

## **Excerpt from Winged Angels**

One hour dramatic/comedy television series

Written by Stacy L. Thowe

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Michael suddenly looks at his watch.

**OFF. MATT JOHNSON**

You got some place to go, kid?

**MICHAEL**

Yeah, I mean I have an appointment. How long will this take?

**OFF. MATT JOHNSON**

Not too long.

Micah appears doing some sort of hand signals pointing at Michael.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

(Without thinking shouts out at Micah) What!

Off Johnson and Michael both turn around and look at him. Officer Garcia trying to play it off, looks back at them and announces.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE (CONT'D)**

What...the heck. I forgot to move the car, remember we parked in the no parking zone. I'll be right back.

**OFF. MATT JOHNSON**

Okay Sam, you do that.

Officer Garcia/Joe heads out the door to meet with Micah.

CUT TO: PARKING LOT OUTSIDE HOMELESS SHELTER

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

Michael's going to make a deal with Leon isn't he?

**MICAH**

Yeah he is.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

What, can I do. I've got to stop him. Maybe I should just arrest him.

**MICAH**

That will only delay the inevitable, but you better think of something fast.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

How do I do that without telling him who I really am.

**MICAH**

Your his father, Joe. No one knows him better than you. What would change Michael's mind.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

I don't know. How do I convince my son not to become me without telling him who I am?

**MICAH**

I don't know but you better figure it out soon. This is it, you pass or fail tonight. We are counting on you Joe. Michael's counting on you. But who are you counting on?

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

What are you talking about?

**MICAH**

What have you learned Joe, turn to the only one who can help you now. Your son is counting on you, so don't screw this up.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

Exactly how long have you been doing this? Aren't you supposed to be helping me more here?

**MICAH**

I can't tell you how to do this Joe. This is something you need to figure out for you and for Michael. You will know what to do when it is time. But will you have the guts to go through with it.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

Why do you keep saying that? What... where are you going, now.

Micah starts to fade.

**MICAH**

I have to go Joe. I'll be watching. Don't worry.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

Yeah, don't worry. You must have never been a parent.

Off. Garcia/Joe looks around. He looks to the sky and walks back and forth waving his arms up high.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE (CONT'D)**

Ahhh...what do you want from me!

(Some pedestrians walk by looking at Off. Garcia/Joe as he tries to play it off)

He sits down on the stairs and looks straight ahead at the street. He then bows his head.

**Off. GARCIA-JOE (CONT'D)**

Lord I know I don't deserve it and I know that I've hurt more people than I could ever imagine but my son, my son Lord he's a good man. I know you can see this otherwise I wouldn't be here. So if you could please, please not make him pay for my mistakes.

(He holds his hands to his face)

I beg this of you, Oh my God, please show me the way. It's in your hands now...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

FADE IN: CUT TO: EXT OF HOMELESS CENTER: MICHAEL IS HEADING OUT OF THE CENTER WHEN HE IS STOPPED BY CHRISTINE.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Michael...Michael hold on, I need to talk to you. I just wanted to thank you again for what you did...

**MICHAEL**

Thank me? It was nothing, Christine. It wasn't anything you wouldn't have done yourself. You're the brave one here. You deal with this stuff every day.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

I come out to thank you and all you do is compliment me.

**MICHAEL**

It's true. You're the brave one. This doesn't even come close to what you do here every day.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

You are brave Michael. No one could do what you just did and not call themselves brave.

**MICHAEL**

How can you say that? You don't even know me. I'm not who you think I am.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Oh no, then who are you?

**MICHAEL**

I'm not good. Do you know why I'm here? I didn't volunteer. I would've never stepped into a place like this on my own. I was ordered here to do community service by the court.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

I know that.

**MICHAEL**

You do?

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

You don't think I know why your here. We all make mistakes Michael. Believe it or not I was not always this person you see standing before you. We all make mistakes, but it's what we choose to do with those mistakes that make us different and I see something good in you.

(There is a silence between them)

So, are you finished?

**MICHAEL**

Yeah.

(Christine turns to leave, then turns back)

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Will I see you tomorrow?

**MICHAEL**

Yeah, I'll be here. You have me for the next two weeks.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Good.

**MICHAEL**

Oh, I have something for you.

Michael runs to the trunk of his car and brings back a large bag of clothing.

**MICHAEL (CONT'D)**

I brought some clothes for Claire. Nothing special, she just looked like she was the same size as my mom and my mom doesn't need these anymore...so anyway, here you go.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

I think this place is rubbing off on you, Michael Munoz.

**MICHAEL**

Well I don't know about that.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Thank you I'll see that she gets them.

**MICHAEL**

Okay, good.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

I'll see you tomorrow then.

**MICHAEL**

Yeah.

Michael leaves looking back and waving. Michael heads out to the parking lot. He looks around debating with himself about whether or not he should meet his connection. Officer Garcia/Joe spots him and starts to rise from the steps to follow Michael.

OFFICER GARCIA/JOE while standing up SLOWLY DISAPPEARS AND REAPPEARS IN JUDGE HANNAH'S COURTROOM.

CUT TO:

INT OF JUDGE HANNAH'S COURTROOM:

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Well Mr. Munoz how's it goin'?

Mr. Munoz looks around and sees Micah sitting at the defense table with both legs up and his arms crossed in front of him. Mr. Munoz is unaware of exactly what is going on.

**JOE MUNOZ**

How's it going? This is not it. You haven't given me enough time. I can do this. I need to go back.

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Calm down Mr. Munoz this is not it, but you've only got a short period of time in which to turn things around. This is just a reminder that time is running out and if Michael makes that deal we will lose him. You will lose him. Do you understand me Mr. Munoz?

Mr. Munoz looks around as if he is in a hurry.

**JOE MUNOZ**

I understand. You're wasting time.

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Mr. Munoz we don't waste time up here. Just remember we are watching. You too will have to make a choice soon.

**JOE MUNOZ**

Yeah, I've heard?

**JUDGE HANNAH**

You'll know when the time comes.

**JOE MUNOZ**

Why does everyone keep saying that to me?

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Now go Mr. Munoz, Gods speed.  
(Mr. Munoz vanishes)

Micah walks up to the bench after Mr. Munoz vanishes.

**JUDGE HANNAH (CONT'D)**

So what do you think?

**MICAH**

Michael has a chance, but we will have to wait and see if Joe is able to do what he needs to do to make this happen.

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Well keep me informed. That means now Micah. What are you waiting for? Get going.

**MICAH**

Yes ma'am.

He winks and slowly disappears. Judge Hannah now looking at, Harold, the court officer.

**JUDGE HANNAH**

That boy worries me sometimes.

**MICAH**

(His head slowly fades in)  
Oh, you know you love me.

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Will you get outta here?

Judge Hannah shakes her head.

CUT TO:

EXT OF PARKING LOT OF HOMELESS SHELTER:

Off. Garcia (Mr. Munoz), sees Michael's car heading out and decides to jump into an unmarked cruiser. He heads out after Michael. He follows him through town. Michael stops at a bus station and goes in carrying a duffle bag and places it in a locker. He then runs out and drives to an abandoned area near a city bridge. There are homeless people around and fires lit in trash cans as the people try to keep warm. A dark colored vehicle is already parked there when Michael arrives. The men exit the vehicle. One is carrying a duffle bag. Michael looks at them. The leader shrugs his shoulders as if to say, what's the deal.

**DRUGDEALER #2**

Are you getting out of the car or what?

Michael looks at the men in front of him. He flashes back to the mission (CUT TO MISSION SCENE WITH CHRISTINE), to Off. Johnson (CUT TO OFF. JOHNSON'S FACE) to Off. Garcia (CUT TO SHOT OF Off. GARCIA). Michael gets out of the car.

**MICHAEL**

I haven't had enough time to raise the cash.

**DRUGDEALER #2**

What the hell man? That's not what you tol' me on the phone.

The man with the bag takes out a pistol and points it at Michael.

**DRUGDEALER #2 (CONT'D)**

The hell you haven't had enough time. We had a deal. What's it going to be, man? I better see some cash headin' my way or you ain't walking away from this one.

Just then Officer Garcia/Joe pulls up alongside the bridge and gets out trying to stay unnoticed as he sees the men talking. The man with the gun moves closer to Michael. He makes his way up to them and can barely hear what they are saying. They start to argue as Michael tries to get back in to the car and leave. The man with the gun heads toward Michael's car as Off. Garcia/Joe spots a small boy playing near a barrel of fire. He then sees something in the kid's hand. Off. Garcia/Joe is unable to get his eyes off the small boy. He moves closer to him to try and get him out of harm's way. Suddenly, the small boy runs into the open area yelling at the men.

**SMALL BOY**

Stop or I'll shoot.

(the young boy holding some sort of metal object in his hand)

The man with the gun turns to shoot at the small boy not realizing it is a child.

CUT TO:

SLOW MOTION. CLOSE UP OF MICHAEL: Michael looks over as everything goes in slow motion as the bullet leaves the chamber. The small boy smiles as he points his toy gun at the men in front of him. Off. Garcia (Mr. Munoz) then leaps from his area toward the small boy knocking him out of the way as the lights turn dim. Michael (still in Slow motion) screams out.

**MICHAEL**

Noooooo!

Michael runs toward Off. Garcia/Joe. Off. Garcia/Joe comes to and sees Micah and Michael hovered over him. He can barely look up at them.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

Micah?

**MICHAEL**

No it's Michael, Sam. Oh man, what did you do?

We can hear the squeal of the tires and sirens in the distance as the men leave the scene. Officer Garcia/Joe passes out.

**MICHAEL (CONT'D)**

Hold on they're coming.

We hear sirens in the background getting louder as they get closer. Off. Garcia/Joe starts to fade and we see a close Up of Michael as his face fades. Place camera looking up as if Officer Garcia/Joe is faintly looking up at him.

FADE OUT:

END ACT FOUR

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FADE IN:

INT LOCAL HOSPITAL WITH OFFICERS WAITING OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL ROOM.

Off. Garcia/Joe wakes up in the hospital with his doctor. Michael and Officer Johnson, along with numerous other officers, wait outside. Michael speaks to them, he is very upset.

**MICHAEL (CONT'D)**

He just jumped in front of the kid. This kid ran out from nowhere and he jumps in front of him. Like some damn superhero. If it hadn't been for him the kid would've been dead.

**OTHER OFFICER**

I need to ask you what you were doing there Michael?

The doctor comes out of the hospital room.

**DOCTOR**

He wants to speak to Michael?

**MICHAEL**

To me?

**DOCTOR**

Yes, he said he only wants to talk to you.

Michael looks at the officer as he signals him to go ahead and go. Michael enters the hospital room and Off. Garcia/Joe looks up at him.

**MICHAEL**

Hey man, you really messed yourself up didn't you. What were you thinking?

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

I guess I was thinking about somebody else for a change. And it felt good.

**MICHAEL**

What were you doing out there?

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

I was there for you, Michael. I want you to know that you are a good man. You can do more in this life than you think.

(It's hard for him to speak. He holds his side)

**MICHAEL**

Don't talk. You need to save your strength.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

No, I have to say this. I don't have much time.

**MICHAEL**

What do you mean? The doctor says you're going to be okay.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

Listen to me son.

(Now grabbing his side in pain)

Don't be consumed with the things of this world because they aren't real. What's real is what we make of our time while we're here. I just don't want you to waste it that's all. You can be so much more Michael, you can do so much more.

**MICHAEL**

Why are you telling me all this?

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

Listen to me. In the end you want a legacy that says you were a good man. I know your father would have wanted more for you.

Micah comes out of the shadows.

**MICAH**

You can't tell him.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE**

I know. I know the rule.

Michael looks around confused and then looks at Off. Garcia/Joe as he starts to cough.

**OFF. GARCIA-JOE (CONT'D)**

Your father found this out much too late but it is not too late for you. Make something positive out of your life and for God's sakes stop worrying your mother.

**MICHAEL**

My mother. How do you know my family? What's this all about?

Michael turns to look at Officer Garcia/Joe. He sees his dad's image standing next to Micah beside the bed where Officer Sam Garcia still lays asleep.

**MICHAEL (CONT'D)**

Dad?

Mr. Munoz looks at Micah as Micah nods and says:

**MICAH**

Go ahead.

**JOE MUNOZ**

Yes, it's me Mike. I've been with you this entire time son. I've seen what I've done to people. It's not good.

**MICHAEL**

But, how can this be? Your...

Michael stumbling backwards, as Joe walks toward his son.



**JOE MUNOZ**

I don't have a lot of time son, listen to me please. I'm ashamed of the things I did in the past and if I could take it all back I would, but you Mike...

Joe grabs Michael by his shoulder. CLOSE UP OF MICHAEL TEARS IN HIS EYES AND CUT TO JOE MUNOZ WITH TEARS IN HIS EYES.

**JOE MUNOZ (CONT'D)**

You have a chance; don't waste it like I did.

**MICHAEL**

But Dad how's this possible.

He embraces Michael.

**JOE MUNOZ**

I have to go now.

**MICHAEL**

What you're leaving me again.

**JOE MUNOZ**

I've never left you Michael. I love you. I always have. Please listen to what I've said son. I would do anything to not have you turn out the way I did. You must redeem me son.

(Joe's image starts to back up floating)

You must right my wrongs. Mike, you are a good man. Remember me. Remember me always.

Mr. Munoz slowly starts to float back toward Micah.

**MICHAEL**

I will dad. I love you too. Don't leave.

**JOE MUNOZ**

You will see one day. God works in miraculous ways son. Don't ever doubt him.

**MICHAEL**

Dad, Dad don't go.

**JOE MUNOZ**

I must, it's up to you now son. I love you. I'll be watching. Remember you choose.

Michael reaches for him as Joe and Micah begin to disappear. A family rushes in through the door. A wife crying rushes to the side of Officer Sam Garcia as he awakes and does not know how he got there. The doctor comes in. Michael leaves the room. Officer Johnson is talking to the officers outside the room. Michael is taken in for questioning and released with the help of Officer Johnson.

CUT TO:

INT RESCUE MISSION: Michael comes into the mission the next morning with a duffle bag underneath his arm. Christine is working there in the kitchen helping to get people seated. She spots him and runs up to him asking about Officer Garcia.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

I heard the news is Sam going to be okay?

**MICHAEL**

Yeah, he's going to be fine.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Oh, thank God, I'm so glad. I was so worried.

**MICHAEL**

Yeah...me too...well...

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Well did you bring some more women's clothing or are you moving in.

**MICHAEL**

No...no...I just thought you might be able to put this to good use. It's my inheritance from my father. He left me this so I could get a good start in life. I'm giving it to you. Well, I mean to the center.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Your inheritance, I couldn't possibly take it...

**MICHAEL**

Yes, yes you can. It's for the mission.

Michael then hands the bag to her. He is smiling.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Should I open it now?

**MICHAEL**

No, not right now. Wait till I'm gone. I'd be too embarrassed.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Well, all right. Hey, aren't you working today?

**MICHAEL**

No, I kinda got out of it.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

What do you mean?

**MICHAEL**

Officer Johnson pulled a few strings and got me an interview for an upcoming police cadet class. He's going to speak to the judge and see if I can finish out my service there, so I'll be able to join the incoming class.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

That's wonderful Michael. Watch, you're going to be great, but we will miss you around here.

**MICHAEL**

You will, huh.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Yes, we will.

**MICHAEL**

Well, I was wondering.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Wondering what?

**MICHAEL**

I just thought maybe if you weren't busy you know saving the world Friday night, I could treat you for a change.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Seven o' clock okay with you.

**MICHAEL**

Yeah...sevens great.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Well, you know where you can find me, Mr. Munoz.  
(Christine smiles and begins to walk away)

**MICHAEL**

Oh, it's Mr. Munoz, huh.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Or should I say Officer Munoz.

**MICHEAL**

That has a nice ring to it.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Yes, it does.

Christine smiles as she leaves the room. Michael turns to head out the door and looks back at her smiling. She smiles back. As Michael leaves he hears a scream from inside the Mission. Christine runs to the door with the bag looking at him in astonishment. Michael smiles and drives away.

Micah and Joe Munoz are standing outside watching the scene as it happens. Micah smiles and Joe Munoz grins with tears in his eyes. Micah grabs Joe with one arm and hugs him as they look on.

**JOE MUNOZ**

Do you know how much money was in that bag?

**MICAH**

Yes, Joe I do.

**JOE MUNOZ**

That's my boy. The kid did good.

**MICAH**

Yes, he did, and so did you.

Joe smiles at Micah.

**JOE MUNOZ**

I'm ready to go now.

**MICAH**

Yes Joe, I believe you are. Let's not keep Judge Hannah waiting.

They begin to fade into the scene.

CUT TO:

INT OF JUDGE HANNAH'S COURTROOM: They enter the courtroom and Judge Hannah appears before them at her desk. She stops and looks up at the two of them.

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Well, Mr. Munoz it seems that Michael was not the only one who learned something down there.

**JOE MUNOZ**

No ma'am he wasn't.

(He hesitates)

I just wanted to say that I'm sorry. I know that doesn't begin to make up for all the hurt I caused in my lifetime. I make no excuses. I don't deserve to be given a second chance. I'm just overjoyed my son has a second chance at life. I'm so very thankful for that. I...I truly believe Michael will now make a difference. I hope in some small way he will right some of my wrongs.

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Well Mr. Munoz, you have learned much more than I ever thought you would. I certainly had my doubts about you in the beginning, but you have proven me wrong. Regardless of what you feel you

**JUDGE HANNAH (cont'd)**

deserve, God has forgiven you. You have your wings.

**JOE MUNOZ**

But I truly don't deserve them. Please give them to someone who has not done the kind of damage...

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Oh but Mr. Munoz the story is not over. Michael will be your legacy now. He will expect to see you here one day. I want you to take a look at what you've helped to change. Micah if you would, please...

**MICAH**

It'd be my honor, your honor.

He takes Joe Munoz by the arm.

**MICAH (CONT'D)**

And we're off.

They slowly vanish. As Judge Hannah watches smiling, grabbing a Kleenex.

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Oh shut up Harold.

CUT TO:

EXT ON SOME KIND OF FAIR GROUNDS WITH FLAGS WAVING AND POLICE CARS AND POLICE OFFICERS ARRIVING. SETS OF WHITE CHAIRS SIT IN THE LAWN AREA LINING A LARGE STAGE.

Joe and Micah watch in the background as they listen to the announcer. Christine, Kathy Munoz, Officer Johnson and Officer Garcia are sitting in the audience of a cadet graduation as the cadet who graduated with honors is announced.

**ANNOUNCER**

Please give a big round of applause for this young man, Michael J. Munoz, officer in training, graduate with honors.

They all rise and clap as Michael walks across the stage and smiles. Christine snaps a picture of him. She is bursting with pride.

**JOE MUNOZ**

I've seen everything now. I would have never dreamed...

Micah turns to him.

**MICAH**

Well Joe, are you ready to go?

**JOE MUNOZ**

Well I know I shouldn't ask but can I see one more thing.

Joe turns and whispers something into Micah's ear.

**MICAH**

All right but let's keep this to ourselves.

Micah and Joe slowly disappear as the scene fades.

CUT TO:

INT OF A NICE MIDDLE CLASS HOME SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY: They appear in a home Joe does not recognize. There is a fireplace a blaze. A little boy is playing in his playpen and a pregnant Christine leans over to pick up the boy bringing him to a high chair. Joe looks on as he sees Michael cooking in the kitchen alongside his mother.

**CHRISTINE WALSH**

Come on Joseph your daddy is waiting.

Joe, with tears in his eyes, turns to Micah.

**JOE MUNOZ**

Thank you. I'm ready to go now.

FADE OUT.

AS THEY SLOWLY DISAPPEAR.

CUT TO:

INTERIOR OF COURTROOM OF JUDGE HANNAH: They are back in the courtroom. Judge Hannah is waiting. The gates open up on the opposite end of the courtroom.

**JUDGE HANNAH**

You did it Joe. Michael's destiny has now been changed forever. Michael and Christine will leave a legacy to humankind that will live on and on. It's your turn now Joe. They're waiting for you.

**JOE MUNOZ**

It's so bright, thank you.

Wings suddenly appear behind Joe's back as he turns to see them flapping back and forth in a miraculous light.

**JUDGE HANNAH**

Now use them wisely Joe.

He walks as the wings behind him begin to flutter. He turns as they wave him through. He squints his eyes at the bright light. Joe walks through the gates. They slowly close behind him. Micah who is standing near the bench smiles at Judge Hannah who is tearing up but trying not to show it.

**JUDGE HANNAH (CONT'D)**

All right, all right who's next? Next case.

Judge Hannah's gavel hits the desk.

CUT TO:

CREDITS

FADE OUT

THE END

Written By Stacy Thowe