

MOSES OF THE NEW MILLENIUM
full-length satire

SYNOPSIS

The President of the United States and the First Lady have entered into a sexual relationship with the Vice-President and - uh - Second Lady(?). When the President is assassinated a complicated coup d'etat unfolds on stage in this mesmerizing satire.

CAST

3 Caucasian Males (40s)
3 Caucasian Females (40s)
1 African-American male (40s)
1 African-American female (20s)
2 Male Voiceovers
1 Female Voiceover

SETS

A Hotel Suite
A Dais and Podium
The Oval Office
Another Office
And Yet a Third Office

MOSES OF THE NEW MILLENIUM
(DIALOGUE SAMPLE)

In Blackout:

(**Author's note:** the voiceovers come on the heels of one another)

WILLIAM (V.O.)

I William Jackson Stewart do hereby take the oath of the Office of President of the United States.

TODD (V.O.)

And the funeral procession moves slowly along Pennsylvania Avenue.

PAMELA (V.O.)

And I promise to faithfully execute the duties of Vice-President of the United States.

TODD (V.O.)

Three months have passed since the assassination, and the investigation continues without a suspect.

(Lights up)

SETTING: The Oval Office of the White House.

WILLIAM is seated behind his desk, holding ten Presidential pens in one hand as HE uses them to scribble on a piece of paper. AMY enters, looking uncomfortable. WILLIAM looks up and smiles.

WILLIAM

Come in.

(AMY approaches the desk)

WILLIAM (Continued)

(Displaying the handful of pens) Do you know what this is Amy?

AMY

A bunch of pens?

WILLIAM

(Laughs) I mean what it represents?

AMY

No sir.

WILLIAM

It represents illusion, fakery, deceit. Are you opposed to deceit?

AMY

I suppose it depends.

WILLIAM

(Coming out from behind the desk) On what?

AMY

On the reason for the deceit sir.

WILLIAM

I just signed a conservation bill. (Displaying the pens again) I was supposed to sign it with these ten pens, souvenirs for people who supported the bill. But I'm the President of the United States, and the President of the United States shouldn't have to use ten pens to sign his name. So I just scribble with these pens to show that they've actually been used and then we give them to people who treasure them, and what's the harm? Is there any harm?

AMY

I don't know. I suppose not.

WILLIAM

See that's the problem with the Presidency. It's been demeaned. I'm not the Chief Executive as much as I'm the Court Jester sometimes. So in small ways I pull the dignity back into the office. I sign my name with one pen, not ten.

AMY

Sir, I appreciate very much that you're confiding in me but to tell the truth, I'm a bit uncomfortable.

WILLIAM

Why?

AMY

Because I don't know why you've called me in. This is very unusual.

WILLIAM

You've been in my detail for three months now. I wanted to get to know you better.

AMY

There are forty other Agents in your detail sir.

WILLIAM

Are you questioning the President?

AMY

Of course not sir.

WILLIAM

Bill. When we're alone you may call me Bill. (No response)
Anyway, there's still a question on the floor.

AMY

Question?

WILLIAM

About deceit. I believe that you said that you might not be
opposed to deceit, depending on the circumstances. Is that
right?

AMY

That's what I said.

WILLIAM

Suppose the circumstances were that the President of the
United States, an admittedly married man, with an
admittedly bad marriage, found you attractive.

AMY

Is that what this is all about? (WILLIAM suddenly moves to
her and grabs her around the waist. AMY pushes quickly
away) Sir, please.

WILLIAM

How many women throughout history have had an opportunity
to have sex with the President of the United States?

AMY

Sometimes I think that I might be the only one who hasn't.

WILLIAM

You're a beautiful woman. I've been struck by your beauty
from the moment I first saw you.

AMY

This is not a good situation sir. I think I should leave.

WILLIAM

Is it because I'm white?

AMY

Sir!

WILLIAM

Is it because I'm married? I'm older? Just tell me what it

is.

AMY

The whole thing is crazy. I'm just not interested.

WILLIAM

Why not? Tell me all the negatives.

AMY

Sir, I'm very uncomfortable. I'd really like to be excused.

WILLIAM

Do you want to be reassigned?

AMY

(Pause) No sir, I don't.

WILLIAM

Do you find me ugly and repulsive? (No response) What is it?

AMY

It's a lot of things.

WILLIAM

Tell me what they are.

AMY

I'm not interested in meaningless sex, you're married, you're - the President. I don't know.

WILLIAM

Ha! You never once said that you weren't physically attracted to me.

AMY

I'm not physically attracted to you.

WILLIAM

Don't be a parrot. Anything else?

AMY

I'm involved in a serious relationship.

WILLIAM

So this would be one of those circumstances where deceit would be acceptable.

AMY

Sir?

WILLIAM

You're being deceitful. You're not in any relationship. You haven't been in a serious relationship since Calvin Washington in college.

AMY

How do you know that?

WILLIAM

(Moving closer to her again) I know everything about you. I know what kind of sanitary napkins you use.

(HE grabs her and SHE slaps him hard. HE holds his face)

AMY

Oh my God. I'm so sorry. (SHE strokes his face. SHE is mortified but HE responds favorably to the stroking)

(Intercom buzzes)

WILLIAM

(Pressing the intercom button) Yes?

FEMALE (V.O.)

Senators Wellbottom and Fitzgerald are here.

WILLIAM

Alright. Just a moment. (HE turns back to AMY)

AMY

I'm so sorry Mr. President. I don't know what got into me.

WILLIAM

No Amy. I don't know what got into me. I've treated you very badly. I'm sorry. (AMY nods) Look - I'm just used to getting whatever I want whenever I want it. I suppose it's debilitating in some ways. I hope you can forgive me.

AMY

(Cautious) Sure. It's forgotten.

WILLIAM

Do you really find me repulsive?

AMY

I find you married.

WILLIAM

I consider this progress. We'll continue this discussion later.

AMY

Yes sir. (SHE exits)

WILLIAM

Pressing the intercom button) Send the Senators in.