

I mean should we use this
RAPHAEL

Use what
GREEN

You know use it keep it we'll just
RAPHAEL

What you mean pass it off
GREEN

It's what we make of it I don't see any reason to
RAPHAEL

Here's another one
MIRO

What
RAPHAEL

Listen MIRO

Ew turn it down GREEN

Okay I'm MIRO

Turn it down Miro RAPHAEL

I'm turning it down it doesn't turn down MIRO

Then turn down the other one RAPHAEL

What other one MIRO

Do you hear that GREEN

Miro RAPHAEL

I'm trying there how's that MIRO

That was was that loud did someone look out in the hallway RAPHAEL

No see if someone we were playing music MIRO

Music GREEN

It was just fooling around warping turn it off MIRO

It is off GREEN

I still hear it MIRO

I'll check the hallway RAPHAEL

It's off GREEN

MIRO

Okay it's off but I can't help it

GREEN

You don't even have a filter of any kind

MIRO

We were fooling around it just came in

GREEN

Just

MIRO

Wow

GREEN

What

MIRO

I can't hear

RAPHAEL

What's Green

GREEN

I'm

MIRO

I can't hear I can't hear

GREEN

Just take a lie down

MIRO

I can't hear somebody get somebody

RAPHAEL

What was that

GREEN

Did you see anyone or say anything

MIRO

Can you hear

GREEN

I can hear it hurts that's all y-o-u'l-l b-e f-i-n-e

MIRO

I want to see Dr. Thomas

RAPHAEL

You're a freak Miro you can't see Dr. Thomas we intercepted what we show them what we tell them what

What's he
MIRO

C-a-l-m d-o-w-n
GREEN

I want to where's look look my hand
MIRO

Make him lie down
GREEN

Something got in inside that sound
MIRO

How are you feeling
GREEN

Not so good
RAPHAEL

But how are you feeling
GREEN

Okay
RAPHAEL

Okay
GREEN

Okay but not so good
RAPHAEL

It was the sound there was something I don't know
GREEN

Help me
MIRO

He's Raphael he's
GREEN

Please
MIRO

Turning I don't know
GREEN

Blue what does his heart I think it's his heart
RAPHAEL

I can't breathe
MIRO

RAPHAEL
He can't breathe I can't breathe

MIRO
You're not

RAPHAEL
I can't ow what

GREEN
Stop it

MIRO
Ou topos

GREEN
It's okay it's going to be okay how are you doing

RAPHAEL
Okay not so good

GREEN
Some air

RAPHAEL
He looks

GREEN
What

RAPHAEL
He looks I don't know

GREEN
You okay there

RAPHAEL
He can't hear you

GREEN
I know he can't hear me you okay Miro you okay Miro

RAPHAEL
He's just staring

GREEN
He's breathing I can hear him what was that what did you do

RAPHAEL
I didn't do anything we just picked it up we picked it up a couple days ago and we were messing around

GREEN
Messing around

RAPHAEL

Yeah like last time remember we were messing around when we picked up that sequence the one that we were laughing it made us I don't know it made us laugh

GREEN

This one's not funny

RAPHAEL

No it's not funny who said it was funny look he's drooling

GREEN

Wipe his face

RAPHAEL

You wipe his face

GREEN

Wipe his face we've got an appointment

RAPHAEL

Oh yeah

GREEN

Six thirty that's in

RAPHAEL

Yeah yeah

GREEN

Twenty minutes

RAPHAEL

I know he's still you do it

GREEN

You're right there

RAPHAEL

You do it

GREEN

All right okay I'll do it this is not good

RAPHAEL

What do we

GREEN

I think we just leave him

RAPHAEL

Leave him

Leave him just go GREEN

Just go RAPHAEL

What do you want to do GREEN

Me I want to suppose we turn it back on RAPHAEL

Are you crazy GREEN

Why there must be something this cannot be happening is he kidding or something how do you feel RAPHAEL

Okay not so good GREEN

So what we're going to RAPHAEL

Don't do that GREEN

The other sequence the first one it didn't do anything it can't hurt maybe who knows RAPHAEL

There's nothing GREEN

He's not good RAPHAEL

We can leave him he was tired he said he wanted to take a nap and we said yeah well we have this meeting and he said he couldn't help it GREEN

There's no chance RAPHAEL

Who is going to say anything GREEN

He wouldn't do that he would go to the meeting RAPHAEL

GREEN
Yes but he isn't going to the meeting is he he's going to be
here and who knows what kind of

RAPHAEL
Oh no

GREEN
That's

RAPHAEL
I'm going to throw up

GREEN
Don't look

RAPHAEL
So

GREEN
Just come on

MIRO
Raphael

GREEN
Come on

MIRO
Raphael

RAPHAEL
I'm sorry

MIRO
Raphael

GREEN
I said let's go

SCENE 2

NOVA
How is it

PIEDAD
Good fine thank you

NOVA
And warm enough

PIEDAD
I wore I brought a sweater

NOVA

The climate control was someone adjusted it a few weeks early most unusual so we thought we'd just ride it out only about three degrees off but funny how sensitive we become to change change of any kind

PIEDAD

It's not funny I wouldn't call it funny

NOVA

I didn't mean funny as if to laugh

PIEDAD

Oh

NOVA

I meant odd or really I didn't mean anything at all just want you to be comfortable

PIEDAD

I am comfortable

NOVA

Then I'm happy which is to say that I am content you are how old

PIEDAD

I'm thirty one

NOVA

Yes when you get older another ten years or so you'll find out that comfort is of the utmost importance hence I spend an inordinate amount of time trying to see to it that I and anyone in my company is comfortable it is warm in here maybe if I draw the curtain the sun is strong oh thank you

PIEDAD

Very bright it's very bright today the sky it's just hanging there isn't it hovering over us over everything warm and bright when I was young I used to stare at the sun my mother warned me that I would go blind but I never did I just love the way it feels on my skin I used to think when the sun filled me eyes that I was seeing into another world Why did you ask my age

NOVA

I was going to illustrate

PIEDAD

You have my file you know my age you could have said you are thirty-one and then expanded on your what do you say illustration

NOVA

My apology

PIEDAD

I am thirty one and you know probably anything else that might be relevant

NOVA

I am sensing some anxiety

PIEDAD

Yes that's true

NOVA

And I hope I haven't or anyone else hasn't made you uncomfortable

PIEDAD

It's just my mood some days I'm anxious

MAURICE

Is it in

NOVA

Really

CANDACE

I don't think so wait

PIEDAD

Really just a little anxious and this meeting is out of the ordinary routine you see I also am interested in comfort and I find my routine my daily routine most comforting

CANDACE

It's in

NOVA

You have two children

MAURICE

How does it feel

PIEDAD

What about my children

CANDACE

Hurts a little

NOVA

Nothing just saying you have two children and your husband is and engineer electrical engineer

MAURICE

I'm almost

CANDACE

I said it hurts

PIEDAD

I taught elementary school before I had children but you probably know that

MAURICE

All right all right

NOVA

I'll bet you loved teaching

PIEDAD

I did love teaching I plan to home school my boys until they turn twelve

NOVA

I don't blame you do you know once upon a time that is exactly how all boys were raised and I mean long ago before even before girls were sent to school they boys were kept at home with a tutor until they were twelve and then send to a public school

MAURICE

Can you put it on

PIEDAD

So I'm right in the swim

CANDACE

I'd rather not

NOVA

Of another time all together yes your boys are now four and two

MAURICE

It would probably help

PIEDAD

One

CANDACE

All right all right

NOVA

Four and one Piedad

PIEDAD

Almost two Sharon is almost two do you have children

That's good MAURICE

I yes I have a daughter NOVA

Please CANDACE

Sorry just MAURICE

PIEDAD
I am a little jealous is she does she look like your wife
because I wanted a daughter who looked like me not because
I'm special to look at

How about we MAURICE

You are very pretty NOVA

No CANDACE

PIEDAD
But because my mother looked like my grandmother and it was
always a source of amusement and they were close still are
close very close and that is what I well I thought it would
be amusing

Boys are rougher than girls NOVA

Rougher in what way rougher PIEDAD

Oh yes that's good MAURICE

NOVA
Oh just boys more destructive they like to build and take
apart I imagine with a father who is an engineer that they
must have some of his attributes

Would you hurry CANDACE

I'm trying MAURICE

PIEDAD

Sharon yes he is always into something Gussie is more like me
he is quiet I am usually very quiet but I guess I'm talking a
great deal here

NOVA

It's why I have this job because and I hope this is true in
your case I make people feel comfortable

MAURICE

Oh

CANDACE

Maurice

MAURICE

Candace

CANDACE

Maurice

PIEDAD

You do I am very comfortable

MAURICE

Oh

CANDACE

Get off

NOVA

I would say that Gussie looks like you

PIEDAD

Oh that is that is Gussie when

NOVA

Yes when he came here last month

PIEDAD

I didn't know you took his picture

NOVA

We take all the children's pictures haven't you looked at our
site

PIEDAD

No

NOVA

It was there on the paper one of the papers you left with

PIEDAD

I'm so busy

NOVA

Oh you must have a look it goes back I don't know probably fifty years of course there are archives that go back further but we keep five decades live you are probably on there

PIEDAD

I didn't grow up

NOVA

Oh right but there is a link it's a terrific way to you can actually search for relatives say cousins aunt uncle great great great grandmothers practically everyone you are related to and create a family picture it's absolutely amazing I did it and you know there are relatives several generations back that I resemble strongly which is fascinating because I don't look much like my parents or siblings

MAURICE

Thank you

PIEDAD

You're a throwback

CANDACE

For what

MAURICE

For I don't know

NOVA

Yes that's exactly right and what I have discovered it's an opinion really is that when we look like someone we actually are like someone

CANDACE

Your welcome did you wash

PIEDAD

That makes sense

MAURICE

Of course I washed

NOVA

I don't know if it makes sense but I can tell you that I have found it to be true

CANDACE

Let me know in fifteen minutes

PIEDAD

Well

NOVA
Well what

PIEDAD
You tell me

NOVA
Tell you what

PIEDAD
What you what are you talking about anyway

NOVA
Nothing I don't think just wanted to show you the site where
the pictures are Gussie is an adorable child simply adorable
we have evaluated him

MAURICE
Could we try it again

PIEDAD
When

CANDACE
What do you mean try

NOVA
When he was here that's what

PIEDAD
I thought that was routine

MAURICE
I'm not sure I completely came

NOVA
Yes a routine part of our evaluation oh no I'm not referring
to the regular evaluation that isn't done for another year
anyway but my goodness you know we you signed an
acknowledgment that we would film the children

CANDACE
What do you mean didn't completely come

PIEDAD
I didn't realize that meant any kind of evaluation I think
Gussie had a fever that day a very slight fever in fact

MAURICE
I still feel like I need to come some more it happens every
once in a while some kind of glitch

NOVA
Really we didn't detect anything unusual there's nothing here

PIEDAD

I said it was slight his normal is a bit low ninety six five
so at ninety seven he's a bit elevated

MAURICE

Look see for yourself it didn't completely come

CANDACE

I really don't want to go through that again

NOVA

You seem concerned

PIEDAD

I'm not concerned just you seem concerned

NOVA

I seem concerned

MAURICE

Come on I don't like this feeling it needs to come again

PIEDAD

There seems to be some concern

CANDACE

I thought you said you didn't come

MAURICE

Just a partial it was just a partial

NOVA

We have I have absolutely no concern whatsoever about Gussie

CANDACE

All right hand it over

NOVA

He's completely normal look watch this

PIEDAD

He's playing with that's the Brown girl, isn't it

NOVA

Yes Joey

PIEDAD

Joey

CANDACE

It's not working

MAURICE

Give it time don't stop

And who's that a
PIEDAD

That's Michael he's from a different sector like you
NOVA

What's he doing
PIEDAD

See that
MAURICE

Unfortunately
CANDACE

Michael is see he's hogging
NOVA

Hogging
PIEDAD

We call it hogging he doesn't share
NOVA

That's hogging
PIEDAD

Like a hog it's an archaic form of a pig
NOVA

Now he's sharing
PIEDAD

That's Cormier his cousin
NOVA

Oh
PIEDAD

They look alike
NOVA

But they're not alike there goes your theory
PIEDAD

It's not one hundred percent
NOVA

This time you'd better do it right
CANDACE

I'm thinking
MAURICE

What
CANDACE

I wish you would tell me
PIEDAD

Grab your
MAURICE

Tell you what
NOVA

Use your hand like
MAURICE

Maurice
CANDACE

Tell me what
NOVA

I don't like your tone Ms.
PIEDAD

Nova and I am not using a tone I'm trying to tell you
NOVA

There is nothing wrong with my child
PIEDAD

There is nothing wrong with your child
NOVA

I'm feeling something
MAURICE

Then what
PIEDAD

This is routine
NOVA

This is not routine
PIEDAD

That is the last time we're doing that
CANDACE

He's a normal boy what are you doing what is
PIEDAD

Just watch
NOVA

MAURICE
I'm sorry I said I'm sorry

CANDACE
It's humiliating

MAURICE
I wouldn't do anything

CANDACE
Then what was

MAURICE
I think I have a fever put your legs back up please don't cry

CANDACE
Why would you do that

MAURICE
I seem to have lost my bearings for a moment I was not in any
frame of mind we shouldn't today have

CANDACE
Today is the last day for two weeks

MAURICE
Okay I know

CANDACE
I'm sorry

MAURICE
You have nothing

CANDACE
I must have caused you

MAURICE
It was like a moment of I thought I was very very ill

CANDACE
You'll go to the doctor

MAURICE
I will immediately

CANDACE
You don't have to tell him everything

MAURICE
No

CANDACE

Just that you were feeling ill and it was our time and you acted in a peculiar manner

MAURICE

Yes what kind of peculiar manner

CANDACE

You could say perhaps you saw colors

MAURICE

You know Candace I did see colors I think now that you mention it

CANDACE

You did you saw colors

MAURICE

I did

CANDACE

What colors

MAURICE

Red I think red and orange colors with red purple I saw them

CANDACE

I don't believe this

MAURICE

But I did

CANDACE

I just said that out of the blue

MAURICE

See

PIEDAD

I don't remember that

NOVA

Of course you don't remember it you were only three

PIEDAD

How oh dear

NOVA

Drink this

PIEDAD

Oh

CANDACE

This does not bode well

PIEDAD

How could I

NOVA

Well it seems to have been a fluke

PIEDAD

Fluke

NOVA

Another term we use it means well it actually means good luck
a stroke of good luck or an accident

MAURICE

Bode what

NOVA

An isolated incident

PIEDAD

It must be that I would never do that

NOVA

But you did

CANDACE

I just feel I don't know I think you should go to the doctor
and tell him about the colors

MAURICE

All right I'll tell him about the colors but what does it
mean when you say doesn't bode well

CANDACE

My mother used to say it when something wasn't quite right

MAURICE

Like what

CANDACE

I don't know a warning something would the weather the sky
she would look in the sky and say red at night sailor's
delight red in the morning sailor's take warning the red sky
in the morning

MAURICE

It's the afternoon

PIEDAD

Why is this the first time I've someone has shown me

NOVA

Another stroke of accident it was lost or misplaced we don't know but it was noticed recently and sent over it took awhile because the corresponding notes the audio that is still unknown but it is you isn't it

PIEDAD

It's me

MAURICE

It hasn't been fifteen minutes

PIEDAD

What do you want

NOVA

I wanted to bring it to your attention

PIEDAD

So now you've brought it to my attention

NOVA

Normally in the normal course you would have been put in observation I don't know exactly what the breakdown was in your sector but we have an idea that your uncle was at that time

PIEDAD

My uncle

NOVA

Your uncle Gustav

PIEDAD

He's dead

NOVA

I know he's dead he was working there in records and we are supposing that he pulled it out and put it somewhere hoping it wouldn't be found

PIEDAD

I see

NOVA

And it is really something to think of that you see, Piedad, we have done some digging into your past we have viewed the records and your husband's and your children's and the surprising thing that is quite unaccountable is that this seems to be an isolated incident there is no other as far as we know there is no other reason for concern except this one record that has most recently surfaced

PIEDAD
A fluke is a parasite

NOVA
Pardon

PIEDAD
A parasitic fish a flat fish why would you call that an
accident

NOVA
I have no idea it's just a word in the field we use to
describe certain phenomenon

PIEDAD
Are we done here

NOVA
Done

PIEDAD
Are we done here

NOVA
I don't think we're done

PIEDAD
How are we not done

NOVA
There is more we need to talk about

PIEDAD
So talk

NOVA
This is sensitive this is a sensitive subject I asked if we
could talk alone

PIEDAD
You asked who

NOVA
Your husband

PIEDAD
You what

NOVA
We talked first because I wanted to see you alone I am a
woman too

PIEDAD
What is this

NOVA

It's nothing really it's nothing that has a difficult outcome it's all a matter of perspective and yes, all right, some acceptance this is serious Piedad I don't want to mislead you but after reviewing your case

PIEDAD

My case

NOVA

Thoroughly and I do mean thoroughly we are not concerned I want you to know that up front there is not a big concern of any kind just that one incident the fluke that one time you displayed behavior that would had it come up now that is to say if you were a child now and we viewed this on a file we would have great cause for concern the reality is that you are making us rethink many of the cases we have had we are somewhat concerned that we have jumped to conclusions prematurely although really I don't know what else we can do when flagrant antisocial behavior is apparent

PIEDAD

I would like to see my husband my Roman

NOVA

He's at work I would imagine

PIEDAD

You said you talked to him

NOVA

Yes but not today we talked on Tuesday I think it was yes

PIEDAD

Tuesday

NOVA

That was yes because the report came in on Friday and we took the weekend to go over it and then called him on Monday and he came in the following day

PIEDAD

Nova

NOVA

Yes

PIEDAD

Nova

NOVA

What dear

PIEDAD

What is

NOVA

What is what are you worried about I just told you I thought I just told you we are not concerned about you we want to make a recommendation that is all and before I say anything further you should know that your husband is in one hundred percent agreement

PIEDAD

He agrees

NOVA

That you really shouldn't consider any more children

PIEDAD

We only wanted two

NOVA

Yes but you have been approved for three

PIEDAD

I'm planning to go back to work after Sharon after he is in school

NOVA

Full time

PIEDAD

Full time part time I we'll see what we can manage it isn't really a question of money

NOVA

Quality of life yes I know I have a daughter

PIEDAD

You said

NOVA

So two is enough we were thinking that to be on the safe side we would there is a procedure your husband offered and that would be all right unless something happened to him and you remarried, for example

PIEDAD

So you're thinking that I

NOVA

These things are genetic

PIEDAD

But you said it was a fluke

NOVA

It was a fluke but you know Piedad we don't understand everything if we understood everything there would be no flukes and sometimes even a fluke can have a fluke and then we would really have to reexamine reassess the all of it

PIEDAD

I'd really like to see my husband

NOVA

Let's call him we were planning to call him when we finished

PIEDAD

Are we finished

NOVA

We are finished

PIEDAD

Thank you for the tea

NOVA

Oh I know this is sudden if you'll just please sit down we are finished but Piedad we're going to want you to stay a day

PIEDAD

What are you

NOVA

The procedure I mentioned we're wanting to handle that immediately no later than tomorrow morning because we think it's best if we get it done and then you can go home and it will have the least disruption on your family we did go over this with your husband and he agreed the recovery is minimal not even three days minimally invasive a local anesthetic

PIEDAD

I'm afraid I can't my children

NOVA

Your husband has made arrangements for them and your sister-in-law is coming for a few days besides Deeanne

PIEDAD

I don't want Deeanne to take care of my children

NOVA

Why not

PIEDAD

I don't like her and I want to talk to my husband

NOVA

Does your husband know how you feel about Deeanne

PIEDAD

He yes I'm calling him right now

NOVA

Are you concerned for their safety is there something you want to tell me

PIEDAD

No not I just she's not mature

NOVA

Thirty four

PIEDAD

But not I don't can you please I don't want a procedure tomorrow I want to go home first and then in a few days I'll come back

NOVA

I'm afraid that isn't possible Piedad I'm sorry it's a very simple minimally invasive

MAURICE

Where were you

CANDACE

Nowhere I called my mother

PIEDAD

Thank you

NOVA

You should count your blessings you have so many your children your future

MAURICE

What did you say to her

CANDACE

Nothing I asked if I could come home for a few days

MAURICE

Why would you do that

CANDACE

Because I don't understand you

MAURICE

I had a slight fever

CANDACE

You are never going to touch me again

NOVA
Please sit down I just need to make a call

MAURICE
Stay here please

PIEDAD
I just want to see Gussie and Sharon

CANDACE
Let go of me

NOVA
Why don't you sit

PIEDAD
I I feel

NOVA
What do you feel

PIEDAD
I'm tired

CANDACE
You're hurting me

PIEDAD
Sharon will be so worried he's only one

NOVA
Almost two

PIEDAD
Almost oh god he looks like me oh god he looks like me oh god
he looks like me there's no place

CANDACE
No

PIEDAD
No place

CANDACE
Why don't you

PIEDAD
No place

CANDACE
No

SCENE 3

DR. THOMAS
Drink this

GREEN
He can't

DR. THOMAS
It's all right

RAPHAEL
Thank you

DR. THOMAS
Tell me about Miro

GREEN
He can't

RAPHAEL
I can't

DR. THOMAS
It's all right

RAPHAEL
You tell him

GREEN
I did

DR. THOMAS
He did now you

RAPHAEL
I'm

CANDACE
I think him can you hear me I think him

RAPHAEL
It's still this noise I can't

DR. THOMAS
Tell me about the noise

RAPHAEL
Just sounds I don't know

DR. THOMAS
Describe it

RAPHAEL

I think it could be people but I hear crying sometimes

CANDACE

No him him I pushed his button

DR. THOMAS

Crying like in pain

RAPHAEL

Yes yes like that like stabbed stabbed in the heart and going down

GREEN

I don't hear anything

DR. THOMAS

Sh

RAPHAEL

You don't hear anything

GREEN

Just pictures I see pictures

DR. THOMAS

We'll wait on that

GREEN

I drew them Raphael

DR. THOMAS

Later Green I want to know about the voices

RAPHAEL

Not voices not really

CANDACE

Yes thank you I'll wait

RAPHAEL

I've never heard anything like it there it's it comes in faintly and then all at once

CANDACE

I said I'll thank you yes him him the engineer the blonde is he blonde

RAPHAEL

Sometimes I can almost understand could it be I'm learning a language

DR. THOMAS

Say some of it say something

RAPHAEL

It's so strange just gibberish and it hurts I feel something

DR. THOMAS

It can't hurt

GREEN

Miro died

DR. THOMAS

I know he died he has had a condition anyway he should you should never have been fooling around

GREEN

We thought I don't know we thought maybe a conversation we'd hear it was fun

DR. THOMAS

It was an invasion illegal

RAPHAEL

And now I can't get it out it I hear Dr. Thomas is this ever going away it's more like like

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Candace?

CANDACE

Yes hello

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

I'm Roman

CANDACE

Yes I picked you

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Right

RAPHAEL

Words sometimes they're words I just don't know them

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

You work in archives

CANDACE

I do yes that's true

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Oh

CANDACE

Have you been waiting long

It's like that lawn
RAPHAEL

Two hours
RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Yes I wanted to be sure
CANDACE

Are you sure
RAPHAEL

I don't know I just want to be
CANDACE

Take your time
DR. THOMAS

Being sure well that's not easy
RAPHAEL

Yes but they promised me I could take as long as I need a day
two days
CANDACE

What do you need
RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Need
CANDACE

What can I tell you
RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Do you approve of me
CANDACE

Oh yes I read your file they gave it to me I think the other
man the one with orange hair I think he was disappointed
RAPHAEL/ROMAN

I guess mostly I'm curious why you decided to get remarried
CANDACE

I enjoyed being married I did and the boys they were really
we enjoyed I enjoyed activities we did Piedad cooked
RAPHAEL/ROMAN

I did too it was most enjoyable
CANDACE

Don't try to analyze anything just repeat the sounds
DR. THOMAS

GREEN

You're doing good Raphael

RAPHEL/ROMAN

You

CANDACE

Well I'm young for one thing and I haven't had any children and I really really wanted to have children

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Do you like children

CANDACE

I don't know I suppose but I really really felt like I wanted and I really thought that someone with some experience that was one of the things I worried about with Maurice that he didn't seem to really care about children so it was really really for the best that he ended

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Piedad was she was hm

CANDACE

What

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

She was hm hm

CANDACE

Are you all right

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Yes yes

DR. THOMAS

What is it

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Feeling a little short of breath

CANDACE/DR. THOMAS

Do you want me to call someone

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

No oh I'm okay

CANDACE/DR. THOMAS

Sure

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Yeah wow it's hot in here

It is hot in here
CANDACE

That's better
RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Yeah I'm it's just the sounds sometimes
RAPHAEL

Your color is coming back
DR. THOMAS

I think he should stop talking
GREEN

What are you I mean are you still seeing
RAPHAEL

I can tune it in or out
GREEN

What do you think I mean about me
CANDACE

You're very
RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Am I pretty
CANDACE

Well yeah
RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Tune it in
DR. THOMAS

You must know that but why what why did you pick me
RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Something in the eyes
CANDACE

It's just it comes and goes
GREEN

You have a gentleness a softness you seem kind
CANDACE

It's just a I sometimes think it's more of a feeling two
people some kind of distance some kind of place
GREEN

But you don't hear them
DR. THOMAS

GREEN

I see them I see that they are talking but somehow the words
are I don't think the words are important

CANDACE

A sadness I felt something when I saw your picture

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

You felt sad

CANDACE

No I just thought you were sad my husband was there was a
hardness in him it frightened me I think I'm looking for the
opposite he would you would never hurt me I don't think

GREEN

There is something not right

DR. THOMAS

Those sequences the danger always is the unpredictability

GREEN

Will this go away

DR. THOMAS

I don't know maybe eventually

GREEN

It's a woman she's somewhere it doesn't look like a place
I've ever seen

DR. THOMAS

It wouldn't be

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

We should um what is your timetable

CANDACE

Yes well the sooner the better

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Because I'm I wasn't going I was going to ask for a temporary
I'm not sure I'm ready I'm not ready my sons it was

RAPHAEL

Oh and it hurts so much

GREEN

She is oh it's hot it's a hot place

DR. THOMAS

Like a furnace

GREEN

Hotter and fast in a moment she's just not there she is suddenly simply not there

RAPHAEL

Don't tell him

DR. THOMAS

What

CANDACE

I can wait I'd be willing to wait but we match so well out of the thousands and thousands

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

I matched before and the boys

RAPHAEL

It's our it's religion

DR. THOMAS

What religion

RAPHAEL

The boys

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

My sons

RAPHAEL

My wife

GREEN

Do you know what this is that I'm seeing

DR. THOMAS

Tell me

CANDACE

You're perspiring again

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

What do I do with this

DR. THOMAS

Just breathe calm yourself

GREEN

There's something familiar but not it's strange too am I seeing something that is happening

DR. THOMAS

No no not that not in the sense you mean what

It's wow
GREEN

What tell me
DR. THOMAS

I see nothing it's just gone
GREEN

Gone
DR. THOMAS

Finally for the first time
GREEN

Me too it was like a virus or something
RAPHAEL

Wow I feel good
GREEN

Hm
DR. THOMAS

I'm hungry
RAPHAEL

Yeah like starving is more like it
GREEN

There's really nothing you don't see anything
DR. THOMAS

Nothing
GREEN

Perhaps the transmission was complete
DR. THOMAS

I can't imagine that Miro what he went through I thought I really thought I would or at least I wanted to die what did I say
RAPHAEL

You
DR. THOMAS

It was just gibberish I know but maybe if we listened to it
RAPHAEL

DR. THOMAS

We can do that I'll do that later I'll I think I want to recommend a complete rest for both of you but I would like to see you again in the morning I'd like you to stay here overnight and I'll give you both some paper and pens I'd like you to record your dreams will you do that for me

RAPHAEL

Sure

DR. THOMAS

It's probably I'm guessing at this point but whatever the transmission was it probably created some kind of disturbance in your language center and you Green a disturbance in your image cognition

GREEN

But what's it mean

DR. THOMAS

A form of electrical imbalance in the brain a seizure perhaps and this is something I hadn't thought of before a slow seizure the electrical activity is slowed down as opposed to being sped up it's curious

RAPHAEL

But Miro died

DR. THOMAS

Some seizures I'll listen to the recording later maybe who knows maybe something will come

RAPHAEL

I'm really hungry

GREEN

Me too

DR. THOMAS

Okay okay you're hungry two boys of course you're hungry I'll have some food sent up

GREEN

Thanks

RAPHAEL

Thanks been feels like days since I had anything

DR. THOMAS

I'm going I'm going

GREEN

Are you

I don't know
RAPHAEL

You don't know what
GREEN

I don't know I don't know
RAPHAEL

Please tell me it's not just me
GREEN

What
RAPHAEL

These now I know
GREEN

I don't want to know
RAPHAEL

Where do you suppose that somewhere in the hospital
GREEN

It has to be except
RAPHAEL

Except what
GREEN

Except it can't be it's not possible we don't we never
RAPHAEL

I see her oh I see her
GREEN

What
RAPHAEL

She's so I've never felt anything like this oh it hurts
GREEN

What's her are you hearing that
RAPHAEL

I am now I am are you seeing that
GREEN

Now I am
RAPHAEL

I thought we were
GREEN

RAPHAEL

We have to help we have to help her

GREEN

I know I know I'm trying to figure out

RAPHAEL

We've got to we've got to get out of here

GREEN

What can we do

RAPHAEL

I see it I see it now oh please make it stop the children
there are children so many they're killing them

GREEN

Stop

RAPHAEL

They put them in a furnace it's hot and they're lined up and
this woman do you see this woman

GREEN

Yes you can make it stop I can turn it off and so can you

RAPHAEL

Do you see that

GREEN

No no I don't

CANDACE

What are you doing here

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Thought I'd surprise you

CANDACE

Nice surprise come here

GREEN

It's not real none of it

CANDACE

So what do you think

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Nice

CANDACE

Nice

GREEN

It's a film Raphael just a film of something who knows what
but not happening it's simply not happening

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

What does that button do

CANDACE

Stop

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Just playing

CANDACE

You make me happy you make me feel happy

GREEN

And the sooner you we tell them that this is over the sooner
we get out of here do you want to stay here

RAPHAEL

No

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

And what is this

CANDACE

Roman you can't you're going to get me in trouble

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Sorry

GREEN

Just concentrate do an inventory of the room stay here

CANDACE

You can't look at that how did you even

GREEN

Touch hold this come back

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

How did I what

CANDACE

You don't have clearance to come in here

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

I want to find my wife

CANDACE

I'm your wife

I mean my wife and my sons

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

How did you oh

CANDACE

I need your help

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

What I don't know

CANDACE

The archives

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

It's just computer sequences

CANDACE

Try

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

I can't

CANDACE

Try or I'll kill you

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

What do I

CANDACE

Her name is

RAPHAEL

Piedad let me sit there

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

You can't it doesn't matter what you do you can't it's all in sequences and even if you do it will simply implode and the sequences will be gone that's the only way we store information

CANDACE

There must be some way I need to know which sector

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

And then and then what this conversation this is being recorded someone will come you'll never leave the building

CANDACE

What are these what kind of sequences

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Ou topos

CANDACE

RAPHAEL

Ou topos

CANDACE

It's the name we call it that from an archaic language it's an it means no place but what it really means is that the information no longer exists it's in a code and it can't be translated it's a way of storing energy the energy is transformed into this code

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

What code what energy

CANDACE

A code so that it won't be the effects of the event events you can't find your wife she's not in a sector any sector what is the matter with you the record of her activities

RAPHAEL

They're dead do you see they're all dead and the moment of their deaths is recorded along with everything else on these sequences so that it so that they

GREEN

What what

DR. THOMAS

Here you go

RAPHAEL

Hieroglyphics

DR. THOMAS

Hieroglyphics what's hieroglyphics

RAPHAEL

I don't know I just thought of it it just came to me code some kind of code

DR. THOMAS

Hieroglyphics

GREEN

Hieroglyphics he's seeing now

DR. THOMAS

Hearing and seeing yes what what now

RAPHAEL

You need a record you must have a record of everything what has happened must not repeat must go forward must forge the future peace peace is what matters and calm calm waters

DR. THOMAS

It's all right

GREEN

I tried to help him tried to get him to concentrate is this another seizure

RAPHAEL

An island of tranquility

DR. THOMAS

Not sure but we did learn something

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

She's there she's there and the boys are there they are locked in that code

DR. THOMAS

It was we were able to trace

PIEDAD

Before I go

DR. THOMAS

The sequence we were able to track there are traces still you know everything is traceable if you simply have the means it's a ghostlike trail and it leads far far away

PIEDAD

If I could just say see my sons oh Roman

DR. THOMAS

What we think what we now think is that the transmission I know this is going to be difficult to grasp is perhaps a hundred

CANDACE

I read her file what you don't think I read her file of course I read her file

DR. THOMAS

A thousand perhaps light years away which when you consider the implications

RAPHAEL

There is another sequence not the transmission but another sequence and I do know I can see the order

CANDACE

Please come away from there I won't tell I won't tell anyone

RAPHAEL

Vice sextimus trice sexage decimus octavus

CANDACE

What are you doing

RAPHAEL

Undevise duodecimus vicesemis primus nonus decimus

DR. THOMAS

The events that you are sensing the transmission must have been well what I mean is that it is very likely that the source has long ago expired

RAPHAEL

You can't find her the only thing you can do is release the sequences because you know she's dead don't you she's dead they're dead they're all dead dead dead

DR. THOMAS

The funny thing is that the transmission appears to be a loop that is the point of origin

PIEDAD

Oh oh yes

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

Someone must know

DR. THOMAS

Appears to be this planet

RAPHAEL/ROMAN

What are you doing

CANDACE

Deleting them they're gone sent out dumped into space oh please oh aah aah

DR. THOMAS

But of course it's impossible more likely the transmission was carried on a stream that intersected another this sort of thing happens all the time the other possibility is that it was generated as some kind of joke some kind of backyard scientist

GREEN

Backyard

DR. THOMAS

An expression an amateur you're shivering

GREEN

It's after eight

DR. THOMAS

Right right better put on another blanket how are you doing
Raphael

RAPHAEL

Quiet

DR. THOMAS

It's all right eat your dinner tomorrow is a new day where
are you

RAPHAEL

Out

DR. THOMAS

Out

GREEN

Could you maybe give him something he needs to sleep

RAPHAEL

I want to see the sun

DR. THOMAS

It's dark it's all dark

RAPHAEL

But it must have been there Green did you see it didn't you
see it

GREEN

I yes I for a moment there was a moment when the woman she
closed something there was a glass

RAPHAEL

The curtain she said she was closing a curtain

DR. THOMAS

And you saw the sun

GREEN

Bright and yellow it was for a moment I'd forgotten this but
at the time bright and yellow and all that awful awful all
that time they had the sun

DR. THOMAS

Was it warm

RAPHAEL

I can go back there now in my mind I can it's all in me every
moment most of it so horrible but that one moment when she
went to the window

DR. THOMAS
Can you see it can you see it now

GREEN
So that's what it was like

DR. THOMAS
It is how yellow is it

GREEN
So yellow and it glows

DR. THOMAS
Yes yes that's what the literature says it says glowing what
if I listened too

GREEN
It's so awful

DR. THOMAS
Yes but the sun if I can see the sun

RAPHAEL
I can stop there I can just stay there

DR. THOMAS
All the torment in this world is worth that if you can just
stay there

RAPHAEL
So lucky they were so lucky

GREEN
Raphael

DR. THOMAS
I'd like to if you don't mind

GREEN
Dr. Thomas

DR. THOMAS
Yes

GREEN
I think he's he's he doesn't have a pulse

DR. THOMAS
Oh yes not surprising he was very weak you might want to I'd
like to listen to it in here I don't want to explain you know
you should eat something

GREEN
I'm not hungry at all I feel like I don't what is this oh

DR. THOMAS

It's yes it does hurt it does oh there that must be yes I see
the curtain I see the curtain there in a moment in a moment
she will get up is that it she will get up and ah her face
she's looking right into the sun it's hanging there oh it
hurts but it's so it's so yellow what a place what a good
place

THE END