

the RETURN!!!

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MYTH MAKERS PRODUCTIONS
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2nd DRAFT

EXT. STREET - DAY

Sandals sweep a footpath elegantly. They stop and ascend stairs into a --

CHURCH

-- where a PRIEST, a 50 year old Anglo-Saxon man, preaches to his flock.

PRIEST 1

Humanity is stained with sin. Hence we must place our faith in the bible.

(beat)

The unbeliever will fall into the depths of despair while the devout shall be rewarded by our lord, Jesus Christ.

FADE TO:

EXT. STREET - DAY

The same sandals again sweep a footpath and ascend stairs into --

CHURCH 2

-- where PRIEST 2, a 40 year old black man, indoctrinates his meagre gathering.

PRIEST 2

JUDAS!

(beat)

It was he who betrayed us. He who summoned the guards to find, arrest and murder our lord, Jesus Christ!

FADE TO:

EXT. STREET - DAY

The same sandals walk a footpath into --

CHURCH 3

-- where PRIEST 3, a 60 year old white woman, dogmatizes her followers.

PRIEST 3

The way!

(beat)

That is the church. Others may claim an affinity with the lord. But do not be misled. There is only one way - our lord, Jesus Christ!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. CHURCH - AFTERNOON

The church is empty. The Priest gathers his belongings and is set to leave. He drops his notes and bends down to collect them.

JESUS (O.S.)
Why do you condemn the weak?

PRIEST 1
(looks up)
What?

The priest feels pity for the figure before him.

PRIEST 1 (CONT'D)
Son...
(beat)
Who are you? Why are you dressed like that?

It is Jesus! Fairly tanned and muscular with a well-shaven beard, Jesus appears jovial yet serious. He stares at a CROSS.

JESUS
I am but a messenger.

PRIEST 1
Messenger?

Jesus approaches a bewildered priest.

JESUS
Sin is but a means to instill fear
into God's children.
(beat)
Imperfection makes us human. Belief is
found not in words -- but within.

The priest attempts to talk but can't.

As Jesus walks past the Priest, he takes a quick glimpse at the CROSS.

JESUS (CONT'D)
His death should be respected.
(beat)
Not sold.

EXT. CHURCH 2 - NIGHT

INT. CHURCH 2 - NIGHT

The sandals walk towards the pulpit.

A STATUE OF MARY stares with lonely eyes.

Priest 2, with back to CAMERA, senses a presence and stops what he is doing.

JESUS (O.S.)
Why must Judas bear the burden of
betrayal?

TIGHT on priest who turns around ever so slowly. He sees Jesus and is almost speechless.

PRIEST 2
Judas was...
(beat)
Are you here for confession?

JESUS
Judas was?

PRIEST 2
Judas betrayed Jesus --

JESUS
(interrupts)
-- so that he would die for your sins!

PRIEST 2
What?

JESUS
Judas was given a duty by God. For
without Judas there would have been no
crucifixion.
(beat)
Hence, no church!

The priest loses his breath.

PRIEST 2
(quickly)
Judas betrayed the son of god to the
Jews!

Jesus approaches the priest with a wry smile that sends a shudder down his spine.

JESUS
Judas -- and Jesus, were betrayed!

MARY sheds a tear.

EXT. CHURCH 3 - NIGHT

INT. CHURCH 3

Priest 3 lights the church candles. A window opens and a GUST OF WIND blows them all out! The priest walks to the window and closes it. As she does, the priest notices something in the corner of her eye.

PRIEST 3
Can I help you?

JESUS (O.S.)
(MORE)
Yes.

The sandals walk to the priest.

PRIEST 3
Do you need clothes or somewhere to stay the night -- my son?

Jesus looks at his apparel and then at the naive priest.

JESUS
You can help me by accepting all faiths as a myriad of colors on the same canvas.

PRIEST 3
What do you mean?

JESUS
If God can create a tapestry of humanity from the one needle, then surely you can respect the beliefs of your creator.

Jesus faces the priest eye-to-eye.

JESUS (CONT'D)
In God's eyes -- no one is inferior!

HOWLING WIND slams open a window!

The priest looks quickly at the flapping window and then at the candles - which are all lit!

She turns to Jesus -- who is gone!

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The sandals sweep the footpath elegantly under the moon-lit sky.

FADE OUT.

(CONTINUED)

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