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 M. TYLER ,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. They are accompanied by a few girls

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 man.

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

Sean, Daniel and girls continue to talk.

Greg walks over to get a drink from his water bottle.

The guys continue to toss the ball around.

Daniel gives Sean a nudge toward Greg.

Sean heads over to Greg taking out a note from his bag.

Daniel smiles and continues to talk to the girls.

(CONTINUED)

Sean approaches Greg and hand him the love letter.

Greg looks at the letter and Sean is still looking at him. Greg looks at Sean and balls up the letter and throws it down.

> GREG Is this a fucking love letter. Do I look like a fag to you.

Greg grabs Sean.

GREG I asked you a question fagot.

Greg grabs Sean and starts to shake him.

then he throws Sean down and is on top of him.

The other players and Daniel run over, and tries to pull Greg off.

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 Sean laying on the grass looking up at the sky and pans over to the players walking away.

> SEAN(V.O) I always believed in God. But I was never sure he would accept me into heaven.

MONTAGE:

Shots of Sean throwing away all of his feminine clothes and make-up. He starts to get rid of everything dealing with homosexuality. Shots of Sean's diary that has Greg's name crossed out and LOVE DOESN'T EXIST written.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. SEAN OFFICE- LATE AFTERNOON

10 YEARS LATER.

Sean is sitting in his office surfing the web on the Craigslist site.

Shot of the Craigslist site with Old Records in the search under items for Sale.

A list pops up but nothing he wants.

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

Sean appears to be more masculine in his appearance.

shots of his outfit.

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

Sean seems uncomfortable in his skin.He loosens up the tie around his neck and caresses his face.

SEAN(V.O) Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will 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 (WHISPERS) Girl give it up, you have been looking for that album everyday for like ten years.

Sean signals Gerald to come in.

Gerald walks in and closes the door.

#### 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 us to dinner tonight for your birthday?

SEAN

Yea. He is taking me to dinner. So what I'm running a little late but he'll understand. Besides, the restaurant is in the same area.

GERALD If it was me, I would never run late for that man.

SEAN uh okay, you need to stop. Its not like that.

Gerald gives Sean a look.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. 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.

shot of Sean looking at the address given from craigslist.

He notices that it is the restaurants address.

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.

(CONTINUED)

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

# SEAN what happened?

The man remained quiet.

## SEAN

Who are you?

The man smiles, and replies.

GOD I'm just someone who is here.

SEAN

Where?

### GOD

Here.

SEAN Wheres Johnny.

Sean turns looking around for Johnny.

GOD He's okay, Sean.

Sean turns and screams.

SEAN How do you know my name?

GOD I know more than just your name.

Sean looks confused

SEAN

Am I dead.

GOD Your in between.

#### SEAN

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 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SEAN (cont'd) He will give you unfailing strength to bear it.

GOD

..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.

As God recites the scripture with him, Sean looks at him shocked and with disbelief

God Smiles. Sean turns away from God.

SEAN So... was religion created by man or by You?

Sean turns back to face God. God cocks his head, with a smile on his face. Lighting begins to get fussy.

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 is Lying in front of a car.

close up of Sean's face he slightly opens his eyes.

Johnny in front of him.

JOHNNY Sean. Sean. wake up are. please wake up.

DRIVER Oh my god I am so sorry. I didn't see him.

#### JOHNNY

What? Sean are you okay. Can you hear me? Does anything hurt?

Sean looks at the driver, and the driver looks back with a confused look on her face.

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

Then he looks up to the sky.

SEAN

Thank You!

DRIVER I'm sorry. Is there anything I can do?

SEAN No. I'm okay. Now.

Sean looks up to Johnny as he sits up.

Sean looks down next to Johnny theirs a record that reads EL DE BARGE ULTIMATE COLLECTION with a bow on it.

SEAN(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."

Sean Smiles.

#### JOHNNY Are you okay?

Sean with a smile on his face still and hugs Johnny.

SEAN

Yes.

They hug for a moment. Johnny pulls back.

JOHNNY Um Happy Birthday.

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.

Has a nice feminine outfit on and feels complete.

Sean walks into his office smiling, passing Gerald at his desk.

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

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

SEAN You know I did, Girl.

GERALD Yea, girl? so you got the record?

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

GERALD what!? See I knew it y'all is too cute.

SEAN I also told him I loved him.

GERALD I'm so happy that you finally accepted the truth.

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. God winks into the camera.

Camera zooms out.

FADE TO BLACK.