Godfrey Side

from *Capriccio Radio*By Lawrence Rinkel
Directed by Tony Tambasco
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GODFREY

Before I came here, I spent four years managing Carlos Suarez, in my opinion the greatest country singer of his time. Ever hear of him? No, I didn't think so. Well, we were touring all these little towns. 'cause Carlos wanted everyone should have a chance to hear him. So one morning we pull into this Alabama truck stop, and this skinny kid behind the counter, 18, 19, scraggly little beard, well he sees Carlos and he goes, "Hey, man, I'm comin' to your concert tonight." So Carlos goes, "Cool, where va sittin'," and the kid points way up, you know the cheap seats, and Carlos he puts on this wicked grin and says, "Oh no you're not," and he comps the kid four house seats fifth row center, backstage passes, steak dinner on us, and you wouldn't believe this kid's face. So the kid brings his friend, their girlfriends, Carlos dedicates sets to the girlfriends, and afterwards we give them gift bags —posters, photos, all his CDs, hand-signed, the works. And just that morning here was this nobody behind a counter frying bacon and eggs, but that night he cleaned up, nice threads, boots, a little style, and the kid, he kept shaking Carlos's hand and saying over and over, "Best day of my life, man, best fuckin' day of my life." And I only saw it then, the kid had these beautiful ice-blue eyes, glowing like sapphires, and Carlos he says to me, "Four little angels, Jim, I just saw four little angels come down from heaven." And are you going to tell me what that kid and his friends went through doesn't matter because it's not your artsy-fartsy highfalutin classical music?