

Corações em Fogo

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1 EXT. JILL'S APT. - EVENING 1

A small car pulls up to the curb.

2 INT. CAR - EVENING 2

BRANDON and JILL are wrapping up a date. Brandon turns off the ignition and starts to open his door.

BRANDON
So, I'll see you next week?

JILL
Um... Well, Brandon,
Brandon can tell where this is going.

BRANDON
Oh.

JILL
I don't think this is worth the effort. It's a lot of heartbreak if things don't work out. You're a nice guy but I had that third mai tai tonight and told you about my cabbage patch doll collection, and you mispronounced the world merlot, and it's all pain and wasted effort if it doesn't work out, you know? We just don't fit.

BRANDON
If you like me, and I like you, let's just see where things go, right? It doesn't have to be per-

Jill hastily gets out of the car and closes the door, and starts speaking in a comically rushed voice while walking towards her door.

JILL
Mmmkay drive safe, have a good life, make good choices, bye!

3 INT. JILL'S APT. - TV ROOM - EVENING 3

Jill drops her bag and then herself onto the couch. She grabs the remote and slumps down, heaving a despondent sigh and staring at the ceiling.

PORTUGUESE DIALOGUE and CHEESY SOAP OPERA MUSIC roars from the television.

On the TV a title card comes up for the show reading:

Corações em Fogo!

She watches for a moment.

JILL

How is this show literally always on?

ON THE TV we see LUCAS and ADRIANA, well dressed South American soap opera stars in what is obviously a fairly low budget melodrama. Lucas grabs her by the arm, turning her to him.

Their dialogue is spoken in Portuguese and subtitled in English.

LUCAS

I can't promise you it'd always be an easy road, but I know we could be happy together!

ADRIANA

Lucas, I love you, but you're not the type of person who I always imagined I'd end up with. It may end in pain for us both!

Jill, her face half smashed into the couch cushion, mumbles to the TV.

JILL

Exactly!
(to Lucas)
She doesn't have time for you Lucas, she's marrying George, the american diplomat's kid... or his brother, the promos last week were sort of confusing.

ON THE TV, Adriana dramatically turns away from Lucas.

ADRIANA

(subtitled in English)
We're pieces from two different jigsaw puzzles. Why force them to fit?

She and Lucas each dramatically stare off into space, as the camera slow pushes in on each of them, inching towards the commercial break.

Jill mumbles to herself, her eyelids drooping to a close.

JILL
Just don't fit... don't fit...

Jill softly begins to snore.

4 INT. ESTATE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

4

Jill awakes, and sits up on a MUCH DIFFERENT COUCH than she passed out on. She's even wearing a MUCH MORE COLORFUL DRESS. Groggy and confused, she rubs her eyes while examining her surroundings. Much to her surprise she's sitting IN THE ROOM FROM THE SHOW.

She speaks in English and is subtitled in Portuguese.

JILL
What the heck?

She starts! She looks down near her waist and sees the floating text of the subtitles as each word comes up.

JILL (CONT'D)
Are those SUBTITLES?

Suddenly Lucas bursts into the room.

He speaks in Portuguese and is subtitled in English.

LUCAS
Oh, excuse me. I was looking for
Adriana. You must be her cousin? My
pleasure.

He crosses to her, grabbing her hand and kissing it.

Jill speaks in English and is subtitled in Portuguese.

JILL
What the FRICK is happening?

LUCAS
Perhaps Adriana sent her driver to
get you-

Jill looks down, struggling to read the translation zipping by in the subtitles.

JILL
Can you speak a little slower?

LUCAS
No time, I must find Adriana and convince her that being be happy together is enough, even if we don't know how things will end.

JILL
(to herself)
Wow, way hotter in person than-

Jill realizes he can see her subtitles.

JILL (CONT'D)
-I mean, uh, I haven't seen Adriana lately

She points down to the subtitles.

JILL (CONT'D)
Sorry, who's writing these?

Lucas ignores her.

LUCAS
I'm off to find her - I'll see you at the party! I must change - here, take my shirt.

Lucas takes off his shirt for literally no reason at all, pours oil on his chest, rubs it in, and sprints away.

She watches him exit.

The same moment, Adriana enters and crosses over to her.

She speaks in Portuguese and is subtitled in English.

ADRIANA
There you are! Come along, we must prepare for the party.

Jill objects as she is pulled off screen.

JILL
What party? You guys just had a ball last episode. The narrator literally called it "the party to end all parties" -

5

INT. ESTATE - BATHROOM - DAY

5

Adriana dries her hair with a blow-dryer while Jill looks around the room skeptically.

Previous languages and subtitles still apply.

ADRIANA

We're hosting a welcome party for the new American ambassador. Our families have been talking for years about finding a way for me to meet his son George.

Jill goes back to adjusting her dress.

ADRIANA (CONT'D)

We have a whole party planned.

JILL

And then we get to find out who's the father of Simone's baby like they've been teasing for five episodes, right? It's sort of nuts that they're pretending the Ambassador could be the father since we haven't even seen him before, but whatever I guess.

ADRIANA

What?

Adriana looks at her like she's crazy.

JILL

So, uh, tell me about George.

ADRIANA

Oh I don't know. He's nice, well mannered, we share interests. It could be easy. And yet...

JILL

Better than that Lucas, eh? I don't know why you guys keep carrying on with this on and off thing of yours-

ADRIANA

Why do you say that?

JILL

He knows all about the ugly stuff - your secret evil twin, the time you secretly spent in prison for fraud, the affair you had with the president, and he's not even from the same circles - why put yourself through that only for it to end in heartbreak?

ADRIANA

Love isn't about easy. Why not enjoy the journey with the other person, and not focus on being perfect for one another, or where the story line- I mean, uh, your time together, will take you. If you never try, you'll never know.

What Adriana is saying is starting to resonate with Jill.

ADRIANA (CONT'D)

If you never try, you'll never know...

Jill pauses, quizzically looking into the middle distance. The music rises and the camera slow pushes in on her, obviously leading into commercial. Jill furrows her brow as she hears the music, breaks the 4th wall and backs away from the approaching camera slightly.

JILL

Oh, commercial break, right

She plays along, snapping into and holding a dramatic, thoughtful pose as we fade out.

6

EXT. ESTATE - SWIMMING POOL - EVENING

6

Fade up on a fancy back yard party around a swimming pool. Guests mingle and sip champagne. Jill and Adriana walk in together. Jill's eyes widen.

Previous languages and subtitles still apply.

ADRIANA

Let me introduce you to everyone.

JILL

Oh, don't worry, I've got it. There's Simone, stressing over who the father is.

Adriana scowls at her precognition.

JILL (CONT'D)

Over there is the ambassador and his family. One is like a neurosurgeon by day and firefighter by night, the other a wealthy businessman and philanthropist, but also a total skeeze, right? Not exactly original...

The Ambassador and his family approach, George saunters up to the two ladies, looking a bit drunk.

Jill notices them.

JILL (CONT'D)

Here we go!

The Ambassador and his family speak English and are subtitled in Portuguese.

AMBASSADOR

Adriana. I'd like to finally introduce you to my son.

George nods at Jill and goes straight for an uncomfortably tight hug on Adriana, who unsuccessfully tries to pull away. George whispers in her ear.

GEORGE

You're even more beautiful than my dad said. I think I'm starting to like it here. Thanks for the... Welcome.

Jill is obviously grossed out by George.

ACROSS THE YARD, Lucas arrives just in time to see Adriana with George and rushes over.

She's just unwrapping herself from George when Lucas lands, dramatically shoving him off.

LUCAS

Show some respect.

JILL

Oh, okay, I see, and now during this drama between Lucas and George, Simone will announce that the ambassador is the father of one of her triplets, along with Carlos and that other guy over there-

AMBASSADOR

What?!

The ambassador's wife is slaps him and turns eagerly to Jill.

AMBASSADOR'S WIFE

What else?

JILL

Um, well, judging by the shipment log dropped right in front of the camera there, your sons are likely running an international gun smuggling ring-

She points to JOHN, the Ambassador's other son.

And if the the promo was right he's going to fall into the pool tonight and hit head which will lead to a dramatic funeral next episode-

Everyone looks horrified. The mother cries. John spits out his drink.

- but don't worry it's probably a dream and he'll just be in a season long coma.

The camera quickly zooms in on him in soap opera fashion.

JILL (CONT'D)

But this Lucas thing... They've been toying with your story line for so long, but he really cares about you. You're going to give it a shot, right?

ADRIANA

You never know, unless you try.

Jill pauses a moment to ponder, while Adriana and Lucas kiss in a comically intense way in the background. The commercial lead-in music and camera moves start up again. The music swells, the camera pushes in, and a LOUD KNOCK is heard.

7 INT. JILL'S APT. - TV ROOM - MORNING

7

Jill snaps awake on her couch. She's been sleeping here all night. She looks around, groggy. Again, a KNOCK at the door.

8

INT. JILL'S APT. - DOORWAY - MORNING

8

She opens the door and finds a man who looks exactly like the character Lucas but dressed in a suit and carrying a stack of flyers identifying himself as a realtor.

She looks at him as though she knows him, he is surprised by this but also seems allured to her at first sight.

JOE DAVIDSON

Good morning, I'm hosting an open house at the Burke's a few doors down and just wanted to invite all the neighbors...

Jill tries to get a grasp on reality.

JILL

Oh... I'm not really in the market...

JOE DAVIDSON

Well, in that case. How about you come by just to hang out? Let me also stress I've got coffee and good conversation on tap.

JILL

Thanks, but I'm not really all that social like that-

JOE DAVIDSON

If you never try, you'll never know.

This catches her attention. Her face lights up.