VEEP
Episode #410
“Election Night”

Teleplay by:
Simon Blackwell & Tony Roche

Story by:
Armando Iannucci, Simon Blackwell & Tony Roche
[HBO ENTERTAINMENT OPENING LOGO]

INT. HOTEL SUITE BEDROOM - NIGHT.

President Meyer is sitting on the edge of the bed staring out the window. Kent knocks as he enters.

KENT
East coast polls are closing, ma’am.

Tom knocks as he enters.

TOM
Ma’am? History’s calling, and it won’t go to voicemail.

Gary knocks as he enters.

GARY
Hey. You okay, ma’am?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh, I’d love one, Gary. Thank you.

GARY
Okay, I’ll get, I’ll get you one.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Well, I’ve asked America if she wants me to be her president. Now she’s gonna give us her answer. (clears throat)

GARY
America doesn’t just love you, ma’am, she is in love with you. (chuckles)

PRESIDENT MEYER
(chuckles)
MIKE (OS)
We’ve lost Kentucky!

01:00:53

[MUSIC IN]

[OPENING SEQUENCE]

EXT. TV STUDIO - NIGHT.

Establishing shot.

Election Night
7:15 pm

DAN (VO)
I assume you reached out to...

INT. TV STUDIO HAIR AND MAKE-UP ROOM - NIGHT.

Dan and Amy are seated at dressing mirrors.

DAN
...the O’Brien camp. You taking a meeting with Charlotte or with Kim?

AMY
No, I, I haven’t contacted the O’Brien team.

DAN
Amy, if he wins, our lobbying stock is gonna droop like a chimp’s tits. We’re not gonna be the golden kids anymore. We gotta stay on his radar.

AMY
But we need to be in with her, too. She might win.

DAN
Well, we’re on air I’m gonna keep in with her. Off air, I’m telling the Nazis that she’s hiding in the attic.
Greg enters.

01:01:27

GREG
Hey. Hi.

AMY
Hi.

DAN
Hey.

GREG
So, we have, uh, Sally Davenport with us, of course. We’ve also got Matty Curtis.

AMY
Wow.

DAN
Love that guy. [OVERLAP]

AMY
The online statistics savant?

GREG
Yeah. In mid-terms, he predicted the margin in every senate seat, so suck it, Fox.

DAN, AMY
(laughs)

AMY
Oh.

Matty stands in the doorway.

MATTY
So are we doing this, or what?

AMY
(laughs)

GREG
Hey, well, thank god you’re here. No one else here knows how tonight will go. Have fun.

01:01:49

AMY
Yeah, I’ll see you out there.

DAN
Okay.

MATTY
So, closest election in living memory.

DAN
Yeah.

AMY
Yeah.

MATTY
I hope you guys are prepared.

DAN
We will do our best.

MATTY
Well, we’re gonna need better than that.

AMY
Okay.

MATTY
I’m kidding. I’m just kidding.

AMY
(chuckles)

MATTY
But you better be good.

[MUSIC IN]

Matty exits.
EXT. VENUE - NIGHT.

Establishing shot.

**Meyer-James Rally, Baltimore**

01:02:02

**SOUND GUY (VO)**

Sorry, guys. We need this area...

INT. VENUE - NIGHT.

The sound guy talks to Jonah and Richard as others set up production equipment.

**SOUND GUY**

...to be clear. Hey, wait. It’s the testicle man.

**JONAH**

Guilty as charged. Check ‘em, don’t neglect ‘em.

**RICHARD**

This whole scrotum situation’s really working out for you, sir.

**JONAH**

That hearing was terrible, but it really got my face out there, you know?

**RICHARD**

You’re the face of workplace bullying and genital health.

**JONAH**

Look at this. Mike wants me up in the presidential suite to get a one on one thank you from the president. How do I look?

**RICHARD**

Great.

**JONAH**

Thanks.

01:02:27

JONAH
Oh, no, no, no. Uh, one on one.

RICHARD
Oh, yeah. Okay.

EXT. MARRIOTT HOTEL – NIGHT.
Establishing shot.

Marriott Hotel, Baltimore

DAN (VO)
Matty, this is-

BEN (VO)
Oh, man.

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – NIGHT.

BEN
Election nights are my cocaine. It used to be election nights and cocaine. I wouldn’t mind cocaine, but-

TOM
If Fox says it’s close, then it must be. Then again, they said the rapture was close.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Anything yet?

TOM
Indiana and South Carolina just called for O’Brien.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Eh.

KENT
Okay, Vermont and Connecticut. Yep,
they’re for us.

01:02:46

PRESIDENT MEYER
Okay.

GARY
Yeah! Vermont! Yeah, Connecticut! (laughs)

PRESIDENT MEYER
Okay, settle down. A bowl of hair could win those states.

MIKE
Ma’am?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Yeah?

MIKE
Do you have a moment for Jonah?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh, Jonah. Oh, yeah. I want to thank you for your work on men’s health, and talking about that bullying that you had to endure.

JONAH
Thank you, ma’am. It was my honor-

PRESIDENT MEYER
You know what? I need to thank Vermont.

Gary leads Jonah out of the suite.

GARY
Yeah, that’s it, Jonah. It’s been a busy night.

JONAH
What was that? I got like four seconds.
GARY
Well most people get just two.

ERICSSON
Projections for Wisconsin, ma’am.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Great.

ERICSSON
I haven’t read them yet. I’m saving that for when I go to prison.

BEN
Even money they give you the chair.

CATHERINE
No one came out of the hearings unscathed, Bill. I had to ditch my fiancé.

ERICSSON
I’ll be thinking about that while I’m with whichever guy makes me his prison fiancé.

CATHERINE
Ew.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh Gary. I asked a friend to come and be with me tonight.

GARY
How nice!

PRESIDENT MEYER
Yeah, Karen.

BEN
Fuck.

PRESIDENT MEYER
What?
01:03:28

GREG (on TV)
Senator O’Brien has 33 electoral votes...

INT. TV STUDIO – CONTINUOUS.

Greg, Sally, Matty, Amy and Dan on set as CNN broadcasts their coverage.

GREG (on TV)
...based on our projection, President Meyer has ten. Is this significant, Dan?

DAN
Oh, I, I think it’s far, far too early to tell at this point. I mean the election really is in its infancy.

MATTY
Very significant. Uncertainty in battle ground states is bleeding into other areas. It’s the suburbs that are gonna decide this contest.

GARY
Well Amy, Dan, who do you feel will win tonight?

AMY
It’s so close.

DAN
So close.

AMY
It’s a, it’s a tough call to make... at this point.

DAN
Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. And, and not just...

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – CONTINUOUS.
DAN (on TV)
...for us, Greg, but, but for America.
I-

01:03:53

BEN
That was transcendent bullshitting.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Well I’ll tell you one thing. If I do lose, I’m gonna lose like a winner.

BEN
You’re not gonna lose. Okay?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Right. Right.

BEN
You’re, you’re, you’re gonna win in, in a slide. You know? Uh, marginally.

Karen knocks as she enters.

KAREN
(laughs)

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh my god! Look who’s here!

KAREN
Hi, it’s Karen.

PRESIDENT MEYER
It’s Karen!

Karen and President Meyer hug.

KAREN
Oh! Hi.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Hi. [OVERLAP] Everybody, Karen.

KAREN
Oh, hi Tom. Karen. Yeah, we met at the convention. Okay.

Tom walks into an adjoining room and closes the door.

01:04:20

KAREN
Tell me how you’re doing.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Well, I’m trying to stay positive.

MIKE
We lost Oklahoma. Which we were expected to, so... it’s only seven votes. Ah!

Mike reaches for the door handle and pulls away quickly from the shock.

MIKE
These damn hotel carpets. I keep getting that static electric shock.

KAREN
You need one of those ionic bracelets that grounds you.

MIKE
Good call.

ERICSSON
It’s the prison toilet situation which preys on one’s mind. Defecating in full view of another man, that’s unthinkable.

KENT
Forgive me, Bill, but I don’t wish to ever discuss this.

BEN
Yeah Bill, put a cork in it, will ya? You know, that actually may help.

GARY
Hey listen, how much did you pay your lawyers? Because I lawyered up for the hearings, and they charged me fifteen grand, and they only said words. (chuckles) You know?

01:04:59

KENT
Shh! There’s a call coming.

BEN
He’s like a native American tracker. He can hear it in the wind.

SALLY (on TV)
Senator O’Brien is the predicted victor in the great state of Minnesota with ten electoral votes.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh fuck! I thought that was ours!

KENT
I thought we had it.

KAREN
I wasn’t entirely sure.

ERICSSON
Ma’am.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Shit.

ERICSSON
If you’ll excuse me for one second. I’m not saying we will, because we won’t, but if we do lose and you’re an outgoing president, you could...

PRESIDENT MEYER
I could pardon you?

ERICSSON
Yes.
PRESIDENT MEYER
That wouldn’t look good. You’d be the first person to say that.

ERICSSON
I’m not entirely sure I would in this circumstance. If, if there’s any way-

01:05:31

PRESIDENT MEYER
Hey Bill, I got a lot on the line with my presidency right now, so I don’t really have time to be thinking about your... whatever the fuck it is.

ERICSSON
Probable imprisonment.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Exactly.

ERICSSON
Thank you, ma’am.

PRESIDENT MEYER
You’re welcome.

[MUSIC IN]

EXT. WHITE HOUSE – WEST WING – NIGHT.

Establishing shot.

West Wing

KIM (VO)
What are we gonna do if O’Brien wins?

INT. WEST WING – SUE’S AREA – NIGHT.

Sue and Kim are watching election coverage.

KIM
Set up an office for Selina at the Betty Ford Clinic?
SUE
No. I’ve applied for a job outside. Politics bores me. It bores the living hell out of me. God, it’s boring.

01:05:56

SUE
Amy looks off her game, distracted.

KIM
I only really know Amy as the woman who rushed everywhere clutching her phone like it contained her frozen embryos.

SUE
She’s a workaholic. Works frantically to avoid dealing with her weird mix of lack of self-worth and narcissism. I really like her.

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT.

MIKE
Uh, ma’am, I don’t mean to be the bearer of bad news, but, um-

KENT
They called Wisconsin! Projected as an O’Brien win.

MIKE
That was the bad news, which in the end, I didn’t bear.

INT. TV STUDIO - CONTINUOUS.

Greg, Sally, Matty, Amy and Dan on set as CNN broadcasts their coverage.

GREG
Well this is certainly something not many people saw coming.
MATTY
For me, it’s the domino that signals an O’Brien victory tonight.

DAN
This is a big, big win for O’Brien, and I think the Meyer team is gonna be feeling that. The, the bigness.

01:06:39

GREG
Mm-hmm. Amy, is the race already slipping away from your former boss?

AMY
No. No. Um, a lot of the polls have not closed yet, so no. No, you don’t... It’s no.

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – NIGHT.

President Meyer and Tom are seated together.

PRESIDENT MEYER
I think O’Brien’s gonna win this election.

TOM
O’Brien can’t be president. He’s still contracted to be the KFC logo.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Yeah.

TOM
You’re gonna win this, ma’am.

PRESIDENT MEYER
I don’t know.

TOM
Ah, you are.

PRESIDENT MEYER
You think you would have won?
TOM
What do you mean?

PRESIDENT MEYER
If you’d been the candidate, you think you would have won?

TOM
(laughs)

01:07:10

PRESIDENT MEYER
‘Cause that’s a speculation, you know?

TOM
What do you think, Karen?

KAREN
About something specific or...?

TOM
Should the, uh, should the president and I have swapped roles?

KAREN
For...?

TOM
For the, uh, the election, this election. There’s an election going on.

KAREN
Oh. (laughs) Well you’re asking me a hypothetical question, and I need to answer it as best I can.

TOM
(laughs) Okay. Well, you just did.

KAREN
Great. (laughs)

[MUSIC IN]

INT. WEST WING – CORRIDOR – MOMENTS LATER.
Sue walks through the hallway while talking on her cellphone.

01:07:36

SUE
Amy, I saw your instability on TV. Call me when you get this. Get someone else to dial if you’re in a straightjacket.

INT. TV STUDIO - CONTINUOUS.

Greg, Sally, Matty, Amy and Dan on set, waiting for the break to end. Amy walks over to Dan.

DAN
Hey, I’m sending some of our data to O’Brien. If he wins this thing, I need to kiss his ass.

AMY
Mm-hmm. I’m going. I have to go.

DAN
Wha- no, you can’t do that.

AMY
Yeah, no, I have to see this play out with Selina. I’ve spent a third of my life leading up to this night, so...

DAN
Are- Amy...

Amy approaches Greg.

AMY
Greg, I have to go.

GREG
You have to go?

AMY
Yeah.
GREG
What does that mean? This is not summer camp.

AMY
Well, I just, I, I feel that I’m needed elsewhere.

GREG
Oh, well, then please. Go. Some of our viewers were complaining that you’re shrill anyway, so...

AMY
Oh, shrill? No, no. I’m never shrill, and that’s...

GREG
Oh.

AMY
Oh, and, and you’re acting as though I’m sounding shrill right now? Yeah. Yeah. Keep making that face...

GREG
Ow.

AMY
...implying that I’m shrill!

GREG
Hey, could someone check the parking lot? I think all the alarms are going off.

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – NIGHT.

MIKE
Sorry for your loss, ma’am. I, I mean about Wisconsin, not a person.

Mike touches President Meyer’s arm and shocks her.

PRESIDENT MEYER
No. Ow!  Fuck!

MIKE
I forgot. I have incompatible shoes with the rug.

PRESIDENT MEYER
God!

01:08:32

MIKE
I’m so sorry.

SALLY (on TV)
We don’t have a lot of good news for President Meyer, although every-

PRESIDENT MEYER
Screw this whole sloppy backseat blowjob of a night anyway. I don’t give a shit.

KENT
Hang on.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Hang on what?

KENT
The Wisconsin call has been rescinded.

KAREN
You mean they went back on the call?

KENT
Yes. Hence my saying that they had.

PRESIDENT MEYER
(gasps)

MIKE
Rescinded is actually not a word that’s immediately clear.

KAREN
This is a 360 degree turn.
KENT
It’s 180.

01:08:54

GARY
Rescinded is my new favorite word!
(laughs)

TOM
We are back in the game, back from the dead.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh. Oh!

TOM
Zombies, bottom of the ninth!

ALL
(overlapping cheers / chatter)

ERICSSON
Ma’am, listen to this. Fox just called Colorado for you.

ALL
(cheering, laughing)

CATHERINE
Oh my god!

TOM
And that Meyer is on fire!

CATHERINE
Look, look, mom. CNN has it, too!

DAN (on TV)
Oh well, it appears that Matty’s domino is standing up straight again.

MATTY (on TV)
Obviously this is a shock, and needs some unpacking.
DAN (on TV)
Mm-hmm.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh yeah, you better unpack it.

TOM (mocking tone)
Let’s see if we can unpack this now.

01:09:25

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh, I got pubic hair on my head.

ALL
(laughs)

MATTY (on TV)
The models are only as good as the data that you put into them, and the data comes from the polling company, so maybe we should talk to them about what went wrong-

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh god.

TOM
Oh, your website is shit!

PRESIDENT MEYER
Shit. It’s shit!

TOM
You (stammers) go back to the shire you fucking moonfaced hobbit.

PRESIDENT MEYER
(laughs) Yeah.

TOM
You know, ma’am, could we, could we talk privately?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh, sure. Yeah.
EXT. MARRIOTT HOTEL - NIGHT.

Establishing shot.

    TOM (VO)
    I’d like to think...

    PRESIDENT MEYER (VO)
    Yeah?

01:09:50

INT. HOTEL SUITE BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS.

President Meyer and Tom are talking.

    TOM
    ...that I have been some use to the campaign.

    PRESIDENT MEYER
    You’ve been great. I mean, you know, everyone’s like (gasp) Tom James! Ooh, it’s Tom James. He’s so dreamy.

    TOM
    (laughs)

    PRESIDENT MEYER
    Sign my tits, Tom James. (laughs) Um, but anyway, so, but you were saying...?

    TOM
    Madame President, I don’t want to be impotent...

    PRESIDENT MEYER
    I, I don’t really-

    TOM
    ...in your administration.

    PRESIDENT MEYER
    Oh, right! I have had this very conversation. You want to be first in, last out of cabinet meetings.
TOM
No.

PRESIDENT MEYER
You want... oh.

TOM
I want to be treasury secretary.

01:10:27

PRESIDENT MEYER
What?

TOM
As well as Veep.

PRESIDENT MEYER
You want to run my economy?  Bank of Tom James?  I am bitterly disappointed th-that you-

TOM
With respect, with respect, this administration was coming apart at the seams during those hearings, and I used six rolls of magic tape to stick it back together.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Anything else you want to ask for?  Want your face on money or something?  Want that TV?  Take it.

EXT. / INT. AMY’S CAR – NIGHT.

Amy drives and Sue is in the passenger’s seat of the car as they head to the Marriott.

REPORTER (on radio)
Coming in, a low voter turn-out in Broward County.  [OVERLAP]

AMY (sings)
It’s a low turn-out in Broward County tonight.
REPORTER (on radio)
...O’Brien or Meyer.

01:11:06

AMY (sings)
(overlapping) No turn-out in Broward County tonight. Sing with me.
(laughs)

SUE
No.

AMY
What’s this, uh, this job you’ve applied for?

SUE
(sighs) It’s a big food corporation. United Seasonings. They supply 90 percent of the country’s paprika.

AMY
Yep, we lobby for them, so my hands are dirty with paprika money. (laughs) I’ll, uh, mention how good you are, though.

SUE
No need. They already know.

AMY
That’s right.

REPORTER (on radio)
This election is too close to call.

AMY (sings)
(overlapping) Too close to call. Too close to call. It’s too close, baby, yeah, too clo-

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT.

KENT
(sighs) It’s unbelievable. It’s still
impossible to call. I’ve known sailors less likely to go either way than this. I, pardon my ribaldry.

01:11:43

PRESIDENT MEYER
Hey, Illinois is still ours, isn’t it?

KENT
Yes. And Iowa called for O’Brien.

TOM
Fuck Iowa. I’d say nuke it, but I think someone already did.

KENT
Pennsylvania’s too close to call; Florida’s too close to call.

BEN
You might gather the general trend is that it’s too close to call.

KENT
Well, the congressional results are similarly tight.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Okay, you don’t need to shake that bag, all right?

BEN
Hm?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Try chewing with your mouth closed. See if that works.

MIKE
All right, they’re saying we’re gonna get a clearer picture of this whole thing in about an hour.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh god, I’m so tense. I could crack a walnut in my ass.
CATHERINE
All right, mom, come with me.

PRESIDENT MEYER
What?

01:12:17

CATHERINE
Just get out of here until this picture becomes clearer. Maybe have some mother-daughter time?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Okay.

EXT. VENUE - NIGHT.

Establishing shot.

[MUSIC IN]

Meyer-James Rally, Baltimore

CROWD
(cheering)

INT. VENUE - NIGHT.

Jonah is on stage addressing the crowd.

JONAH
Everybody give it up for Band of the Horses. Wait, what? Oh band, oh, I’m sorry. I’m sorry. Give it up for Band of Horses. Band of Horses. I just want to say thank you for, uh, supporting the, uh, men’s health, uh, campaign and, uh, letting me tell guys that they should feel themselves up.

CROWD
(laughs)

JONAH
Easiest job I ever had.
CROWD
(laughs)

JONAH
(laughs) You guys remember my, uh, you guys remember my catch phrase, right? Remember it? Just to jog your memories, remember: Check ‘em; Don’t neglect ‘em.

01:13:00

CROWD
Check ‘em; Don’t neglect ‘em!

JONAH
(laughs) Nice! You guys remember the A-Team, right? A-Team? I’m the A-Team. Mr. T. Um, uh, they were, they were supposed to be on the run, but, uh, you know, they were in a really distinctive van. Yeah, what was, what was up, what was up with that?

INT. HOTEL SUITE BEDROOM – NIGHT.

President Meyer and Catherine are sitting in bed talking.

PRESIDENT MEYER
I’m feeling kind of zen-ish, you know? I realize that there’s nothing more I can do. Things are out of my control, and I just have to let the tension go.

Kent knocks on the door.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Get the fuck out of here, Kent!

KENT (OS)
Apologies.

PRESIDENT MEYER
I’m sorry about you and Jason. I know that my job can be hard on you and that was a bit of a bummer, huh?
CATHERINE
Yeah, just a little bit.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Yeah.

01:13:46

CATHERINE
But, um, like you said, I, I can’t be married to a lobbyist, so...

PRESIDENT MEYER
Yeah. And he was like 60.

CATHERINE
He was 35.

PRESIDENT MEYER
How did he take it?

CATHERINE
It’s hard to tell. He, he’s not really big on emotions.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Mm-hmm. You know Catherine, men are horrible. Okay? I mean, I have to just tell it to you like it is, honey, but all men are awful. Really. And the key is to just find a man who’s the least horrible.

CATHERINE
Okay. Well...

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh, look at the photo of you and me!

CATHERINE
You look like me in that picture.

PRESIDENT MEYER
No. No, uh-uh. Not at all.

CATHERINE
Oh, a little bit. [OVERLAP]

PRESIDENT MEYER
No. Uh-uh.

CATHERINE
Oh.

01:14:37

PRESIDENT MEYER
Uh, there’s daddy. Horrible.

CATHERINE
Mom.

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – MOMENTS LATER.

President Meyer joins the others.

REPORTER (on TV)
Twenty Electoral College votes--

PRESIDENT MEYER
Okay, I’m back. How long was I gone?

MIKE
About 20 minutes.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Is that it? God, it always seems longer with Catherine. All right, so what’s my destiny here?

KENT
Still unfathomable.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Why can’t the American people make up their minds?

Sue and Amy enter.

KAREN
I mean how hard is it to decide between two candidates? (laughs)
AMY
Oh, for fuck’s sake.

SUE
Amy.

01:15:03

MIKE
Hey, Sue. Amy.

AMY
Hi.

MIKE
Nice to see you.

AMY
Mm.

MIKE
I gotta get a little space between Karen’s mouth and my ears. Uh, I’m gonna hit the soda machine. Anybody want anything?

BEN
Uh, just something with real sugar. No sweeteners or I’ll shit my pants.

MIKE
Welcome back.

AMY
Thank you. (sighs, clears throat)

SUE
Hello, ma’am.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh wow. TV’s Amy Brookheimer. (laughs)

AMY
I felt that I needed to be here, ma’am. Um, we went through so much together getting you here, so-
PRESIDENT MEYER
Pennsylvania results are about to come in. They’re about to call this.

REPORTER (on TV)
...result, and once that has declared-

01:15:34

AMY
So how is it...?

KENT
Pennsylvania called for O’Brien.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Ugh! No way!

AMY
I said we should have gone back there.

PRESIDENT MEYER
And you were right. Why did you ever resign?

AMY
It’s, it’s hard to understand.

DAN (on TV)
I think Pennsylvania is the real significant call tonight.

INT. TV STUDIO - CONTINUOUS.

GARY
Pennsylvania, you had, uh, that as a Meyer win, is that right, Matty?

MATTY
Yeah, uh, (stammers) yes. That’s, um, yes, we did.

DAN
Can’t predict everything all the time, can you? Even though that is your job.
GARY
Is this the end for President Meyer, Dan?

01:16:01

DAN
Well, I would not be surprised if the president...

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS.

DAN (on TV)
...were thinking about calling Senator O’Brien very soon to concede this election.

AMY
Well what do experts know?

KENT
They got O’Brien, 267; us, 207.

BEN
If those are right, it looks like he’s got the election.

TOM
These are projections. These are not real results. They’re ghosts. You can’t concede. I know you want to, but you, but you really, really shouldn’t.

KAREN
Or...? What?

PRESIDENT MEYER
I’m gonna concede. I, uh, I don’t see any point in dragging this on, and I’d like to have a little bit of dignity in defeat. So, um, I’m gonna call O’Brien. This fucking job sucks anyway.

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY - NIGHT.
Mike is standing at the vending machine feeding coins into it.

MIKE
Please don’t electrocute me. (laughs)

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – NIGHT.

Kent talks into the phone, then hands it to President Meyer.

01:17:09

KENT
The next voice you hear will be the president.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Bill?

O’BRIEN (VO)
A fascinating night, ma’am.

INT. O’BRIEN’S HOTEL – CONTINUOUS.

O’Brien talks into phone, surrounded by his staff.

O’BRIEN
Were you calling me for a particular reason, Madame President?

INTERCUT TO President Meyer and staff.

PRESIDENT MEYER
I, I want to just start by thanking you for conducting a very dignified...

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY – CONTINUOUS.

Mike walks down the hall with snacks in hand. He answers his phone.

MIKE

Ben.

BEN (VO)
Yeah, Mike, uh, Selina is conceding...
INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – CONTINUOUS.

01:17:29

BEN
So forget about the soda and just grab a crate of whiskey.

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY – CONTINUOUS.

Mike hangs up the phone.

MIKE
Fuck.

Mike’s phone rings. He answers.

MIKE
I know.

INT. TV STUDIO – CONTINUOUS.

DAN
Time to turn that noose back into a necktie, buddy. I got something you’re gonna want to hear.

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY – CONTINUOUS.

MIKE
Dan, there’s nothing useful you can tell me.

INT. TV STUDIO – CONTINUOUS.

DAN
Pennsylvania was the wrong call. We think it’s gonna go Selina. Look, I have no idea how it-

Mike hangs up and runs down the hall.

MIKE
No! Don’t, don’t! Stop the concession!

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – CONTINUOUS.
President Meyer talks into the phone. Everyone is deflated.

01:17:55

PRESIDENT MEYER
So Bill, I feel now is the time to call you and...

Mike rushes in. He frantically writes on paper as President Meyer stalls her phone call.

MIKE
Don’t. No, no, no.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Um, also, uh, another thing, um, I’d like to just mention, uh, how’s it going?

INT. O’BRIEN’S HOTEL – CONTINUOUS.

O’BRIEN
How’s it going?

PRESIDENT MEYER (VO)
You and I are the only ones...

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – NIGHT.

PRESIDENT MEYER
...sort of going through the same thing and I just, I... (gasps)

President Meyer reads Mike’s note.

INT. O’BRIEN’S HOTEL – CONTINUOUS.

O’BRIEN
Ma’am, uh, forgive me for being direct, but you’re not conceding?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Um, no. I don’t know why you would, um, even imagine that I would be doing that, Bill.
GARY (on TV)
...uh, Pennsylvania go to Selina Meyer.

01:18:24

PRESIDENT MEYER
Uh! Ye- Yeah! I don’t know if you’ve seen this, Bill, but they seem to have called Pennsylvania for me.

INT. O’BRIEN’S HOTEL – CONTINUOUS.

O’BRIEN
Yes, I heard that.

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – NIGHT.

PRESIDENT MEYER
I wonder if it’s anything that you would like to say to me right now.

ALL
(laughing)

INT. O’BRIEN’S HOTEL – CONTINUOUS.

O’BRIEN
I’m taking the White House. Please leave the hot tub on.

[MUSIC IN]

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – NIGHT.

PRESIDENT MEYER
I don’t think so, my friend.

President Meyer hangs up the phone.

ALL
(laughing, cheering)

EXT. VENUE – NIGHT.

Establishing shot.
Meyer-James Rally, Baltimore 1:30 am

JONAH (VO)
Sir...

01:18:48

INT. VENUE - CONTINUOUS.

Jonah talks into phone with Richard at his side.

JONAH
The crowd is getting restless. Uh, the, the band has stopped playing. I’ve given them my best material.

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS.

Kent is on the phone.

JONAH (VO)
...and we don’t know what to do. We need to give them a...

INT. VENUE - CONTINUOUS.

Jonah talks into phone with Richard at his side.

JONAH
...hit of political meth. I think we should send out Tom James.

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS.

Kent is on the phone. The others are nearby.

KENT
Uh, ma’am, would you consider allowing Tom to go out on the rally stage?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Wha... um, well, let’s see. First of all, no. And then the other thing I really wanted to say was, uh, no.

TOM
I’m hearing a no.
KENT
Uh, Jonah, sorry. The answer is...
Oh, hello. Holy...

PRESIDENT MEYER
What?

01:19:14

KENT
...mother of moly.

PRESIDENT MEYER
What is it?

KENT
Fox is calling Washington State for us.

PRESIDENT MEYER
(gasps)

BEN
Yes!

PRESIDENT MEYER
No!

MIKE
They called Ohio!

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh my god! That’s amazing!

BEN
Ohio?

MIKE
No, for O’Brien. I should have said...

PRESIDENT MEYER
Oh. Oh, god.

TOM
Well ABC is saying it’s still too close to call.
PRESIDENT MEYER
Yeah.

BEN
No, they’re calling it now. O’Brien.

01:19:33

PRESIDENT MEYER
Shit!

ERICSSON
Fox again and Politico. New Hampshire to O’Brien, and Ohio.

MIKE
Yes! We took Florida!

ALL
(cheering)

PRESIDENT MEYER
That!

BEN
Twenty-nine.

PRESIDENT MEYER
That is extraordinary!

MIKE
Yes!

PRESIDENT MEYER
What is my number now, Kent?

KENT
Okay, one sec.

TOM
You’re two, uh, you’re...

PRESIDENT MEYER
What?

TOM
Yeah, you’re 256.
BEN
Kent, where does that leave us?

01:19:49

KENT
Okay, it all comes down to Virginia. If O’Brien gets Virginia, he wins. However, if we get Virginia...

GARY
We win!

SUE
No, actually Gary, if we get it, we tie.

KENT
What?

SUE
What? I don’t follow these things that closely, but that’s right, isn’t it, Mr. Davison?

KENT
Yes.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Tie, like it’s a tie?

KENT
Mm-hmm.

PRESIDENT MEYER
You mean we tie?

KENT
You do.

DAN (on TV)
Well the real shock, Greg...

INT. TV STUDIO – CONTINUOUS.

DAN
...is where this leaves us, neck and neck if the president takes Virginia.

GREG
Matty, you’ll forgive me if I sideline you here, Dan...

DAN
Sure.

01:20:16

GREG
You know the president well. What is going on in that Meyer hotel suite right this second?

DAN
The president has a lot of top minds working on her campaign. They’re gonna be all over this.

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – CONTINUOUS.

TOM
What happens when there’s, when there’s a tie?

BEN
Everybody goes online to try to find out what happens if we get a tie.

MIKE
Way ahead of you. Shit, I’m just getting how to tie a tie.

ERICSSON
Is there a book, like an old fashioned, like a paper book?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Jesus Christ, you know? You do your best. You try to serve the people, and then they just fuck you over.

GARY
Yep.
PRESIDENT MEYER
And you know why? Because they’re ignorant and they’re dumb as shit, and that, ladies and gentlemen, is democracy.

GARY
Yep.

01:20:51

PRESIDENT MEYER
God damn it!

BEN
It’s the 12th amendment.

AMY
I have 20th amendment. Yeah.

GARY
Why are there so many amendments? Get it right the first time, people!

MIKE
It’s actually both. Twelfth is superseded by the 20th. They give the House until January 20th to elect the president.

SUE
Each state gets one vote. First candidate to 26 is the new president, and the Senate chooses the V.P.

KENT
When it’s a close election with a ton of House races too close to call. What happens if it’s a tie in the House?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Right.

KENT
Is it a dance-off?
SUE
Well Vice President elect becomes president. Whoever the senate has picked for V.P. will be president.

01:21:21

BEN
Wait, that means...

AMY
That Tom...

TOM
What?

AMY
...could be the president.

TOM
Well I, I had literally no idea. It’s good to be prepared.

SALLY (on TV)
Dan, was this the contingency that the campaign...

PRESIDENT MEYER
So wait, so you mean that I wo- I might lose this election to my fucking vice president?

MIKE
It’ll at least be somebody from our team, ma’am, and that’s good, right?

PRESIDENT MEYER
(sobs)

MIKE
I didn’t mean to make her cry.

President Meyer hugs Amy.

AMY
There, there. Oh, it’s gonna be okay.
Gary awkwardly reaches for President Meyer from behind. Mike shoos him away.

GARY
I’m just gonna put my hands right here.

01:22:07

MIKE
Don’t touch her.

Tom answers his phone.

TOM
Yeah.

INT. VENUE – CONTINUOUS.

Jonah talks into phone with Richard at his side. The crowd is chanting.

JONAH
Sir, I’m sorry to contact you directly, but the crowd is drooling for you.

RICHARD
Yeah, the floor is wet out here.

JONAH
Okay great, thank you.

INT. HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM – NIGHT.

TOM
I’m gonna go rally the rally.

AMY
With all due respect, you need to get your shit together now, lady. Ma’am up. You’re still the leader of the free world. Hm?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Where’s Tom?

KAREN
Oh, uh, he’s gone to talk to the crowd
at the rally.

BEN
What?

01:22:42

PRESIDENT MEYER
The fuck he has.

AMY
Why would you let him do that?

KAREN
Well you don’t work here.

BEN
Well neither do you!

PRESIDENT MEYER
All right. Fuck all of you. I’m going to the rally.

KENT
Well, ma’am, ma’am, that, that would be unprecedented.

PRESIDENT MEYER
No, I’ll tell you what’s unprecedented, Kent. A tie is unprecedented. So is becoming the first lady president. So is that jack-off becoming president through the back door! Okay, the rulebooks been torn up now, and America is wiping its nasty ass with it!

KAREN
Okay.

President Meyer shoves Karen and heads for the door.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Get the fuck out of my way!

KAREN
Ooh!
BEN
Ma’am!

01:23:14
[MUSIC IN]

BEN
Ma’am!

Everybody runs out of the suite, following President Meyer.

INT. VENUE – CONTINUOUS.

The crowd is chanting.

CROWD
Tom James! Tom James! Tom James!
(cheers, applause)

Tom walks on stage and waves to the crowd.

TOM
Thank you.

INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR – CONTINUOUS.

President Meyer blows her nose as she walks with her team following. She hands her used tissue to Gary.

SUE
Okay, I admit this isn’t boring.

KENT
Why make a total of electoral votes an even number?

AMY
Insanity.

INT. VENUE – CONTINUOUS.

Tom is on stage addressing the crowd.

TOM
Listen, I-I know this is, this is a long night. You’re tired and you’re
cold and your legs ache and you need the bathroom. Uh, boy do you need the bathroom.

CROWD
(laughs)

01:23:46

INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR – CONTINUOUS.

President Meyer walks with her team.

PRESIDENT MEYER
That fucking guy with his fucking charm and his fucking son and his fucking wheelchair with his spine all fucked up!

INT. VENUE – CONTINUOUS.

Tom is on stage addressing the crowd.

TOM
My grandmother survived the dust bowl, and, uh, before she died at the age of 89, she told me a secret that she kept for almost 50 years. The story concerned her own-

PRESIDENT MEYER
Ladies and gentlemen, Tom James! How ‘bout it?

President Meyer walks on stage.

CROWD
(cheers, applause)

PRESIDENT MEYER
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Wow. Do I know how to pick ’em? Yep. Well, thank you so much for being here. I know it’s been a wait, and, uh, we really do appreciate your presence. What a night. Right? It’s the night of nights. Um, you know what I want to
do? I want to introduce you to the first daughter of the United States, my daughter, Catherine Selina Meyer. Catherine!

CROWD
(cheers, applause)

01:24:53

Catherine walks on stage.

TOM
Always a delight to have-

PRESIDENT MEYER
She is such a beautiful girl. I am so proud of her.

INT. TV STUDIO – CONTINUOUS.

Gary, Dan and Matty are on the set.

GARY
Well we have another minute or so before we’re prepared to call Virginia. Just checking a couple of precincts. We’ve made some premature calls this evening, so we’re anxious to be absolutely certain this time.

INT. VENUE – CONTINUOUS.

President Meyer continues addressing the crowd.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Why don’t we meet some of the people who lift me up?

CROWD
(applause)

PRESIDENT MEYER
I’d like you to meet them. Guys, come on out. How ’bout these great faces?

INT. TV STUDIO – CONTINUOUS.
GARY
Incredible scenes never happened before, very emotional moment. Dan, do you wish you were there?

01:25:25

DAN
I, I’m sure it’s a very exciting place to be at.

MATTY
There’s never been an election like this.

DAN
No.

MATTY
You must want to be there.

INT. VENUE – CONTINUOUS.

President Meyer is on stage with Tom, Catherine, Karen, Richard, Jonah and the campaign team.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Folks, you don’t know her, but this is Karen Collins, and she is a, has been a friend of mine for a while.

CROWD
(applause)

Gary takes the microphone away from Tom.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Yep. And, uh, Amy Brookheimer’s here. Amy Brookheimer, who so successfully ran my campaign until she became unwell. I’ll tell you somebody else that is not here...

INT. TV STUDIO – CONTINUOUS.

Dan, Matty, Greg and Sally watch President Meyer on the
monitor.

PRESIDENT MEYER
...tonight who was with the campaign, um, quite a while...

01:25:56

GREG
Sounds like it could be you, Dan.

DAN
Well, I, I would be incredibly touched.

PRESIDENT MEYER
...and that is, of course, Leslie Kerr.

CROWD
(applause)

PRESIDENT MEYER
I’m sure...

INT. VENUE – CONTINUOUS.

PRESIDENT MEYER
...Leslie is thanking you, too.

GARY (on TV)
And I’m hearing we can now project a Virginia result. Dan, what is that projection?

DAN
Thank you, Greg. CNN is prepared to make the following projection that Virginia...

[MUSIC IN]

DAN
...with its 13 electoral votes is a win for President Meyer.

CROWD
(applause, cheers)
DAN
This election is a tie.

PRESIDENT MEYER
We did it!

[MUSIC IN]

[END CREDITS]

PRESIDENT MEYER
We have one more hurdle to overcome, and we shall overcome! One more river to cross! One more mountain to climb! But I have been to the mountaintop! Thank you!

President Meyer walks off stage.

INT. VENUE – BACKSTAGE – CONTINUOUS.

President Meyer and her staff follow her off stage.

PRESIDENT MEYER
I don’t know what to do.

MIKE
We don’t do anything.

KAREN
You do what you have to do.

BEN
Yeah, and I’m getting drunk.

AMY (to phone)
Hey Dan, um, when you get this, can you put in a good word for me, uh, with Greg? I think that I need to keep my TV work going.

GARY
Okay, you’re gonna win. (laughs) And if you don’t, I’ll kill myself.

PRESIDENT MEYER
Kent, what happens next? You’ve gotta
know.

KENT
No, I’m afraid not. Some of these House races, they’re still too close to call.

01:27:18

CATHERINE
What does that mean?

KENT
Well presently, we cannot predict the result of the vote in congress on January 20th. We’re in a kind of purgatory.

ERICSSON
Welcome to my world.

CATHERINE
Can you stop thinking about yourself for one second?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Honestly.

ERICSSON
No, because I’m going to prison. Have I mentioned that?

PRESIDENT MEYER
So what are we gonna do here? What-

JONAH
Well, should we drop the balloons?

KENT
No. No balloons.

RICHARD
Maybe we could just drop half of them?

KENT
No!
JONAH
Why do we even have balloons?

TOM
Ma’am, I seriously overstepped the mark going out on stage. That was fucked up.

01:27:44

PRESIDENT MEYER
Yeah. I’ll say. You might want to watch that if you become president.

TOM
If that does happen, wanna be my Veep?

PRESIDENT MEYER
Why don’t you go help them with the balloons?

TOM
Copy that.

[DUNDEE LOGO]

[HBO CLOSING LOGO]

01:28:07

[END OF EPISODE]