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RO and Julieta

A Downloaded Shakespeare

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Ro (Romero)- 17-Year-old Black male from the southern part of the former United States (Hip Hop Land, the Tribe of Queen Latifah)

Merc- 20 something Black male, Older Cousin of Ro. Hot headed and led by his street smarts.

Julieta- 16, Afro Latina living in Trump Landia (East of the former Mississippi River) A waste land of America's past now ruled by the richest family at the time of the second civil war Bezos.

Nurse- 30 something White female who is an indentured servant to the family of Bezos.

(Ro runs onto the stage laughing)

RO

Fool where did you bring me...

MERC

Dawg, what did I tell you, I said it

RO

You said it, I didn't believe it but damn ...

MERC

Oh yeah! I told you, now you believe me.

RO

Those were the finest.

MERC

Finest,

RO

Prettiest

MERC

Finest, Prettiest and

RO

Smartest, Finest, Prettiest and Smartest girls I have ever seen.

MERC

Are you over Rosie now?

RO

Rosie who? Because Julieta is about to be my girl, dawg she took off her mask for me. She let me smell her USB flowers, I said I don't speak Spanish, but I will spend a lifetime trying to learn

MERC

She never takes off her mask at a Step show, man you are in but

RO

But what?

MERC

You know?

RO

What fool? She is perfect. Perfection walking on this earth.

MERC

Dawg you can't see her again, she's a ...

RO

A what? She's an angel from another world.

MERC

Yeah, that is the rumor. Familia is a little different here, home boy. You know that they are the house of Bezos.

RO

I don't care, Lord Blowhard doesn't own me, we are in the border lands. It's all good.

MERC

Look man just hit it and forget it, I brought you here for a good time not fooling around with the enemy. Keep your mind in the long game, we are part of the tribe of Latifah. Hip Hop Nation.

RO

Dawg, it's all good. I will see if she will elope, and I can get her across the border with mixed Wi-Fi.

MERC

Your father would kill you and then me for bringing you here.

RO

I am a grown man, my pops is cool. Look I know a griot that performs border weddings. I am going back to find my bride. If she says yes, I will text you the address, it will be near the caves north of Trump Landia.

MERC

Google be with you.

RO

The download is beginning my friend.

(MERC EXITS)

(THE NURSE ENTERS)

NURSE

YO , you RO? From the House of Latifah.

RO

Do I dare draw my dagger or remove my digital mask for my lady.

NURSE

My lady received a text from you, you left your device locator open.

RO

Will she not come? I am he who she speaks of, Romero, of the Hip Hop Nation of Latifah. Does your lady have a ...

NURSE

Her name is Julieta, third in line in the house of Bezos,

RO

Will she not come herself?

NURSE

She is here, but you must swear never to speak of this meeting. She is sworn to Lord Paris, second in line to Lord Bezos.

(Julieta Enters)

JULIETA

My oath is sealed but you unmasked me.

RO

I do not know your ways on the North Side, but you speak in my tongue, Yo what's up? How you doin'?

JULIETA

Lord Paris has been my boo, but you make me feel different. We can't, it's forbidden.

RO

I left the heart of my Lady yesterday and today I need you to leave the heart of your Lord. Take flight with me and we can see the world. Not a download but real earth.

JULIETA

Just like that?

RO

Done, downloaded. My heart is open to you only.

JULIETA

My father hates the house of Latifah.

RO

I will win his favor and bring peace to this land.

JULIETA

My heart cannot be won with words, but my passion for you I cannot explain.

RO

Love knows no rules or borders and from the ashes as in days of war we are free. May Google be our guide and love.

JULIETA

Love is our download. Nurse?

(Nurse enters)

He is welcome in my chambers.

NURSE

Say it ain't so, a hip hop family member? My Lady?

JULIETA

You are sworn to my side, we will download together.

NURSE

Dear Google, you are barely a woman.

RO

I will return to you soon, Yō Nurse, you are going to like the southside I promise.

NURSE

Go before your Wi-Fi is traced and MAGA drones find us.

JULIETA

Until we download.

(NURSE AND JULIET EXIT)

RO

Dawg, this is not real. She must not lead me to believe that we will be one tonight, but she does, and we will (MERC runs back onstage)

MERC

The drones are all around us.

RO

My Wi-Fi brought them here.

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MERC

We are done!

(NURSE Runs on to the stage)

NURSE

Here into the secret passageway to my lady's chamber!

RO

Thank you.

(RO and JULIETA run in hand in hand)

RO

We can download on a drive together and our WIFI's will blend

(Each takes out a cellphone and place them together)

JULIETA

We are one.

RO

We are downloaded.

(NURSE and MERC)

MERC

My Cousin we are still in danger, look!

NURSE

The censorship has begun!

RO

My lady no.

MERC

I can't get back to Land of my people. Damn. The House of Bezos will burn.

RO

We will go together, all of us. The war has raged for 400 years, our love will guide the way. Cuz, chill, I will get us out of here.

JULIETA

Yes, now go back into the lower chamber and Romero and I will finish our download (They exit)

NURSE

You hip hop Southsiders always believe you can edit the world.

MERC

Look we are family now, let's make the best and pray that when the download is completed, we can escape to the northeast.

NURSE

We were fine until you people broke the law, and we just want peace.

MERC

I won't speak of the rivers of blood and broken bots that your people have laid to waste in hope of returning to a glory that never was. Your dear lady is now downloaded and is one of us.

NURSE

We are on the X news feed, they are showing our deaths on this stream.

MERC

So even if we do escape no one will do business with dead men, damn it.

NURSE

My lady is downloading with a dead man.

MERC

Then we leave them one night to be free. I came for a night of freedom and it ends in Cryo state.

(They exit as RO enters)

RO

YO', Merc, where are you? The sun is up, our Wi-Fi is clear, let us be back among our own people. (Picks up nurse Cell Phone and begins to read) What? We are in a cryo state, and you and Julieta should do the same and when it is done, we will awake in our own homeland where our bodies can be rebooted. May Google....Rebooted, no memory of tonight. I will make them remember us.

I will reprogram my life pack (Pulls out his cell phone) Julieta they have corrupted my download, my love ...Jul...NO, I will not die here, CYRO override. Our download, JULIETA!

(Julieta enters with bag)

JULEITA

My love we must be on our way, Nurse, Merc, RO!!! No, no, what has happened.

(Picks up the Nurse's phone and begins to read)

CRYO state. We have been erased (Pause). Dear Google, I have been corrupted. Formatting my files. Then we will fall in love on the other side. My last text to my people. Look at what your hate has done to our final download. Cryo begin. (Texting Romeo)

See you on the other side my love. We out!

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(Lies down next to him)

BLK OUT