

RICK

Look, Bush, Obama, two sides of the same coin far as I'm concerned. Neither of them really care about people like me. Or you.

GLORIA

What do you mean?

RICK

Working people. Middle class. Everybody talked about how well the country was doing but not my people. I had friends losing their houses, their jobs. My dad had some health problems and it turns out, his insurance didn't cover much of anything and it ate up his retirement and within a year, suddenly he was working as a greeter at Walmart! Seventy-something years old, standing on his feet eight hours a day working for less than minimum. Meanwhile all our jobs were going to Mexico and China and places like that and then the illegals here taking what jobs are left and nobody gave a damn. For a long time I wasn't paying attention but then I woke up pretty fast because it was clear the country was going into the toilet.

GLORIA

Were you a Trump supporter from the beginning?

RICK

Not at first. I never claimed to be one of "The Originals."

GLORIA

But your record shows otherwise.

A MOMENT

RICK

I wanted to explain that. I had a friend, see, really a friend of a friend, who said at the time that he could get my name into the records as an "Original" and it wouldn't cost me all that much and that it would be helpful down the line, you know, professionally, a good connection, so I said sure and I never really thought much about it after that but that was all after the election. Before, before the election, during the primaries, I didn't know what to make of him. I mean, I knew he was a gazzillionaire. Had his name all over everything. Trump this and Trump that. He was on that TV show where he fired people but one night I was in a bar with some friends and one of those early debates was on TV and he was very entertaining, you know? The way he would put down those stuffed shirts and leave them

just standing there in a little flopsweat pool of their canned bullshit. It was funny. You could see the gears in their machinery grind to a halt 'cause they didn't know what to do with him. And the nicknames! Little Rubio. Low Energy Bush. Lying Ted. He just zinged' em. They were like a lotta fish you pulled outta the water and threw up on the bank and there they are, gasping for air, all goggle-eyed. It was funny. And it felt good to see these guys who just, like Jeb Bush, you know, he just seemed to think he was "owed" the Presidency because of his name, his family, and there he was, Trump making fun of him on TV and Bush looking all pained like he suddenly had a bad case of hemorrhoids or something.

GLORIA

So you got into him, Trump.

RICK

I went to a rally. I don't really know why, I guess I just thought it would be fun, you know, and I was kinda curious. So, he did a rally in Dallas on my day off -

GLORIA

You've switched companies now, you're working for a new Private Prison company, Magnum Security -

RICK

Yeah, Magnum.

GLORIA

Why?

RICK

'Cause they offered me a raise and more responsibility overseeing their new facility outside of El Paso. So I went to the rally and it was amazing. I felt - I felt - comfortable there.

GLORIA

Comfortable. Why?

RICK

I looked around and I saw a lotta people who looked like me, just ordinary people, people with families.

GLORIA

White. White people.

RICK

Yeah. I guess. Mostly. Sure.

GLORIA

Christian.

RICK

What's wrong with that?

GLORIA

Nothing.

RICK

No, the way you ask that, it seems like there is and I wonder about that, I got to wondering about that at that rally, I mean if you can have Gay Pride and Black Pride and Trans-whatever Pride why can't I be proud to be white? Why can't I be proud to be Christian? Who speaks up for us anymore? And it seemed like he did. Trump would say these things, kind of edgy, you know, things you're not "supposed to say" and he would say them and you could feel the crowd, you could feel the crowd kind of jump because a line had been crossed, or a line that you had been told all your life you couldn't cross and now here it had been crossed in public and lightning hadn't come down and struck this guy, in fact, he looked really happy, and then you could feel the crowd relax, like this enormous weight had been taken off their shoulders, and then there would be this little electric thrill like, I don't know, like when you were a kid and you did something you had been told was wrong but you did it anyway. That little jolt. And then the crowd would get really lively. They would start shouting back at him. And that would work him up. And back and forth. It was like being part of a wave or something. Big. Bigger than yourself. You didn't feel little anymore, you didn't feel put down anymore. Shamed. You didn't feel shamed anymore.

GLORIA

What about the violence at his rallies? Saying Hilary should be locked up or "taken care of by those Second Amendment people." Asking the crowd whether non-Christians should be allowed to stay. Keeping out, even arresting certain reporters. Protestors getting beaten up.

RICK

Hey, those guys were there to provoke people and they succeeded. I mean the whole thing was all a kind of, kind of, I don't know, like pro wrestling thing, you know? A performance.