GOD IS BY MY SIDE

Ву

Mercedes Tyler

FADE IN:

LEVITICUS 18:22- "You shall not lie with a man, as with a woman: it is an abomination."

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD

FLASHBACK:

At the SAN DIEGO High football field, a group of football players are throwing the football around.

Amongst the group is senior quarterback GREG MICHAELS, 17 years old, a tall, well built African American student.

Along the football field gate walks SEAN GIBBS, 16 years old, a short, African American, flamboyant gay student and his friend DANIEL GAVIN also a flamboyant high school student.

Sean and Daniel stand at the gate watching the football players.

One football player looks over to the fence.

PLAYER

Hey, Greg (laughs) your girlfriends here.

Greg looks over to the fence and sees Sean smiling over at him.

Greg throws the football at the player really hard.

**GREG** 

That's your fucking girlfriend.

Greg looks back over. He looks away. He catches the ball back.

Greg looks back and Sean is still looking at him Greg throws the ball down and walks over to Sean and Daniel.

**GREG** 

What the fuck are you smiling at you fagot.

DANIEL

Come' on lets get out of here.

Greg grabs Sean.

CONTINUED: 2.

**GREG** 

I asked you a question fagot.

Greg throws Sean down and begins to kick.

Yelling in the back ground.

SEAN(V.O)

Lord, you are Holy above all others, and all of the strength that I need is in your hands.

Please, Lord, give me the strength that I need to face today. I don't have to worry about tomorrow.

If you just give me the strength that I need today that is all I need.

Keep me from sinning during this trial. Instead, help me to keep my eyes on you. You are the Holy Lord, and all of my hope rests in you.

Camera pulls away from the fight.

SEAN(V.O)

I always believed in God. But I was never sure he would accept me into heaven.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. SEAN OFFICE- LATE AFTERNOON

10 YEARS LATER.

Sean is sitting in his office surfing the web on the Craigslist site looking for a classic rock-n-roll album.

Sean Gets up and goes over to his bookshelf to grab his car keys.

As he heads back to his desk he stops in front of the mirror and stares at himself.

GOD appears beside him in the mirror.

GOD

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 3.

GOD (cont'd)

strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Sean turns and heads to his desk, and is interrupted by his buddy GERALD SCOTT, 26 years old, a short stocky designer.

GERALD

Hey Boss man what you still doing here? Aren't you off?

Sean walks back over to his desk.

SEAN

Yeah.

GERALD

Girl give it up, you have been looking for that album everyday for like ten years.

SEAN

None of the local record stores have it.

Looking at the computer with his hand on the mouse Sean rises.

SEAN

No... YES! Finally.

**GERALD** 

No way, you found someone selling it?

SEAN

Yep and they're located not too far from here.

Sean writes down the address.

SEAN

I gotta go.

GERALD

Sweet. Wait what about Johnny? Isn't he taking you to dinner for your birthday?

SEAN

Yea. I'm running late but he'll understand. Besides, the restaurant is in the same area.

Sean grabs his jacket off the back of his chair. Puts his bag strap over his head and runs out of his office, passing Gerald in the door way.

## INT. SEAN'S CAR

Sean types the address in the GPS on his phone and places it on his windshield mount. While driving, his ring tone goes off, JOHNNY THOMPSON, 22 years old, texts him. Sean has his phone read the text message.

SEAN

Siri Read text.

JOHNNY (SIRI)

Hey, where are you?

SIRI

Would you like to reply?

SEAN

Reply, hey you I'm sorry. I finally got a hit on the record, I will call you when I'm done. Send.

GPS

Your destination is on the right.

Sean realizes the address given is the address of the restaurant.

Sean puts his right blinker on and turns right into a shopping center.

## EXT. PARKING LOT

Sean parks and gets out of the car. On his way to the location. A car in the parking lot loses control. The car heads straight for Sean.

Sean keeps walking without seeing the car.

Sean finally hears the screeching of the out of control car, Sean turns his head and looks at the lights.

FADE TO WHITE.

EXT. PARKING LOT- ALTERNATE REALITY

Sean is still looking as if he is staring at the car with his hands up.

He looks around nothing is there, except for a man.

He sees a blurred man, he wipes his eyes again.

Sean begins to walk towards the man, as the man stands there watching.

SEAN

Can you tell me Where I am and um what I'm doing here?

The man remained quiet. Sean reaches the shore.

SEAN

Um... Whats your name.

The man smiles, and replies.

UNKNOWN MAN

Some call me the almighty, some call me the Creator, but I go by God.

SEAN

Is this some kind of joke? Where am I? Where's Johnny?

Sean turns looking around for Johnny.

UNKNOWN MAN (SMILING)

Johnny's okay.

Sean turns to attack the man and screams.

SEAN

Who are you?

UNKNOWN MAN

I told you who I am Sean.

SEAN

How do you know my name?

UNKNOWN MAN

Iv been beside you all your life.

CONTINUED: 6.

SEAN

Am T dead.

UNKNOWN MAN

Technically yes, but this place, is the in between.

SEAN

What does that mean?

UNKNOWN MAN

It means I have a choice to intervene if I choose to.

SEAN

huh? like cheat death.

UNKNOWN MAN

I cant cheat what I make happen but its what humans believe are miracles.

SEAN

So your gonna let me live? why?

UNKNOWN MAN

Yes, You deserve to. I have watch you grow into a man that is not you. You've stop praying to me years ago but iv still been here for you.

SEAN

what do you want from me.

GOD

I want to let you know that I am always by your side, and that you never have to change. You shouldn't believe everything you read in books.

God Smiles.

SEAN

One question?

GOD

Shoot.

SEAN

Was religion created by man or by You?

CONTINUED: 7.

God cocks his head, with a smile on his face and opens his mouth.

GOD

Religion serves a purpose, but not for what humans think.

SEAN

But.

Before Sean could finish his sentence God disappears.

FADE TO WHITE.

EXT. PARKING LOT

Sean parks and gets out of the car. On his way to the location. A car in the parking lot loses control. The car heads straight for Sean.

Sean keeps walking without seeing the car.

Sean finally hears the screeching of the out of control car, Sean turns his head and looks at the lights.

God appears on the right side of Sean.

God turns and faces the out of control car and stops it.

GOD

Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow; the same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow and every day. Either He will shield you from suffering, or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it.

Sean looks at the driver in the car, and the driver looks back with a confused look on his face.

Sean looks down to see how close the car was to hitting him.

Then he looks up to the sky.

SEAN

Thank You!

The Car drives around Sean.

Sean brings his head down and Johnny is waiting in front of a restaurant holding a record that reads  $\mathbf{X}$  with a bow on it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 8.

GOD(V.O)

Be at peace, then. Put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations, and say continually: "The Lord is my strength and my shield. My heart has trusted in Him and I am helped. He is not only with me but in me, and I in Him."

Close up of address on building.

Close up of address on phone.

Sean smiles at Johnny and keeps walking. Johnny runs towards Sean.

**JOHNNY** 

Are you okay?

Sean with a smile on his face walks up and hugs him hard.

SEAN

Yes.

They hug for a moment. Johnny pulls back.

**JOHNNY** 

Uh Happy Birthday Babe.

SEAN

Babe?

Sean smiles, and hug Johnny again.

SEAN

Where did you find this? Never mind. It doesn't matter. Thank you so much. I love you!

JOHNNY

Your welcome! Oh and Love you too!

They smile at each other and the hug one another.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. SEAN OFFICE- LATE AFTERNOON

Sean gets out of the elevator and walks into his office smiling, passing Gerald in his cubical.

As Sean passes, Gerald turns and watches him curiously. He gets up out of his chair and follows Sean into his office.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 9.

GERALD

So I'm assuming you had a great night Boss man?

SEAN

You know I did.

GERALD

Yea? so you got the record?

SEAN

yeah!!! It was Johnny, he posted the ad on craigslist.

GERALD

what!? That is so romantic!

SEAN

I also told him I loved him.

GERALD

After all these years, finally!

SEAN

yea, I guess it was God's plan all along.

Sean turns on the radio. Gerald and Sean begin to sing and dance. God appears and joins them.

Camera zooms out.

FADE TO BLACK.