

God, the Devil, And a Dog Name Moses

by

Rod Kent

INT. BAR BOOTH - DAYTIME

Mid-scene: MIKE bumps into the WAITRESS and spills her drink order.

MIKE
(talking to himself)
Thanks... I will.

MIKE
(to Waitress)
I am terribly sorry about that.

Mike senses an immediate connection with Waitress. She mesmerizes Mike.

WAITRESS
No problem. (beat) Um, where did your friend go?

Mike now mesmerizes Waitress.

MIKE
He had to go back to work. Excuse me, what 's your name?

WAITRESS
Susan.

MIKE
I'm Mike.

They shake hands and are totally captivated by each other. They sit down in the booth never breaking eye contact.

MIKE
I know you.

WAITRESS
I am feeling the same thing.

MIKE
Did you grow up around here?

WAITRESS
I live on...

UNISON
California Street!

There is a dramatic pause while they contemplate this.

WAITRESS
I went to Edison High School.

MIKE
Biology.

WAITRESS
Miss Whitaker!

UNISON
Her wooden arm! Perfect circles!

MIKE
You are Susan Taylor.

They laugh together as they reflect on there past.

MIKE
Do you believe in fate?

WAITRESS
I do now.

MIKE
What about God?

WAITRESS
Yeah... I'm Catholic. And you?

MIKE
Not since I was five, but now, I'm
not so sure anymore. I was on my
way to work this morning when this
big bus...

EXT. STREET CORNER - DAYTIME

Mike is crossing the street and a bus suddenly strikes him.

EXT. HEAVEN

Mike is waiting in a line behind two men...

EXT. GRAVEYARD -- DAYTIME

A PRIEST is giving last rights...

PRIEST (V.O.)
He walks in the valley of darkness,
he fears...

EXT. HEAVEN

GOD is passing final judgment on MAN #1.

MAN #1
But, but...

Man #1 is suddenly engulfed in big flames.

GOD
(In a big heavenly voice)
Next!

MAN #2
(Starts to argue)
OK, so I'm not so perfect.

MAN #2 is suddenly engulfed in big flames.

GOD'S ASSISTANT (O.S.)
Hey boss, we got a problem. The
next guy is a code 11.

INT. - BLUE SCREEN MOVIE SET

God (wearing a black suit, and acting like he's in the mafia) and his ASSISTANT walk on the stage arguing.

GOD
There is no way he can use the
grandfather clause to get in.

ASSISTANT
But, I checked, he not jewish.

GOD
So...

ASSISTANT
(interrupting)
He wasn't taught original sin.

GOD
How can he not know, does he live
in a cave?

ASSISTANT
I know he's an atheist, but he
never committed any sins.

GOD

We've got a big problem on our hands.

MIKE

Uh, excuse me but what's a...

ASSISTANT

(interrupting Mike)

Shut up, no one is talking to you...

GOD

Ok, you know what to do. Page HIM NOW! He can deal with it.

A red flash, and the DEVIL appear. He is dressed in a white suit, holding a bottle of water, speaking with a lisp.

DEVIL

Yes?

ASSISTANT

We've got a code 11.

DEVIL

Really, and to think you would get one of these in this day and age.

ASSISTANT

You need to take care of this one.

DEVIL

I'm going to pass on this one. I just started this new Zone diet... and I'm really not interesting in corrupting any more poor souls right now.

ASSISTANT

(To GOD)

Hey boss, he doesn't want to do it

GOD

Damn me! If you want something done right, you have to do it yourself.

DEVIL

Oh, can I come along and watch? This could be so much fun.

ASSISTANT

(to Mike)

Here's the problem: you can't go to hell because you never --

GOD

-- committed a sin. And you're not welcome here because your an...

MIKE

(interrupting)

But, God...

ASSISTANT

(interrupting)

That's Mr. G. to you.

God, holding an apple in his hand and playing catch with it, puts his other hand around Mike's shoulder and they walk off.

GOD

This is what I'm going to do...
(whispers the rest in his ears)

ASSISTANT

Shouldn't you be down there torturing some poor souls right now?

DEVIL

This looks like it's going to be more fun. I will just have to tag along on this one.

God winks at Assistant. There is a big white flash.

INT. BATHROOM - DAYTIME

Big white flash continues, clears, God and Mike are in a bathroom stalls.

GOD

(opening a bathroom stall)

Come on, I got work to do.

MIKE

(inside a bathroom stall)

Ah, excuse me, but where are we?

GOD
Is that a rhetorical question?

Mike Opens the stall door and we see a confused look on his face. A red flash occurs, the Devil opens a stall door and walks out, heads toward the sink and starts washing his hands.

DEVIL
You know what they say ...
cleanliness is next to Godliness.

INT. BAR - DAYTIME

Mike, God, and the Devil exit the bathroom, and sit down in a booth.

GOD
Waitress, a couple of beers for my
friend and me.

MIKE
Just water for me.

DEVIL
I would also like a glass of water,
with twist of lemon in a tall clean
glass with three ice cubes, and one
of those cute little bamboo
umbrellas.

GOD
(holding laying out seven
cards)
Here, pick a sin, any sin.

Mike picks up a card without showing God.

DEVIL
If you ask me, I don't think they
should have drop vainglory as a
deadly sin, it just makes my job
even harder.

GOD
Good, you picked LUST.

MIKE
(waving arms)
So...

INT. BAR - POOL TABLE - DAYTIME

Mike is watching while God and the Devil are playing pool. God is very focused and makes no eye contact. The balls are racked, and we have an ECU of God hitting the cue ball and the rack being broken.

DEVIL

It's not fair...he always shoots first.

GOD

(to Mike)

So tell me about your fifth birthday.

MIKE

My parents gave me a dog.

GOD

What did you name him?

MIKE

Moses.

GOD

And...

MIKE

I remember my grandma saying something about burning in hell if I named him that.

DEVIL

(checking little black book)

Let me see...naming a dog Moses, nope don't have anybody in the cooker for that one. Oh, and by the way...grandma says hi.

GOD

So what happened to the dog?

INSERT: B&W Cutaway to a little boy (young Mike) crying and a grandma scolding him.

MIKE (V.O.)

He got hit by a car. Grandma said he deserved to die.

DEVIL

Oh, I see, the plot thickens, he develops this emotional baggage, has a miserable childhood, he can't take Prozac because it hasn't been invented yet, and he becomes scarred for the rest of his life...

God signals the Waitress to come over. He whispers something into her ear and hands her an apple. Waitress crosses to Mike rather seductively, grabs him by the tie.

WAITRESS

Come with me...

Waitress pulls Mike, who is kind of confused, to the pool table where she sits on the edge, spreads her legs, and pulls him very close.

DEVIL

Not this again.

WAITRESS

(eating an apple)

So your friend over there says I should show a good time? You better not have a wife, cause I don't fool around with no married men.

MIKE

No, I never got married...

Waitress is overcome with passion, and plants a big, fat, wet kiss on Mike's lips. Mike is overwhelmed and does not know what to do. She pulls away from him and the look on her face is pure lust. Mike's expression is bewilderment. The Devil approaches Waitress.

DEVIL

(wearing a wig, wearing a gold chain, with a dollar sign on it)

So, what's your sign baby?

WAITRESS

(ignoring Mike, and taking an interest in the DEVIL)

I'm a Scorpio... What's yours?

GOD
 (walking up to the table, and
 interrupting everybody)
 What's going on here?

DEVIL
 Just showing the boy how it works.

GOD
 (yelling)
 This isn't going to work, come with
 me.

God pulls Mike away and they exit.

DEVIL
 He's still bitter about that zodiac
 sign mix-up. He created thirteen
 constellations not twelve. How can
 the stars dictate your life if you
 not even in the proper alignment
 with the right zodiac sign?

INT. BATHROOM - DAYTIME

Mike and God enter the stalls.

MIKE
 Where to now?

GOD
 Down...

There's a white flash and they are gone.

OCC FILM CLASSROOM - DAYTIME

White flash.

GOD
 Have a seat.

Mike sits.

GOD
 (turns on a big screen TV)
 As the bus hit you, your whole life
 flashed before your eyes.

Mike nods in agreement.

INSERT: Cutaway, a typical day for MIKE plays on the big screen.

1. Goes to work
2. Comes home from work
3. Eats dinner while watching TV
4. Goes to bed.

GOD

Think about it. Is this how you want to spend eternity?

Mike shakes his head NO.

GOD

Good, but just in case, I'm going to show you eternity.

White flash.

EXT. BEACH - SUNSET

White flash, God is scooping up a handful of sand, and letting it fall through his fingers. Switch to EWS from cliff.

GOD

The sand is all of eternity.

INSERT: Cutaway to waves crashing on the beach. ECU of God's hand...sand is pouring out.

GOD

And this is your life vanishing into eternity.

BAR - DAYTIME

Mike and GOD are sitting in a booth at a bar drinking a beer. Pause, then GOD gets up and walks away.

GOD

Mike, I'm giving you a second chance at life. Don't screw it up. Give it some thought, and I'll see you later.

Pause, then Waitress is walking up to the table. Mike is about to stand up and doesn't see the Waitress.

INT. MEN'S ROOM - DAYTIME

GOD walks in, and starts washing his hands, the DEVIL is already there washing his hands.

GOD
 (A golden HALO appears)
 Aren't you forgetting something?

DEVIL
 Oh, yeah (**HALO** appears) I almost forgot all about that.

GOD(ANGEL #1)
 What's the old MAN having you do for your next assignment?

DEVIL(ANGEL #2)
 (Walking in to the stall)
 A priest...and you?

GOD(ANGEL #1)
 (Walking in to the stall)
 An old Jewish lady.

INT. TABLE AT THE BAR - DAYTIME

MIKE
 (Talking to himself)
 Thanks... I will.

Mike bumps into the Waitress and spills her drink order.

MIKE
 (To Waitress)
 I am terribly sorry about that.

FADE TO BLACK.