



Resurrection

Adaptation by J.A. Brown (Based on the story created by Lewis John Carlino)

LOGLINE:

After briefly dying, a young African American woman awakes and is given the power to heal.

SYNOPSIS:

Robin Gentry experiences the afterlife for a brief time after a plane crash that kills her husband, Franklin. As she begins her long process of physical healing, she discovers that she has the ability to heal physical infirmities.

While most people simply accept her gift, her lover Reggie becomes mentally unbalanced and dangerous because she does not place the healings within a religious context. Now a paraplegic, Robin, who briefly died during that incident, is invited back to live with her estranged father, Cliff Manners, in her rural Nicodemus Kansas hometown where most of her extended family still lives.

While at a family barbecue, Robin touches a relative who has a serious nosebleed, seeming to stop the ordinarily serious bleeding with her touch. Robin actually feels the heat in her own hand. Bernice tells her of a woman she once knew who, after a similar back from death experience, returned with the power to heal.

Robin touches her own crippled legs, gradually able to walk without braces or crutches. Robin is able to recover fully from her own injuries. She becomes a minor celebrity, healing whoever she can, which is about 70% of those she attempts.

She doesn't really need to know why she has received these powers, although many others do. Some want to know the scientific reason for her powers. Others don't want her help, believing it is the work of the devil. And others, like Reggie Jones, a man with who she begins a relationship, ultimately believes she is the resurrection of Christ.

RESURRECTION

Written by

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Based on the story created by Lewis John Carlino.

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FADE IN

EXT. ATLANTA GEORGIA - EVENING

SNOW is falling hard. HOLIDAY LIGHTS are seen all around. The STREETS are filled with HOLIDAY SHOPPERS.

ROBIN GENTRY (28) African American walks into DELMONICO'S STEAKHOUSE.

INT. DELMONICO'S STEAKHOUSE RESTAURANT TABLE - CONTINUOUS

ROBIN

Sorry I'm late guys. I had to make a stop and traffic was horrible.

FRIENDS are sitting at a TABLE. FRANKLIN GENTRY (30) an African American, GINA TUCKER (29) an African American, CARLOS SUMMERS (29) Caucasian, MINDY SUMMERS (29) Caucasian.

They are all laughing and looking at their MENUS. Robin kisses Franklin and takes a seat next to him.

FRANKLIN

Hi Honey!

Everyone, acknowledges Robin.

CARLOS

And I told him that Franklin was the one who drove us there and he was drunk.

FRANKLIN

(laughing)

Carlos, that story is so old. That was 5 years ago.

Carlos holds his glass up for a toast.

CARLOS

Wait, wait everyone, I want to purpose a toast to my best friend Franklin! Happy Birthday buddy!

Robin smiles, reaches over and kisses Franklin.

ROBIN

Happy Birthday sweetheart.

They all raise their glasses in the air and touch them together.

FRANKLIN

People, my birthday isn't until tomorrow.

CARLOS

Man, enjoy this evening, you'll be wearing diapers in a few more years.

The table laughs.

FRANKLIN

Ha, ha very funny

GINA

Look old man, tonight is made for celebrating, plus Carlos and I are going to my sister's tomorrow. She's having her first child next week.

FRANKLIN

I really appreciate getting together like this. You don't know how much this means to me.

MINDY

Robin, I hear a bit of the southwest in your voice where are you from?

ROBIN

I'm from Nicodemus Kansas.

MINDY

Nicodemus, I don't think I ever heard of Nicodemus, where is it close to.

FRANKLIN

It's a small quiet church town, not far from Wichita.

Franklin stands up and places his napkin on the seat.

FRANKLIN

Excuse me, my old ass bladder isn't what it used to be. I'll Be right back.

CARLOS

Wait up man, I'll go with you.

Franklin and Carlos stand up from the table. Robin, Mindy, and Gina are sitting by themselves.

GINA
(excited)
So what did you get Franklin?

Robin looks around.

ROBIN
I won teacher of the year last month and that came with a small check.

MINDY
Yes and?

ROBIN
(smiling)
I took the money and put down on a cruise to Italy.

GINA
(smiling and jealous)
Girl, why can't Carlos do that? Franklin is going to love it.

ROBIN
I hope so, it wasn't cheap.

MINDY
Where are you going to get the rest of the money from?

ROBIN
I saved up a little, but it's only going to cost me \$170 dollars a month for the next 12 months and I can afford that, plus I need to get away for a little while and use my new passport.

GINA
Does Franklin have one?

ROBIN
Yes, he just got back from Canada two months ago. He set up the new bank branch in Ontario. Girl, here they come.

Franklin and Carlos come back and sit down.

FRANKLIN
(excited, looking around
the table)
Ladies, are we ready to order?

ROBIN
I want the New York strip, anyone
for appetizers?

They sit looking at the menus. The waiter approaches the table.

INT. ROBIN AND FRANKLIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

O.S. The sounds of passionate MOANS and the BED SQUEAKING.
We hear the RADIO playing SMOOTH JAZZ.

Robin screams out. Franklin rolls off of Robin and he lays next to her.

ROBIN
(breathing heavily)
Wow, we need to celebrate your
birthday every night. That was
great!

O.S. Chimes of the clock signaling midnight rings out.

ROBIN
(smiling and excited)
It's midnight, Happy Birthday
honey!

FRANKLIN
Thank you! Well another year,
another age.

Robin kiss Franklin. He starts to go to sleep as Robin lays on top of his chest.

ROBIN
I have your present honey, do you
want it?

Franklin's eyes open.

FRANKLIN
Didn't you already give it to me?

ROBIN
Ha, ha. Yes, but it's not that.

FRANKLIN
 (being humorous and
 smiling)
 It wasn't, then what could top what
 you just gave me?

Robin reach for her robe and glides out of bed. She walks
 over to her HANDBAG sitting on top of the dresser.

She reaches in and pulls out the AIRLINE and CRUISE tickets.

ROBIN
 Close your eyes baby.

Franklin closes his eyes. She takes off her robe and falls
 back into bed. She holds the tickets over Franklin's face.

ROBIN
 Ok, you can open your eyes now.

Franklin opens his eyes.

ROBIN
 Surprise!

Franklin sits up.

FRANKLIN
 What is this?

Franklin takes the tickets.

ROBIN
 Their airline tickets to California
 and cruise ticket's to Italy.

FRANKLIN
 Robin this is great, but how--

ROBIN
 I know what you're going to say
 Franklin, don't worry I used the
 money from my teacher of the year
 and put down on it. The rest I can
 pay off.

FRANKLIN
 You know they just laid off some
 people at the bank. I don't know
 what's going to happen with me.
 Mr.

(MORE)

FRANKLIN (CONT'D)

Roberts said that they won't be anymore rounds of layoffs until next year, but they also said that they weren't going to close the bank on Washington Street and they did.

ROBIN

Look, you can't keep worrying about things clearly out of your control.

FRANKLIN

Yes, but the economy is brutal and it's not going to start getting any better no time soon especially with that idiot in the white house.

ROBIN

So what! Are you always going to be fearful or are we going to have fun? Look Franklin, your birthday comes once a year. We're not getting any younger honey. This will be your birthday and our Christmas present wrapped up in one vacation, we can worry about paying it back once the bill comes.

FRANKLIN

Do you even have a passport?

Robin shows her passport.

ROBIN

Got it right here! Anymore excuses?

FRANKLIN

(smiling)

No, I don't have anymore excuses honey, you're right, we need to get away.

Robin and Franklin passionately kiss. She looks under the sheet.

ROBIN

You got anymore for me?

FRANKLIN

You can't beat a dead horse.

ROBIN

I'm going to try.

She reaches under the sheets.

ROBIN
What do I have here?

FRANKLIN
(laughing)
Ok, one more time!

They begin to laugh as she pulls the covers over their heads.

EXT. AIRPORT DEPARTURE - TWO DAYS LATER - MORNING

The snow is coming down hard in big flakes. Their FORD PICKUP TRUCK gets closer to the display of christmas lights at the AIRPORT.

PEDESTRIANS walk into the departure terminal carrying LUGGAGE. The pickup truck pulls up to the departure area curb.

The DRIVER'S DOOR open and an elderly woman GRANDMA SYLVIA (62) African American gets out. She sighs as her breath emanates cold steam from her mouth.

The passenger door opens and Franklin departs the truck followed by Robin.

GRANDMA SYLVIA
Are you sure your plane is going to depart on time honey?

ROBIN
(rubbing her cold hands)
I don't know Grandma, the weather report says the snow should have stopped by now. I hope our flight isn't delayed.

FRANKLIN
We'll be fine Grandma, thank you again for taking us to the airport.

GRANDMA SYLVIA
No problem honey. I just wish these roads weren't so bad. They need to put some salt on them.

FRANKLIN
You watch yourself on the way back Grandma. The roads are still icy this time of morning.

GRANDMA SYLVIA
(excited)
Have a wonderful cruise and Merry
Christmas!

She turns to Franklin and gives him a big hug.

GRANDMA SYLVIA
Happy Birthday honey, you can open
your presents when you get back.
I'll see you next Saturday. What
time does your flight get in.

ROBIN
We get in at 6:45 pm. Be here about
7:00, right Franklin?

FRANKLIN
That's sounds about right.

GRANDMA SYLVIA
Ok child. Come give me a hug.

Robin and Sylvia hug goodbye. Sylvia kisses Robin and
Franklin smiles. He walks over to Sylvia.

FRANKLIN
(smiling)
Merry Christmas Grandma. We'll see
you in a few days.

ROBIN
Merry Christmas Sylvia, bye now.

Franklin grabs their luggage and walks into the departure
terminal and over to the check-in counter.

INT. TSA SCREENING AREA LINE - MORNING

Robin and Franklin stand in line for the TSA screening.

FRANKLIN
I hate these lines.

ROBIN
I know, but that's what we have to
do now to stay safe.

FRANKLIN
I'll bet you breakfast that I'll be
searched by TAS when I go through
the detector?

ROBIN
(laughing)
No silly, I'm not betting you, plus
that bald head makes you look
suspicious.

Franklin rubs his head smiling. Robin walk through the
detector. The TAS agent allow her to pass.

Robin gathers her things from the x-ray machine CONVEYOR
BELT. Franklin walks through the machine. The machine go's
off.

TSA AGENT
Sir, do you have any medal objects
in your pockets?

FRANKLIN
No.

TSA AGENT
Do you have on a belt?

Franklin lifts his shirt and shows his belt.

FRANKLIN
Sorry, I must have forgot.

Franklin takes off his belt and hands it to the TAS agent.
The agent places the belt into a CLOTHES BEND for another x-
ray.

Franklin walks through the medal detector again and the
machine go's off again.

FRANKLIN
(talking to himself)
Dammit!

TSA AGENT
Sir, can you please come over here.

The TAS agent escorts Franklin over to a screening mat. He
raise his arms again. The TAS agent uses his metal detector.

Two other agents ruffle through Franklin's carry on bag and
run tests on it. Robin is laughing in the background.

INT. TSA SCREENING AREA LINE - MORNING

An angry Franklin gathers his things from the conveyor belt.

FRANKLIN
I told you Robin, it never fails.

ROBIN
You took off your belt, why did the machine keep beeping.

FRANKLIN
My shoes, I didn't take them off.

ROBIN
(laughing)
Good lord Franklin.

INT. CONCOURSE TERMINAL - MORNING

Franklin and Robin come rushing to their gate.

FRANKLIN
Our gate is down here honey.

ROBIN
Franklin, we're all the way down there. Good gracious.

SPEAKER VOICE
Flight 721 to California is boarding at gate 4. Last call for flight 721 to California boarding at gate 4. All passengers--

Robin frantically waves to the attendant.

ROBIN
(out of breath)
We're here! We're here, please don't take off with out us?

Franklin runs up to the door and hands the ATTENDANT his and Robin's boarding tickets. The flight attendant waves them through to the plane.

FRANKLIN
(laughing)
I'm out of breath.

ROBIN
(laughing)
I've never run that fast in my life.

They walk into the plane and walk down the isle.

P.O.V, about 75 passengers are on the plane with three FLIGHT ATTENDANTS.

Franklin take his window seat then Robin sits down. A flight attendant closes the door to the plane.

O.S. Flight attendants going through the safety speech to the passengers as the COCKPIT DOOR close.

ROBIN

Remind me to get some lotion and sunscreen when we get to the ship.

FRANKLIN

I have some lotion in my bag remember?

ROBIN

Oh yes, we got it at Walmart yesterday.

Franklin turns to Robin and smiles.

FRANKLIN

Have I told you how much I love you?

ROBIN

No you haven't Franklin, have I told you how much you mean to me?

FRANKLIN

No, you haven't.

She take Franklin's hand and hold it tightly. Through the window, the plane moving away from the gate to the TARMAC.

The CAPTAIN address the Flight Attendants on the speaker.

CAPTAIN (O.S.)

Flight attendants prepare for take-off.

The attendants walk to the front and back of the plane and take a seat. Franklin looks out of the window.

FRANKLIN

The snow is really coming down out there. It's really hard to see.

Robin reach over and looks out of the window.

ROBIN

At least they are not delaying the flight. It looks like we're taking off on time.

FRANKLIN

I'm really glad we're taking this trip honey, thank you for a wonderful birthday present.

The inside of the cockpit the pilots are shown. The flight attendants are shown.

Through the Pilot's window the plane picks up speed. The screen goes black.

O.S. The roar of the engines and the loud screams of the passengers.

ROBIN

(yelling and scared)
Oh my God, Franklin!

FRANKLIN

(yelling)
Robin!

We hear the rumble of twisted metal. The screen gets light again. The inside of the plane break apart.

The screen goes black and then gets light again. Seats begin to fly out of the plane.

The screen goes black again. We hear a loud crash and then see the full view of the plane wreckage.

Seats and the fuselage of the plane is scattered near the runway. Robin is unconscious holding a death lock on the severed arm of Franklin, still trapped in her seat under several dead bodies.

Numerous body parts are seen and a shot of Franklin's lifeless, armless body is cut in half.

INT. HOSPITAL OPERATING ROOM - DAY

Robin's HEARTBEAT MONITOR is beeping. A SURGEON (45) Caucasian operates on Robin. Several nurses care for the other crash victims.

O.S. The heartbeat monitor begin to pick up beats. Visions of the surgeon frantically working to save Robin.

O.S. The heartbeat monitor FLATLINE. The doctor performs CPR.

P.O.V, A BRIGHT LIGHT coming into view. Images of the plane crash and Franklin's face is seen. The bright light comes closer.

Robin lays on the OPERATING ROOM TABLE.

O.S. The heartbeat monitor flatline noise getting louder.

P.O.V The bright light is spinning.

Visions of Robin's deceased family members are smiling to see her. A young woman with her arms out is asking for a hug. People in military uniforms are waving. More people are walking into the light smiling.

Children are holding the hands of other people running into the light. Robin's mother is seen. She is pointing towards the light as though she was guiding her.

The brilliant light gets closer and closer. A figure of a man is standing at the end of the light tunnel. The figure of man turns around.

The light begins to go into reverse and slowly going backwards. The brilliant light begins to descend rapidly as the light gets dimmer and dimmer.

Robin is now laying in a hospital bed. Her left eye closed shut and her head bandaged. Robin opens up her right eye. A blurry vision of a nurse changing her fluids comes into view.

P.O.V, Robin is now fully awake and pans the room. A male DOCTOR (32) African American is shining a light into her eyes.

DOCTOR HARRIS

Welcome back.

ROBIN

Where is Franklin?

DOCTOR HARRIS

Mrs. Gentry, you need to rest.
We'll talk about all of this later.

ROBIN

Where is my husband?

DOCTOR HARRIS

Nurse get Mrs. Gentry a mild
sedative.

NURSE

Yes doctor.

The nurse walks out of the room. A tear comes out of Robin's good eye and runs down her cheek.

ROBIN

Doctor, where is my husband?

DOCTOR HARRIS

I'm sorry, he didn't make it. You were the only survivor of the crash.

ROBIN

There were close to 80 people on that flight, you're telling me no one other than me survived?

DOCTOR HARRIS

(somber voice)

Yes, you were the only one.

ROBIN

What...?

DOCTOR HARRIS

The plane hit a patch of black ice on the runway. It took off, but the pilots couldn't regain control. The plane crashed. It's lucky you survived. It's actually a miracle. Someone must have been watching over you Mrs. Gentry.

ROBIN

(wiping the tears away)

Yeah, I feel fortunate, Doctor?

DOCTOR HARRIS

Yes.

ROBIN

Why can't I feel my legs.

DOCTOR HARRIS

Mrs. Gentry, your back was broken in the crash. I'm afraid you're paralyzed from the waist down. We have a rehabilitation center that can assist you when you are released, but you need to get your rest and regain your strength.

(MORE)

DOCTOR HARRIS (CONT'D)
We can talk about all of this once
you are better.

ROBIN
Where is Franklin's body?

DOCTOR HARRIS
Your husband was buried three weeks
ago. Robin..., you've been in a
coma for four weeks. I'm so sorry.

ROBIN
(surprised)
Four weeks?

The nurse comes back into the room and walks over to Robin's
bedside.

DOCTOR HARRIS
I'll contact your family and let
them know you're awake. I'm sure
they will be glad to receive the
good news.

The Nurse administers the sedative. The doctor leaves the
room. The nurse adjusts Robin's pillow. Robin is laying in
the bed quietly sobbing.

INT. ROBIN'S HOSPITAL ROOM - MORNING

Flowers and gifts are all over Robin's room. Robin is asleep.
Her room door opens up. CLIFF MANNERS (62) African American,
Slim, enters the room with flowers in his hand.

Robin wakes up. Cliff sits down in a chair by the door.

ROBIN
(smiling)
Hello Daddy.

CLIFF
I didn't mean to wake you Robin, I
know you--

ROBIN
I just dozed off a little. How is
Uncle Ed and Grandma doing?

CLIFF

Everyone is fine darling, they wanted to come, but I only had room in the truck for one more, so they decided not to come.

Cliff looks around the room.

CLIFF

Wow, you sure have a lot of flowers.

ROBIN

Yeah, my students sent them to me, some of them are from the faculty too.

Cliff pulls the chair closer to the bed.

CLIFF

The doctor told me about your injuries Robin, have you decided what you're going to do?

ROBIN

Well, I have physical therapy once I get home.

CLIFF

Home? You're in no condition to be on your own yet, not right now.

ROBIN

Daddy, I have a home here, Franklin and I--

CLIFF

Robin, Franklin is no longer here.

ROBIN

I know daddy, I know, it's just that I, I missed his funeral is all.

CLIFF

Your friend Gina helped with the service. Here me out Robin, why don't you come back home for a little while until you get back on your feet... I'm sorry honey I didn't mean...

ROBIN

It's alright Daddy, I know what you mean.

CLIFF

Nicodemus hasn't been the same since you left for the big city. Everyone will be crazy to see you.

ROBIN

I do need support.

CLIFF

If you don't want to stay with me, there are some of your other family members that would love to have you, so what do you say?

ROBIN

Well at lease for a little while anyway. Alright, but on one condition.

CLIFF

What's that?

ROBIN

You don't baby me. I need to get used to this.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE HOSPITAL ENTRANCE - DAYS LATER - MORNING

News trucks and reporters film and report as the hospital staff lines the entrance and claps for Robin as she is wheeled outside by an ORDERLY (24), Caucasian.

She wears a scarf around her head to hide her face. Robin is lifted into the passenger side entrance of Cliff's truck by the orderly. The orderly closes the door.

ORDERLY

(excited)

Mrs. Gentry, sorry about the media being here. You are kind of a celebrity since you know, the crash and all. You take care of yourself. Remember to do your exercises until you can get to the rehabilitation center.

ROBIN

I will, thank you for putting up with me.

ORDERLY

It was my pleasure ma'am. See you.

Robin waves to the staff and Cliff goes to the driver's side and drives off of the hospital property.

ROBIN

Daddy, can we make a stop after we leave my house?

CLIFF

Sure honey.

EXT. CITY CEMETERY - MORNING

Robin is sitting in her wheelchair next to Franklin's tombstone. The tombstone reads Franklin Gentry, beloved husband and son, 1975 to 2019.

ROBIN

(to the tombstone)

Hello Franklin, I'm sorry you had to end up here. You wouldn't be here if it wasn't for me wanting to take a trip that you didn't want to take. I should have brought you that sports car you asked about last year. They said, I'm the only one that survived the flight. I still can't believe I'm alive.

Robin cries.

ROBIN

Why me? I smelled your clothes today. Do you know that everyone has their own scent, their own smell you know what I mean? You smell like roasted apples. I want you to know...

Robin sobs.

ROBIN

That I will never love anyone the way I loved you. I will miss you my love. I'm sorry, I'm so sorry Franklin.

Robin kisses the TOMBSTONE and wheels herself away.