

THE GLASS KALEIDOSCOPE

By

Ramón Vargas Alanis

*Below is an excerpt from **The Glass Kaleidoscope**. A one act play exploring the life of a baby gay NDN. Some angst written in alternative sketch comedy blending with realism, doing the lord's work in educating people without color.*

The tempo in the satire sketches should be fast and upbeat.

BLOODY MARIA

Leo's Apartment

TANNER

This is a very lovely house. So many colors.

LEO

Thank you, my dad is an interior designer. He had so many ideas when I got my place.

TANNER

Oh wow, an interior designer. I bet all the men in your family give him a lot of shit.

LEO

Uhm. No... his mom actually encouraged him to do it, and, well now he's making a really good living...so—

TANNER

That's great! Back in my day that was unheard of! (Chuckles). I'll tell ya. I grew up with fifteen sisters, and man, if I accidently wore one of their WHITE socks, Oof! Watch out! Mama would be furious!

MARCOS

What?

TANNER

What do you guys call it? The chaka?

RAMON

Chaka?

TANNER

You know, the animal skin feet wear? Y'know, chaka?

RAMON

Are you referring to a chancla?

TANNER

Yeah! Well we didn't get chanka or wooden spoon or nuthin! No! It was hard cold, mother not talking to you for daays! Daaaays!!

MARCOS

For accidently wearing your sister's sock? That doesn't make any sense.

TANNER

It was the principle! No boy could wear *women's* clothing! What?! Are you craazy?! (chuckles). You would think—I mean I'm not one of them...you know, but if I was, have a heart man.

MARCOS

You're not one of what?

TANNER

You know, rainbow unicorns crashing through the crystals.

SIDKA

So LEO, did your dad decorate your whole house?

LEO

Yeah! Furnished and all.

RAMON

Well the chandelier is gorgeous.

SIDKA

Yeah, and I love the granite countertops.

TANNER

Oh is that granite from your homeland? The ones used to make them rock bowls? For salsa?

LEO

Are you talking about un molcajete? Umm... I guess?

SIDKA

Is Amy coming?

RAMON

No, but she'll meet us at the Kaleidoscope.

SIDKA

Okay cool.

RAMON

LEO, where do you keep your cups? Bloody Mary anyone?

TANNER

Bloody Maria? Oh no, I don't do any of the witchcraft stuff.

RAMON

It's just like tomatoes and some other stuff. Actually I'm not quite sure how to make them.

Shots?

TANNER

She got shot?! Is that how she became known as Bloody Maria? I feel like I've heard this story before.

MARCOS

The story of Bloody Maria... I doubt it.

TANNER

It's an old folklore isn't it?

RAMON

Ye-yes?Yes! Yes it is.

TANNER

I knew it! Tell me! Wait. Don't tell me, I have to drive home alone.

RAMON

Are you sure? But you won't know how to protect yourself from the Cuervo curse!

TANNER

OKAY! Tell me!!

MARCOS

Well, a long time ago. There was this lady. Maria

SIDKA

Esperanza

RAMON
Agave—

LEO
Of el Mar.

MARCOS
OKAY! Yes... Maria... Esperanza-Agave... of El Mar, was walking home one day.

TANNER
From where?!

RAMON (LEO'S LINES TOGETHER)
A mariachi gig.

SIDKA
A fleamarket!.

LEO
A taco truck!

Looks at LEO.

TANNER
She performed in a taco truck at a flea market? Wooow, now that is talent! What was the occasion?

RAMON
Quinceñera.

LEO
Baptism.

SIDKA
First Communion.

MARCOS
It was a combination party... at the flea market. To save money and whatnot.

RAMON
But it was a HUGE party!

TANNER

Big Mexican family, I wouldn't expect anything less.

SIDKA

Obviously, since Mexicans are the only ones with big families.

MARCOS

Yeah... so she was walking home late at night.

RAMON

Because her burro, Geraldo was sick.

LEO

And the quincenera-baptism-communion was only like, a couple of blocks away.

TANNER

Hence why she walked. Obvi!

MARCOS

She was walking home, maracas in hand, singing her ay ya yays to the moon, when out of nowhere—

RAMON

Rounding the corner, a giant diesel truck swerved out of control and smacked right into her!

TANNER

They have diesel trucks in Mexico?!

SIDKA

Who said this happened in Mexico? This was down the street.

TANNER

That explains the high Latino population! Wait, I thought she got shot!

RAMON

Uh, she did! She did. Tell him Leo

LEO

Yeah! Tell him Marcos. Tell 'em

As Marcos begins to bullshit the story, the friends get super eager and all progressively start to get eager and eventually leads to a dramatic reenactment of the Bloody Maria Origin Story.

MARCOS

Uh– yeah! She laid in the street, (dramatic) her poncho soaking up the blood. When the cartel king!–

RAMON jumps in with a tequila bottle.

RAMON

Jose Cuervo!

MARCOS

Jose Cuervo! Showed up in her time of need. She asked for help, but he said, “you owe me money. So I’m going Te-Quil-ya!”

TANNER

Oh my! Violence within the same community?! But you’re on the same team!

RAMON

But Cuervo was really talking to El Jimadorrrrr

Leo jumps in with an El Jimador bottle

RAMON

who was standing at the opposite side of the road!

Leo is on the opposite side of the road.

MARCOS

Shots were fired.

LEO & RAMON

Gunshot noises

LEO

And Maria was caught in the crossfire!

SIDKA

A terrible rendition.

TANNER

I just got chills.

SIDKA

They say, chills are a sign of her spirit being near!

TANNER
Really? Who's they?

RAMON
The natives.

LEO
They also say, that sometimes, she is seen late at night.

MARCOS
Walking down the street, holding her maracas, singing to the moon.

LEO
If you hear mariachi music, followed by the click clacks of foot stomping, and ay-ya-yays. RUN!

Lights dim giving an ominous feel.

RAMON
They say you can summon her by turning off all of the lights, splashing a mirror with tequila, and chanting her name three times.

LEO, RAMON, SIDKA
Bloody Maria, Bloody Maria, Bloody Maria.

Maracas are heard, followed by click clacks. Mariachi music starts playing softly. "Ay ya yays." Marcos pops out of a mirror frame disguised as Maria. Tanner bolts out of the apartment

TANNER
AHHH!!

End of excerpt