

Legion

written by

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Registration #:

COLD OPENING

FADE IN:

INT. SANCTUARY - GALILEE BAPTIST CHURCH - DAY

CU: EZEKIEL (45), athletic but in a suit, is standing on THE PULPIT in front of an adoring congregation.

He opens his bible, there are no pages.

He reaches for the mic and it turns into a snake. As he looks down at the snake, he realizes he is in his velvet pajamas.

INT. RICHE HOME -NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Ezekiel wakes up, in a cold sweat. He is still in HIS BEDROOM. Sarai (37), in PJs and a head scarf, is sleeping next to him.

Ezekiel gets out of bed and exists the room carefully not to wake Sarai, closing the door with the slightest of SQUEAKS.

INSERT: HOURS LATER

INSERT: Clock 6a

Sarai awakes. Zeke is not in the bed.

Slightly panicky, she looks around.

We hear a faint ruffling of pages once the heater quiets down. A familiar sound to Sarai.

She exits the master bedroom.

INT. HALLWAY

Sarai passes her children, poking her head into each room.

Sarai enters...

INT. RUTHIE'S ROOM

EUTHIE (12), pigtails and tucked in, is squeezing her stuffed dolphin tight.

Sarai kisses her on her forehead and turns out the nightlight as she exits into...

INT. SAM'S ROOM

SAMUEL (14), in a wave cap, is asleep with his headphones on. Sarai tiptoes and delicately removes his headphones, revealing Samuel's pierced ears, and places the headphones on the computer desk.

Lastly, but definitely not least, Sarai makes her way into...

INT. HEZI'S ROOM

HEZEKIAH (17), dreaded and athletic, is asleep with a pile of books next to him.

Sarai shakes her head and smiles.

Meanwhile...

INT. EZEKIEL'S STUDY

Zeke is thumbing through the bible with a vengeance.

He stops at a passage.

CU ON ZEKE. CU ON THE OPEN BIBLE.

As we PAN OUT...

INT. PASTOR'S OFFICE - GALILEE BAPTIST - NIGHT

VICTOR (50), salt and pepper in a sweatsuit, is reading the Bible and taking notes.

As the night turns into day...

ACT I

INT. KITCHEN - RICHE HOME - DAY

Ruthie, Hezi and Samuel are eating pancakes. Sarai is at the stove frying bacon.

Ezekiel comes running down THE STAIRS.

EZEKIEL

It is a great day to praise the
Lord.

Sam and Hezi stop eating, look at each other and roll their eyes.

Ruthie points at her older brothers.

EZEKIEL (CONT'D)

Don't worry baby, I saw that.
(beat)
And so did GOD.

SARAI

(turning around)
Boys stop messin' and finish your
breakfast.
(checking her watch)
We have 10 minutes before we have
to leave. We cannot be late to our
first day at our new church.

Hezi takes one more bite of his pancake before clearing his plate into the garbage.

HEZEKIAH

Do we have to go?

SARAI

Boy! You the oldest. Set a good
example for your younger siblings.

Hezekiah takes a minute and clears Sam and Ruthie's plates from the kitchen table.

Sarai watches and smiles. Gives Zeke a head nod.

Sarai puts the bacon in the center of the table. And before she could set it down, three hands grab at it

SARAI (CONT'D)

Take one! Only one for now.
(beat)
(MORE)

SARAI (CONT'D)
I'll make bacon cheeseburgers later
if ya'll don't act up in church.

SAM
How we gonna act up? They don't
know us from Adam.

EZEKIEL
I see someone is reading their
Genesis.

RUTHIE
Yeah Mommy, no one is gonna talk to
us because we are the new family at
church.

HEZEKIAH
They are just going to point and
stare and whisper. You know how
those missionaries and deconesses
can be.

Sarai laughs.

SARAI
Chatty Kathies.
(beat)
But we can still make a good
impression.

Ezekiel taps Sarai on the shoulder. Taps his watch.

SARAI (CONT'D)
Guys and princess, we gotta move.

The children grab their bibles, each one appropriate for
their ages and head out the door.

Sarai grabs the coats and follows after them.

Zeke grabs his keys, does one quick glance over the living
room and locks the door behind him.

SARAI (CONT'D)
Put these on! Ya'll can't get sick
on your first day of Sunday School.

SAM
We are only running down the
driveway, Mom, not to Timbuktu.

Ruthie slows down to catch up to Sarai. She reaches for her
hand.

INT./EXT. RICHE CAR - DAY

Hezekiah Walker SINGS on the Radio. The whole family sings along, bopping their heads

EZEKIEL

Hezi, you see why we named you
after him. He has songs for
everybody. His spirit touches
everyone he meets.

Hezi pretends not to hear him and smirks.

INT. GALILEE BAPTIST CHURCH - DAY

Ezekiel kisses Sarai on the forehead.

EZEKIEL

I will see you all soon. I have to
find Pastor Victor.

Sarai and Ruthie walk into THE SANCTUARY hand in hand. Sam and Hezi are not too far behind.

As the cross the threshold from the vestibule into the sanctuary, it seems like everything is in slow motion.

The ELDER LADIES' heads are on a swivel. Their hats make a sound through the wind.

Hezi can feel their eyes giving him a once over. One LADY pierced her lips.

Another WOMAN catches a glimpse of Ruthie's pants. Taps her friend on the shoulder. Let the whispering commence.

The women watch to see where they have the audacity to sit.

Sarai and the children walk closer and closer to the front pew. Gasps can be felt and seen.

The Riche's get comfy in the first pew in the center aisle.

A LADY watching grabs her FRIEND's thigh. Her friend is far too concerned with reading the Good Book.

HEZEKIAH

See Mom I told you so. No matter
where you go. Everyone is the same.

SARAI

Not for long, son. Not for long.