

**“Qur'an Tina”**

**A Screenplay**

**By Jordan Schaffner**

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**Qur'an Tina**

**By Jordan Schaffner**

Int: Buzz's Studio Apartment late February 2020

It's a rundown small studio condo with dishes in the sink, and clothes all over the floor. The only furniture is the bed that BUZZ, a 27ish blonde surfer is lying on, scrolling on his phone.

He is looking on Tinder at various women. He stops to text a ravishingly beautiful bleach blonde.

BUZZ

Your bikini pictures are great. He texts her: You're just the right combination of cute & sexy.

She texts back with a happy face imogi with hearts in her eyes.

BUZZ

Where do you live Tina?

Tina

I'm from Brazil but I have to go to San Diego on business soon. My cousin loved it when she was there.

BUZZ

Great! I live in San Diego. Why don't you stop in for a drink? I have a bar at my condo clubhouse...

TINA

She hesitates because he is getting too close too fast, violating her 1<sup>st</sup> date boundaries. But she hasn't let a man touch her for a year after her last break up with Fernando, so she says:

TINA

Okay. She sighs. I will.

BUZZ

He notices her awkwardness but he wants to be confident.

Great! Let me know when you're in town.

TINA

I will. I'll be there for a conference next week. Let's keep in touch.

BUZZ

Yeah. Let's hook up gorgeous.

She send him more heart imogies.

He send her eggplant 🍆 imogies.

She hangs up and books her flight, in Portuguese on the phone. But she doesn't book a hotel room, because she's secretly thinking about staying with him instead.

She arrives with her baggage in front of his condo bar. He's late. She doesn't see anybody there for awhile. She orders herself a double. There is no one else there but the Bartender. Then, Buzz is finally walks in.

Buzz

Hi! You must be Tina, I'm Buzz. How are you?

He shakes her hand. They sit next to each other at the bar and order stiff drinks.

TINA

Hi Buzz. You're late. I flew all the way here from Brazil and you couldn't even make it on time. Didn't you say you work at home?

BUZZ

Sorry I was talking with my Imam.

TINA

What's an Imam?

BUZZ

Well I guess you didn't know. I'm a Muslim.

TINA

That's odd. Cause I'm a Jew.

BUZZ

Well I don't discriminate. There are good people of all kinds. Especially good looking ones. Don't you agree?

TINA

Possibly. I like your wavy blonde hair.

She puts her hand in his hair.

So we'll let it slide. And you're a surfer too. Huh?

BUZZ nods.

TINA

What do you do for a living Buzz?

BUZZ

I trade stocks. How about you?

TINA

That's so interesting & boring at the same time.

I'm a dress designer. I'm here for a convention that starts tomorrow morning.

BUZZ

You look stunning! Did you design that dress?

TINA

She gulps her drink down and despite her better judgment she says:

TINA

Oh quit with the fake flattery. I've come from a thousand miles away so just shut up and kiss me gringo.

He does. They are entwined in embrace for awhile walking back to his condo unit. He barely opens the door. There are no pictures on the wall and everything is a mess inside as described earlier. TINA looks disgusted.

TINA

Your place looks awful. No furniture. All you have here is a bed.

BUZZ

That's all we need babe.

He throws her down on the bed as they begin to undress and make love as much as the actors in the scene are comfortable with.

Int: Morning.

They wake up and stretch, jumping up, looking like they are allergic to each other. Both have hangover headaches. They can't believe what they did last night. They must have been drunk out of their minds. TINA looks at her watch and clutches the covers over herself.

TINA

Oh my God! I'm gonna be late for the convention ! How did this happen? Did you drug me or something?

She dresses, reaches for her phone, taps on it to get an Uber.

TINA

Damn!

BUZZ

Please don't swear. It is against my religion.

TINA

No ubers available. Just when I need one. Can you drive me to the convention?

BUZZ

I would honey, but they just repossessed my car.

TINA

So you don't a car and you live in this shithole?

I thought you said you traded stocks.

BUZZ

I do. I'm Just not a very good at it. And I give all my cash to the Mosque when I'm doing well.

TINA

Oh no! I just got a text from my boss saying that due to Coronavirus, whatever that is, the convention has been canceled!

Well I've got no other reason to be here. You're pretty sexy, but I've gotta think about my future.

She taps on her phone, trying to get a flight home.

TINA

Shit!

I can't believe it!

BUZZ

I told you not to swear!

TINA

No flights home either!

Turn on the news. I want to see what's going on.

A NEWSMAN says everyone is quarantined and has to remain together in their homes. Since she doesn't know where else to go, she decides to help him fix up his place for him and has to stay till the lockdown ends.

TINA

Are you fucking kidding me? I've gotta get in touch with my boss. Maybe they can put me up in a hotel or something.

BUZZ roles his eyes in anger.

TINA calls the hotel.

TINA

What? All hotels are closed & you can't stay with anyone you're not already with?

BUZZ smiles.

TINA

You're such a weirdo. Wipe that shit eating grin off your face!

He laughs.

TINA

What's so funny? You might be great in bed but I hate you!

He can't stop laughing till she starts yelling at him.

TINA

Stop laughing. It's not funny.

She starts hitting him, pounding her fists on his chest. He tries to grab her arms to stop her.

She falls into his arms and he hold her as she cries.

BUZZ

Shhhhhh. Take it easy. It's a crazy situation. My Imam predicted something like this. It looks like the end of times but we'll get through it together.

TINA

She cries some more. I want to go home!

BUZZ holds her.

BUZZ

Seems like you have jet lag big time. Let's have a little of the hair of the dog. It'll make you feel much better.

BUZZ mixes a drink for them.

BUZZ

Well, Jewish lady, I guess we're stuck together. Everything is shut down. Do you know anyone else in town?

TINA

No I don't. The voicemail said all my coworkers took the last flight home.

BUZZ

Let me cook some breakfast for you. Do you like Huevos Rancheros?

TINA

Yes I do. But I usually make it Jewish style with a little smoked salmon.

BUZZ

Well, I don't have any of that but I'm sure you'll like it.

TINA

This place is such a fucking mess!

TINA resigns herself to the situation and begins to wash the dishes.

BUZZ smiles a big toothy grin at her as he breaks eggs in one of the bowls she just washed. She keeps washing the dishes that are piled high in the sink.

TINA

They said on the news we have to wash our hands for 20 seconds every time.

As she washes her hands.

TINA

Didn't they say to sing happy birthday for 20 seconds?

You better start washing your hands more too.

She throws down the food and dishes he is using to cook with. The dishes make a CRASHING SOUND.

BUZZ

Hey stop it!

TINA

Wash your hands first, darling.

She smiles at him. They keep working. BUZZ finishes cooking and puts the food on the table. They eat.

BUZZ

So the news said this could be a deadly disease. Cause it's a new virus. If people die, do you think it is really because they didn't wash their hands?

TINA

I don't know but I'm scared.

BUZZ

I guess this shows we have to be thankful for anything we have before it's taken away.

She holds his hand for a second.

TINA

Yes. Let's make love again after breakfast.

It feels like they are artificially taking away our freedom. They said we can't eat in restaurants anymore.

Or even do things outside like go to the beach. What kind of crazy country do you live in?

BUZZ

Don't get me started on that. But they are doing something like this all around the world. They say this is an invisible enemy.

TINA

But even though it's very expensive for us Brazillians don't they call America the land of the free?

BUZZ

Yes but no one wants to get sick. Our great patriot Patrick Henry said "Give me liberty or give me death." but how many people would really choose death? They just showed us a little while ago on the news how terrible it was in China, right?

TINA

I guess when it all comes down to it, no believes that crap and they'd rather be under house arrest than risk living.

BUZZ

Apparently, I remember a week ago this all started with wall street. All of a sudden the market went way down and people online started to talk about this virus. They said it could only be transmitted to animals and then they said it could go to humans too. We didn't know how bad it was or why it has hit the market so hard. I went out to sing Karaoke and everyone was told to wash their hands before they went home. Then on the news the president got on stage and told people to not gather in groups and always stand 6ft apart while he didn't. I called my Imam to see if it was real.

TINA

Let's turn on the news again

The news rambles on incessantly in the background.

What's that? We can't even go for a walk on the beach anymore?

This is crazy! I thought it only spreads indoors, from person to person.

BUZZ

Oh my God, I wanted to take you surfing today. Well I guess it's better being 6ft apart than 6 ft. under.

Henry the 8<sup>th</sup> waited out a quarantine during the black plague while many others died. Shakespeare did some of his best work under quarantine too.

TINA

You're such a boring know it all. I just don't know if I can stand you.

BUZZ

Well it takes two to tango.

TINA takes out her phone and put on some tango music.

TINA

Well then, let's dance!

She grabs him and they tango.

TINA

Ole!

They fall on the floor laughing after the dance. They kiss.

TINA

God you stink. You really need a shower.

BUZZ

Sorry. Why don't you join me?

TINA

If you were any of kind of man you'd sneak me into the ocean and take me surfing anyway.

BUZZ

Tina, I don't like this anymore than you do but I'm not gonna get us sick and I'm not gonna get arrested.

TINA

You're just not my type. You have the heart of a chicken.

She mocks him by cackling like a chicken.

BUZZ

Look, you're not a prisoner here. You can leave anytime you like.

TINA

You know I don't have any place else to go.

BUZZ

Well then I suggest you compromise. Let's start with your morals.

He picks her up and leads her into the bathroom for a shower. The door closes.

FADE TO:

Them drying off from the shower with towels.

TINA

I'm hungry! She puts the towel on and takes a look inside his refrigerator.

BUZZ

We have a few things to eat. What would you like to cook for me?

TINA

What are you talking about? I don't cook. The only thing I make for dinner are restaurant reservations. Why don't you make something instead?

BUZZ

Well I've got a few TV dinners and some left over goat from my Imam's party.

TINA

What a weirdo!

She checks the freezer.

Give me a TV dinner.

BUZZ

Okay. Which one do you want? I've got cheesy chicken and rice or orange chicken.

TINA

Which ever one that won't make me vomit.

BUZZ

Now look! Stop it. Don't make me lose my appetite. I can dress it up a bit with some cashew nuts or something. Would that please her highness?

TINA

That'll have to do I guess.

BUZZ

Good. How about some tomatoes and shredded goat meat in it?

TINA

How the hell did I get stuck with you?

Absolutely not. Tomatoes are okay though.

BUZZ

Okay you're highness.

Tina's phone buzzes.

TINA

I've got to get that.

It's my boss. It's text that says there's gonna be a Zoom meeting tomorrow,  
whatever that is, so I've gotta get ready.

But I'm so hungry, especially to go home.

