

EXT. THE ROMANO RANCH - LATER

The car pulls up to a large pueblo style ranch with a plantation-style home and a small barn, surrounded by thousands of cocoa (chocolate) trees.

On the front porch are two men, one standing over the other sitting in a chair. UNCLE RUBIO (38) notices the car pulling up the drive and quickly jumps from his seat. PAPA (42) moves to the railing of the porch and leans up against it, watching the sun begin to set over his fields.

The car stops in front of the porch and Rubia jumps out, before Gustavo has a chance to help her out. She runs toward the porch.

RUBIA

Uncle Ruby!

UNCLE RUBIO

Ms. Romano! It is so good to see you.

Uncle Rubio drops to a knee as Rubia jumps into his outstretched arms.

UNCLE RUBIO

I brought you a gift, all the way
from...

RUBIA

(interrupting)

Mexico! Gustavo told me. Let me see!

UNCLE RUBIO

(peeved)

Did he now. I need you to close your
eyes, Rubia. Don't open them until you
feel it in your hands.

Rubia closes her eyes smiling bigger than ever before. She opens them and looks down into her palm, revealing a light brown bean. Papa from the front porch turns towards them, crossing his arms.

RUBIA

(downbeat)

A cacao bean? Oh thanks...

UNCLE RUBIO

Ah but I know you see these everyday living here with your Papa. This one is special though.

You see, in Mexico, the trees are able to grow much larger due to the lower elevation. If you plant this bean today, in a few years it might give you...

Uncle Ruby pulls out a large chocolate bar from behind him. Rubia snatches it out of his hands and hugs him again. Uncle Ruby takes off his aztec-style scarf and places it around her.

PAPA

Rubia, your guitar is waiting for you inside. Get 30 minutes of práctica in before bed tonight.

RUBIA

Sí, Papa.

Uncle Ruby stands up and ruffles her hair as she runs inside. Papa just stares at him as he walks through the doorway. Papa looks back out at the field for a moment and then follows.