

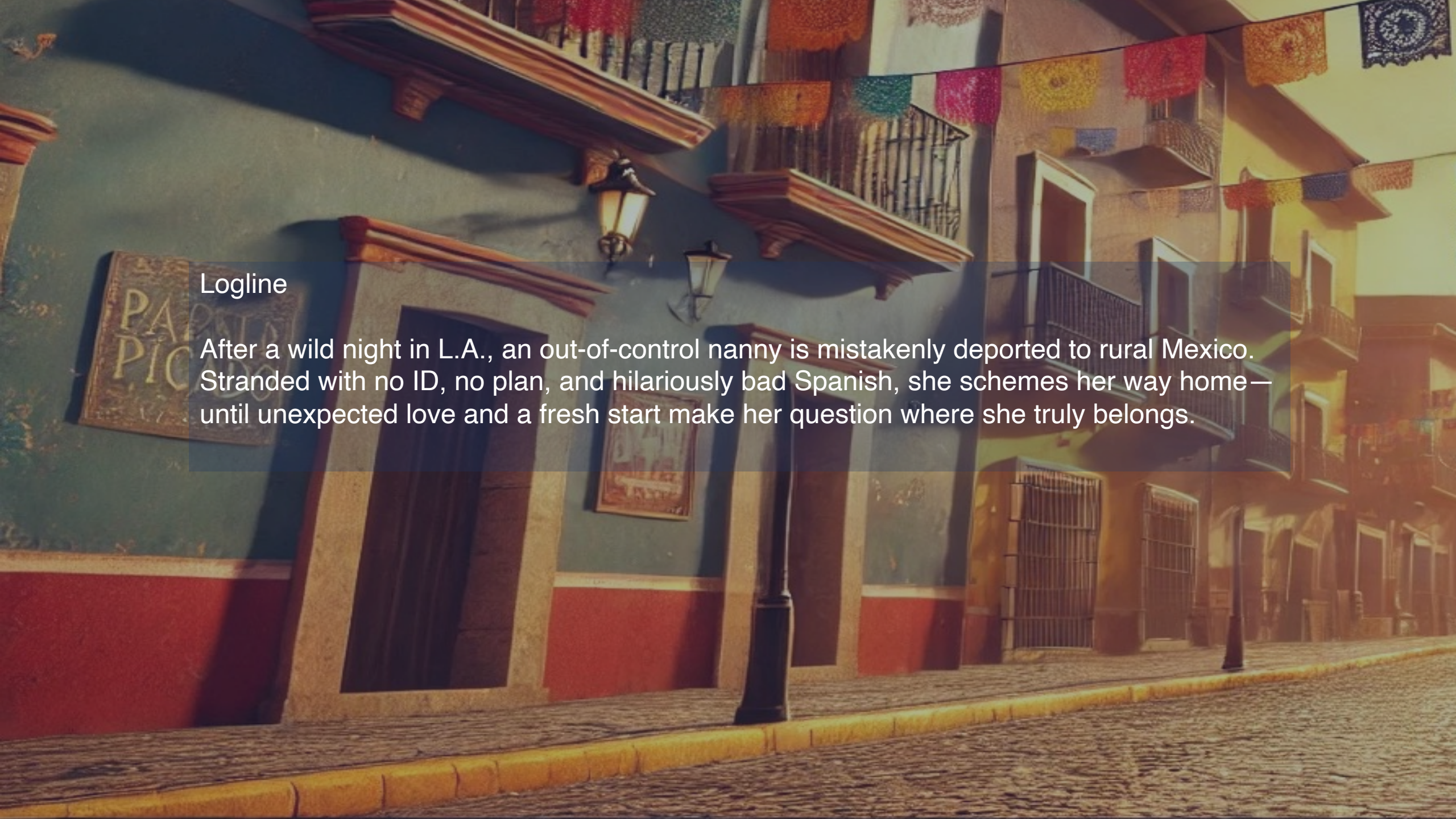


DEPORTED

FRAIYED IMMIRATION STEMP
SLINT IMMIGRATION STAMPS

BY

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Logline

After a wild night in L.A., an out-of-control nanny is mistakenly deported to rural Mexico. Stranded with no ID, no plan, and hilariously bad Spanish, she schemes her way home—until unexpected love and a fresh start make her question where she truly belongs.



Overview

Lauren Sanchez, a 39-year-old nanny with a knack for chaos, is all set for her dream vacation—until a tequila-fueled bender gets her mistakenly deported to Mexico. With no ID, no phone, and no clue, she stumbles into a job at a taqueria run by Diego, a gruff yet gorgeous chef. As her best friends frantically try to find her, Lauren navigates life in a small town, unexpectedly falling for the community—and Diego. But when her past (and the ICE agent who deported her) catches up, Lauren must decide: fight her way home or stay in the one place she's ever truly belonged?

Synopsis

Lauren Sanchez is the human embodiment of a hot mess—she's a 39-year-old nanny who drinks too much, loses everything (including jobs), and somehow always lands on her feet. Until she doesn't. After a wild night out in L.A., Lauren wakes up in an ICE detention center without her ID or phone. Thanks to a mix-up, and the fact that she slurs enough Spanish to sound vaguely legit, she's unceremoniously deported to Mexico.

Stranded in a tiny rural town, dressed in nothing but a Spring Break '06 souvenir tee, she quickly realizes she's in serious trouble. With no way home, no cash, and no idea how to function without Postmates, Lauren hustles her way into a job at a taqueria run by Diego—a brooding, hot-but-irritated chef who immediately pegs her as hopeless.

Meanwhile, her best friends—including Tracy, a no-nonsense U.S. Attorney, and Renee, a commitment-phobic queen of bad decisions—set out to find her. Their journey involves shady bureaucrats, tequila-fueled misadventures, and one alarming interaction with a local vendor trying to sell them an iguana.

As Lauren fumbles through life in Mexico, learning to cook, forming bonds with the community, and, most shockingly, actually growing up, Diego starts to see her in a new light. Just as things heat up between them, her past catches up—her ICE-agent one-night-stand, Matt, returns, bringing chaos (and a new deportation threat). With her passport finally in hand, Lauren faces a choice: return to the U.S. or embrace the place—and the man—who make her feel like she's finally home.



Lauren Sanchez (40) – The Hot Mess with a Heart

"I always travel with two shooters and a condom."

Occupation: Nanny (chronically unemployed)

Personality: Reckless, fun-loving, impulsive, and charmingly chaotic

Strengths: Quick-witted, adaptable, fiercely loyal

Weaknesses: No impulse control, terrible at planning, allergic to responsibility

Character Arc:

Lauren is a human hurricane—a walking, talking disaster magnet. She's been fired from more nanny jobs than she can count, thanks to her ability to charm kids but horrify their parents. She drinks too much, parties too hard, and lives every day like she's still 25. When she's mistakenly deported to rural Mexico, she's forced to confront the mess she's made of her life.

At first, she resists change, trying every possible scheme to get back to the U.S. without putting in any real effort. But as she begrudgingly learns to work, embraces a community, and falls for Diego, she starts to wonder if she's been running from something bigger than just bad luck.

By the end, she proves to herself that she's more than just a charming disaster—she's capable, resourceful, and, for the first time, truly happy.

Matt Reedman (42) – The ICE Agent with a Grudge

"This wasn't personal... okay, maybe it was personal. But in my defense, you ghosted me first."

Occupation: Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agent

Personality: Jaded, brooding, control freak, emotionally unavailable (but *hot*)

Strengths: Sharp, disciplined, loyal (to a fault)

Weaknesses: Holds grudges, lets his emotions cloud his judgment, terrible at admitting when he's wrong

Character Arc:

When Lauren ghosts Matt, his bruised ego makes him play along when she's rounded up in an ICE raid, allowing her to be deported out of sheer pettiness.

But as the situation spirals out of control, Matt realizes he's made a massive mistake—one that could cost him his career.

Lauren's ability to thrive despite everything he threw at her unnerves him. When he returns to Mexico to "fix" things, it's not just about undoing his mistake—it's about proving to himself that he isn't the villain of this story.

He starts off believing he's teaching Lauren a lesson, but by the end, she's the one who teaches him a thing or two about life, freedom, and letting go of control.





Diego (40) – The Brooding Taqueria Owner

“You’re the most exhausting person I have ever met. But for some reason, when you’re not here, it’s worse.”

Occupation: Chef & Owner of a Taqueria

Personality: Rugged, brooding, no-nonsense, intensely private

Strengths: Hardworking, dependable, quietly passionate

Weaknesses: Guarded, emotionally unavailable, hates admitting he cares

Character Arc:

Diego runs the best taqueria in town and is perfectly happy keeping his head down and his life simple—until Lauren stumbles into his kitchen, burns a tortilla, and refuses to leave. At first, he sees her as a walking disaster, but as she fumbles through learning how to cook, something about her chaotic optimism chips away at his walls.

Diego slowly realizes that Lauren is unlike anyone he’s ever met—messy, unpredictable, but somehow exactly what his world needed. And when it comes time for her to leave, he finally does something that terrifies him: he asks her to stay.

Tracy (40) – The No-Nonsense Best Friend & Lawyer

"I swear to God, Lauren, I love you, but if I have to fill out ONE MORE PIECE OF GOVERNMENT PAPERWORK FOR YOUR STUPID ASS, I am defecting to Canada."

Occupation: State Attorney

Personality: Sharp, resourceful, fiercely protective, zero tolerance for bullshit

Strengths: Brilliant legal mind, problem-solver, endlessly loyal

Weaknesses: Overworks herself, has a superiority complex, *only* drinks top-shelf liquor

Character Arc:

Tracy is Lauren's rock—the one who always bails her out of trouble (literally and figuratively). But when Lauren actually gets deported, even Tracy is momentarily out of her depth. She uses every legal loophole, every contact, and every ounce of righteous fury to track down her best friend and drag her back home.

But as she watches Lauren flourish in Mexico, Tracy is forced to rethink everything she assumed about what Lauren needed. Maybe Lauren doesn't need to be rescued. Maybe she needs to be left alone to grow into the person she's meant to be.





Renee (40) – The Glamorous, Fun-Loving Best Friend

"Look, I don't know how we fix this, but I do know one thing: we are NOT doing it sober."

Occupation: Socialite / Wealthy Entrepreneur (unclear what she actually does)

Personality: Wild, flirtatious, extravagant, delightfully inappropriate

Strengths: Master of persuasion, great at turning disasters into parties

Weaknesses: Impulsive, terrible with money, constantly “manifesting” instead of actually planning

Character Arc:

Renee is the ride-or-die friend who will fly across the world just to bail you out of jail. She lives for drama, so when Lauren gets deported, she treats it like a reality show challenge.

The problem? Renee is so used to fixing things for Lauren that she never stops to wonder if Lauren actually needs fixing.

By the end, Renee learns that sometimes, being a good friend means standing back and letting the people you love make their own choices—even if those choices are questionable.

**Maria (50) – The No-Nonsense Taqueria Owner
(and Unexpected Mother Figure)**

"You are a mess. But at least you are my mess now."

Occupation: Taqueria Owner

Personality: Tough, wise, has seen it all

Strengths: Great judge of character, gives brutally honest advice

Weaknesses: Stubborn, emotionally distant, terrible at compliments

Character Arc:

Maria does not have time for nonsense—which is exactly why Lauren annoys the hell out of her. But when Lauren keeps showing up and refusing to quit, Maria starts to begrudgingly admire her determination.

She eventually becomes the maternal figure Lauren never realized she needed, teaching her that real strength isn't about charming your way out of trouble—it's about standing your ground and doing the work.





Trent Haynes (40) – The Reluctant Voice of Reason

*"Matt. Buddy. You **deported** your one-night stand.
That is not a normal response to rejection."*

Occupation: ICE Agent & Matt's Colleague

Personality: Practical, sarcastic, exhausted by everyone's stupidity

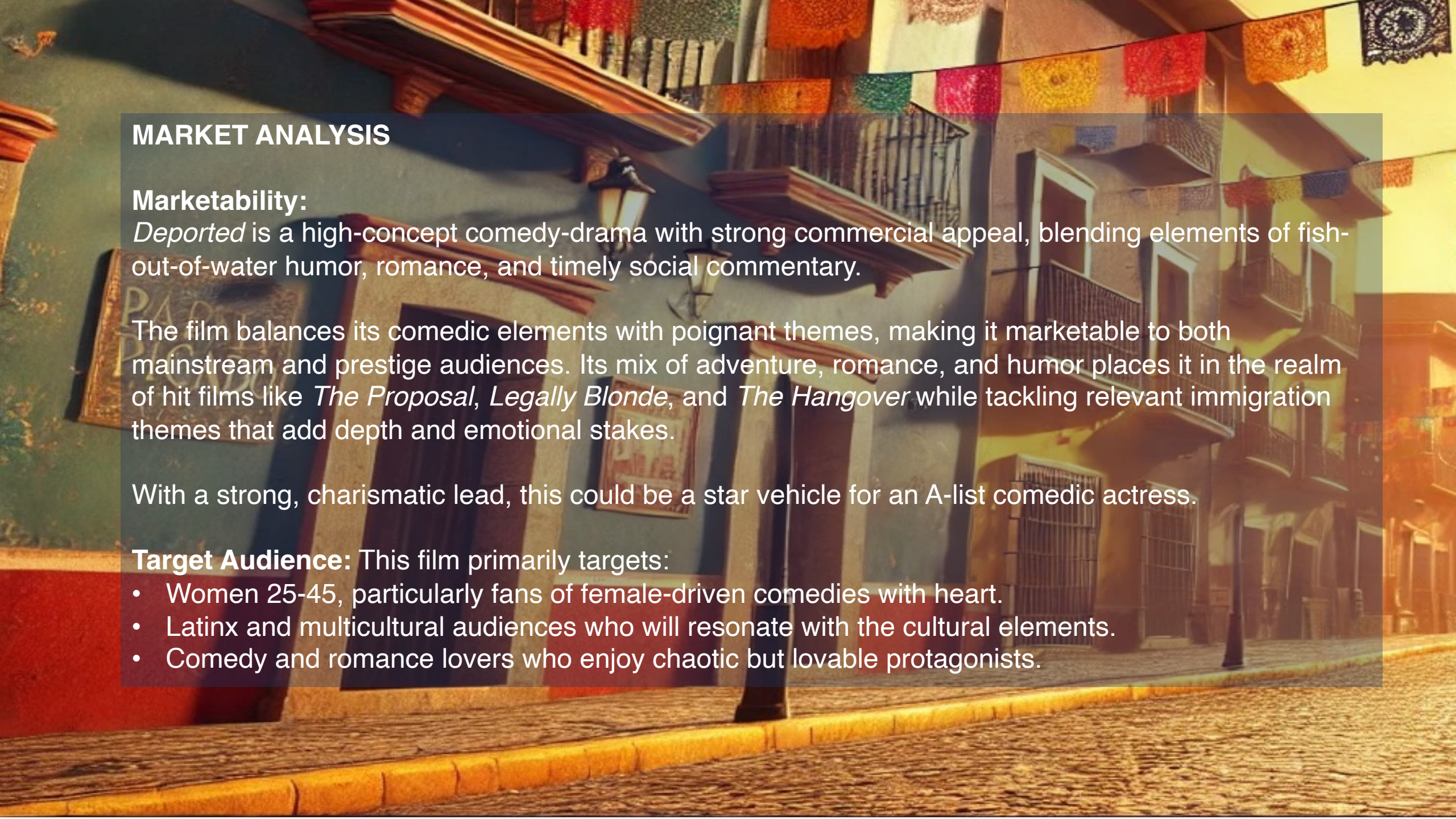
Strengths: Knows when to walk away, good at damage control

Weaknesses: Bad at expressing emotions, constantly stuck cleaning up Matt's messes

Character Arc:

Trent is the only sane person in the ICE office. He sees Matt spiraling, warns him, and knows this deportation is going to bite them in the ass. He also knows Matt has feelings for Lauren, even if Matt won't admit it.

By the end, Trent is 100% done with this nonsense, but also low-key invested in whether Matt can redeem himself.



MARKET ANALYSIS

Marketability:

Deported is a high-concept comedy-drama with strong commercial appeal, blending elements of fish-out-of-water humor, romance, and timely social commentary.

The film balances its comedic elements with poignant themes, making it marketable to both mainstream and prestige audiences. Its mix of adventure, romance, and humor places it in the realm of hit films like *The Proposal*, *Legally Blonde*, and *The Hangover* while tackling relevant immigration themes that add depth and emotional stakes.

With a strong, charismatic lead, this could be a star vehicle for an A-list comedic actress.

Target Audience: This film primarily targets:

- Women 25-45, particularly fans of female-driven comedies with heart.
- Latinx and multicultural audiences who will resonate with the cultural elements.
- Comedy and romance lovers who enjoy chaotic but lovable protagonists.

Writer Bio



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D. Nikki Wheeler is an acclaimed storyteller whose work bridges the worlds of high-stakes corporate strategy and compelling cinematic narratives. She is the author of *Sec. Spot. Run: A Media Relations Playbook for Getting More Coverage Faster* and a sought-after contributor to leading business and communications publications. By day, she is a respected corporate and crisis communications expert; by night, a disciplined writer crafting stories that captivate audiences worldwide.

Nikki's creative vision draws deeply from her diverse experiences: advising heads of state, navigating the high-pressure corridors of the U.S. Senate, and living in a Middle Eastern war zone as a government contractor. Her unique perspective infuses her work with authenticity and grit, whether crafting a screenplay or directing on set.

Currently, Nikki is in development with SIDEWAY on the original streaming web series *FABULIST* and has optioned *THE ONE*, a tantalizing thriller with Canadian-based Nasser Entertainment. A seasoned director and producer, she has also contributed as a set designer, bringing her distinctive flair to every project.

A passionate traveler and adventurer, Nikki's insatiable curiosity fuels her creativity. She resides in Colorado, where her home is affectionately described by her niece as "full of pets and stories waiting to be told."

Awards and honors include:

- Number 6, on the Capital Fund Hot 100 List, 2021
- Finalists, Wiki: The World's Fastest Screenplay Contest! 2021
- Semifinalist, ISA Genre Busting Screenplay Competition, 2021
- Semifinalist, Los Angeles International Screenplay Awards Spring 2020
- Quarterfinalist, The Script Lab - TSL Free Screenplay Contest 2020
- Quarterfinalist, ScreenCraft Drama Competition 2020
- Quarterfinalist, Emerging Screenwriters - Genre Screenplay Competition 2020
- Quarterfinalist, Willamette Writers - Kay Snow Writing Competition 2020
- Honorable Mention, Barnstorm Fest 2020
- Quarterfinalist, Scriptapalooza Screenplay Competition 2019