

God the Father: A Single Parent

By

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Prolog: When I was a child, we studied the constellations in school. I was shown pictures of bulls and twins and dogs laid over a pattern of stars that seemed to have little relationship to the pictures. As an adult, I saw the book *The Stars* by H.A Rey which shows how the stars can be connected to make stick figures that actually resemble the objects for which they are named. It was one of those Aha! moments when you realize that another explanation fits the facts better than what you've always been taught. The movie *Men in Black* was a good example of how a change in perspective can give insight into the behavior of the "gods". There have always been aspects of the story of Easter found in the bible that never seemed to fit with conventional explanations. This play is an alternative way of looking at the same evidence in a fresh way. I have no way to know whether the ancients saw constellations as pictures on top of stars or stick figures and I have no way to know if we are a minor backwater dimension in the cosmos, but see if you don't have some Aha! Moments yourself while you read this play. I make no claim to provide theological insight. I had fun writing it and I hope you have fun reading it— John Preston

Cast:

God the Father (GtF) appears to be an aging, but still powerful, top executive who belongs to an earlier era—picture Lou Grant
Jesus (J or Jay) a young man about 18 years old, handsome in a soft rather than rugged way
The Holy Spirit (Spirit) an enthusiastic girl about 13 years old
Executive assistant (EA) to GtF: Think of the chief of staff in House of Cards

Scene One: Office—GtF is seated at a large desk typical of a busy executive that has an old-fashioned intercom unit. He is doing paperwork.

Intercom buzzes.

Executive Assistant (EA) on intercom: Your daughter to see you.

GtF: Send her in.

Door opens. The sound of a choir of angels singing the Hallelujah chorus loudly comes through the door. Spirit enters and closes the door shutting off the singing.

Spirit: Good morning, father! The angels are particularly enthusiastic today.

GtF: Yes, this group is from Alpha Centuri. Each system sends its best 10,000-angel choir to sing my praises for a week. (Sighs) This group seems to excel in volume.

Spirit: If you're tired of it, why not do something else?

GtF: Oh, they all enjoy getting to visit the mansion and walk the streets of gold—and it's a

tradition. (Intercom buzzes). Wait a minute while I see what this is about.

EA: The governor of Beta Prime on two. It's about his daughter's wedding plans.

GtF: (punches a button on the phone, Spirit listens attentively) Frank, how's it going? No, you cannot have a new star in the heavens for your daughter's wedding. It's only six months away and if I set off a supernova that close to your home planet it would fry it to a crisp. (pause) No, I'm not going to change the speed of light just for this. I'll use a comet. I'll do something fancy like have its orbit come close to an asteroid that will cause it to change direction and make it look like the tail is pointing at the city where the wedding is taking place. You owe me one Frank. (Hangs up)

GtF: (smiles benevolently): Come here and sit on my lap. What brings you to the office today?

Spirit: I have a homework assignment that has some tough questions and I'd like your help.

GtF: Certainly dear. What is the first question?

Spirit: Can you make a rock that is so heavy you cannot lift it?

GtF: Of course.

Spirit: But doesn't that mean that there is something you can't do?

GtF: Not at all. I can still move it anywhere I want which is the important thing. The word "lift" implies gravity which can be turned on or off if you know how.

Spirit: OK. Now, how many angels can stand on the head of a pin?

GtF: That is a question that requires a bit of research. (speaking to EA on the intercom) Tell the choir director to come in here.

(Door opens with sudden increase in the volume of singing. The choir director enters.)

Choir director: Lord, how may I be of service?

GtF: My daughter has a task for you that might require a lot of angels. Go with her and follow her directions. Take the 10,000 angels in the choir with you. She will tell you what to do. If you need more angels, see Michael.

Spirit: Thank you daddy! (Gives him a kiss on the cheek and exits with the choir director. While the door is open, the singing stops and GtF smiles to himself-enjoying the silence and his solution to two problems at once.)

(GtF resumes doing paper work. The intercom buzzes.)

EA: Your son to see you, sire.

GtF: Send him in.

J enters: Good morning Father.

GtF: Good morning son. How are your studies coming along? Are you doing any better at creating a plague?

J (meekly): No sir.

GtF: How about hurling fire and brimstone?

J: No sir.

GtF: How about history? Have you studied the great warriors and their heroic battles?

J: No sir.

GtF (frustrated): Well, what have you been studying?

J: I've been studying the history of humans.

GtF (disgusted): What a complete waste of time! There isn't a single thing I've ever done that I've gotten less satisfaction from.

J: Uh Sire, forgive me for pointing it out but I think you just ended a sentence with a preposition.

GtF: See. That's just the kind of thing you would learn by studying humans. I simplify the whole galactic law library down to ten simple sentences to memorize and what do they all know by heart?-grammar rules! (In a mocking voice) "I before E except after C and words like.." (muttering) I suppose if I'd made the Commandments rhyme they might remember a few of them.

J: You told me that I should work harder at preparing myself to take over some day so I'm studying how you have done things. You have a history of success with everything you've ever done with the exception of humans. It caught my attention.

GtF: Yes, they are the most willful, arrogant, temperamental, and disobedient beings I've ever created.

J: Didn't you make them in your own image?

GtF (getting angry): Are you trying to make fun of me?

J: No sir. I'm trying to understand.

(Intercom buzzes)

EA on the intercom: The chief of the army is on line one, sire.

GtF: I have to take this call. I'll see you at home.

(J exits, GtF picks up the phone. End of scene 1)

Scene 2

(J is looking out a window at home and Spirit enters the room.)

Spirit: Hi.

J: Hi Sis. How are you?

Spirit: I'm fine but you look down.

J: I am. It seems that nothing I do pleases him. Today he got angry when I asked him questions about humans. I was just trying to learn more about how he runs things.

Spirit: What's special about humans?

J: For one thing, it's the only thing he ever created that he invested with aspects of his own character. I'm not sure why, but it didn't work out as well as he hoped. Instead of obeying him, they go their own way and have made a mess of things. They live a life that is dominated by brutality and fear.

Spirit: Do you think you would do something differently?

J: Yes, I think they might respond to more love and less intimidation.

Spirit: Why don't you suggest that to him?

J: I don't know if I'm right and it would probably just make him angry.

Spirit: I know you haven't been happy for quite a while. Is it because he is often angry with you?

J: Yeah. I try to please him but he wants me to be something I'm not. I don't know what to do.

Spirit: If you try to be something you're not, you won't be good at it. You'll end up disappointing him and yourself. Pick something that you can be passionate about and show him what you can do.

J hugs Spirit: Thanks. You're a big help.

Scene 3

(GtF is working at his desk in his office. The intercom buzzes.)

EA: Your son to see you sire.

GtF: Send him in.

(Door opens and J enters.)

J: Hello Father.

GtF: Hello son. What brings you up here today?

J: I'd like to talk with you about humans.

GtF: (Frowns) Are you still wasting time studying them?

J: I want to know what went wrong.

GtF: What do you mean? Are you implying that I made a mistake?

J: No sir but I'm sure you wanted to have a better relationship with them than the way it is now. What happened?

GtF: Giving them the power of choice seemed like a good idea at the time but even the first pair couldn't get it right. I should have ended the whole thing right then and written humans off as a bad idea.

J: Why didn't you?

GtF: I've always been too soft with them. Later, when I'd finally had enough and decided to drown the lot of them, I let one of them talk me out of it. Ever since then it has been one disappointment after another.

J: Perhaps a different approach would work?

GtF: I've heard enough of this. You have to prepare yourself to take over my position here some day and you cannot waste any more time on humans. Go do homework that matters.

(J leaves)

Scene 4

(Spirit and GtF are at home. She is doing homework with her tongue stuck out to the side. GtF looks wistful and sighs.)

Spirit: Why do you do that Father?

GtF: Do what?

Spirit: Sometimes when you are watching me, you get this funny look on your face and sigh.

GtF: Well, when you concentrate and hold your tongue like that you remind me of someone else who did exactly the same thing when she was concentrating.

S: But why does it make you sigh?

GtF: Sometimes I miss her so much it makes me sad.

S: Who.. (The phone rings and cuts off her question)

GtF: (presses a speaker-phone button so the voice can be heard in the room) Yes, what is it?

(EA on the speaker-phone): Sir, I was unable to locate your son.

GtF: Why is that?

EA: According to our records, he signed out at the main gate and is not on the grounds.

GtF: I'll look into this. (does not push button to end call)

GtF (to Spirit): Where has he gone?

S: He went to earth to learn more about humans.

GtF: What do you mean, "He went to earth."? Does he plan to appear to them in a cloud with lightning and thunder?

S: No, he chose to become a real human being. He has been born as a human infant.

GtF (Angry): He did what? I told him to pay attention to his real home work. (Shouting) He has defied me!

S: Oh no father! He means no disobedience. He thinks this is his real work.

GtF (Angrily and loudly): I've been too soft on him. It's time he learned what happens to anyone who disobeys me.

S: Please Father - don't do something rash that you'll regret.

GtF: (pause, considering Spirit's advice) Very well - but he is on his own. He didn't ask permission or my help so he will have neither. During his life as a human, I will not interfere. Let him learn his lesson the hard way.

(Spirit crying runs out of the room)

GtF (to his EA on the speaker phone): I want a full report on what my son's been up to. Assign someone to keep me informed with a weekly briefing. (presses button to end call)

Scene 5

(Spirit visits J on earth. Time has passed. J is now in his early 20s but Spirit is only a year or so older.)

S (enters room and gives J a big hug): I'm so happy to see you!

J: Me too. You look so grown up!

S (laughs): I look grown up? A few years ago you were drooling mush down your chin! Humans certainly age quickly.

J (Laughs): I don't suppose too many younger sisters get to watch their older brothers grow up.

S (serious): What's it like growing up as a human?

J: Oh Spirit! It's been wonderful! When I speak the elders listen and I've learned to build things with my own hands. I've gotten good at it. When I complete a chair or table the people are so pleased and they tell me how well I'm doing!

S: Has it always been easy for you?

J: Oh no! One time I hit my thumb with a hammer and I cursed it. (wry smile) Now I'm afraid that hammers will give humans trouble forever.

S: I can see that you are really happy.

J: There's more. I've experienced something truly wonderful.

S: What is it?

J: I've experienced a mother's love.

S: What do you mean? You know that Father loves us. How is this different?

J: When she holds me I feel like she loves me regardless of what I accomplish. There are no conditions and I'm never a disappointment to her. Her love is unconditional.

S: (Nods)

J: I've never told you this but I have a memory from my earliest days of being held and someone singing to me. I had the same feeling then that I've experienced now. I'd almost forgotten it.

S: I don't remember anything like that, but then I'm younger.

J: I think I've discovered something really important about humans. They need more than rules and commandments. They need unconditional love. I think I know how to deal with them and maybe I can complete Father's work with them.

S: Father is still very angry with you. He says you are on your own while you live as a human.

J: (sighs) I know. I've finally found something that I'm good at and I think I can make a real difference here. I hope he understands. (pause) Do you know someone named Lucifer?

S: Why do you ask?

J: I took some time off to think about things and spent a few weeks in the desert. While I was there, he introduced himself to me.

S: Is he a human?

J: No. He's like one of the top angels but different.

S: What did he want?

J: He said that Father didn't really appreciate my work and that I should work for him. He said that if I worked for him, I would have my own corner office and staff and that my work would get the respect it deserves.

S: What did you say?

J: I have to admit that it was a tempting offer. But even though he said he liked my work he didn't seem to know any details about it. I think he was more interested in coming between me and Father. I feel bad that Father is angry with me but I wouldn't do something like that to hurt Him.

S: I'll see what I can find out.

Scene 6

(GtF's office. Intercom buzzes.)

EA: Your daughter to see you sire.

GtF: Send her in. (Spirit enters. She looks more mature.)

S: Hello Father. You look particularly handsome today!

GtF: (smiling) No you don't. Whenever you greet me with a compliment like that you want something.

S: Oh Father. You are much too smart for me. I don't want anything but I do have some questions.

GtF: I enjoy answering your questions. Go ahead.

S: Now don't get mad but I've been studying human history.

GtF: You too?

S: Yes. I've been reading Sun-Tzu's *The Art of War*. I recognize your hand in this.

GtF (Pleased): Yes. I thought that if they were going to spend all their time fighting each other that they should at least do it right. Which rules did you find the most important?

S: I thought the one about spies was very good. It was something like; “Knowledge of the enemy’s disposition can only be obtained from other men. Knowledge of the spirit world is to be obtained by divination; information in natural science may be sought by inductive reasoning; the laws of the universe can be verified by mathematical calculations; but the dispositions of the enemy are ascertainable through spies and spies alone.”

GtF: Yes, going to war without accurate information is folly.

S: There was another rule about cost. “If victory is long in coming, the men’s weapons will grow dull and their ardor dampened. If you lay siege to a town, you will exhaust your strength, and if the campaign is protracted, the resources of the state will not be equal to the strain. Never forget. When your weapons are dulled, your ardor dampened, your strength exhausted, and your treasure spent, other chieftains will spring up to take advantage of your extremity.”

S: These rules seem so simple and easy to understand. Why isn’t this required reading for the leaders of all great nations?

GtF: Hard to believe isn’t it? But humans just don’t listen and they keep making the same mistakes

S: Who is Lucifer?

GtF (surprised by the question): Why do you ask?

S: J. ran into him down on earth. He seems to be an angel but he doesn’t seem to like you.

GtF (Sighs): So this is why you were buttering me up. OK, I think you are old enough to understand. When J. was younger, he just didn’t seem to have the aptitude for taking over my position someday. Lucifer used to have Michael’s job as top angel. I’m afraid I confided my concern to Lucifer and he took it the wrong way. He got the idea that if J. didn’t work out that I’d turn to him as my successor. When I finally realized that this was what he thought, I set him straight. I told him that in spite of his obvious ability, that he would never have my job because he just wasn’t family.

S: He must have been very disappointed. How did he react?

GtF: It was ugly. He accused me of leading him on. He said he was obviously better than J. and then he crossed the line.

S: What did he say?

GtF: He said I was getting too old for the job and that he was already better than me.

S: Oh my! What did you do?

GtF: I had to let him go. What surprised me was that quite a few competent angels went with him. I’ve had to work overtime since then to keep up with my workload.

S: Did you know that he offered J. a job if he left you?

GtF: Yes. That's why I'm telling you about him. He really hates my guts and would love to embarrass me in front of the rest of my angels.

S: Do you think he knows that J. doesn't have your protection while he's a human? (with alarm)
Do you think that J. is in any real danger?

GtF: Don't worry. He doesn't know that J. is on his own He wouldn't dare harm him.

S (to herself): I hope you are right.

Scene 7

(A few more years pass.)

S (bursts into the office, is agitated): Father! Something has gone terribly wrong! They're going to kill J.!

GtF: Don't worry dear. They wouldn't dare.

S: I think Lucifer is behind it.

GtF: Let's take a look.

(a second half of the stage is illuminated showing J. on a cross.)

S: Oh Father! Do something.

GtF: I swore that I wouldn't interfere with his life on earth. It's up to him to fight this fight.

S: But he won't fight back! He's letting them disgrace and torture him.

GtF: I'm sorry. This is his choice.

(Light goes out on side of stage with Spirit and GtF)

J. (from the cross cries out): Father! Father! Where are you?

(J. dies. Lights go out. Sound of Sprit weeping in the darkness.)

Scene 8

(Three days later. GtF at the office preparing for war.)

GtF (talking to his EA on the intercom): That's right, mobilize all my forces. Have the joint chiefs prepare a readiness briefing in an hour.

(Intercom buzzes)

AE: Your daughter to see you sire.

GtF: Send her in.

S: (enters sadly) Hello Father.

GtF: Hello dear. Come here.

(Spirit walks to him and GtF hugs her.) I know this must be hard for you.

S: Father, I need to talk to you.

GtF: I'm very busy. We are going to war with Lucifer and I want to hit him hard and fast.

S: Why?

GtF (Astonished): How can you ask that! (Angrily) He killed my son!

S (quietly): You have something more important to do.

GtF: What do you mean?

S: You have to save J.

GtF: He brought this on himself. He went to earth without my permission and he never asked my forgiveness. Even if I wanted to, I swore not to interfere.

S: I won't try to change your mind about whether or not he actually disobeyed you or if he did anything that needs forgiveness. None of that matters unless you act now.

GtF: I know I'm right.

S: Please listen to me. Sometimes keeping a family together is more important than being right.

GtF: I swore I wouldn't interfere.

S: You said you wouldn't interfere during his life as a human. That oath no longer applies.

GtF: That's true. (thinking) All right. I'll do it. (Into the intercom) Bring up my chariot of fire and an escort of about fifty-thousand angels.

S: Father please wait. J wouldn't want it that way. You need to talk this out-just the two of you.

GtF: You're right. (into the intercom) Cancel the chariot and angels. (cuts off the intercom) I'll go incognito with my personal body guard.

S: Oh thank you Father. You won't regret it. (gives big hug)

Scene 9

The tomb in the garden of Gethsemane

GtF (GtF puts his hand on J's body): I command you to live! (nothing happens)

S: Speak to him from your heart.

GtF: (tries again) Son. Please come back to us. Your sister misses you. (pause) I miss you too.

J: (stirs and opens his eyes and sits up.)

Spirit (hugs him, crying with joy): I'm so glad you're back.

J (to GtF): I know I've disappointed you again but I didn't think you would let me die. I thought you loved me more than that.

GtF: I know I've been hard on you but I've always loved you.

J: You left me alone to die.

GrF: I'm here now (pause) and I'm sorry.

(J hugs GtF, crying): Oh Father. I've never heard you say that to anyone!

GtF: Are you ready to come home now?

J: No. My work here isn't done.

GtF: What do you mean?

J: When I came here, I wanted to find out more about humans by becoming one of them and I thought that love and faith would be enough. I learned about unconditional love from my human mother but I also learned that something is still missing.

GtF: What is that?

J: They are still controlled by the fear of death. In addition to faith and love they need hope.

GtF: How do you expect to give them hope?

J: I want to promise them that they can come to live with us after they die.

GtF: What! I've taken in a few of them in the past but you're talking about dozens.

J: Actually, I'm talking about millions. Maybe even billions.

GtF: Where would be put billions of humans?

J: Oh Father. You know there are wings of the mansion you've never even been in. We have plenty of room and we could always add on. You could do that multidimensional thing.

GtF: We don't let just anyone in. That's why we live in a gated community.

S: We could assign someone to the gate to check their credentials.

GtF: It couldn't be an angel. They have a hard time telling one human from another let alone judging what they believe. It would have to be a human.

S (excited): I know! We could pick someone who is big and tough looking like J's friend Peter. We could give him a bunch of gold chains and a muscle shirt and call him Mr. P.

J (laughing): That would be a bit much. Peter would be a good choice but let's just nickname him Rocky.

GtF (laughing): The neighborhood will never be the same.

J: (seriously) I've learned something else.

GtF: What is that?

J: Dealing with humans is what I'm good at and I want to see this through. I have two more conditions.

GtF: What are they?

J: First, I want you to assign the earth and its humans to me to administer as I see fit.

GtF: I'm glad you are passionate about something and it does seem that you have established a better rapport with them than I've ever had. The real problem is Lucifer. You underestimated him once. Do you think you can handle him?

J: Lucifer may know more about power, fear, and death but when it comes to humans, I know more about love, hope and faith. I can handle him if you give me the authority.

GtF: Done. What is your second condition?

J: You have to accept me for who I am and not what you want me to be. I don't want your job and you have to accept that.

GtF (sadly): Are you sure you won't change your mind someday and regret this?

J: I know my own heart. I love you and spirit and we are family. You can count on me to help in my own way but please love me for who I am.

GtF: It's hard for me to give up my dream of a father and son team but I can see that it isn't what you want. I won't push you anymore. When you come home, it will be as the new administrator of earth and not as my trainee. I can see that this experience has made a man of you. It took courage to do what you did and I respect that. (pause) I'm proud of you. (J and GtF hug and Spirit joins in the hug)

Scene 10

(GtF's Office)

GtF (into the intercom to his EA): What do you mean that some of the military commanders haven't returned your calls yet? I want a readiness report on my desk by noon.

(Intercom buzzes)

EA: Your daughter to see you sire:

GtF: send her in. (Spirit enters. She is dressed in a conservative grown-up manner).

S: Good morning Father.

GtF: Good morning dear. Aren't you looking all grown up today!

S: Thank you for noticing. I like this look.

GtF: What brings you here today? I don't have much time.

S: What are you doing?

GtF: I'm preparing for war.

S: Why go to war and with whom?

GtF: Lucifer has dared to have my son killed. A confrontation had to come sooner or later and I'm not getting any younger.

S: I know you are busy but I have a very important favor to ask.

GtF: If it's really important - what is it?

S: I'm doing some research on the history of the universe and I'm particularly interested in the first five milliseconds after the big bang. I'd like to read all your notes and any other records from that time.

GtF: Those records are so old they pre-date our automated record keeping system. I'd have to send someone down into the archives and find them manually.

S: I know your executive assistant was around back then. Perhaps he could find them quickly.

GtF: I suppose so. Are you sure this is important?

S: Yes, Father.

GtF: OK. (into the intercom to his EA) Get me all the records from the archives on the first five milliseconds after the big bang. Take care of it yourself. (turns off intercom. To Spirit, smiling)

Sometimes I think I've spoiled you rotten.

S (reaches over his desk to the intercom and unplugs it): I have to speak to you privately and I wanted to be sure we are not overheard.

GtF (concerned): What is it?

S: Remember that I told you I had studied what you told Sun-Tzu?

GtF: Yes.

S: Let me remind you of one of his other sayings; "There are five dangerous faults that may affect a general..." The third and fourth are "...a delicacy of honor, which is sensitive to shame; and a hasty temper, which can be provoked by insults."

GtF: What is your point?

S: Lucifer knew that killing J would provoke you into what you are doing now. He's been planning this for years and you are reacting. It's just what he wants.

GtF: I admit that I'm not as strong as I once was and that Lucifer's victory over J. could weaken my position with the generals but what choice do I have. Time is on his side and now I have to fight him by myself.

S: I have a question for you.

GtF (sadly): I'm really not in the mood.

S: Just one.

GtF: OK.

S: How long does it take for a Father who knows everything to recognize what is in front of him? (Spirit stands before him straight and tall, looking confident)

GtF (looks at her. His puzzled look slowly changes to understanding): Hmm. You are full of surprises. This explains it.

S: What do you mean?

GtF: When J. snuck off to earth to become a humble human I didn't understand why he would make such a showy event of his birth.

S (smiling): It isn't every day that a girl gets to celebrate her older brother's birth.

GtF: Who gave you permission to use the choir of angels?

S: You did. Don't you recall that you told the choir director to take orders from me? You didn't say for how long.

GtF: But where did you get the idea for the comet? Oh, that's right, you were in the office. I had no idea that you were good at astrophysics.

S: There is a lot that I can do that you haven't noticed.

GtF: Apparently. Why are you telling me this now?

S: You've finally admitted to yourself that J. doesn't want your job. It's time to recognize that you have another choice.

GtF: But you're (pause, changing what he was going to say) too young.

S: I know I'm not ready for it yet. I want you to train me.

GtF: Is this why you made up that excuse to send my assistant away? Were you afraid that I'd turn you down and you'd be embarrassed?

S: No, that's not it. I've been wondering why Lucifer would think that he could get away with killing J. He must have known that you had withdrawn your protection.

GtF: How could that be? You were the only one in the room when I said that.

(Spirit looks meaningfully at the intercom)

GtF: You suspect my assistant?

S: You said that some of your most competent angels went with Lucifer but you also said that there is no substitute for a good spy. I assume that Lucifer has studied your advice about war as well as I have.

GtF: Wait until he comes back. I'll get to the bottom of this.

S: No, wait. I'm not sure yet. If he is a spy for Lucifer, he may be more valuable if we leave him in place and feed Lucifer false information through him.

GtF: Very shrewd. Do you have any more ideas?

S: Don't declare war now.

GtF: How can I ignore such a direct challenge to my authority?

S: It isn't a successful challenge if you refuse to be challenged. J isn't dead. All you have to do is to say the events on earth were a training exercise and the mobilization was done to test readiness.

GtF: I suppose that is true depending on how you look at it.

S: It has the added benefit of exposing which of your supporters were ready to come to your aid and which made excuses. We know who we can count on and who to remove from power.

GtF: It sounds like you've given this a lot of thought. When would you declare war?

S: We need to pick our own time and place and we need to do something Lucifer won't expect. Lucifer will never believe that J would decline to be your successor so he will focus his attention on J. I also think that J will prove to be more formidable on his own ground than Lucifer expects. While they are contesting control of earth it will give me time to learn what I need to know. Lucifer is a lot like you—he is likely to underestimate me too.

GtF: I'm impressed and surprised.

S: I know I can do it, just give me a chance. (smiling) C'mon coach, put me in the game.

GtF: Ever since Lucifer left, I've needed someone to fill his position. How would you like to be my consiglieri?

S: That sounds like something out of an old movie about the Mafia. I'm guessing that you gave some tips on fighting to the Sicilians as well as the Chinese. If I'm your consiglieri, that means that you are the Godfather. (Laughs)

GtF: I love an inside joke every now and then. I even get to pick who plays me in the movie. (pause) It's a pleasure to work with someone who gets my sense of humor.

S: Do you think that humans will listen to J. and try love and forgiveness instead of hate and revenge?

GtF: Some will. Some won't. The way J has set things up, we will share our home with the ones who have chosen love over hate. It should beat listening to another choir of angels. Lucifer will have to find a place for the others. We'll see how he likes living with billions of hateful people forever. I kind of like it. (smiles)

(Intercom buzzes)

EA: I have those notes for your daughter sire.

GtF: Good. She will pick them up on the way out. I have a major expansion planned for the mansion. Start with a billion additional rooms. It's a big job that will require endless attention to detail. I think you are just the person for the job—in addition to your current duties of course.

EA (with resignation): Yes, sire.

GtF winks at Spirit and they hug.

The End