

Chosen Family (Pilot)

CHARACTERS:

RODRIGO- AFRO-LATINX, CIS-MAN, GAY, 30S, LEAD

LANA- AFRICAN AMERICAN, CIS-WOMAN, LESBIAN, 20S, LEAD

ROSIE- LATINX, TRANS-WOMAN, STRAIGHT, 30S, SUPPORTING

INGNACIO- LATINX, CIS-MAN, GAY, 30S, SUPPORTING

ALBERTO- WHITE-LATINX, CIS-MAN, GAY, 30S, SUPPORTING

GEOFFREY - WHITE-LATINX, STRAIGHT, CIS/TRANS MAN, 20S,  
RECURRING

SHERILYNN - WHITE, CIS-WOMAN, BI-SEXUAL, 20S, CO-STAR

CAROLYNN - WHITE, CIS-WOMAN, LESBIAN, 20S, CO- STAR

ACT ONE/TEASER

INT. RODRIGO'S APARTMENT - EARLY AFTERNOON

RODRIGO enters his apartment. He is a young professional. He is arriving from an interview. RODRIGO is in his 30s, he is an upbeat Afro-Latinx cis-gender gay male. The apartment is in very good shape. The furniture is missed-matched. The apartment has a very home-y feeling. RODRIGO is carrying a lot of groceries.

RODRIGO

Lana! Lana, I am home!

The sounds of loud lesbian sex are heard.

RODRIGO

God, I hope that's porn. Lana!?

LANA, an African-American woman, comes rushing into the room followed by Carolyn, a White woman.

LANA

Rodrigo, hi! You are a little early.

RODRIGO

I am actually an hour late, I told you I was coming in at 4pm. How are you Sherilynn?

CAROLYNN

It's Carolyn, sorry about the intrusion. I'll show myself out.

RODRIGO

No worries dear. Do you have a change of clothes? Stay for party. I can use another host!

CAROLYNN

(To LANA)

Is that okay?

LANA

Suuure. Go get your clothes.

CAROLYNN

No need! They are already in your room.

CAROLYNN exits.

LANA

Are you serious?

RODRIGO

Sorry I panicked! She not only looks exactly like Sherilynn, and what in the actual fuck her name is basically the same.

LANA

I have a type, what can I say?

RODRIGO

Please help me with the appetizers, people will be here any second. Your are messy.

LANA

Girl, be quiet!

ACT TWO

INT. RODRIGO'S APARTMENT - LATER THE SAME AFTERNOON

We see Rodrigo's living room ready to entertain. There are dips, salsas, crackers and chips everywhere. All of it has been personally done by Rodrigo, and he will let everyone know that he did. The bell rings. INGNACIO and ALBERTO enter. INGNACIO is a very confident man; he has a key to the apartment. ALBERTO is a meek/nerd man trying to be cool.

INGNACIO

Hello everyone! Where is everyone?

ALBERTO

Knowing Rodrigo, he probably told you the start time was an hour earlier, so you'd be on time. Since we are half an hour late, that really means that we are half an hour early, according to my assessment.

INGNACIO

That bitch! Oh no Alberto, Rodrigo made guacamole too.

ALBERTO

Dang it! He is going to steal the spotlight of my creamy guac!

RODRIGO enters.

RODRIGO

Hello guys! You guys are early.

ALBERTO

You told us the party started at 6:00pm.

INGNACIO

Yeah bitch. Where is everyone?

RODRIGO

Oh, I tricked you guys into being early. Good job Rodrigo from the past!

RODRIGO pads himself in the back.

INGNACIO

Is that boy you like coming?

RODRIGO

Austin? He sure is, but please he does not know I like him. So, please be discreet, and Alberto, please just do not talk to him. You always break.

ALBERTO

Yes, you are right! If I talk to him and there is a pause. I will say: so, Rodrigo is in love with you!

RODRIGO

(To INGNACIO)

It is your job to keep this queen away from my man.

Bell rings.

RODRIGO

Can you get that?

INGNACIO

Sure.

ROSIE enters. ROSIE, a Trans Woman, enters. She is accompanied with AUSTIN, who is the twinkle in RODRIGO's eye. AUSTIN, is a young LATINX man who is barely out of the closet.

ROSIE

(Coming in.)

Hello everyone.

INGNACIO

Can we help you?

ROSIE

Hello Ignacio! This is Austin.

INGNACIO

(Flirty.)

Hello there! And your name?

ROSIE

Rosie.

INGNACIO

I can't place you.

ROSIE  
I was here for the Miss Universe party... we kinda hooked up?

INGNACIO  
Juanito!?

ROSIE  
(Cooly.)  
I, obviously, don't go by that name anymore.

RODRIGO  
Ignacio, do you want to finish these up? Please.

RODRIGO goes to the door area to say hi to the new arrivals.

RODRIGO  
(Under his breath and to INGNACIO)  
We can de-compress that later.  
(To ROSIE and AUSTIN)  
Hello guys. Austin, looking great.

AUSTIN  
I brought some wine. I did not know what to bring.

RODRIGO  
Wine is always a winner! You guys can have a seat.

ROSIE  
(going to hug RODRIGO)  
Hey honey! I missed you so much!

RODRIGO  
I missed you too! Next trip to Texas, I go with you!

ROSIE  
(To RODRIGO)  
I brought Austin for you. Yes, he is single!

RODRIGO  
Ok, we will see how the night goes.

RODRIGO  
(to both AUSTIN and ROSIE)  
If you guys want to eat, go ahead and

dig in. I made ALL of the food.

ALBERTO tries to get to ROSIE and AUSTIN.

RODRIGO  
(To ALBERTO)  
Excuse me sir, where are you going?

ALBERTO  
To hang with Rosie.

RODRIGO  
I do not think so. Ignacio! You need  
Alberto to help you, don't you?

RODRIGO walks ALBERTO to INGNACIO.

RODRIGO  
(To INGNACIO)  
Do your job, this is going to be a  
complicated night already. I do not  
need Alberto free-ranging.

CAROLYNN and LANA enter. They are both looking great and  
fresh.

LANA  
Hi everyone!

INGNACIO & ALBERTO  
(excited)  
Sherilynn!

RODRIGO  
Carolynn you guys!

INGNACIO and ALBERTO are so confused.

RODRIGO (CONT'D)  
(To Carolynn)  
Sorry, these dudes barely know any  
White people. They are a little slow.

INGNACIO  
(To Rodrigo)  
What the fuck!?

RODRIGO  
Just get with the program. Lana is  
being messy as fuck.

LANA

So, Rodrigo, is that cute guy you like coming? What's his name Austin?

RODRIGO knocks over the guacamole and falls.

INGNACIO

His name is not Austin, he IS from Austin.

ALBERTO

(To INGNACIO, under his breath)  
Good save.

RODRIGO

(Standing up)  
Anybody hungry? I made all the food.

ACT THREE

INT. RODRIGO'S APARTMENT - LATER THAT EVENING

It is a little later at RODRIGO's party. The night is almost wrapping up and RODRIGO has not been able to get his moves on AUSTIN. RODRIGO is hanging out with ROSIE, LANA and CAROLYNN, while AUSTIN is with INGNACIO. ALBERTO stands awkwardly comparing and discussing the two guacamoles, by himself.

ROSIE

Rodrigo, have you even talked to Austin?

RODRIGO

I have been trying, but I have been busy hosting. I also have been avoiding it.

CAROLYNN

Why?

LANA

You think he is too hot for you.

RODRIGO

Well, he is ten years younger. It might as well be thirty years in gay-time.

ROSIE

You are one of the coolest guys I know. He would be lucky to have you.

RODRIGO

Thank you for the reference. I will submit it with my application.

LANA

...and you better submit that application before the committee closes the opening.

RODRIGO

What do you mean?

LANA

(pointing at INGNACIO)  
That if you do not hurry, someone else will put IN an application.

INGNACIO and AUSTIN look very cozy as INGNACIO put his hand on

AUSTIN's shoulder.

RODRIGO  
Ignacio! Alberto needs help with the  
appetizers.

ALBERTO is completely un-phased and on his phone.

RODRIGO  
(walking towards AUSTIN)  
How is it going? Do you need another  
drink?

RODRIGO grabs INGNACIO and gently leads him away from the  
conversation.

AUSTIN  
No, I am good. You threw a lovely get  
together.

RODRIGO  
I wanted to connect with you. I have  
been running around like crazy, you  
know, hosting.

AUSTIN  
I wanted to connect with you too.

RODRIGO  
Really? You know all of the food and  
drinks were made by me.

AUSTIN  
Yes. I hope I am not too forward, but  
I was wondering...

Doorbell rings.

RODRIGO  
That is probably the neighbors, they  
get mad when brown people are having  
fun. Please hold that thought.

RODRIGO goes to answer the door. We discover GEOFFREY, a very  
handsome and very young man. GEOFFREY is RODRIGO's protégé.

GEOFFREY  
(as he plants a huge kiss on  
RODRIGO's mouth)  
Hello everyone!

RODRIGO

This is Geoffrey everyone. Let me introduce you, this Austin and you know Ignacio and Alberto, and this is Rosie and you know Lana and this is...

GEOFFREY

Sherilynn!

CAROLYNN

Carolynn.

GEOFFREY

Tomato/Tomato.

GEOFFREY mouths "I HATE YOU" to LANA.

RODRIGO

Great, come Geoffrey, let me get you a drink.

GEOFFREY

Sounds lovely.

RODRIGO goes to the kitchen to prepare the drink. INGNACIO and ALBERTO are bored with the lack-luster of the party.

INGNACIO

How is the host doing?

RODRIGO

I am doing okay. Of course, Lana is not helping me at all and she is being so messy.

ALBERTO

Austin is by himself.

INGNACIO

I'll entertain him.

RODRIGO

Back off you bitch!

INGNACIO

What?

RODRIGO

Ignacio, I am not in the mood for your games. Please, pour a drink for Geoffrey and keep him away from Carolynn.

INGNACIO

Can I just hang with Austin? He seems more like my demographic.

RODRIGO

What the hell! He is AT LEAST ten years younger than you and I already bro-coded that when you got here.

INGNACIO

Whatever! Keep your man warm, he is looking like Alaska over there.

RODRIGO

Take this drink to Geoffrey please.

INGNACIO

Great, I get to hang with the "hetero" cock-tease of the year.

RODRIGO

Alberto, you keep an eye on him.

ALBERTO

I can't I am guarding the guac.

RODRIGO

That's my guac, not yours.

ALBERTO

I know, but most people like yours better, so I am just pretending I made it.

RODRIGO

OK?

RODRIGO goes to AUSTIN. He brings him a fresh drink.

RODRIGO

Here you go!

AUSTIN  
Thank you so much! Good timing too.

RODRIGO  
Sorry about the interruption.

AUSTIN  
No worries. Thank you for the invite  
by the way.

RODRIGO  
Of course! I am so happy to have you.

There is an awkward silent moment.

RODRIGO  
I wanted to tell you that if you were  
inclined, and you do not have to feel  
pressured on this...

Doorbell rings.

RODRIGO  
Are you kidding me!

AUSTIN  
Are you still expecting more people?

RODRIGO  
I do not. I will be right back. I am  
so sorry.

RODRIGO goes to the door and we discover SHERILYNN. SHERILYNN is LANA's girlfriend or ex-girlfriend, we are not sure at this moment. RODRIGO is so surprised by this, and he understands that if SHERILYNN comes in, it will be the end of the party.

RODRIGO  
Sherilynn!

SHERILYNN  
Hi Rodrigo! Are you having a party?

RODRIGO  
(as he blocks the door)  
Yes, I am.

SHERILYNN  
I just want to talk to Lana. It is an  
emergency.

RODRIGO

I do not mean to be rude, but it will be best if you do not come in. I do not want to interrupt the party. You know how these things are.

SHERILYNN

Oh, of course! I will wait out here.

RODRIGO watches SHERILYNN leave and closes the door.

RODRIGO

(screams)

LANA!!!!

LANA

Sup, bro?

RODRIGO

Come here please.

LANA

What?

RODRIGO

Sherilynn is here.

LANA

What? Where?

RODRIGO

Outside. Please, I do not need this right now.

LANA

What don't you need?

RODRIGO

Your messiness.

LANA

What can I say? My honey drives them crazy.

RODRIGO

Get rid of Sherilynn. Now!

LANA goes to find SHERILYNN. RODRIGO rushes to AUSTIN.

RODRIGO  
Just another day in paradise.

AUSTIN  
What is going on?

RODRIGO  
Two words: Lesbian Dra-ma.

AUSTIN  
I get you.

RODRIGO  
Do you need another drink?

AUSTIN  
I'm good. Do you think it is time to  
have that convo?

A loud argument is heard through the walls. It is clearly  
SHERILYNN and LANA.

RODRIGO  
(trying really hard to ignore the  
fight)  
Now will be a great time...

AUSTIN  
...are those your friends?

RODRIGO  
No, that is just the neighbor's TV,  
they are watching Game of Thrones or  
something.

AUSTIN  
Are you sure?

RODRIGO  
Yes, let me ask you this...

The fight gets louder.

AUSTIN  
Should you check on your friends?

RODRIGO  
They are okay.

AUSTIN

I wanted to ask you if Ignacio is single because maybe you can talk to him for me. He is so hot, but a guy you can take home too you know?

RODRIGO

(screaming)

Are you fucking serious?

A thud from outside is done. RODRIGO goes to the door.

RODRIGO

Oh dear.

AUSTIN

Wait! Where are you going?

RODRIGO

(very mad)

I have to check on these bitches, don't I?

LANA and SHERILYNN come into the room screaming.

LANA

How is this my fault?

SHERILYNN

How is it NOT your fault!

LANA

Yes. Just go home Sherilynn!

SHERILYNN

You were the one that texted me last night!

RODRIGO

Guys! Can you take this to Lana's room perhaps? Or do you want us to participate?

INGNACIO

That is a great idea.

CAROLYNN

Should I get involved in this?

RODRIGO  
How about no?

SHERILYNN  
Why would you get involved?

RODRIGO  
Lana, take it to your room. Please!

LANA and SHERILYNN go to their room.

ROSIE  
Well, I think this is the end of this party.

RODRIGO  
Rosie, can you take Carolyn home please?

ROSIE  
Sure. Where do you live?

CAROLYNN  
Sure, maybe I should check on Lana?

ROSIE  
It is not the best time. Let's go.

AUSTIN  
Ok.

ROSIE  
Austin, grab my plate. Please.

RODRIGO  
(to Rosie)  
Thanks babe. I am so sorry.

ROSIE  
No worries, I have to deal with a share of drama myself.

AUSTIN waves to RODRIGO, RODRIGO responds awkwardly to the wave. ROSIE, AUSTIN and CAROLYNN leave.

ALBERTO  
Well, that was fun!

RODRIGO  
Fuck you, help me clean up.

INGNACIO  
What happened with Austin?

RODRIGO  
He asked me if you were single.

ALBERTO  
Kiss of death.

RODRIGO  
Exactly.

INGNACIO  
I guess I win, again.

RODRIGO  
Yes. You do.

ACT FOUR

INT. RODRIGO'S APARTMENT - SAME DAY LATE NIGHT

RODRIGO goes into the living room to grab a cup of water. He is startled to see GEOFFREY crashing in the sofa.

RODRIGO  
GEOFFREY!! What in gay hell?

GEOFFREY  
Sorry, bro! I didn't mean to scare you!

RODRIGO  
What are you doing here, honey?

GEOFFREY  
Lana told me I could stay? I was kicked out of my apartment.

RODRIGO  
Geoffrey! You are a mess babe.

GEOFFREY  
Were you able to lock it down with Austin?

RODRIGO  
No, he likes Ignacio instead.

GEOFFREY  
You can do better. No worries, bro. Besides, Austin asked me out too!

RODRIGO  
What?! That bitch.

GEOFFREY goes to RODRIGO and gives him a hug.

GEOFFREY  
It's okay.

The hug continues.

RODRIGO  
Oookay. Enough non-sexual contact. Have a good night babe.

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