

UNTITLED SCHULNER/HORTON PROJECT

PILOT

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Based on, Twelve Patients: Life and Death at Bellevue Hospital

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CHYRON: In 1766, before the founding fathers created The United States, they created a Public Hospital.

To heal the sick and wounded. At no cost to those in need.

That hospital is still providing care to this very day.

That hospital is

NEW AMSTERDAM

ACT ONE

OVER BLACK we hear that famous James Brown SCREAM that begins "I GOT YOU (I FEEL GOOD)" which plays over--

INT. EMPTY STUDIO APARTMENT - DAY 1

An alarm clock: **5:00 AM**. A hand comes INTO FRAME and silences the ALARM. But James Brown keeps singing.

A MAN gets out of bed. Alone. We RACK FOCUS to see a picture of this MAN and a WOMAN hopelessly in love. But the woman is nowhere to be seen in this empty studio apartment. There is only

MAX GOODWIN (30s, abrasive, charming, exasperating.)

In QUICK CUTS Max brews coffee, laces up his running shoes, maps a route on his iPhone, and puts in his earbuds to, you guessed it, James Brown.

EXT. BROOKLYN BRIDGE - DAY 1

Max sprints to work across the Brooklyn Bridge. Passing other runners. Passing cyclists. This is a man chasing something or being chased. Or both. We intercut Max's run with the introduction of our patient stories.

INT. JFK - TERMINAL - DAY 1

An AFRICAN BOY stands in the terminal. No more than fifteen. Clothes in a garbage bag. Has never been on a plane before. Has never been to America. He's surrounded and overwhelmed by the mass of PEOPLE. So overwhelmed he doesn't move. This is ALAIN.

EXT. JFK - TERMINAL - DAY 1

Alain walks outside. He looks weak. His balance off. He tries to hail a TAXI but they don't stop for him.

Finally, he steps into the middle of the street in front of an oncoming cab. It SCREECHES to a halt. Alain tells the DRIVER in a Liberian accent:

ALAIN
New Amsterdam. Hospital.

EXT. MANHATTAN - DAY 1

Back to Max, still running, when... he swallows. And it hurts. Max stops running. This is not new. But, it's getting worse. He rubs his throat.

Max's cell RINGS, stopping the MUSIC. He looks at the screen. Answers.

MAX (ON CELL)
Georgia?

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. GEORGIA'S BEDROOM - SAME TIME

GEORGIA (30s, dancer, optimist) lies in bed with the phone pressed to her ear. This is the Woman from Max's bedroom photo.

MAX (ON CELL)
What are you doing awake?

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
I knew if I waited you'd be too busy to talk to me.

MAX (ON CELL)
I'm never too busy to talk to you.

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
We both know that's not true.

MAX (ON CELL)
Okay, but that was old Max, this is new Max.

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
I just called to wish regular Max a great first day of work.
(no response)
Max?

MAX (ON CELL)
I just thought... me taking this job was the reason you wanted space.

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
One of the reasons.
(then)
But I'm still happy for you. Sad for us. Happy for you.

MAX (ON CELL)
I'm going to change. I'm going to
win you back.

Georgia sincerely hopes he does. But she's heard this before.
She slides off her sheet to reveal a PREGNANT BELLY.

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
You have twelve weeks.

MAX (ON CELL)
Give me six.

And with that James Brown starts singing again.

EXT. RIKERS ISLAND - DAY 1

POLICE CARS escort an ARMORED AMBULANCE out of the infamous
PRISON. They travel off the island into--

EXT. MANHATTAN - DAY 1

The POLICE CARS and ARMORED AMBULANCE clear Second Avenue
like a Presidential Motorcade.

EXT. NEW AMSTERDAM HOSPITAL - DAY 1

The POLICE CARS come to a stop. ARMED GUARDS open the back of
the ambulance to reveal a PRISONER. Covered in blood.
Handcuffed to a stretcher. The Guards form a circle around
the Prisoner and lead him through the PRISON ENTRANCE of

NEW AMSTERDAM HOSPITAL.

They WIPE FRAME to reveal Max, running into the hospital.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - BASEMENT CORRIDOR - DAY 1

Max walks through the bowels of the hospital. An ORDERLY
passes, pushing a cart of folded SCRUBS. Max grabs a pair,
never breaking his stride.

EXT. UNITED NATIONS BUILDING - DAY 1

AMBULANCES and FBI AGENTS surround the UNITED NATIONS.
PARAMEDICS rush out with DOZENS of UN AMBASSADORS. Some are
VOMITING, some are UNCONSCIOUS.

PARAMEDIC 1
--massive carbon monoxide poisoning
from a faulty furnace.
(MORE)

PARAMEDIC 1 (CONT'D)

There was a Climate Change conference so we got dozens more ambassadors coming out.

LEAD PARAMEDIC

Give 'em a hundred percent high flow and get 'em to The Dam.
(then, to the chaos)
Welcome to New York.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - LOCKER ROOM - DAY 1

Max, freshly showered, listens as NURSES and a JANITOR gossip in *Spanish* (with subtitles) about him.

NURSE MARIANA

I heard all the big fancy doctors turned down the job.

JANITOR MIGUEL

The Dean only hires people he can control, who won't rock the boat.

NURSE SABRINA

None of the doctors here even heard of the new guy.

NURSE MARIANA

Why would they? He's been running a nothing clinic in Chinatown for five years.

JANITOR MIGUEL

I heard he turned that clinic around.

NURSE SABRINA

Yeah, by firing everyone. Even the nurses.

NURSE MARIANA

Chica, don't worry, Medical Directors don't even talk to nurses much less fire them.

(then)

Ten to one he doesn't last a year.

DORA WILLIAMS (40s, formidable) comes in.

DORA

(to Max)

There you are. I knew you'd get lost. All the new Medical Directors get lost.

The Nurses and Janitor turn to Max, gobsmacked.

MAX
(in Spanish)
*I'll be holding weekly meetings
with the Nurse and Janitorial
staffs so we can make your work
here more rewarding, efficient and
harassment free.*
(then)
And I'll take those odds.

Max throws down a twenty, smiles and walks out with Dora. Off the stunned Nurses...

INT/EXT. TAXI - DAY 1

A TAXI pulls up to the Emergency Department. In the back of the cab, asleep, lies DR. LAUREN BLOOM (30s, hot mess). She looks like she's been on a bender all night. She has. But not the kind you're thinking. She wakes up and takes off her LENNOX HOSPITAL ID BADGE and puts on her NEW AMSTERDAM ID BADGE.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ED - MOMENTS LATER

Dr. Bloom saunters in, pops two "TIC-TACS" (not Tic-Tacs) and passes an INTERN wheeling a DEAD WOMAN, (PATRICÍA). Arms frozen in the air from rigor mortis.

DR. BLOOM
Grab a sheet will you?

ED INTERN
EMS just dropped off.

DR. BLOOM
Wait.

ED INTERN
What?

DR. BLOOM
Did you hear that?

ED INTERN
Hear what?

Bloom looks at the corpse.

ED INTERN (CONT'D)
... Dr. Bloom? ... She's dead.

Bloom puts her ear to the patient's mouth.

ED INTERN (CONT'D)

No pulse, no BP, cyanotic and rigor mortis.

DR. BLOOM

I need a defib, ventilator, ALS and resuscitation team now!

Everyone scrambles. Including Bloom who gloves up.

ED INTERN

That's impossible. She's dead.

DR. BLOOM

Well, at least you didn't kill her again.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ATRIUM LOBBY - DAY 1

Max, in scrubs, strides through the impressive lobby with Dora.

DORA

Founded in 1766, New Amsterdam is America's first public hospital. We performed the world's first C-section in the world's first maternity ward. Yellow Fever, Tuberculosis, Typhoid, were all brought under control right--

MAX

Dora, I know the history.

DORA

The Dean makes me tell it to every new Medical Director.

MAX

How many have you worked with?

DORA

Five. In five years.

Max gets the point. Then he sees a very attractive, very glamorous woman across the hall. This is DR. HELEN SHARPE (30's, Queen Bee). Max makes a beeline for her.

MAX

Dr. Helen Sharpe, Max Goodwin. How can I help?

She gives him her ski jacket, never breaking her stride.

DR. SHARPE

You're too kind. Welcome to The Dam. Why are you in scrubs?

MAX

Because I'm a doctor.
(re: luggage)
Going somewhere?

DR. SHARPE

I have to tape segments with the Morning Show and Megyn Kelly then give the keynote address at the Oncology Conference in Vail.

MAX

Wow, you're going to do all that on your lunch break?

DR. SHARPE

You're funny. I'll be back next week. We'll lunch at the Tavern. My treat.

MAX

Unlike the previous Medical Director, I actually expect you to practice medicine. At this hospital. Because, I don't know, that's your job?

Helen looks at Max for possibly the first time. Sizes him up.

DR. SHARPE

You're funny.

MAX

You said that.

DR. SHARPE

I'll tell you what, I'll continue to give speeches all over the world because you can't afford the kind of publicity I give this hospital. And I'll continue my on-air appearances with Ellen, Oprah and anyone else powerful enough to go by one name, because someone has to remind New York that even though we're an underfunded public hospital, we can still go toe-to-toe with the privates from basic care to state-of-the-art procedures.

She takes her coat and Gucci bag.

DR. SHARPE (CONT'D)
I'll be back next week. We'll lunch
at the Tavern. My treat.

And with that she's gone. Max turns to Dora. Impressed.

MAX
I like her. If she comes back let's
keep her.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - PSYCH WARD - DAY 1

A YOUNG GIRL, 16, JEMMA, walks up to a NURSES STATION with
only a small JOURNAL. Bone tired. Scared.

JEMMA
Dr. Frome.

PSYCH NURSE
Please sign in and take a seat.

JEMMA
Dr. Frome!

PSYCH NURSE
Young lady, it is way too early in
my day to call security but I will.

JEMMA
Dr. Frome Dr. Frome Dr. Frome Dr.
Frome Dr. Frome Dr. Frome...!

As the Psych Nurse picks up the phone, DR. IGGY FROME (30s,
sloppy, chubby) rushes in and leads Jemma away from the
Nurse.

DR. FROME
(to Nurse)
It's okay, I got this.

He kneels down to Jemma, close. They have a history. She
trusts him.

DR. FROME (CONT'D)
Jemma, what's wrong? What are you
doing here?

She can't meet his eyes.

JEMMA
... It happened again.

Dr. Frome exhales, devastated. He brings Jemma in for an
embrace. She lets him.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - PEDIATRIC WARD - DAY 1

Dora and Max walk and talk.

DORA

New Amsterdam is the only hospital in New York equipped to serve POTUS, Ambassadors from the United Nations and prisoners from Rikers Island. We have a district courtroom and a public school for--

But Max isn't listening. In fact he's not even behind Dora anymore.

DORA (CONT'D)

Max?

Max is staring at ONE HUNDRED CHILDREN and their PARENTS filling the Pediatric Outpatient Waiting Room to overflow capacity. Screaming. Crying. Unruly. Speaking dozens of languages. It looks like a third world country, not a world class hospital.

DORA (CONT'D)

Max, you're running late.

MAX

Is this normal?

DORA

It's like this every year before school starts. Required vaccinations and medical exams.

(then)

Max, you're running late.

Off Max...

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - OPERATING THEATER - DAY 1

Full to capacity. All the CHIEFS and ATTENDINGs and FELLOWS grumble about being here.

FIND - DR. VIJAY KAPOOR (70s, absent-minded) falling asleep standing up.

FIND - Dr. Lauren Bloom and DR. FLOYD REYNOLDS (30s, imposing, virtuous).

DR. BLOOM

I've been thinking about you. You wanna grab a drink later?

REYNOLDS

I can't.

DR. BLOOM

You know when I say 'grab a drink'
I don't really mean 'grab a drink'.

REYNOLDS

I do.

FIND - Dr. Iggy Frome juggling twenty patient files, a coffee and a shoulder bag. Patient files begin to spill onto the floor. In an effort to catch them, his shoulder bag swings around and knocks his coffee all over himself.

Then the room HUSHES as Max walks out onto the operating stage.

MAX

Me and my sister Luna were born here. In New Amsterdam. When Luna was eight, she died here. Hospital acquired infection. Entirely preventable.

(then)

Working here, being able to save someone else's sister... someone's daughter... is a dream come true. For me.

Max owns the room.

MAX (CONT'D)

So. "How can I help?"

No one says anything. Crickets.

MAX (CONT'D)

That's... not a trick question. I'm really asking. I work for you. So you can work for your patients. "How can I help?" Tell me. Anyone.

Doctors looks around, afraid to say anything.

MAX (CONT'D)

Just... shout it out.

(nothing)

Really? No one? Wow. So, your departments all have enough money, enough nurses, your equipment isn't outdated? C'mon. "How can I help?"

Again, no one says anything.

MAX (CONT'D)

Tell you what, I'll go first. Will everyone in the cardiac surgery program raise your hands? Don't be shy. Get 'em up there.

TWO DOZEN hands go up in the air. Including Reynolds.

MAX (CONT'D)
Great. Thanks. You're all fired.

Collective gasps from the room. *Is he serious?*

MAX (CONT'D)
Any department that puts billing
above care, no matter how much
money you make this hospital, you
will be terminated.
(off their silence)
Oh no, I'm serious, you can go,
we're starting over without you.

TWENTY DOCTORS storm out, already on their cell phones.

ANGLE ON Reynolds and Bloom. Reynolds, fired, walks out of
the room - Bloom is in shock.

MAX (CONT'D)
Next. All Department Chairs, hands
in the air, please.

TWO DOZEN hands weakly go up, including Bloom, Kapoor and
Frome.

MAX (CONT'D)
Man, I have no idea how you've
managed to keep this hospital
afloat with so little help. So, I'm
hiring you fifty new Attendings.
Untrained Residents will no longer
be your only support. Regardless of
how much money the University makes
off their indentured servitude. Or
how much time it allows some of you
to play golf.

MORE DOCTORS leave the room, already making calls.

MAX (CONT'D)
I think I just pissed off the
University. Or the golfers. So.
I'll ask again, "How can I help?"

They're all scared. But then Dr. Bloom raises her hand.

MAX (CONT'D)
Yes, person not calling their
lawyer.

DR. BLOOM
Lauren Bloom, Emergency Department.
I want to get rid of our Waiting
Room.

MAX

Where do you want to put it?

DR. BLOOM

I want to get rid of it, I want to move patients 'direct to bed', no waiting room.

MAX

Done.

DR. BLOOM

Really?

MAX

Sure. Let's try.

Dr. Bloom can't believe it was that easy. Dr. Frome raises his hand.

DR. FROME

Iggy Frome, Child Psych, can we do something about healthy food?

MAX

What do you want to do about it?

DR. FROME

Have some. In the hospital.

MAX

Okay. Done. Everyone tell me what you need. What your patients need. I don't care if it's not covered. I don't care if the Board said no. We all think the system is too big to change. But, we are the system. We have to change. So, let's get into some trouble. Let's be doctors again. Go. I'll see you out on the wards.

(then)

Bloom, can I borrow you for a second?

Max pulls Bloom aside. *Is she getting fired too?*

MAX (CONT'D)

I need you to do a small biopsy. Just take a minute.

DR. BLOOM

Sure. For what patient?

MAX

Me.

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Max smiles.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ED - WAITING AREA - DAY 1

The Teenager from JFK, Alain, is at the NURSES STATION. He is sweating. Clearly sick.

ALAIN

Hello. My name is Alain. I wrote my name down.

NURSE LINDA

Then we'll call you when we have a doctor available, okay, hon?

Alain nods. Sits back down. Among a sea of other PEOPLE.

PRELAP:

DR. SHARPE (O.S.)

Well, laughter is a natural medicine.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - PATIENT ROOM - DAY 1

ON TV: Dr. Helen Sharpe laughs with a TV ANCHOR.

TV ANCHOR (ON TV)

Then I should have a PhD by now.

DR. SHARPE (ON TV)

You should, Dan. Studies have shown that laughter helps reduce pain, decreases stress-related hormones and boosts the immune system. At New Amsterdam Department of Pediatric Oncology--

The TV SHUTS OFF. ANGLE ON Max.

MAX

(damn her)

Damn she's good.

Dora is on one side of Max, Dr. Bloom on the other. She's holding a VERY LONG NEEDLE attached to syringe.

DR. BLOOM

How long have you noticed irritation?

MAX
(to Dora)
Do you think she's coming back
early?

DORA
No.

DR. BLOOM
Max?

MAX
Four weeks? Maybe six? Eight? You
look tired, do you need a nap?

BLOOM
I need you to stay still.

DORA
Good luck with that.

Max's CELL RINGS.

MAX
(to Dora)
Who's calling?

DORA
Dean of Medicine. For the third
time.

MAX
Ignore.

DR. BLOOM
Max, please stop talking.

MAX
What's on my hot list after this?

DORA
What's a hot list?

MAX
My to-do list but, you know, with a
cooler name.

DORA
Call the Dean back.

MAX
After that.

DORA
Well, you have the entire United
Nations in the ICU and a patient
being prepped for cardiac surgery.

MAX

Why is a cardiac surgery on my hot list?

DORA

Because you fired all the cardiac surgeons.

MAX

But I had the new patients rerouted to University.

DORA

Not the ones from Rikers. Maybe you shouldn't have fired the entire department.

DR. BLOOM

They were all corrupt and lazy.

MAX

See.

DR. BLOOM

Except for Dr. Reynolds.

MAX

And you know that because...?

Bloom sees her opening, shoves her needle down Max's throat.

DR. BLOOM

Just read his file.

Max nods, wincing in pain.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - STAIRWAY/HALL - DAY 1

Dr. Frome and a Social Worker, SOPHIA, walk and talk.

DR. FROME

Jemma's suffering from PTSD as well as dissociative behaviors common in victims of repeated physical and sexual abuse.

SOPHIA

How long before I can place her with a new family?

Dr. Frome takes a baggie of baby carrots out of his pocket.

DR. FROME

Carrot?

SOPHIA

No thank you.

They move past a GUARD, show their IDs, and he opens TWIN DOORS revealing--

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Lockers line the halls. Student art on the walls. Looks like every public school in America. But this one is in New Amsterdam.

ANGLE ON CLASSROOM DOOR: We see STUDENTS, and a TEACHER giving a lesson. One of the students is Jemma.

DR. FROME

Jemma first came to me eight years ago. After being sexually abused by her foster father.

SOPHIA

Just tell me how long before I can place her.

DR. FROME

Two years later Jemma was back after she was found chained to a radiator being fed like a dog.

SOPHIA

How long Iggy?

DR. FROME

This girl has been abused three times in the foster care system and you want to put her right back in?

SOPHIA

What other option do we have?

Beat. Dr. Frome nibbles on a carrot.

DR. FROME

I'm keeping her.

SOPHIA

What do you mean, keeping her?

DR. FROME

I'm not discharging her.

SOPHIA

Until when?

DR. FROME

Until she turns eighteen.

SOPHIA

That's--

DR. FROME

Two years.

SOPHIA

So, you're committing a patient
just to keep them out of foster
care?

DR. FROME

... Yeah.

Dr. Frome pops a carrot in his mouth and walks away. Off
Sophia... *is he fucking serious?*

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - REYNOLDS'S OFFICE - DAY 1

Dr. Reynolds packs his office into a box as Max enters.
Everything about Reynolds is meticulous and impeccable.

MAX

Floyd Reynolds? Max Goodwin.

REYNOLDS

I remember you from an hour ago
when you fired me.

Max takes Reynolds's DIPLOMA out of the box.

MAX

(not impressed)

Yale. Fancy. Which secret society
were you in? Skull and Bones?
Scroll and Key?

REYNOLDS

The one that took a poor black kid.

MAX

Which one was that?

REYNOLDS

School of Medicine.

Max smiles. He fiddles with a MODEL HEART from Reynolds's
box.

MAX

So, Floyd, why'd you become a
cardiovascular surgeon?

REYNOLDS

All due respect, I don't require a
pat on the back on my way out.

MAX

I don't intend to pat you on the back given the appalling history of patient care in your department.

REYNOLDS

(no hard feelings)

If I was you and I analyzed our performance I would have done the same.

MAX

By 'performance' do you mean the highest mortality and infection rates in New York City, because that's like the Beyoncé of 'performances' - if Beyoncé, you know, killed people.

REYNOLDS

And don't forget our rampant culture of inflating billable hours.

MAX

Except, you didn't.

Max takes a CERTIFICATE out of Reynolds's box.

MAX (CONT'D)

I read your files. You had the lowest billing rates in the department. What, you don't like surgery?

REYNOLDS

I love surgery.

MAX

Then why did you perform half the procedures your colleagues did?

REYNOLDS

Because my patients didn't need them. Because there are other ways to help people than by cutting them open.

Right answer. Max takes a FRAMED PHOTO out of Reynolds's box.

MAX

Cute kid.

REYNOLDS

My nephew.

MAX
I'm unfiring you.

REYNOLDS
To do what?

MAX
To run the Cardiac Surgical
Department.

REYNOLDS
There is no Cardiac Surgical
Department.

MAX
So, build one. A good one. I mean,
these are people's hearts we're
talking about.

Beat. Reynolds considers.

REYNOLDS
You do know this whole system is
rigged. They're not going to let
you walk in here and just help
people.

MAX
Then let's help as many as we can
before they notice.
(then)
You can't say no, you're already
unpacked.

Reynolds looks down at his desk where Max unpacked his box.
He looks up, grateful, but Max is already gone.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ED - WAITING AREA - DAY 1

Alain is getting worse. Sweats, chills, fever. Again he walks
up to the NURSES STATION.

ALAIN
Hello. My name is Alain. I wrote--

NURSE LINDA
Listen, hon, there's people here
with life threatening emergencies
and we just have to see them first.

Alain nods. Sits back down. In a sea of other PEOPLE.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - WARD CORRIDOR - DAY 1

Frome and Kapoor walk and talk. A Neurology Fellow, 20s, AGNES KAO, shadows them.

DR. FROME

I just heard about your rigor mortis woman. People are worried it's a sign of the zombie apocalypse.

DR. KAPOOR

People?

DR. FROME

Okay, fine, me. And based on your extensive experience--

DR. KAPOOR

You mean 'old'?

DR. FROME

Yeah, exactly, do you think the new guy is really going to shake things up?

DR. KAPOOR

No. The Dean of Medicine doesn't want things shaken up.

(wry)

Based on my extensive experience.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - WARD - ROOM 1208 - CONTINUOUS

Kapoor and Agnes walk in on Max. Who is comforting CARLOS, 50's. Patricia (Rigor Mortis Woman), is asleep in bed.

DR. KAPOOR

(surprised)

Dr...

MAX

Goodwin, but call me Max. I was just... taking an interest.

DR. KAPOOR

("Back off.")

Surely you don't have time to take an interest in every case.

MAX

Well, that's why I wear my running shoes.

DR. KAPOOR

I've been practicing here for twenty-five years. The key to survival is having more than one speed.

MAX

I can go faster?

DR. KAPOOR

That's not what I meant.

Beat. These men are not seeing eye to eye.

MAX

Keep me in the loop on this one, will you?

Max runs off. That was uncomfortable. Kapoor resets.

DR. KAPOOR

Good afternoon Mr. Martín. I'm Dr. Kapoor, your wife's neurologist.

CARLOS

What happened to her?

DR. KAPOOR

First let me find my glasses, it would be helpful to read her chart now wouldn't it?

(re: coat pocket)

Ah, here they are. Right where I left them.

Carlos looks slightly worried about this absent-minded man.

DR. KAPOOR (CONT'D)

(reading to himself)

Prolonged QT interval... administered diazepam, Valium...

(then to Carlos)

So. It appears Patricia's brain convinced her heart that she was dead. Even though she was very much alive. We are going to perform a number of tests to find out why, and you and I are going to talk.

CARLOS

Talk?

DR. KAPOOR

About your life together, how you met, how you live.

CARLOS

What does that have to do with what happened?

DR. KAPOOR

Everything.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - PEDIATRIC WARD - WAITING AREA - DAY 1

Dora and Max walk past the CHAOS of the Peds Ward.

DORA

The Dam is this city's last line of defense. Patients don't need insurance, money, and you're not listening to me at all are you?

MAX

This has to change.

DORA

Permission to speak freely.

MAX

This isn't the Starship Enterprise, speak.

DORA

Do you know how many speeches about 'change' we've heard just like yours? Five. In five years. Then the Dean of Medicine threatens your job and nothing changes.

Beat. Max takes out his wallet.

MAX

Go shopping for me.

Off Dora...

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - WARD CORRIDOR - DAY 1

Patricía is wheeled down the hall by Agnes. Dr. Reynolds passes with a COLLEAGUE. Patricía's eyes POP OPEN. Blink RAPIDLY. Her body begins to SEIZE VIOLENTLY.

AGNES

Mrs. Martín? Mrs. Martín?!

(then)

I have a Code Blue! Someone call a code blue!

Dr. Reynolds runs back.

DR. REYNOLDS
Turn her on her side before she
aspirates.

Agnes turns Patricia over.

DR. REYNOLDS (CONT'D)
Cradle the head. I need a code team
now!

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ED - WAITING AREA - DAY 1

Alain, looking like death itself, walks to the Nurses
Station. But he can't even make it. He collapses.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ED CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Alain is pushed on a gurney as Dr. Bloom and her team follow.

DR. BLOOM
Give me a CBC, BMP, chem 7 and a
Saline lock! Anyone know who this
is?

ED INTERN
I found this in his pocket.

She gives Bloom a BOARDING PASS.

DR. BLOOM
South African Air.
(then)
Everyone back away from the
patient! Masks on! Now!

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ATRIUM BALCONY - SAME TIME

Max walking, on his cell.

MAX (ON CELL)
This is Max.

DR. BLOOM (ON CELL)
We have a patient in the ED from
Liberia presenting with all the
signs of Malaria, Lassa Fever, TB
or--

Max knows what comes next.

MAX (ON CELL)
--Ebola.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ISOLATION WARD - DAY 1

Alain is now in bed in an ISOLATION ROOM. Max helps Dr. Bloom put on her HAZMAT/PPE SUIT. Max teaches her terrified Interns the Ebola Protocols.

MAX

The first thing we do is call the Mayor and the CDC if we even suspect the Ebola Virus.

Dora is already on her cell.

MAX (CONT'D)

But on the bright side, what a great teaching moment.

(off their horrified looks)

The patient is in an isolation chamber with negative pressure airflow. The chamber is equipped with every available medicine should they need to self medicate.

ED INTERN

What about us?

MAX

Ebola isn't airborne. But if you develop symptoms you'll join him. Until then you'll help him.

(then)

Everyone interacting with the patient is required to wear Personal Protective Equipment. No shortcuts. Ever.

Max inspects Bloom as she puts on the helmet. He gives her the OK and she goes into the room to draw blood from Alain.

MAX (CONT'D)

Once blood is drawn the test results will come back in twenty-four hours. And, given the point of origin of the patient--

DORA

(giving him the cell)

Max? You're on.

Max takes the phone.

MAX
Mayor? New Amsterdam is calling a
Code Green.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - WARD - 1208 - DAY 1

Dr. Kapoor speaks with Carlos and Patricia. He feels her
extremities. Agnes is in the background.

DR. KAPOOR
Your husband said you're taking
Haloperidol.

PATRICIA
(embarrassed)
... For two years. For depression.
Yes.

DR. KAPOOR
And last year you were diagnosed
with Parkinson's.

Patricia nods.

DR. KAPOOR (CONT'D)
I'm sorry to hear that.

PATRICIA
Does any of it... explain what's
happening to me?

DR. KAPOOR
Not yet, no. I'm going to run more
tests and hopefully--

CARLOS
More tests? But, she's in pain. And
she's not getting better.

DR. KAPOOR
I need more information before I
can make a diagnosis.

Carlos looks at Agnes as if she could help him. She can't.

CARLOS
But, how can you not do something
for her?

DR. KAPOOR
We are going to do something. We're
going to keep talking.

Both Patricia and Carlos look scared. And frustrated.

DR. KAPOOR (CONT'D)

Now, where are my glasses?

Off Agnes... losing confidence in Dr. Kapoor.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - CORRIDOR - DAY 1

Dr. Bloom walks with Dr. Reynolds.

DR. BLOOM

Welcome back. Heard you got promoted.

REYNOLDS

Right after I got fired. The Lord works in mysterious ways.

DR. BLOOM

She does, doesn't She?

Bloom hands him a file.

DR. BLOOM (CONT'D)

Patient from Rikers was admitted with seventeen lacs, ruptured spleen, aortic tear. We got him stable in the ED but the tear is all you. Wanna grab a drink tomorrow?

REYNOLDS

I can't.

DR. BLOOM

You know when I say 'grab a'--

REYNOLDS

Yes. I do.

DR. BLOOM

Okay.

(then)

Wait, you're not trying to...

REYNOLDS

Look, I think you're great...

DR. BLOOM

Oh, wow, you are trying to.

REYNOLDS

But I'd rather us just be colleagues.

Bloom stops. Looks at him. Is suddenly vulnerable.

DR. BLOOM
But, I thought we...

REYNOLDS
We did.

DR. BLOOM
And I thought you...

REYNOLDS
I do.

DR. BLOOM
Then why not see where this goes?

REYNOLDS
I wish I could. But I can't.

DR. BLOOM
Because...?

REYNOLDS
Because you're not black.

Reynolds turns the corner to reveal the CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT. Metal gated entry. X-ray machine. GUARD.

GUARD
Please have your ID out and all equipment in a tray.

Off Dr. Bloom... speechless.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ROOF - DAY 1

Max, Dr. Frome and Sophia. Dr. Frome is munching on celery. In the BG, Jemma and other PATIENTS do sports activities.

SOPHIA
He can't just keep a patient. She's not a pet and New Amsterdam's not a home.

DR. FROME
She can go to school here, get psychiatric care here, job training, a bed, three meals a day, oh, and the best part, she won't be physically or sexually assaulted.

SOPHIA
Your job is to restore your patients to baseline and move them through the system, not send them to Harvard.

DR. FROME

Foster kids are thirty percent of the homeless population. Twenty-five percent of the prison population. The deck is already stacked against her.

(to Max)

Celery?

MAX

Sure, thanks.

Max takes a celery stick. Both he and Dr. Frome CRUNCH on them.

SOPHIA

Well, not all of us can grow up on the East Side and summer in the Hamptons.

DR. FROME

Okay, you wanna go there, well, you're right. And I never saw my parents. So I know what it's like to be raised by a revolving door of strangers. It sucks.

SOPHIA

So, your solution is to commit a patient.

DR. FROME

Yes.

SOPHIA

Take away her right to self-governance.

DR. FROME

Yep.

SOPHIA

That's insane.

DR. FROME

Well, that is my specialty.

SOPHIA

Enough with the celery, I can't hear myself think!

(to Max)

Whose side are you on?

MAX

Me? I'm on the patient's side. Have you even asked her what she wants?

Sophia and Dr. Frome look at each other sheepishly. They haven't. Max gets a CODE on his phone.

MAX (CONT'D)
Gotta run. United Nations.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ICU - DAY 1

The RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR and his TWO SECURITY DETAIL face off against a small ICU NURSE and HOSPITAL SECURITY. The ICU Nurse and Russian Ambassador yell at each other in Russian.

Max runs between them to deescalate.

MAX
How can I help?

RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR
I demand doctor!

ICU NURSE
He wants to be discharged but Dr. Chen wants to keep him under observation.

Max grabs his CHART off the NURSES STATION.

MAX
Mr. Ambassador, I'm Dr. Goodwin. I'm the Medical Director here, and I'm officially discharging you.

RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR
Thank you!

MAX
Can you just translate something for your security detail?

RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR
What?

MAX
Since you're being released early and against the wishes of your doctor, they should look out for any signs of lethargy, brain damage, cardiac arrest, sudden loss of consciousness and rectal bleeding.

The Russian Ambassador is silent.

MAX (CONT'D)
Mr. Ambassador?

RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR
... Maybe I stay.
(to Detail)
Priyekhat.

He slinks off back to his room.

ICU NURSE
Can I have our menus back?

Max looks at the "chart" he's holding. Which is just a folder of TAKE-OUT MENUS.

Max turns to the MEXICAN AMBASSADOR, watching. In Spanish:

MAX
How are you feeling Mr. Ambassador?

MEXICAN AMBASSADOR
*We could use you at the next
General Assembly.*

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - PEDIATRIC WARD - WAITING AREA - DAY 1

Max watches Dr. Helen Sharpe on TV NEWS as he dials a number on his cell.

DR. SHARPE (ON TV)
Approximately 39.6% of men and
women will be diagnosed with cancer
at some point during their
lifetimes. African-American men--

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. AMERICAN BALLET THEATER - STUDIO - SAME TIME

A CHOREOGRAPHER watches Georgia rehearse. She's dancing to the sound of a FETAL HEARTBEAT - ocean meets human heart - when she sees her CELL RINGING. She stops.

GEORGIA
Sorry.
(then ON CELL)
Is everything okay?

MAX (ON CELL)
Just calling to say hi.

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
... Really?

MAX (ON CELL)
Isn't that what people do?

She smiles, knows he's trying.

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
So I've heard.

MAX (ON CELL)
Can I come home?

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
Max--

MAX (ON CELL)
I can be your husband and do this
job. It doesn't have to be one or
the other.

Silence.

MAX (ON CELL) (CONT'D)
Georgia?

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
I love what you do. It matters so
much. But this baby will either see
you before she goes to sleep or she
won't. She'll either see you when
she wakes up or she won't. That's
all that matters to her. To me.

DORA (O.S.)
Max?

Max turns around to see Dora.

DORA (CONT'D)
I got what you asked for.

MAX (ON CELL)
Georgia, I have to--

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
Save the world. I know. Go.

MAX (ON CELL)
Don't give up on me.

Max takes off. Which only reinforces Georgia's argument.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - CORRIDOR - DAY 1

Max runs down the hall to find a GROUP OF INTERNS.

MAX
Is anyone here bilingual?

Two of the INTERNS raise their hands.

MAX (CONT'D)
I'm putting you on a new rotation.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ATRIUM BALCONY - DAY 1

Max finds another GROUP OF INTERNS taking a break.

MAX
I need volunteers for a new rotation.

They all raise their hands.

MAX (CONT'D)
You have to speak more than one language.

They all keep their hands up.

MAX (CONT'D)
Impressive. Follow me.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - PEDIATRIC WARD - WAITING AREA - DAY 1

The waiting room is TRANSFORMED. It's quiet. It's calm. We TRACK down the room to find A DOZEN INTERNS reading BOOKS to the KIDS. Each Intern reads in a different language to a different group of children. Spanish, Mandarin, Arabic, Swahili. The kids are rapt with attention.

Even the NURSES and DOCTORS are transfixed. By this simple solution to a radical problem.

We end on Dora, Bloom, Frome and Kapoor. Amazed.

DR. FROME
This looks like shaking things up.

DR. KAPOOR
Yes.
(wry)
Based on my extensive experience.

PRELAP:

AGNES (O.S.)
Dr. Goodwin?

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - WARD CORRIDOR - DAY 1

Max, walking, looks up from a Patient Chart to find Agnes, the Neurology Fellow.

MAX
How can I help?

AGNES
Dr. Kapoor's patient in 1208. You
wanted to be kept in the loop.

MAX
How's she doing?

AGNES
... I think Dr. Kapoor's going to
kill her.

Before Max can turn around, Dora and TWO MEN IN SUITS
intercept him.

DORA
Max, this is Detective Rose from
NYPD and Agent Bratton from the
FBI.

AGENT BRATTON
The CDC alerted us to your patient
with Ebola.

MAX
Still waiting on the test results.
Be with you in five minutes.

AGENT BRATTON
The NSA just intercepted a video
made by ISIS. They claim they sent
one of their followers from Liberia
to New York City. Infected with the
Ebola Virus. Your patient is now a
terror suspect.

Off Max...

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

EXT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ESTABLISHING - DUSK 1

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ISOLATION WARD - DUSK 1

Agent Bratton questions Alain, via intercom, who is weak but lucid. Max is in the middle. Rose off to the side.

ALAIN

A man came to my village--

AGENT BRATTON

What was his name?

ALAIN

Ayaan.

AGENT BRATTON

Last name?

ALAIN

I don't know.

(then)

He was showing off money he made in America. From selling kufi hats and dashikis in Times Square. He offered to give me clothes to sell and a plane ticket, if I give him half of what I make.

AGENT BRATTON

And you believed him?

ALAIN

Yes. He arranged my visa. He took me to doctor. For traveler's vaccination. The next day I got on a plane. When I got off I felt... sick.

Max tries to help Alain.

MAX

Where did Ayaan want you to go?
When you got to America?

ALAIN

Youth Hostel. In Times Square.

MAX

Then why'd you come here?

ALAIN
This is the only hospital in
America I heard of.

MAX
(to Agent Bratton)
He's not a terrorist.

AGENT BRATTON
We'll gather the evidence--

MAX
If he was a terrorist he would have
gone to Times Square where he could
have infected the entire city, but
he didn't, he came here. To get
better. He was clearly tricked into
getting something injected into his
bloodstream. You see that, right?

AGENT BRATTON
Dr. Goodwin--

MAX
Just, please, promise me you'll
look into his story.

Beat.

AGENT BRATTON
I'll look into his story.

Max nods, looks at Alain, knowing how much trouble he is in.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT - DUSK 1

Dr. Reynolds collects his belongings off the X-Ray Machine.

DR. BLOOM (O.S.)
What do you mean 'because I'm not
black'?

Dr. Reynolds turns to see Dr. Bloom. Walk and talk.

DR. REYNOLDS
Patient is stable in case you were
wondering.

DR. BLOOM
Oh good, what do you mean 'because
I'm not black'?

DR. REYNOLDS
I'm thirty-five years old, I want
to get married, I want to have
kids, I want them to be black.

DR. BLOOM

You know you can't just order that off a menu, right?

DR. REYNOLDS

I also know I won't meet someone if you and I are...

DR. BLOOM

Getting our swirl on?

REYNOLDS

I don't need you to understand.

DR. BLOOM

Sorry, I want to. I do.

REYNOLDS

But, you can't. You can't understand how confusing it was to grow up watching every black athlete have a white girl on his arm. Or how betrayed black women felt watching that happen year after year.

DR. BLOOM

That's very noble of you. But don't give your wife that excuse. She shouldn't know you're just taking one for the team.

REYNOLDS

I love black women.

DR. BLOOM

So do I. But, I don't see one asking you out for a drink.

Bloom walks off. Leaving Reynolds, torn, behind.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - WARD CORRIDOR - 1208 - NIGHT 1

Max finds Dr. Kapoor charting outside of Carlos and Patricia's room.

MAX

I asked you to keep me in the loop on 1208.

DR. KAPOOR

I needed to conduct a thorough patient history as well as consult with cardiology, hematology--

MAX
I'm taking the patient out of your service.

DR. KAPOOR
Because?

MAX
Because you should have made a presumptive diagnosis. Because you should have aggressively treated the Parkinson's.

DR. KAPOOR
Except she doesn't have Parkinson's.

Off Max's look, Kapoor shows him Patricia's scan.

DR. KAPOOR (CONT'D)
PET scan. Small black flecks over her heart.

MAX
Artifacts.

DR. KAPOOR
Look closer.
(then)
Two years ago Patricia was misdiagnosed with depression. She was prescribed Haloperidol, which caused stiffness. As a result, she was misdiagnosed with Parkinson's. And prescribed Levadopa. Which made it impossible to sleep. So she was prescribed hydroxyzine. That toxic combination caused both the cardiac arrest and the rigidity. But, this whole time her true symptom was her immune system fighting a tumor that no one could see.

(PET SCAN)
Small black flecks.

MAX
Malignant thymoma.

DR. KAPOOR
So, if I continued to treat her for Parkinson's, she would have had another cardiac arrest. And died.
(then)
By taking my time, by slowing down, I bought her another year. Maybe two.

Max is humbled and impressed with Dr. Kapoor.

JEMMA
(under her breath)
... It's mine.

MAX
Can you tell us why you pushed--

JEMMA
It's the only thing. That's mine.

Max gets it. Looks at Frome to continue.

DR. FROME
Jemma? What do you want to happen?

No response.

DR. FROME (CONT'D)
Jemma?

Jemma looks up. Doesn't know how to answer.

JEMMA
No one's ever asked me that before.

MAX
We're asking now.

Beat.

JEMMA
I guess... I want a family... who
thinks... I'm worth protecting.

DR. FROME
We do. I do. Would you like to stay
here? At New Amsterdam?

She thinks. Then shakes her head, 'no'. Frome takes that in.

DR. FROME (CONT'D)
Do you want Social Services to
place you in a new home?

Jemma shakes her head, 'no.' Frome looks at Max, 'what now?'

JEMMA
Just decide for me. You're gonna do
it anyway.

She closes her journal and walks off. Leaving the journal
behind. Dr. Frome offers it to her.

DR. FROME
Jemma--

JEMMA

Keep it. What's the point?

She walks off.

DR. FROME

Return them to baseline. Move them through the system. That's my job.

MAX

If you can't help Jemma as a doctor, help her as a human being.

DR. FROME

Am I allowed to do that?

MAX

You are now.

Off Dr. Frome... empowered by Max.

INT. TOWN CAR/EXT. NEW AMSTERDAM - NIGHT 1 - MOVING

Dr. Helen Sharpe in the back seat on her cell.

DR. SHARPE (ON CELL)

Move Sugarman to Wednesday and I'll do Hinkle via Skype from the hotel. Just make sure I have his updated--
(then to Driver)
Ron, I said JFK, why are we back at New Amsterdam?

The car stops. Her window rolls down revealing MAX.

MAX

Hi. Remember me?

DR. SHARPE

You told my driver to bring me back here?

MAX

No. I told my driver to bring you back here. Ron works for New Amsterdam. And so do you. Remember?

DR. SHARPE

If I miss my flight--

MAX

You can keep your job.

Beat. She considers him.

DR. SHARPE

Why do you care about me so much?

MAX

Because you're a good doctor.
Because you bring in patients who
would otherwise never go to a
public hospital, which helps pay
for the patients who can't go
anywhere else.

DR. SHARPE

So, it's about money?

MAX

It's about care. Which is why I
can't figure out why you'd rather
give lectures to semi-retired
physicians than actually provide
care to patients.

Max has touched a nerve in Dr. Sharpe. She seems vulnerable.

DR. SHARPE

I'll see you next week.

MAX

Come back in 48 hours. Or don't
come back at all.

Beat. She rolls up her window. Drives away. Max's CELL RINGS.

MAX (ON CELL) (CONT'D)

Yeah.

Intercut with:

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - CORRIDOR - SAME TIME

DORA (ON PHONE)

The Dean of Medicine--

MAX (ON CELL)

I'll call him tomorrow.

DORA (ON PHONE)

Is in your office.

Max swallows hard.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - MAX'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The DEAN OF MEDICINE, DR. PETER FULTON, (70's, powerful,
pompous) is waiting. Furious.

Unt. Schulner/Horton Pilot 4/4/18 44.

MAX
Dean.

DEAN FULTON
You're fired!

Off Max...

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - MAX'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The Dean and Max go toe to toe.

DEAN FULTON
You're fired!

MAX
Okay.

The Dean is confused, *did Max not hear him?*

DEAN FULTON
I said, 'you're fired!'

MAX
And I said, 'okay.'

DEAN FULTON
What do you mean, 'okay'? Two months ago you were practically begging me for this job!

MAX
A lot changed in two months. Two months ago the country had health insurance. Two months ago I was still living with my wife.

DEAN FULTON
Please don't tell me you're having a nervous breakdown, because that's what this looks like to me.

MAX
Nope. This is me trying to help this hospital.

DEAN FULTON
How can you say that and eliminate the Cardiac Surgery Program!? You gutted the highest source of income this hospital produces!

MAX
Either I shut it down or the New York Department of Health would have.

DEAN FULTON
You hired fifty new Attendings! You just cut the balls off my Residents! My training program!

MAX

Some of those Residents have ovaries. And when patients come to New Amsterdam you know what they never say? "I'm sick and dying so I came here to train your Residents."

The Dean fumes.

DEAN FULTON

This is the job of a lifetime, son. The big leagues. And you're throwing it away.

MAX

You hired me to make changes.

DEAN FULTON

Yes! My changes!

MAX

Your changes aren't working. They haven't worked for twenty years. And you know that. You must. Otherwise you wouldn't have hired me. You chose me. Because deep down you care about this place as much as I do.

Beat. The Dean sits. Knowing Max is right. But still...

DEAN FULTON

When I hired you I thought you'd be grateful.

MAX

I am grateful.

DEAN FULTON

I thought you'd be compliant.

MAX

I'm not compliant.

DEAN FULTON

Well, I won't make that mistake again.

(then)

And why are you wearing scrubs?

MAX

Because I'm a doctor.

(then)

If you fire me, you'll help save my marriage. And I'll be eternally grateful.

(MORE)

MAX (CONT'D)

If you let me stay I'll save this hospital. And you'll get all the credit.

Beat. The Dean looks at Max.

DEAN FULTON

You have six months.

MAX

Give me three.

Off Max...

EXT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ESTABLISHING - DAY 2

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ISOLATION WARD - DAY 2

Max and Dr. Bloom go over Alain's test results. Alain is asleep in the background.

MAX

How accurate?

DR. BLOOM

Eighty percent.

MAX

I can't go to the Mayor with eighty percent.

(then)

Run the test again. Now that he's been symptomatic for twenty-four hours we'll get a more accurate result.

DR. BLOOM

Got it.

MAX

And I need you to stop moonlighting.

DR. BLOOM

... What do you mean?

MAX

Let me guess, Adderall?

(off her look)

I know the deal. Emergency doctors have limited hours so you don't burn out.

(MORE)

MAX (CONT'D)

But you can't make a living off those hours so you moonlight at other hospitals when you should be home sleeping. I need you to stop.

DR. BLOOM

Sure. I'll just live in Vermont and commute.

MAX

We're all making sacrifices to work here.

(emotional, personal)

All of us.

Dora interrupts.

DORA

Max? United Nations? Something about Italy stealing Jell-O from France.

Max follows her out. Off Bloom...

EXT. PARK - DAY 2

Find Dr. Frome in the middle of a park. Holding a box of doughnuts. He's looking for someone. Then he sees a single WOMAN, 30s, alone on a park bench.

He approaches.

DR. FROME

Blanca?

(off her nod)

Hi, I'm Dr. Frome from New Amsterdam.

BLANCA

Hi.

DR. FROME

Thanks for meeting me, these are for you,

(offers the doughnuts)

I already ate one, sorry.

(then)

Actually I ate two, I don't know why I said one.

BLANCA

I have to be at work soon, so... I don't--

DR. FROME

No, of course, I just wanted you to see this. It's the journal of the patient I was telling you about. Jemma.

He gives her Jemma's journal.

DR. FROME (CONT'D)

Normally there's privacy issues but... this is the only thing Jemma kept from foster home to foster home. And one of those homes was your mother's.

Blanca looks at the journal but doesn't open it.

DR. FROME (CONT'D)

Camila, was her name, right?

Blanca nods. Holding back emotion.

DR. FROME (CONT'D)

Camila was the first foster parent to make Jemma feel safe. Safe to grow, safe to be a kid. When Camila died, Jemma wrote pages and pages about her. You can read--

BLANCA

Me and my mother were estranged. When she died. I didn't even know she took in foster kids.

DR. FROME

(not expecting that)
... Oh.

BLANCA

I was a tough kid to raise. Stubborn. Wild. I left when I was sixteen.

(beat)

I didn't appreciate everything she was doing, until...

DR. FROME

That sounds a lot like Jemma. She's tough but--

BLANCA

I can't be her foster parent. If that's what this is about.

(then)

I don't know the first thing about being a mother.

DR. FROME

From what you've said you know more than you think.

Silence. Dr. Frome doesn't want to push.

DR. FROME (CONT'D)

Sorry. This was a long shot, I know. Thank you for your time. I really appreciate it.

(re: the journal)

But... can I leave this with you? I can come pick it up later.

BLANCA

Why?

DR. FROME

You'll see that... your mother gave Gemma all the love she couldn't give to you.

(then)

That love didn't go to waste.

Dr. Frome leaves. Off Blanca... looking at the journal.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - WARD - 1208 - DAY 2

Dr. Kapoor and Max have just given the diagnosis to Patricia and Carlos. They are devastated.

CARLOS

I don't understand.

PATRICIA

... I never had Parkinson's? And the depression...?

DR. KAPOOR

Hormones from the tumor. They triggered your immune system and set off a cascade. Your mind is strong and resilient. I'm sorry you were led to believe otherwise.

Patricia is speechless.

CARLOS

...but... how could no one see it? This thymoma?

DR. KAPOOR

Underlying tumors are dormant. Completely hidden.

(MORE)

DR. KAPOOR (CONT'D)
While they silently turn the body
against itself. It's called
Paraneoplastic Syndrome.

MAX
Mrs. Martín. You could stay here.
But, in this case the treatment is
worse than the disease. With so
little time, maybe there's
someplace else you'd rather be.

CARLOS
We'll stay here, fight it, she'll
get better.

PATRICÍA
No.

CARLOS
Patricía--

PATRICÍA
No.
(then)
I want to go home. To see my
parents. My children. It's been
...eleven years.

MAX
That's a wonderful idea.

CARLOS
Except we can't go home.
(then)
Home is Chiapas. We crossed the
border without papers. If we tried
to cross again we'd be arrested.

PATRICÍA
... I have to go home.

Off Max...

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ICU - DAY 2

Max runs into the ICU unit. Finds the MEXICAN AMBASSADOR.

MAX
Mr. Ambassador. Can I ask a favor?

MEXICAN AMBASSADOR
Of course. You need Yankees
tickets?

MAX
I need you to repatriate two of
your citizens.

Off the Ambassador...

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ISOLATION WARD - DAY 2

CODE MONITORS go off. Bloom runs in to see Alain COUGHING UP BLOOD.

DR. BLOOM
Hemoptysis. He's crashing!

She rushes to put on her PPE SUIT.

DR. BLOOM (CONT'D)
Someone help me in my suit!

Nurses scramble to help her. Bloom yells into the room.

DR. BLOOM (CONT'D)
Alain, you need to grab the oxygen
mask!

He doesn't. He can't. He's coughing up more blood.

DR. BLOOM (CONT'D)
You need oxygen or you'll... it's
right above you!

Alain reaches for the oxygen but it's too far away. He falls off the bed, IV comes crashing down on him.

DR. BLOOM (CONT'D)
I need that helmet!

A Nurse attaches oxygen to the helmet but it's not ready.

Alain is dying. Fuck it. Bloom grabs a surgical mask, opens the ISOLATION DOORS, and runs into Alain's room.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ISOLATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Bloom tries to intubate. Can't. Too much blood.

DR. BLOOM
Come on, come on.

MAX (O.S.)
Bloom! Get out of there! Now!

Bloom looks up to see Max on the other side of the window. He's suiting up.

DR. BLOOM
It's too late -- there's too much
blood! I can't see anything!

MAX
Do a needle crike and a BVM! It's
the only shot you have.

Bloom grabs the instruments, sterilizes, inserts a 14-gauge
into Alain's trachea and ventilates. Max looks at his VITALS
but he's still CRASHING.

MAX (CONT'D)
Heart rate is dropping. He needs
adrenaline.

Bloom looks at the crash cart behind her.

BLOOM
I can't stop bagging.

MAX
Decrease the O2. Go!

Bloom stops bagging, stretches, blindly grabs the medicine.
MONITORS GO CRAZY. Bloom returns and bags Alain. Preps
syringe with one hand.

MAX (CONT'D)
Now push 10 ml's open wide.

DR. BLOOM
That's too much.

MAX
Not with this kind of virus.

DR. BLOOM
It'll send his heart rate too high.

MAX
Exactly. Push 10 hard and fast.
Now!

She pushes the adrenaline into the saline drip. After a tense
beat... Alain's VITALS STABILIZE. Max was right. Bloom sinks
to the floor in relief.

MAX (CONT'D)
... Lauren ...

DR. BLOOM
I know. That was stupid. I violated
the protocol.

MAX
Lauren ... your glove.

Bloom looks at her hands. One GLOVE IS TORN. BLOOD ON HER SKIN. She's exposed. She looks up at Max, white as a ghost.

Max's cell RINGS. It's Georgia. *Shit*.

MAX (ON CELL) (CONT'D)
I can't talk -- I'm sorry.

INT. GEORGIA'S BEDROOM - SAME TIME

GEORGIA (ON CELL)
(scared, trembling)
Max. There's something wrong with
the baby.

Her bedsheets are covered in BLOOD. Off Max...

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ED - DAY 2

Georgia BURSTS in on a stretcher. Her OB/GYN, DR. SUZANNE IZUKA and TEAM swirl around her. Max in the middle of it all.

MAX
BP 160 over 110!

DR. IZUKA
I need an transabdominal
ultrasound, mag sulfate, four
grams, IV.

MAX
She's bleeding--

DR. IZUKA
Draw a chem 24 and coag panel and
let's get the fetal monitor on.

MAX
How can I help?

DR. IZUKA
By getting out of the way--

MAX
This is my wife!

DR. IZUKA
And she needs you.
(then)
On three. One, two, three.

They move Georgia from gurney to bed.

Max goes to Georgia.

MAX
I'm here. I got you.

TEAM MEMBER 1
Baby's in distress.

GEORGIA
No.

MAX
You're okay, it's okay.

DR. IZUKA
Push four mag sulfate.

TEAM MEMBER 1
Fetal heart tones low at 100.

GEORGIA
Max...

MAX
Focus on me. You're okay.

TEAM MEMBER 2
Ultrasound up.

DR. IZUKA
(looking at ultrasound)
She's complete previa.

GEORGIA
What's that?

MAX
Your placenta's obstructing your
cervix. Nowhere for the baby to go.

DR. IZUKA
Rh immune globulin, corticosteroids
and start a blood transfusion.

GEORGIA
Is this because of me? Because of
the dancing?

MAX
No. You did nothing wrong.

DR. IZUKA
Georgia, if we can't control the
bleeding we're going to need to do
an emergency caesarean, understand?

GEORGIA
But the baby's not ready! She's not
ready!

DR. IZUKA
We're not going to have a choice.

MAX
Are her membranes intact?

DR. IZUKA
For now.

TEAM MEMBER 1
Bleeding's slowing down.

DR. IZUKA
I still want a transfusion and
someone tell me what baby's heart
rate is.

TEAM MEMBER 2
I can't find it.

DR. IZUKA
What?

TEAM MEMBER 2
I can't find baby's heartbeat.

Time stops for Max and Georgia.

GEORGIA
...Suzanne?

Dr. Izuka is looking for the baby's heartbeat on the
ultrasound. But... it's not there.

DR. IZUKA
Come on, where are you?

GEORGIA
Suzanne?

Max can't believe this is happening.

It seems like an eternity of silence as Dr. Izuka tries to
find the fetal heartbeat when...

We HEAR IT.

DR. IZUKA
There you are baby girl.

Everyone finally breathes. Georgia breaks into tears. Max
holds onto her for dear life.

DR. IZUKA (CONT'D)
Happy and healthy. You're okay.
Georgia, you're both okay.

Georgia nods, grateful.

DR. IZUKA (CONT'D)
Does baby girl have a name yet?

Georgia looks at Max.

GEORGIA
... Luna.

Max looks like he might break. Georgia takes his hand. Though
they're apart on so much, they are together on this.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ISOLATION WARD/ISOLATION ROOM-NIGHT 2

Bloom sits on the floor inside the Isolation Room leaning on the glass window. On the other side of the window is Reynolds. Also on the floor. His face as close to hers as possible. They're waiting this out together.

EXT. TUXTLA GUTIERREZ INT'L AIRPORT - AIRSTRIP - DAY 3

The doors of an AIR MEXICO flight open. Patricia, in a wheelchair, emerges. She is wheeled down the ramp by Carlos.

Patricia sees something. Puts her hand over her mouth in disbelief. She sees her MOTHER and FATHER (70s). She sees her TWO TEENAGE GIRLS. Waiting for her on the tarmac. Her family. Who she hasn't seen for eleven years.

Patricia's hands reach out to them. Even though they are across the tarmac. The GIRLS run to their mother. They can't wait a moment longer, to feel their mother's skin, to feel their mother's embrace.

Patricia's parents, walking slower, with the pain of knowing their daughter is dying, can't bear the sight of her so sick. They hold her. Tears breaking free, after trying to appear strong.

A family reunited.

EXT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ESTABLISHING - DAY 3

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ATRIUM LOBBY - DAY 3

A SINGLE STALL Farmer's Market is in the center of the lobby. Fresh fruits and vegetables line the tables. A CROWD of people gather around.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ED - WAITING AREA - DAY 3

The waiting area is being transformed. WORKERS rip out rows and rows of chairs. They hang curtains from the ceiling. A new wing in New Amsterdam being built before our eyes.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - PSYCH WARD - DAY 3

Dr. Frome eats a Snickers bar as he charts on a computer. A NURSE walks by, glares at him.

DR. FROME
Don't judge me, Gladys, I'm very
stressed out.

BLANCA (O.S.)
Dr. Frome?

Dr. Frome turns to see Blanca. With Jemma's journal.

BLANCA (CONT'D)
I just came to give this back.

DR. FROME
Did you get a chance...?

Blanca nods. Dr. Frome can see how much pain she is in.

BLANCA
My mother... why did she do it? All those kids?

DR. FROME
I think... as much as she helped them... they helped her even more.

Blanca is silent.

DR. FROME (CONT'D)
Blanca?

BLANCA
Why hasn't Jemma been placed? With another family?

DR. FROME
Because I want her to be with the right family. And even then Social Services has months of paperwork, site visits, it's never--

BLANCA
Do you think I could meet her?

Off Dr. Frome...

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - GARDEN - MOMENTS LATER

PATIENTS sit in a circle and draw the trees surrounding them. Art Therapy. Dr. Frome introduces Jemma to Blanca.

DR. FROME
Jemma, this is Camila's daughter.

BLANCA
Blanca.

Jemma looks at Iggy. Confused. Touched.

BLANCA (CONT'D)
If it's a bad time...

JEMMA

Camila talked about you all the time.

BLANCA

Ay, how horrible I was?

JEMMA

... yeah.
(they share a smile)
But, good stuff, too.

Blanca looks like she might crack open.

BLANCA

Do you think... you could tell me... about her? My mom.

JEMMA

(joking)
Sure. How much time do you have?

BLANCA

(sincere)
All the time you need.

Dr. Frome smiles, backs away from the two women, leaving them talking. Knowing that Blanca needs Jemma as much as Jemma needs her.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - ISOLATION WARD/ISOLATION ROOM - LATER

Max and Agent Bratton stand in front of Alain and Bloom. On opposite sides of the window. ED Interns and Doctors - Reynolds, Kapoor, Frome - have gathered too.

Agent Bratton shows Alain a photo of a YOUNG MAN.

AGENT BRATTON

Was this the man who recruited you?

Alain nods. Agent Bratton looks at Max. Thankful Max made him check out Alain's story.

AGENT BRATTON (CONT'D)

His name is Ayaan Hali. We've been looking for him for a very long time. Maybe you can help us find him.

Alain nods again.

MAX

Alain? That shot they gave you in Liberia? They might have thought it was Ebola but it wasn't.

(MORE)

MAX (CONT'D)

It was the Lassa Virus. Which is just as deadly.

But then Max opens the ISO DOORS anyway.

MAX (CONT'D)

Except, as Dr. Bloom can tell you, the Lassa Virus can be treated with antiviral meds. Which we gave you.

Bloom, exhausted with relief, emerges. Everyone claps.

DR. REYNOLDS

You wanna grab a drink?

DR. BLOOM

(confused)

Seriously? Now?

DR. REYNOLDS

I'm talking about a nice glass of Scotch, what are you talking about?

DR. BLOOM

(smiling)

... Yeah. Let's grab a drink.

Off Bloom and Reynolds... caught somewhere between friends and lovers.

INT. NEW AMSTERDAM - WARD - 1208 - DAY 3

ANGLE ON: Room number 1208

FIND MAX sitting alone in the empty room. He looks at an ULTRASOUND of his baby daughter.

There's a KNOCK at the door. Max turns to see Dr. Sharpe.

MAX

Dr. Sharpe.

DR. SHARPE

I hope I'm not interrupting.

MAX

No. I was just...

(then)

My sister was here. In this room. A long time ago.

(re: ultrasound)

I was just introducing her to someone.

Beat. Dr. Sharpe is going to say something, but, says something else.

DR. SHARPE
I saw the Farmer's Market.

MAX
Did you buy anything?

DR. SHARPE
Couldn't. They were sold out.

Max smiles. *It worked.*

MAX
We made some changes while you were gone. I didn't think you were coming back.

DR. SHARPE
Neither did I.

MAX
All the death here. It got to you, didn't it?

DR. SHARPE
No. Actually. I became immune to it. Which is even worse.

MAX
Why did you come back?

DR. SHARPE
Because of you.
(then)
People are excited, Max. For the first time in a long time they're excited to be doctors again. I want to be excited too.
(then)
But, you need to slow down.

MAX
Yeah, I know, I get that a lot.

DR. SHARPE
You have cancer.

The world stops.

DR. SHARPE (CONT'D)
Squamous cell carcinoma.

Max is speechless. Motionless. As the information permeates his entire existence.

DR. SHARPE (CONT'D)
But you knew that, didn't you?

Unt. Schulner/Horton Pilot 4/4/18 63.

Max looks down at the ultrasound of his daughter. And what this will mean to her.

He looks back at Helen. Tears well in his eyes. No words come.

DR. SHARPE (CONT'D)
How can I help?

Off Max we...

END OF EPISODE