

TITLE: FISHER OF MEN

WRITER: Anthony Zonfrelli

SPECS: Tragicomedy/Crime Feature

LOGLINE: Crushed by debt and grief, a troubled young sex addict believes she's gained godlike powers - but as she fights to reclaim her life, she must face the truth: are they real or just a dangerous delusion?

INSPIRATION: "*What if God was one of us?*" Well, she'd probably be fucking miserable. Humans are dysfunctional and enjoy vices (unlike that nepo-baby, Jesus...). This story is my lapsed Catholicism colliding with my dark humor and morbid curiosity.

COMPS: FLEABAG's attitude and sexual irreverence with the dark/mystical tone of IN BRUGES.

CHARACTERS:

JESS (32, Afro-Latina, Bi) is a self-loathing addict, mourning her brother's death.

Jess's thoughtful, idealistic therapist WHITNEY and Jess's loyal best friend MAYA (trans woman) vie for her attention and affection.

Jess is indebted to ROMAN, a calculating loan shark, governed by order and rationality.

STORY: We begin as Roman threatens Jess for money owed. Jess tries to steal cash from her parents, but guilt leads her to attempt suicide. She wakes after a wayward cross bonks her on the head and a series of bizarre circumstances convinces her she's God. Like, *THE* God.

Maya believes. Whitney isn't so sure.

Jess reconciles the stress of being human *and* God by going on a bender with Maya, leading to a vision of her dead brother that suggests she's more traumatized than divine. Jess and Whitney explore this epiphany, strengthening their relationship and giving Jess confidence. Jess reclaims her God identity, becoming an in-demand high-end escort, making money handjob over fist...until a tryst ends in tragedy.

A vulnerable Jess hooks up with Whitney, but things continue downhill when Roman's goons rough up Maya and kidnap Whitney. After Jess learns she inspired Whitney to love, she allows herself to ask her parents for ransom money.

A string of betrayals leads to a climactic standoff on the bridge where Jess's brother died with her loved ones' lives hanging in the balance. While classic Jess would have saved herself, divine Jess may have a new understanding of love.

So...What Would Jes(u)s Do?

THEME: This darkly comedic story is about grief, loss, and the love needed to make the pain of being human worth it.