

At rise we find LINCOLN and JFK sitting under street signs that read Magnolia and Pine. LENNON is sprawled casually across a bench close by. It's a few minutes past dawn, and the sun is starting to rise.

LINCOLN

(watching the sun starting its ascent)

Such breathtaking, transcendent magic and beauty. It's glory has no equal in all of domain.

LENNON

It's just a friggin' sunset, Top Hat.

LINCOLN

Again with that coarse language. Why would one so blessed with the gift of words stoop to guttural discourse?

LENNON

Death has a way of knocking the poetry out of you.

LINCOLN

And must you repose yourself in that ungainly posture like some base beast? Are you incapable of sitting with even a modicum of decorum and dignity?

LENNON

Fresh out of both, governor.

JFK

(stormy)

Will you two stop! I can't hear myself think.

LINCOLN

I apologize, John. You know how our British friend taxes me like a mosquito in August.

LENNON

Don't mind him, Mr. Emancipator. He's still ornery about Selena.

JFK

She was only 23. 23! And such talent. That voice...

LENNON

No two ways about it: this is a shit job.

LINCOLN

We do what's required, even if it's unpalatable at times. You're free to resign your commission at any time.

LENNON

And saddle some other poor bastard with this lot? No thank you. I'll carry my load so the next sap doesn't have to stomach it in my place.

Beat.

JFK

I wish I could go for a dip in that creek over there. I miss swimming.

LINCOLN

I wish I could feel the cold.

LENNON

I miss making love.

LINCOLN

Yes.

JFK

Indeed.

LENNON

Where the blazes is this tart?

LINCOLN

She'll be along promptly. She commences each morning with a brisk jog to exercise her body and fortify her cerebrum.

LENNON

Floggin' health nut. None of that will matter in a few minutes.

JFK

Do you think she'll do it?

LENNON

Blazes if I know.

LINCOLN

We all accepted the burden laid at our feet.

LENNON

Fat lot of good it did for us. Didn't change anything in the long run. World always finds a new way to off itself.

LINCOLN

Not the sentiment I would expect from the man known in his time as a dreamer.

LENNON

Four shots to the back cured me.

LINCOLN

One shot, point blank, to my head, but I'm still gripping soundly to my idealism.

LENNON

Bully for you.

JFK

Here comes Kara now.

LINCOLN

(aside to JFK)

I know there's a lingering discontentment in your heart about the Selena affair, but just focus on the task at hand. Remember what they always tell us: leave the past in the past.

JFK

I know the drill, Abe. I'll get the job done.

KARA enters dressed for a run.

LENNON

'Hullo there luv.

KARA

I'm sorry, do I know you?

LENNON

I'm John Lennon and these are my associates John F. Kennedy and Abraham Lincoln.

JFK

How do you do?

LINCOLN

(tipping his hat)

Pleasure to make your acquaintance, Madam.

KARA

Is this some kind of joke?