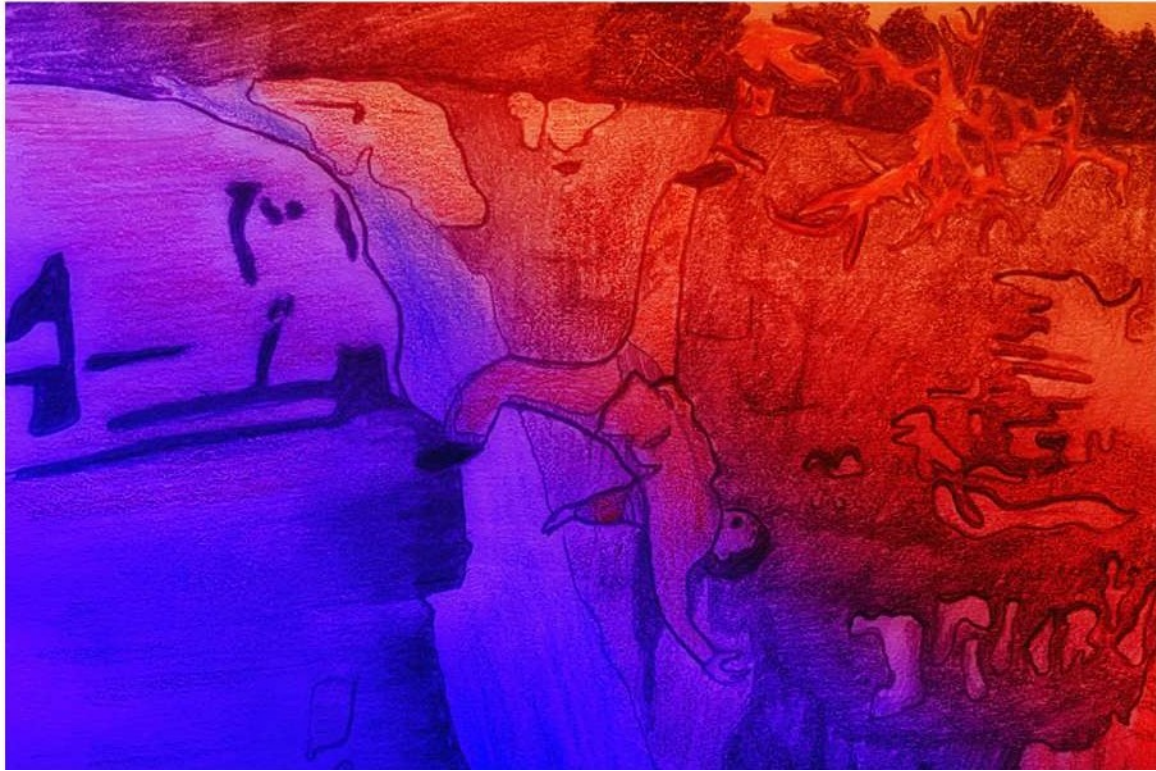


Tribal - Episode 14: Naiguatá ©



As the lightning flashes, Bill sees him get washed down the stream and out over the waterfall.

63 EXT. CARACAS OUTDOOR RESTAURANT - DAY

Bill and Elena are eating lunch with and talking to PEPE,
50s.

ELENA

So, two days from now?

PEPE

Yeah, the ship sets sail at eleven
Sunday morning, sharp. I'll wait
for you on the dock. You'll need to
get there no later than ten so I can
get you aboard. Can you do that?

BILL

Sounds good to me.

ELENA

Me too. On Saturday I'm busy but
Sunday is good.

BILL

What's going on Saturday?

ELENA

Oh, there's this Chavez rally
downtown. I have to go.

BILL

You have to go?

ELENA

I already promised Sergio. If I
back out now he'll be suspicious. I
told you how he is. He's always
watching me.

BILL

That guy is a pain in the ass.

PEPE

I'll say. Can I make a suggestion?
On Sunday it might be a good idea
not to take a bus or taxi down to La
Guaira. The Chavistas sometimes
have roadblocks, checking people's
IDs. Maybe you should take the
teleférico.

BILL

Teleférico?

PEPE

The cable car that goes over Mount Avila arrives right near the dock where the ship is. Some of the crew go that way. Not likely to run into any Chavistas there.

ELENA

That's a good idea. There's a bus that goes right by there.

BILL

Sounds like a plan.

PEPE

But make sure you leave early. I can't hold the ship for you. Remember, be there no later than ten.

Bill and Elena nod their heads.

64 EXT. OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY - DAY

Sergio is talking with Leather Man. They shake hands and Sergio walks away.

65 INT. ELENA'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Elena is packing a small bag as Bill looks out over the balcony smoking. There's a knock at the door. Elena shoves the bag into the closet and answers the door. Sergio walks in.

ELENA

Good morning.

SERGIO

Good morning.

Sergio blankly nods at Bill who reciprocates.

ELENA

What's going on, Sergio?

SERGIO

I just wanted to remind you about today's rally. I'll be leaving in an hour. Will you be coming with me?

ELENA

Yeah, sure.

SERGIO
 (looks at Bill)
How about you? Will you be coming
too?

 BILL
No, I think I'll pass. I'm not very
political.

 SERGIO
But this isn't about politics, it's
about patriotism. You're Venezuelan,
aren't you? As a friend of Elena's
I think it's your duty to attend.

Bill glances warily at Elena who nods slightly.

 BILL
OK, sure, I'll go.
 (smiling)
But don't make me sign up for
anything.

Sergio is steadfastly serious.

 SERGIO
I assure you, there's no further
obligation on your part.

 ELENA
Sergio, he said he'd go. Just stop
by when you're ready. Meanwhile,
let me get back to my cleaning.

Sergio looks at Bill.

 SERGIO
Yes, get back to your... 'cleaning'.

As Sergio leaves, Elena rolls her eyes at Bill. She cracks
the door open to make sure he's gone.

 ELENA
Sorry.

 BILL
Oh, that's alright. I'm always up
for a good old fashioned commie rally.

 ELENA
He can be very pushy sometimes.

Bill smiles and hugs Elena from behind.

BILL

Really? I hadn't noticed.

66 EXT. DOWNTOWN CARACAS - DAY

A massive, boisterous rally of mostly red-shirted Chavez supporters march down the Boulevard of Sabana Grande, downtown Caracas, chanting and singing, slowly making their way towards a stage area where the speakers will be addressing the crowd. Bill, Elena and Sergio wend their way through the crowd, finally reaching a relatively clear sidewalk.

SERGIO

Alright, I am part of the dignitary party so I need to go to the stage. Just stay with the crowd and keep moving in that direction.

Sergio furtively glances across the street as though searching for someone. Bill notices this and looks in the same direction. Sergio forces a phony smile.

SERGIO

Enjoy the rally!

When he's a ways away Bill notices Sergio talking on his cell phone and gesturing back towards Bill and Elena.

BILL

Something's going on.

ELENA

What is it?

BILL

I don't know.

Bill nervously surveys the crowd. Finally he catches a glimpse of someone across the street. It's Leather Man, who's talking on his cell phone which he quickly shoves in his pocket when he realizes Bill has spotted him. He starts to work his way across the wide street, hindered by the big crowd. Bill turns to Elena.

BILL

I have to leave immediately. There's a guy across the street making his way towards us. I can't let him reach me.

ELENA

What are you going to do?

BILL

Well, it's been a while but I still remember my way around. I'm going to get over to the mountains and hike over Naiguatá. Remember that trail we used to hike when we were kids? Well, it goes all the way over and down the other side to La Guaira. You, however, should take the teleférico tomorrow morning like we discussed with the Pepe. I'll meet you at the dock at ten. Can you do that?

ELENA

Yes, I think so.

Bill looks through the crowd and sees Leather Man is getting closer.

BILL

Listen, I have to run. Try to blend into the crowd. If anyone asks where I am tell them I went to visit my uncle in Los Palos Grande. I'll see you tomorrow.

Elena leans in and kisses Bill.

ELENA

Be careful, alright?

Bill smiles slightly.

BILL

I'll be alright. Just be there tomorrow, OK?

ELENA

I will be there.

As the speeches start on the rally stage, Bill hastily walks to a side street and glances back one last time before turning the corner. Leather Man sees the direction he's going but can't get through the crowd. He also sees Elena blending into the crowd but follows after Bill instead.

67 EXT. MOUNTAIN FOREST PATH - LATE AFTERNOON

Bill hikes through the mountains on the same path from the opening scene he hiked as a young scout. He passes some of the same landmarks from the opening sequence. Dark, threatening rain clouds move in so Bill takes shelter in a

leanto at the same resting spot from the opening sequence. As the rain falls he drifts off to sleep.

68 FLASHBACK 6: PRISONER VISITATION ROOM - DAY

Luisa, now 21, sits in the booth waiting. Soon Bill arrives, handcuffed and escorted by a CORRECTIONS OFFICER, 30, who removes the handcuffs.

CORRECTIONS OFFICER
I'll be right outside.

BILL
Thanks.

Bill smiles broadly at Luisa but she doesn't reciprocate. They each pick up their telephones.

BILL
Hi baby. Wow, look at you. You're beautiful.

LUISA
Thank you. How are you?

BILL
Well, as good as you can imagine. It's so good to see you. I'm glad you came. It's been what, three years?

LUISA
Four.

BILL
That long? Well, I'm still glad you...

LUISA
Listen, I'm not here on a happy visit. I have some bad news. Grandma died last week.

Bill's smile is replaced by a look of shock and sadness.

BILL
That is bad news.

LUISA
We buried her yesterday.

BILL
I knew she's been sick but I hoped she would hang on until I get out.

LUISA

Get out? Are you dreaming? You're not getting out. First Uncle Bobby, now Grandma and you're next. There goes the family.

BILL

Oh baby, why don't you believe me? Me and your uncle had some differences in the past but we had buried the hatchet. But even when we were enemies I never would have killed him. Why won't you believe that?

LUISA

Because I saw how you were. You hated him. You hated everything. And they caught you red handed.

BILL

No they didn't. It was all circumstantial. I swear to you I didn't do it. I didn't hate him. I wish you'd believe me.

LUISA

I wish I could. You destroyed our family. I can never forgive you.

Luisa gets up, getting ready. There are tears in her eyes.

BILL

Baby, wait, don't leave like that!

Luisa hangs up the phone, looks at Bill shaking her head, turns and walks away.

BILL

Luisa!

69 EXT. MOUNTAIN FOREST PATH - LATER

As the thunder claps Bill is jolted awake by pistol toting Leather Man kicking his foot. It is still raining and Bill is in a fog for a few seconds.

LEATHER MAN

Time to wake up, Goldilocks.

BILL

How...how did you find me here?

LEATHER MAN

It's what I do. Now, come on, get up.

Bill starts to stand.

BILL

Is this really necessary? Can we talk?

LEATHER MAN

Stop fooling around.

BILL

But why all the fuss over me? Surely you have bigger fish to fry.

LEATHER MAN

That was some mess you created in Manaus, letting Zarin get away like that.

BILL

But he's dead now. I know this for a fact.

LEATHER MAN

That's what you think. Now, you know I have to bring you back to the embassy for questioning. Come on.

Leather Man directs Bill toward the trail with his pistol. Bill starts to walk.

BILL

Questioning? And then what?

LEATHER MAN

That's not up to me to decide.

The rain starts coming down very hard as the wind and lightning picks up. Suddenly a big tree falls across the path right behind them, causing Leather Man to fall. Bill turns and kicks the gun out of his hand into the thicket and starts to run down a side path, Leather Man jumps up, quickly pursuing him. Soon they are running down the same path next to the stream that he and his brother followed in the opening sequence.

Bill is slowed down by a big branch fallen across the path and as he's trying to climb over it, Leather Man catches up to him and they commence to fighting, throwing punches and rolling around on the ground as the storm continues, lightning flashing all around. Leather Man dives at Bill, tackling

him but they both fall into the stream and are swept away just as Bill and his brother were in the first sequence.

As they are being swept along, approaching the waterfall, they both frantically try to grab branches on the shoreline. Bill finally succeeds and Leather Man grabs on to his foot.

BILL

I'm losing my grip.

LEATHER MAN

Hold on!

Bill looks at the helpless Leather Man and briefly has some pity for him.

BILL

I don't know if I can hold on much longer. It's slipping.

LEATHER MAN

Don't let me go! If you ever want to see your daughter again!

The mention of Luisa angers Bill and he kicks Leather Man loose. As the lightning flashes, Bill sees him get washed down the stream and out over the waterfall.

70 EXT. TELEFÉRICO STATION, MOUNT AVILA - MORNING

Elena, small suitcase in hand, has reached the top of Mount Avila from Caracas and, along with a few other passengers, boards the next cable car for the ride down to the port of La Guaira. She smiles at the TICKET TAKER, 20s, as she boards but looks back nervously over her shoulder.

TICKET TAKER

Nice day for a ride, lady.

ELENA

Yes it is. Thank you.

71 INT. CABLE CAR - MORNING

Once the doors close and the cable car begins its descent she smiles. She can see the ships in the port in the far distance below. It is a beautiful sunny day.

72 EXT. DOCK, LA GUAIRA - MORNING

Bill and Pepe are drinking coffee from styrofoam cups and talking. Pepe peers up the mountain through a small pair of binoculars.

PEPE

I think I see it. Let's hope she's on this one. We have to board soon.

BILL

She'll be here.

73 EXT. TELEFÉRICO STATION, MOUNT AVILA - MORNING

Sergio and a UNIFORMED MAN, 50s, step off a cable car arriving from Caracas. They walk into the control room and speak to the OPERATOR, 40s.

SERGIO

When did the last car to La Guaira leave?

OPERATOR

About ten minutes ago, why?

Sergio shows him a snapshot.

UNIFORMED MAN

We're looking for this woman. Did she pass through here?

OPERATOR

I don't know. Let me ask the other guy.

(yells out window)

Hey Pablo, come here a minute!

TICKET TAKER

What is it?

OPERATOR

These men want to know if this woman rode today.

Ticket Taker looks at the photo.

TICKET TAKER

Yes, she was on the last car.

SERGIO

Stop that car immediately.

OPERATOR

Hey, I can't just stop the car halfway down like that.

Uniformed Man puts his hand on his holstered pistol.

UNIFORMED MAN

You stop that car and bring it back up at once!

OPERATOR

Alright, alright, no need to get upset.

The operator flips a switch and turns a wheel.

74 INT. CABLE CAR - MORNING

Elena is looking out the front window. She can see the ship and the tiny figures of Bill and Pepe on the dock. Suddenly the cable car comes to a jolting stop. Elena looks around, confused. As the cable car slowly starts going back up the mountain the other passengers grumble and Elena looks around in a panic. It dawns on her what is happening and she tries to pry open the doors, prepared to jump out to the ground which is only about eight feet below but the ground then gives way as the cable car starts over a deep canyon, way too far to jump. As the other passengers constrain her, she looks out the front window again at the ship, tears welling up in her eyes.

75 EXT. DOCK, LA GUAIRA - MORNING

Pepe is again looking up the mountain through his binoculars.

PEPE

Shit, it's going back up now.

BILL

What? Give me those!

Bill looks through the binoculars and can barely make out the tiny figure of Elena looking out the window.

BILL

They must have followed her. Somehow Sergio must have caught wind. We've got to try to get her back.

PEPE

How are you going to do that? This ship leaves in forty five minutes.

(MORE)

PEPE (CONT'D)

There's nothing I can do about that.
I'm just a mate on this boat.

Bill continues to look through the binoculars. Pepe puts a hand on his shoulder.

PEPE

You have a decision to make, my
friend. I'm sorry.

Bill lowers the binoculars, looks at Pepe and slowly nods.

76 EXT. PEPE'S SHIP - LATER

Bill stares off the back of the ship as the mountainous Venezuelan shoreline recedes into the distance.