

# PILGRIMage

## A Story aBOut Northeast Texas

### CAST<sup>[1]</sup>

#### **BO PILGRIM and Close Associates:**

1. **BO PILGRIM**
2. **GERTRUDE PILGRIM, Mother**
3. **ADA PILGRIM, Grandmother**
4. **Aubrey PILGRIM**
5. **Patty Redding Pilgrim**

#### **Eccentrics**

6. **Carol Countryman**
7. **BETH Wilmington**
8. **Nat**
9. **Slave Owner**
10. **Ben Bickerstaff**
11. **President Obregon**
12. **Police Officer**

#### **Business Associates**

13. **L.H. Pitts**
14. **PAT JOHNS**
15. **Sam Hatcher**

16. O. B. Goolsby
17. Cliff Butler
18. Clinton Rivers

**Mexican-Americans**

19. Jose Guzman
20. Esmeralda
21. Martin
22. Kassandra
23. Clara

**Ancillary Roles:**

24. Harvard Professor
25. Don Tyson
26. Daisy

**Scene 1 : The Theme**

*INT. BLACKSCREEN – CONTINUOUS*

SCREEN shows verses in white text.

NARRATOR (unseen)

**For we know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love Him, and are called according to His purpose.** Romans 8:28.

**Scene 2: BO PILGRIM in 1994**

*EXT. Front Porch at night. Start in BLACKSCREEN, First show text:*

WHITE TEXT ON DARKSCREEN

Pittsburg's Witness Park in 1994

BO PILGRIM

*Solicitous, winsome*

I begin this pilgrimage through my life, because I am you, Northeast Texas. I began life in Pine, Texas; it was a great town because it was so predictable and personable that you could live through a great part of your life with a smile on your face! I began my pilgrimage in this wonderful place, six miles South of Pittsburg, Texas in 1928.

Now mind you, I didn't have a paved driveway, electricity, or running water.

*Sterner. Points to Northeast Texas on a map.*

But I grew up in the salutary poverty Northeast Texas with its consoling green meadows and still waters. To be sure, I stumbled and fell. God nearly stilled my heart after one billion straight beats. But God was only testing me. I headed up a chicken empire, and became King of the redneck aristocracy that has come to govern these parts. Have you heard of the populist orator, Cyclone Davis, our greatest congressman, Wright Patman, my friend the lawyer, Harold Nix, the race car driver, Carol Shelby, the opera singer Barbara Conrad? We were all Born poor right in this interfluvium between the Red and Sabine rivers. This is the mind-Boggling thing, in Northeast Texas, the meek have inherited the earth!

CAROL COUNTRYMAN

Wait a minute, stop! You are a little more than an oppressor of human beings, and a killer of animals. Someone who continued the exploitation of labor begun in the Age of Slavery, in the terrible, infamous story of the Southern Confederacy.

BO PILGRIM

*Sarcastically.*

I pay good wages.

CAROL COUNTRYMAN

Your chicken plants rain chicken fat on the houses of the poor. Your chickens eat and excrete arsenic. You have ruined the lives of 1000s, you have ruined Northeast Texas.

BO PILGRIM

Wait, I know what its like to work from can till can't! If I have brought a little poverty to my region, well, just remember, that in our school-and-church towns, a little poverty can be a good thing. If I encouraged people to work harder, just remember that I worked with a fire in my belly, just to stay alive! In fact . . .

Its been like that since I've been little!

### **Scene 3: BO as a 11 year old:**

*Text on screen:*

Pine (Six Miles South of Pittsburg), Texas 1939

BO:

*Agitated*

Mommy what is the matter, what has happened?

GERTRUDE:

It is Your father Alonso... he's dead!

BO:

*Act hyperactive, like a child. Mimic the Boy-man in:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G68m8v2EjCk>

No! He promised to take just me fishin one day. We never did.

*Cries.*

GERTRUDE:

Our General Store needs a savior. And I will need to find you a new Daddy.

BO:

I want my old Daddy, not a new one!

GERTRUDE:

*Pauses after each sentence. Working herself up to emotional pleading*

Now listen BO, this family of seven has only EIGHTY DOLLARS to our name. We have been in a recession since 1929 and our town of Pine has dried on the vine...

Now, your older brother Harold is resourceful. He will take over our store for now. You, however, will need to find a job. I need to find a man who can help us.

#### **Scene 4: Bo Puts His Foot Down**

GERTRUDE:

BO, I have found the man I need to marry.

BO:

No! That man is not even a Christian. Neither you nor I love him.

GERTRUDE:

Son, How dare you question my motives!

BO:

Evidently, you didn't love Daddy very much.

GERTRUDE

*Gertrude shakes head vigorously in denial.*

How dare you!

BO

Evidently, you don't think very highly of me.

GERTRUDE

*Gertrude shakes head vigorously in denial.*

Not true.

BO

Evidently I could earn coca colas by selling them for Daddy, but not for Harold.

GERTRUDE

No. Bo. we don't need cokes, we need money!

BO

Why must you be a woman of easy virtue?

GERTRUDE:

(slapping)

Why--I will wash out your mouth with soap! Where did you learn such nonsense? Don't you remember how you stole Bill Durham Tobacco, and coca colas, from the very father you profess to love!

## **Scene 5: Youthful Prayer Before Conversion**

BO:

O Jesus, O Christ, you have forgiven my sins, and I pledge to be yours forever. I make my decision. I am yours. I will change. I resolve to give up stealing, smoking, drinking, and all that is wrong forever! O heavenly father, lead me now, for I have deadended in life, at the tender age of 11!

## **Scene 6: With Grandmother.**

BO:

O Grandmother, ADA, thank you for taking me in.

ADA:

Of course BO, you made the right decision. Your stepfather drinks and cusses. You don't need him.

BO:

I never thought we would be so poor.

ADA:

But this is a sorry time. One can't just work to eat. One has to work smart. Our whole world could use some re-makin. .

BO:

Grandmother, Why is our soil so stubborn? Where did the quails go? was it always this bad?

ADA:

Not always. My Moma used to tell me of the time before the Great War of the States when cotton was king in East Texas, when a man had a chance for a big plantation, with plenty of servants. But then the Civil War came, and the world turned upside down. Everywhere, everywhere it has become worse!

## Scene 7: Plantation of Jack Titus, or was it William Pitt, or Morris Circa 1850?

*Text on Screen and Narrator:*

The following scene takes place on the plantation of one of our eponymous fathers of Northeast Texas—was it that of Jack Titus, William Pitt, John Camp, or is it the one Samuel Morris owned? Notice the county and town names? About the year, 1855.

NAT the Slave

*Half dressed. Groaning*

**That is it!** I'm not goin to work no moe!

SLAVE OWNER

And I will take your grits away

NAT

Gruel and Fatback, you can have it.

SLAVE OWNER

I'll take your chillens away!

NAT

Boss, you've already don that.

SLAVE OWNER

Then I'll take your cabin away and you can sleep in the cold!

NAT



All you is goin to git from the matter Boss, is a kennel.

SLAVE OWNER

I KNOW, what I will do, I will buck you with this knife,

*He unfurls the knife.*

You know, Nat, how we turn bulls into oxen?

*Nat gasps*

That's what I'll do to you! and you won't be a man no moh.

NAT

Not a Man?

SLAVE OWNER

No, not a man at all.

More like a woman

(brandishing the blade with an impish look on his face)

I'll start cutting with this knife right now, and you won't be a man no moh

NAT

*Nat stares off in the distance befuddled.*

*Time elapses.*

SLAVE OWNER

Another crisis solved. **That may have been a harsh threat,** But it was for his own good!

*Said as a kind of mantra:*

I will provide the best for my wife and children some day!

## **Scene 8: Ben Bickerstaff**

*Text on Screen:*

1867 near Mount Pleasant Texas

BETH WILMINGTON

We have Mr. Ben Bickerstaff with us, an infamous neo Confederate Raider in the year, Anno Domini 1867.

Ben you changed from a high-strung gentleman to an outlaw. Why?

BEN BICKERSTAFF

It was a natural evolution because of the sordid events of the Civil War.

BETH

Ben you lost the war. The Yankees won. Get it through your head. And yet, you plundered Northeast Texas communities after the Civil War, why?

BEN BICKERSTAFF

You must understand, Mam. We Confederate Veterans returned to nothing after the war.

The best horses trembled with the staggers. The cows had tics. The cotton withered with root rot.

This was our lot.

The land was suffocating.

And the People were unfaithful to our cause.

BETH WILMINGTON

Why was Northeast Texas called the Devil's Triangle after the Civil War?

BEN BICKERSTAFF

That was a Yankee name. But it described the fury of people who once knew our way of life. Now it is gone. We had had a society with a flower-top to it, that bore fruit. There were beautiful colonnaded houses going up. Snowy White Rows of cotton Everything withered White Boys and girls no longer wore shoes White women had to man Scoville Hoes It was no longer right, but upside down.

BETH WILMINGTON

Wait Mr. Bickerstaff, where are you?

BEN BICKERSTAFF

I won't say.

BETH WILMINGTON

Its too bad your patriotism has made you a criminal

*Ben Vanishes.*

But Wait, Mr. Bickerstaff, where are you now?

Ladies and gentlemen, Ben has been shot!

## **Scene 9: President Álvaro Obregón.**

*Text on Screen:*

The Situation in Mexico under Álvaro Obregón, President 1920-24.

CAROL:

President Obregon, when were you the leader of Mexico?

OBREGÓN:

In a practical way all throughout the 1920s. I was of course a leader of the Mexican Revolution before that, the man who outfoxed Pancho Villa, Venustiano Carranza, and the whole lot of them.

CAROL:

What happened to your arm?

OBREGÓN:

*Had half his arm blown off by revolution. But tailors his suit to show this off.*

I lost it fighting for the Revolution!

CAROL:

What did you bring to Mexico?

Obregon:

I brought peace! A million people lost their lives in the Mexican Revolution.

CAROL:

What else?

OBREGÓN:

I brought a new revolutionary settlement for the people of Mexico. Me and my compañeros created a Mexico with its own unique blend of communism. It became a nation without the great landowners, so that the people could own their own land. Mexico became a nation without capitalists, so we could have a socialist order that could decide what was best for the people. Mexico became a nation that successfully cut out the gangrene of the Roman Catholic Church and other Christian Bodies so the people could believe in themselves.

CAROL:

*Romantically:*

I love the way you talk!

OBREGÓN:

*Romantically:*

AND I love the way you listen!

## **Scene 10: JOSÉ GUZMAN**

*Text on Screen:*

*The Saga of José Guzman.*

BETH:

So you are one José Guzman in the *New Mexico* that has been cleansed by President Obregon, one who has been caught. You dirty scoundrel! Why did you sell yourself to capitalism?

JOSÉ GUZMAN:

Everyone remains a capitalist in Mexico. We are just all unsuccessful capitalists. When I was ten, I was caught stealing used cigarettes from ashtrays to re-sell. I was always trying to keep alive.

BETH:

Why have you betrayed Obregon's revolution?

JOSÉ GUZMAN:

Senora, the entire country of Mexico is a vast betrayal. President Obregon betrayed our entire nation when he decided that justice was more important than progress. My father betrayed my mother, when she complained that only half of our house had a roof worthy of the name. He had a girl at the restaurant where he

worked. I went with my mother to see her crush. I hated him. I worked for a grocery when I was nine. I was lucky if I ate one meal a day. I did not take even one tortilla from my business. I worked from 6 till 9, six days a week. And at the end of eight months, my Boss said, “Hey, your’re no damn good, I have another Boy to replace you.” I live to work any way I can, because when I work I forget my suffering.

BETH:

And now what are you up to?

JOSÉ GUZMAN:

I work in a restaurant as my father did, making money, hoping to start my own restaurant.

*Looks embarrassed*

BETH:

*As before an audience, Impassioned:*

Yes, this is going on--despite the worthy bath that President Obregon gave Mexico, washing away all that was unclean. The dirty business of capitalism continues!

*Fixes her hair. More expository:*

It is not hard for us to imagine that it was the criminal element in this country who found capitalism so congenial. They continue their vile buying and selling. They continue to finger their dirty pesos. O what pests they are to the righteous Mexico that continues to live out its revolutionary ideals. These ideals allow everyone to share, in pristine goodness, in the poverty—errr, I mean--, the progress, of the nation.

## **Scene 11: The Brothers Bo and Aubrey**

BO:

Brother Aubrey, I've literally been starving to death on grandma's farm. Please let me help you with your new Weed and Feed store!

AUBREY:

I will have to clear it with my new partner, PAT JOHNS. Do you know that he's worth a whole \$500?!

BO:

How much are you worth?

AUBREY:

Given the circumstances, I prefer not to say; my situation is quite fluid now. Please don't say a word about it. .

BO:

Kin I help?

AUBREY:

And why should I trust you; you've already bailed out on the family!

BO:

I will never approve of stepdad.

AUBREY:

Well what about yourself? You drove for moonshiners. You might even give our new company a bad name.

BO:

Aubrey, I won't need to be around your store. I drove moonshine, now I can drive dirt n gravel.

AUBREY:

You're aint drivin nothin. Our one truck is like a bad mare, with so many ailments that it would take me a whole day to explain them.

BO:

But I'll shovel, Aubrey. I'll shovel!

I'll shovel for free until you find I'm helpin you enough to make some real money.

*Stares BO down indicating that he is now seriously considering the proposition.*

## **Scene 12: PAT JOHNS Bails Out.**

PAT JOHNS:

Well that brother of yours, BO, he certainly is a cracker jack.

AUBREY:

*Now reversing himself.*

I knew he could add something to our business.

PAT JOHNS:

I'm glad you have an energetic brother, cause, Aubrey, I'm goin to have to ask you to let me go in peace. I'm through, Aubrey!

AUBREY:

You can't be serious.

PAT JOHNS:



Well I don't like goin so into debt. I was a little surprised when you ordered that SunGlo feed a week ago on credit. But today I heard you orderin some Old Black Joe Fertilizer on credit as well. Where's your money in this?

AUBREY:

Well Harold and Ma still haven't given me the \$200 that . . .

PAT JOHNS:

That's it, I'm out. Promises that tarry on forever are as good as lies. Maybe your kin could operate that way in Pine, but its not goin to work here in Pittsburg.

### **Scene 13: The Brothers Get a Necessarily Line of Credit:**

L.H. Pitts:

Boys, the collateral of your truck and store is neutralized by your debt. The bank has decided not to lend at this time.

AUBREY:

Well Mr. Pitts, you do know that we had an alternate deal to propose, and it involves your service of scientific dentistry that you are giving to the people here in Camp County.

L.H. Pitts:

So we're not talking about the bank, anymore?

BO:

Right, we know a way you could really expand your professional work. And we were wonderin if you personally could lend us the money!

AUBREY:

You see, we know everyone in Pine, and pretty much south of Pittsburg! We own the store there, and are good members of Reverend Euford's Baptist church.

Now our family in Pine owes us some money, but they just can't pay it right now. What they can do is offer You a room where brother Harold used to stay by the store and church in Pine.

You could set up shop there, say on a Monday morning, and get a whole new group of payin customers!

L.H. Pitts:

I'm not sure people would come to an office in Pine.

BO PILGRIM:

O they will. Country people have been doin well since the war, and they want professional help. We will advertise you in our store in Pine. And we will put your cards right on the counter of our store here in Pittsburg!

L.H. Pitts:

Hmmm....

### **Scene 14: Bo's Big Ideas.**

AUBREY:

Brother, I'm with you now regarding the chicks. Give the farmers a chick with the feed, and they not only need more feed, but they start bringing the broilers back to us.

BO:

Well, I'm glad you think that way Aubrey, cause I have some more ideas.

AUBREY:

No Bo Oh! Not more ideas ... BO, I'm too tired.

BO:

*Looks imploringly*

AUBREY:

Jes got home last night from haulin gravel to the depot again at 3 AM, and 7 AM I'm back at the store.

BO:

Jes give me some money for lumber and nails Aubrey . . .

AUBREY:

What all do you have in mind?

BO:

Jes lumber and nails

Aubrey;

LEVEL WITH ME!

BO:

A warehouse, a loading ramp, an unloading pit, an elevator to carry feed to a bagging machine. And let's face it, we need an electric sewing machine for the feed sacks.

AUBREY:

AWWW BO, No!

*Disappointment written over his face.*

## **Scene 15: In the Pittsburg Dentist Office.**

L.H. PITTS:

OK, open wide

PAT JOHNS

*(opens his mouth wide)*

L.H. PITTS:

Well I dun't know what to think about the business you started. With BO PILGRIM havin to leave for the service, it seems that Pittsburg Weed and Feed, is goin to be missin its brains. Aubrey works harder than hell, I know . . . but . . .

PAT JOHNS

*(acts like he is spitting out fluid)*

Yeah, well BO's bright ideas needed a little rest, or he might have bankrupted the place. Would you know, or wouldn't you say, they're getting help from someone in town?

L.H. PITTS:

*Tries to conceal that he is in fact the lender*

I think . . . they . . . are. Yeah. I . . .

PAT JOHNS

Well I do hope BO survives . . .

L.H. PITTS:

Well you know, it doesn't even look now that he is going to go to Korea. He's been chosen to teach some kind of military leadership school in California. It seems he has a very high IQ.

PAT JOHNS

Well you know I'm not that gun-ho about gettin America so involved all over the world again, and I really don't see why Korea is so important. But I'd rather be dead than red, I'll tell you that.

L.H. PITTS:

Yes, there's three things a good father should always do for his children. Love them, Forgive them when they fail, and tell them that communism is no damn good.

### ***Scene 16 Bo's Courtship of Patty Redding.***

*Text on Screen: Pittsburg, Texas 1956*

PATTY:

Well you are handsome BO, in your uniform, but not that handsome otherwise.

*Wearing glasses now, and for the rest of the film*

BO:

Patty, I'm going to make an amazing life for you.

Right now we're chopping corn, crimping oats, and cracking Milo (MIGH-low) like no one's business. And of course, we also add that dash of Molasses to it that makes the feed irresistible to chicks!

***In fact we handle all the nutritional needs of broilers, pullets, and breeders at all the various stages of growout.***

PATTY:

*Shakes her head. She is not that impressed.*

BO:

We're goin to be the biggest thing in Pittsburg since Reverend Canon flew the Ezekiel Airship!

When I got back in 53, Aubrey almost blew a gasket, when I got us three new grain tanks. But they are now fully paid for. I'm tellin you, we are goin to expand to other towns!

PATTY:

My parents think I'm too young to marry, least of all you.

BO:

Well I think your father actually likes me. Didn't you say he tended to polish his gun when the other Boys came around? He hasn't done that around me.

PATTY:

That's probably because he thinks you're the kind of geek who might like to take advantage of a girl, but doesn't know how.

*Awkward Pause.*

PATTY:

And you are twelve years older than me. You maybe have just taken a fancy to me because I happened to be number three bridesmaid, and you happened to be the number three, usher.

BO:

We may be a few years apart, but as Pittsburg, Texas Baptists who have attended Pittsburg High School, and who know we have the best town, and church on earth,

we are already as one as . . . Well isn't Pittsburg the only town on earth when you can meet a stranger from another end of town, and while waiting for the Southern Pacific train to pass, talk about anything from Bass fishing to the Beast in Revelation 13? And there's no such thing as being too young when the Russians are goin to blow us all to hell anyway. Patty there is a life, a prosperous life for us now. I can provide it for you!

PATTY:

Well, OK, maybe. But when we go to the movie Friday night, could you wear your uniform?

## **16. Scene: 1956. Mexican Immigrant returns to Mexico because of operation wetback.**

*Text on screen: 1956, Vera Cruz, Mexico*

BETH:

Why are you roaming the streets of Vera Cruz here like some sleepwalker?

JOSÉ

Señora, it is 100 degrees, and one of my amigos who was deported with me has died of sunstroke.

BETH:

Why did you travel illegally to the United States when fields of avocados here in Mexico have rotted in the sun for want of enough agricultural workers?

JOSÉ

First I did not travel illegally to the United States. Second, in Mexico I would be paid five cents an hour, compared to 30 cents an hour in the U.S. Go figure.

BETH

And you weren't illegal?

JOSÉ

No I was in the *Bracero* program, and just stayed a little longer in the states than I should have.

BETH:

So you were rounded up as part of the Operation Wetback policy of the Eisenhower administration which has deported almost 2 million Mexicans back to Mexico?

JOSÉ

That sounds right.

BETH:

Were the labor camps in Texas inhumane?

JOSÉ

Well not really, but everything always seemed designed to set us on edge. They agreed to give us 30 cents per hour but then they don't pay on time. They agreed about breakfast, but were closing down service at 5:30 AM. For lunch instead of tamales or anything we had in Mexico, we would get these bags with stale sandwiches, together with a single piece of fruit that didn't pass inspection.

JOSÉ

Why didn't you protest?

JOSÉ

It was part of the Bracero program not to protest. We had to accept things or go home.



BETH:

So what are you going to do now?

JOSÉ

I just spent two days on a cargo ship. I am hundreds of miles away from family, and am waiting for them to resend some money.

**17 Scene. 1958. Title to the Bird era is inaugurated.**

*They are inside the store*

AUBREY:

Good to see you Pat.

PAT:

Good to see you too, Aubrey

AUBREY:

Well we'll have that feed put on your truck in just a minute. O and as for the birds, my brother instituted a new policy. We still want to give you the chicks, but we're goin to have to have you sign this voucher here, recognizing that we will continue to hold title to the birds.

PAT:

Still your birds?

What do we do if something happens to them?

AUBREY:

We have built into the agreement the realization that certain losses will accrue, but this is also a reason for you to get more birds. The chicks are still for free. Plus we

can provide veterinary care, and discounts on equipment that will optimize your investment.

PAT:

*Looks confused and irritated*

## **18. They set up Blind Tiger, Netex in Mount Pleasant in 1960**

*In a Restaurant.*

TEXT ON SCREEN

Mount Pleasant's El Patio Restaurant in 1960.

JOSÉ GUZMAN

*Jovial, serving, waiter*

Hey you men, I can tell something important is going to happen between you, tonight! Just to let you know our special for tonight is Picadillo Red Enchiladas.

AUBREY:

Now there is a waiter with spunk.

BO:

What in the world is an enchilada?

SAM HATCHER:

The people of Mount Pleasant, BO, are really getting to like these Mexican dishes. I wouldn't be surprised if you don't get something like this El Patio restaurant in Pittsburg one of these days.

BO:

So I take it this Mr. Guzman who spoke to us owns this place. Is he a pretty hard worker?

SAM HATCHER:

O Guzman is as good as gold. The kitchen does great work here. In addition Guzman has become a personality in town. He bought a Tiger costume and appears with one of his workers in it on Friday night football. The tiger has this dancing act. Its hilarious. El Patio is the most successful restaurant now in Mount Pleasant.

BO:

I thought the Alps Café on 67 did more business

SAM HATCHER

Well it used to, it was famous for its air conditioning, and the fact that Elvis Presley sang there. But now El Patio is the place.

AUBREY:

How many Mexicans live now in Mount Pleasant?

SAM HATCHER

Oh I'd say about twenty . . . we had the Garcia family back in the 20s, they really helped develop the lignite mines, and they became rich. Now we have the Delgados, and they are into mining as well, and they are doing quite well. Guzman is following their footsteps alright.

BO.

*Quizzical look on his face.*

SAM HATCHER

Well you know, Tex-Mex, has a nice ring to it, BO. Between Joe's hustle, the cowboy vaquero thing that's still popular, and the spicy beef entrees, I think the Mount Pleasantites are hooked.

BO

Well getting down to business, this is the score, Sam. Our investors say they have done enough, and don't want anymore expansion. But the selling of our feed is tied up with chickens, and we're getting them back by the ton. We know that chickens need to be processed around where they are harvested, and that we could profit by owning our own processing factory

SAM HATCHER:

OK, vertical integration.

BO:

What was that?

SAM HATCHER:

Well vertical integration is where a business owns related phases of its production and marketing operations.

BO:

Let me copy that down!

*Takes out a notebook, and copies down the phrase, and its meaning with dispatch.*

AUBREY:

Sam, this is exactly what we want. And we want you to operate the processing plant in Mount Pleasant as if you are the owner. Actually BO and I, of course, will personally own the place.

SAM HATCHER:

*Affirmatively.*

I can do this.

AUBREY:

*Looking quizzically at his menu.*

You know, I'm so hungry I think I could eat about six of those spicy beef taco numbers in those brittle corn shells.

**19 PILGRIM Poultry Co. 1961. Chicken becomes the Thing.**

*Text on Screen: Pittsburg, Texas 1961.*

AUBREY:

Pat, you've been doing great with those birds, I knew this would work out.

PAT:

Well they're a lot of work.

AUBREY:

Wonder if I told you, that if you're willing to build a barn with our specifications, we could start loanin you thousands of chicks each time!

PAT:

Well you ahl must really be getting them out to market somehow.

AUBREY:

Yeah its becoming our focus. You know what our new name is going to be, starting next month?

PAT

What?

AUBREY:

The PILGRIM Poultry Company!

## **20      Texans scolded for Cold War Antics**

*Text on Screen: Dallas December 1963*

BETH:

As a conservative Texas entrepreneur who was visiting Dallas on the day when our President was assassinated, what do you think about this development? Is not Dallas as a city entitled to great blame for having police officers who faced the wrong way while Kennedy's motorcade was passing, and then not being ready to operate on the President when he reached Parkland Hospital?

AUBREY:

Well I think the people of Dallas showed their patriotism by having a great crowd for President Kennedy. My question to you is, who should have anticipated that some nut who was a crack shot, would kill the President? Something like this has never happened before in our country!

BETH:

Well you do know that President Kennedy before his death described northern Texas as "Nut Country," for the way people assaulted UN Ambassador Adlai Stevenson, and supported the racist, ex-general Edwin Walker for President.

AUBREY:

I'm aware of that, but you see, Walker was a great general who stood up to the Russians while posted in Europe, whereas Kennedy . . .

BETH:

You are aware sir that attitudes like yours, almost led to the annihilation of our planet a year ago during the Cuban Missile Crisis?

AUBREY:

Well I'm not necessarily sayin that I'd rather be dead than red, but capitalism is a great feature of our democracy. And my brother and I have worked very hard to acquire what goodness God will give us through this system. And I think that anything or anybody who doesn't stand up to communism must hate America.

### **21 1963 Aubrey has first heart Attack.**

BO:

*Looking a little frazzled as if AUBREY hasn't been paying attention*

At the financial state we are in now, we will need to change tactics. If you look at this chart here . . .

*Holds up chart.*

AUBREY:

Somehow I don't think I should have had all those tacos last night.

BO:

*Concerned*

Aubrey, You haven't been looking all that good today, maybe you should. . .

AUBREY

*Has seizure, and falls.*

BO:

AUBREY, what's happened? Margaret call an ambulance!

## **22 1966. PILGRIM's bad night.**

BO:

Brother, you almost didn't make it last night

AUBREY:

Look, I know you haven't been taking my advice for twenty years now, BO, but listen to me now! Do you know how many people in our family have died between the ages of 38 and 55 because of heart trouble?

Look, git out of the business now! Sell to Quaker Oats. Believe me they like our tanks and elevators, . . . our networks. You've got to stop stressing about the bidness. . .

Or, in only a few years you are goin to follow your older brother to the grave.

BO:

No Aubrey, don't think like this!

## **23 BO having his One sleepless night**

NARRATOR

AUBREY PILGRIM died of a second heart attack in 1966. Bo Pilgrim himself had open heart surgery in 1975. It is quite possible that the pioneering new techniques of heart surgery, coming out of Texas's own Medical Center in Houston, worked to preserve Bo Pilgrim's life. Bo Pilgrim, unlike his brother recovered. Despite these health issues, Pilgrim Poultry continued to prosper. Previous to the leadership gaps of the early 1950s, and late-1960s, and 1970s, the Pilgrim firm had initiated efficient new systems, first with an automated warehouse, and second, with a system of vertical integration.



BO:

*On knees, praying.*

O God, you took Aubrey from us, and now will you take me? Why have all the Pilgrim men died so young?

*Tries to get to sleep, and still can't. Becomes wide- and wild-eyed.*

Why does my future in this world seem so appalling? Why does living and dying seem to be the same exact thing for me?

*BO tries to sleep. But can't.*

O God, please let me go to sleep in peace! I pray when I awake I will make this company a witness to your name!

## **24 . 1969. BO Attends Houston Business Seminar on Mergers and Acquisitions:**

TEXT ON SCREEN

Bo Pilgrim attends Houston Seminar on Mergers and acquisitions. 1969.

HARVARD PROFESSOR:

Welcome to the 1969 Houston Business Seminar on Mergers and Acquisitions. Let me begin by saying that however we Americans have been divided these days by the Vietnam War, and the Yippie protests, we have a respectable consensus in business. And that agreement is that its OK to disagree about the value of size.

*Voice becomes more monotone and tapers off electronically.*

One of our esteemed Harvard graduates, who was also the preeminent liberal of his time, Theodore Roosevelt, was a great spokesman of Gigantic Acquisitions. He called them, "Good Trusts." Done rightly, Mergers and Acquisitions represent the true path of progress in our recent phase of economic history . . .

*Some indication that two days have passed.*

And so, you see, its easier than you thought. Any Questions?

I guess the only one who has his hand up again, is the . . . chicken businessman over there, ahh, yes Mr. PILGRIM, did you have a question.

BO PILGRIM:

(Looking around)

I don't know if anyone of you heard about the joke about the donkey that was accepted to Harvard. He was a real smart ass!

Well as someone who shelled out the cash, professor, so that you and your associates could travel first class all the way from Cambridge, Massachusetts, I jes want to say, I'm so impressed! Impressed that you came, and impressed that you shared your knowledge, and impressed with that knowledge.

You can see my notes here.

*Holds out notebook.*

In two days, I've got this little note Bo-Book as I call it, all filled with wisdom. And for a high school graduate from Pine Texas, I would like to say that during this seminar my brain grew about as fast as a pullet hen on a diet of cracked corn and molasses.

## **26. First Encounter with Don Tyson**

Text on screen:

United States Poultry and Egg Association Meeting in Denver, 1973

O.B. GOOLSBY:

*Very macho, and confident.*

Mr. PILGRIM, an interesting opportunity. Don't look now but in that seat over there is Donald J. Tyson, CEO of your Arkansas competitor.

BO PILGRIM

*Walks over, introducing himself humbly.*

Mr. Tyson?--- so good to meet you, My name is BO PILGRIM

DON TYSON:

And you are . . . .

*Quizzical look*

BO

We're in the chicken business together

DON TYSON:

*A little outlandish and over-garrulous. Mispronounces Bo as Boo.*

O Yeah, the ConAgra people were telling me about you, Boo! You've been coming up to the big leagues, I hear.

O.B. Goolsby:

*Authoritatively, pronouncing 'Bo' correctly:*

Mr. Tyson, we processed 500,000 chickens for the first time last week. Despite the stagflation going on right now, and all the despair over oil prices, Mr. Bo PILGRIM has been having some outstanding years lately.

DON TYSON:

*(a little too enthusiastically)*

Well I congratulate you. I remember when my Daddy--John W. (dub-yah) made a name for himself in the chicken business. It was way back during World War II, and he did it at the very time when meat was being rationed.

BO PILGRIM

Yeah, well my brother Aubrey and I started right after that in 1946

DON TYSON:

Shoot, but understand we go clear back to the Depression days in the early 1930s. Thats when my Daddy found that northerners would pay a lot more for chicken . . .

And where are you based again?

BO PILGRIM

East Texas, the town of Pittsburg.

DON TYSON:

And where in the hell is that?

## **26. Second Exposure to Donald Tyson. Meets Daisy. 1979.**

Text on screen:

United States Poultry and Egg Association Meeting in St. Louis, 1979.

*There is also a picture on screen above the text. This can be extracted from internet, Grant Wood's American Gothic. Pilgrim wears a shirt and tie, Tyson, a company shirt or something informal.*

DON TYSON

Well imagine meeting my friend Boo (*intentional mis-pronouciation*) Pilgrim, by the St. Louis Arch, I think you and your sales team have been arching their way

*Looks up!*

up to heaven these days!

*Smiles in a silly rather than sincere manner.*

You must be really keeping abreast of the chicken business!

DAISY:

*Almost loses it laughing:*

BO:

First its Bo not Boo. Second, we're over a million birds a week now, and God be praised, I've recovered from another heart scare.

DON TYSON:

Well, hang in there, my man. . . You are about as brave as they come!

*Lower in tone, as if confiding.*

But you might want to get out though, while you can.

BO:

Oh I'm doin fine, and I'm so glad to meet your wife, this must be Twilla Jean?

DAISY:

*Dressed to the Nines with Lipstick, makeup. In sugary, singsong:*

Not exactly. I'm Daisy, I'm one of Don's . . . best friends (laughs)!

DON TYSON:

Yeah slugger,

*Hits BO in the shoulder. Whispers half drunk to BO:*

Having Daisy around is one of the perks of selling something everybody wants and needs these days.

DAISY:

Mr. PILGRIM. Don has told me so much about you! He says you're kind of like the farmer, in Grant Wood's *American Gothic*, you know the one with glasses who holds a pitchfork! You're a real American original I hear!

BO

Well I try to make the point that traditional values have a place.

DAISY:

Oh you should see what Don does!

*Reaches her hand forward to touch PILGRIM in flirtatious gesture:*

He really wings it!

*Laughs as if half-drunk.*

He never has a shirt and tie. He always wears a Tyson company shirt. He takes everybody fishing and refuses to move the corporate office away from the tiny town of Springdale Arkansas.

## **27. O.B. Goolsby and BO:**

GOOLSBY:

*Good natured, hard masculine smile:*

So you got to meet Mr. Tyson, a second time. What do you think?

BO:

Well the man is not only a hard-driving Arkie businessman, a gambler, and a folksy sportsman. . . . He's a playboy.

O. B. GOOLSBY:

I've heard that rumor myself. Well, was he a little more respectful this time, or half drunk?

BO:

He continues to make sport of us.

O. B. GOOLSBY:

*With a kind of macho, football-coach spin.*

There has got to be a way to take him down!

## **28. 1985. BO's Prayer.**

*Text on Screen:*

1985. One month before PILGRIM went public on the New York Stock Exchange as Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, PPC.

*(In last year's film, Jalyn English found a way to scroll in the background letters that people wrote. See the 13:14 minute mark on <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PZ-tjzCBOVM&t=279s>>. In this case we will want to scroll the following Bible passages, making the scroll repetitive and continuous through the scene:))*

REPETITIVE SCROLLING IN BACK OF SCENE

Proverbs 16:18: ***"Pride goes before destruction."***

In Proverbs 8:13: Wisdom proclaims "I hate pride"

Amos 6:8 [God declares] "I abhor the pride of Jacob."

Mark 7:22 [Jesus says] “For from within, from out of the heart of man, comes evil thoughts: sexual immorality, murder . . . pride. . . ”

1 Peter 5:5: Clothe yourselves—all of you, with humility, for God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

60 references in the Bible detail the evil consequences of “pride.”

BO:

O God I know that pride is not always the best thing. But God, my company is about to go on the New York Stock Exchange, and the marketing agents want to call my business PILGRIM’s Pride!

They like the, what do you call it—alliteration?

Plus they think that most Americans view pride, as well as a kind of sincere satisfaction in what they have done. Its very acceptable. And it goes so well with the brand. Here I am, an experienced, old-time believer, taking real old-fashioned interest in everything I produce. God, the word ‘pride’ sends the right signals in this culture. Please let me use it! I promise I will be not just a chairman of a great chicken company, but an evangelist. O God, let us use this name, of PILGRIM’s Pride to your glory.

*About to stop, but then remembers something.*

And please, help us surpass Tyson Chicken, and confound those infidels.

And if I have to appear as a statue or an icon, help me not to go on an ego trip!

Help no one to get messed up on the count of the second commandment because of me.

O God, take away the idols of my life, but allow PILGRIM’s Pride to flourish!

## **29. 1987. Investment in Mexico**



CLIFF BUTLER:

*Fluid and personable:*

Mr. Pilgrim, our investors are almost united in warning us about Mexico.

CLINTON RIVERS

The Peso is totally unreliable. The business environment, anemic.

O. B. GOOLSBY

But guys, we live in Texas. This is our neighbor and this is our time! The new President Miguel de la Madrid, is making some very tempting offers.

*With a voice of condescension*

He sounds a lot better to my ear than Texas Governor, Mark White.

CLINTON RIVERS

Thank God, White is going out. He almost killed Texas football with his no-pass, no play nonsense.

CLIFF BUTLER:

*Establishes eye contact, and good naturedly proceeds.*

What we are missing from this equation, gentleman is the new federal Immigration and Control Act. Yeah, I recognize that the virtue of Mexico is we can hunt for labor down there. But now for the first time in history, the U.S. government is going to impose the penalties for illegal immigration on the companies that hire them, rather than the immigrants themselves.

CLINTON RIVERS

Mexico will put holes in our pockets.

O.B. GOOLSBY

Well, we've endured penalties before.

CLIFF BUTLER:

Please note in the record somewhere that I am saying "no" to Mexico!

BO PILGRIM

Cliff, and Clint I think your points are very well taken. But you know the problem with trying to redeem rural America? Towns like Pittsburg, Mount Pleasant, and Daingerfield just don't have the labor!

O. B. GOOLSBY

*To Clint and Cliff, sternly, with a macho demeanor.*

We have got to recognize that a state of war exists between us and Tyson's. They have a state government they can manipulate. But we have Mexico. Our man south of the border, Pedro Del Valle Lopez, tells me there are professional men in Mexico who would work our lines for two dollars above minimum wage. If we get into Mexico, we can scour the countryside. We will get the best kind of people to commit to our flagship processing plants.

BO PILGRIM

Boys I feel the challenge in my gut. Yes, But I've made my decision. Vive Mexico!

***30. PILGRIM nearly goes bankrupt.***

CLIFF BUTLER:

The stockholders are furious

CLINTON RIVERS

We should never have allowed the old man to venture into Mexico. We're losing a million dollars a week!

CLIFF BUTLER:

Well Clint it looks like we're the ones who are going to have to break it to the Boss. Unless we can get someone to buy us out, we're facing chapter 11!

**31. *BO and Patty:***

PATTY:

Well are we going to have some swim time this afternoon, in our inside pool?

BO:

I guess

PATTY:

Where is all your energy?

BO:

I'm losing it.

PATTY:

Selling out to Don Tyson, BO, won't be so bad. We'll still get to keep our home, and we can be on all the Boards around here, and do a lot of good.

BO:

Gosh Patty, I'm just a Texas football coach at heart. I can't bear to lose.

**32. *PILGRIM approaches Don Tyson:***

DON TYSON:

*Laughs, making a snide reference to Pilgrim's Mexico foray.*

O---It Bo! Hi! Buenos Dios Bo!

BO PILGRIM:

Yes its me. Look Don, I know you want to make Tyson's as synonymous with chicken as Kleenex is to tissue. Well here is your chance.

DON TYSON:

The big problem with you BO, is that you're not up here in the Land of Opportunity, Arkansas. Ha Ha.

But in any case, we have finished our due diligence on your newly re-christened corporation. We have noted a tendency for you-ahl to be weak in product creation. We view your middle-level management team as weak. Your Mexican invasion was disastrous. Your market pans West, ours focuses more for now on the North. I'm sorry but we're goin to focus on acquirin Holly Farms instead.

BO, I'm sorry to be the bearer of bad news. But you know, if you do start goin under and need a break, remember, nothing beats fishin in Arkansas lakes.

*Tries to be funny.*

And if you feel really ambitious you and Patty are even welcome to join us on our next billfish expedition in the Caribbean.

### **33. Workman's Compensation: 1989: (in July)**

O. B. GOOLSBY:

Well Mr. PILGRIM. The price of chicken has gone up, the Mexican operation has gone into the black, and, Thank God, we are not working for Tyson's!

BO PILGRIM

God be praised! And I thank you O. B. for your firm handling of the Mexican operation. You have my full confidence as our CEO because you are as tough as nails. And you work around the clock. I appreciate that.

Now getting back to Tyson. What's our plan now?

O. B. GOOLSBY:

Mr. Pilgrim, I believe our leverage with Mexico gives us the means now gather our strength, and we will slowly crush Tyson!

"But, on the downside, the Workman's compensation bill may present some problems.

The namby-pamby cretans in Austin seem ready to bend. Activists, moderate Republicans, and Democrats with some help from national labor unions are pushing through a bill that is going to double the state bureaucracy concerned with compensation. They also want to double the maximum payments per day to injured workers! If we don't watch it like a hawk, it can undo our advantage."

BO PILGRIM:

Yes, I'm hearing you O.B. I've had that on the back of my mind as well.

O. B.

Imagine our workers pushed into testifying that 10,000 reps a day gave them some kind of psychological trauma, or muscle paralysis. Our payment into this process is going to cripple us in the face of our Arkansas competitors.

BO PILGRIM:

What do you propose I do?

O.B.

I don't know. Except perhaps go to Austin with your white suit, and your stuffed chicken, Henrietta, under your arm, and buttonhole some of our more deluded representatives of our districts.

PILGRIM:

Stares with a glimmer in his eye

O.B.

Yes, and maybe provide them some encouragement.

**34. 1989. PILGRIM on the Floor of the Texas Senate.**

*Acted as if the viewers are the state Senators.*

BO:

So you will, make every effort to prevail upon your colleague, Mr. Russell?"

Well I am so thankful for your support. In fact, I am going to give you a \$10,000 campaign contribution this instant.

*BO starts writing check and gives it away*

Be sure to tell your friends, that I am here in Austin, to give out other campaign contributions as well!

*Turns to another Senator*

O Mr. Robertson. So I am told that you too want to cut out the extravagances of the Workman's Compensation bill.

*Starts writing. . .*

Thank you for supporting our businesses, and the prosperity of our great state. Here is a contribution for \$10,000 for your next campaign!

O and Mr. Robertson. Remember to tell your friends on the other side of the fence how generous I am!

*Holds out check. Turns to another.*

O Mr. Jenkins, I hear you're still supporting this bill, and I want you to hear me out. You know I've been in the chicken business since 1946. Our company has always helped out injured workers, and one of the reasons is, we know who the injured workers are.

We don't need a big state agency dreamin up new kinds of psychological illnesses, and penalizing our businesses! Texas doesn't work that way. My brother, Aubrey, died of overwork in 1966! I should be dead right now myself. Texas is great because we have workers more interested in drawing their rightful wage, than special benefits.

Oh, you are going to vote for it?

*Shakes head.*

That's too bad, you just lost a campaign contribution of \$10,000.

*Scene wipe and O.B. appears on telephone.*

*O. B. GOOLSBY:*

Well Doris, I fear for my job for good reason.

BO PILGRIM lobbied, and handed out eight, \$10,000 checks to 8 lawmakers. It was not a bribe and it wasn't illegal. But it made the papers. A Dallas Club is offering him Bonehead of the Year prize. They are even calling it Chickengate. Imagine, we no sooner become a Fortune 500 corporation, and we begin to look like amateurs! I advised him to use his influence. And its all my fault!

**35. 1989 BO and O.B.**

O. B.

*Head droops as he explains himself.*

Mr. PILGRIM, I'm sorry for the terrible advice I gave you bout going to Austin. . .  
I'm thinking I should maybe step down.

BO PILGRIM:

No, please no. O.B. Don't worry about it. I've decided to go to Dallas in person  
to accept the Bonehead award, and eat a little humble pie.

O.B.

*Looks surprised*

BO PILGRIM

After all, we got in the end what we wanted, and by acknowledging my mistake,  
we might quiet the uproar a little bit. We turned heads in Austin, and that wasn't  
bad either.

**38. 1995. Young Daughter of Mexican Immigrant without a social security  
number gets pulled over by police. Must spend night in jail.**

CLARA

*Driving: Looks in rear view mirror:*

O No! Ave Maria, purissima. Por Dios salva mi vida!

*(Pulls over)*

POLICE OFFICER

*(Takes his time)*

Do you know Mam, you clipped that stop light.

CLARA



O officer, I did not mean to!

POLICE OFFICER

Yeah I'm sure you didn't. Mam, I'd like to see your driver's license and insurance card.

CLARA

*Looking mysterious*

I don't have it.

POLICE OFFICER

And why don't you have it?

CLARA

Because I . . . .

*Looks agitated.*

Officer, please let me go, I pray you! I will drive very carefully.

POLICE OFFICER

Mam, I'm going to have to take you into the station for drivin without a driver's license

CLARA

But I can't get one because neither my parents nor I have social security numbers!

POLICE OFFICER

That's not my problem.

CLARA

Please don't have me spend another night in jail, O officer, please!

*(in prayerful position)*

### **36. 1994. Mexican immigrants come to MP trailer park**

*ESMERALDA:*

Martín, that trailer is worse than Mexico!

The whole kitchen is full of mold. Cockroaches everywhere! No, I'm not living in that!

MARTÍN

Esmeralda, after a few months of working at PILGRIM's we should be able to rent another place. You know we have back expenses!

*ESMERALDA:*

You told me that this country was going to be better. I did not drink water from a pond like a cow, and risk my life for this! Wonder if the authorities find out about us?

MARTÍN

Wife, stay quiet. I've been trying, and I finally found an agent from Mr. PILGRIM's company who said he can help us. Maybe we can get some old cleaning supplies.

### **37. 1992: PILGRIM Dedicates Witness Park in Pittsburg.**

*Text on Screen: Easter Sunday Dedication of Witness Park in Pittsburg, 1992*

BO:

I owe a great deal to the town of Pittsburg. You people helped get me off the ground. You kept me from starvin. Patty and I want to express our thanks for this town, in this great state, in this great country. I can tell you that spendin 1.5 million dollars for this Prayer Tower was the most satisfyin thing in world. As you go in, notice that the inside is air-conditioned. We hope that all the residents of Pittsburg,

will recognize this as a quiet place they can come to pray, and meditate. This is something that Patty wanted. Note too the Belgian clock and the French chimes...

### **39. 1996. Governor George W. Bush of Texas at the Time of PILGRIM's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

*Scene shows image of George W. Bush. A narrator, trying a Bush accent, tries the following.*

*Text on screen states:*

Texas Governor George W. Bush at the time of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of PILGRIM's Pride.

*NARRATOR WITH GEORGE BUSH ACCENT*

When I think Texas, I think of dreamers and doers—who believe that what Texans can dream, Texans can do. BO PILGRIM is just such a Texan.

### **40. 1996 Mom and Grandmother return in Dream Sequence.**

BO:

*Sleeping. Appears to wake up.*

Oohhh, I must be dreaming.

GERTRUDE:

Son, I truly mis-judged you. You have been a true chip off the old block. Not Harold, but you have been your father, Alonso's Boy, and you have really gone to town. I would be proud of you, except for the fact that you never ceased disapproving of my lifestyle.

BO:

But how could I Mama? You didn't even go to church after you married that wayward . . . guy of yours.

*Fervently;*

I'm just hoping you are not in Hell, reserving a place for Don Tyson. Moma, answer me!

GERTRUDE:

BO, I'm not in Hell. I'm just living in Dallas.

*Combs her hair, or does something to imply she is conscious of her appearance.*

But son, you have helped make Northeast Texas uninhabitable. Your small-town morality and priggishness, your church-centered social life, your exorbitant patriotism—son you are making the place where we were Born, the exclusive preserve of people who are not fun to be with.

BO:

That's nonsense. We have great times. Picnics, Boating, Bar-B-Q. . . Why, for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of PILGRIM's Pride just now, I financed 5,000 of my Partners for a free day at Six Flags!

GERTRUDE:

Its not nonsense. You think you're better than everyone else. Its not nonsense when you look down your nose on everyone just because you teach Sunday School in your own bank, and are about to become a billionaire.

You keep acting like you're God himself!

BO:

Well I have got to model myself after someone!

GERTRUDE:

*Vanishes.*

BO:

Mam, where are you. Say?

*Shouting:*

Moma! How am I going to be a Light to the World, if I'm not too hot myself?

Wait where are you; where did you go?

ADA:

*Suddenly Appears.*

BO:

Why Grandma, you're in my dream too, what are you doing here?

ADA:

BO, you are a genius, keep doing what you are doing! I told you of the time when Northeast Texas really had something, when cotton was king, way before you were BOrn.

You have listened well to your grandmother!

*Smiles and then peers.*

Now I see that the cotton has returned. Lots of it. It even moves around on its own!

BO:

Meemaw, that's not cotton. Those are chickens!

ADA:

I'm just sorry that they can't name a county after you or a town. Like they did with Jack Titus or William Pitt. After all you're on the top of a really big pyramid! And just like they, you are importing workers from another country, and lots of them.

BO:

Meemah, wait a minute. I pay above minimum wage. Those are not slaves you are seeing! I go aBOve and beyond. I help get them settled, I give to their churches, I give to their schools, I give so that they might have parks!

ADA:

Well your ancestors did that too!

BO:

O come on Meemaw, there's a difference.

ADA:

The difference is that my grandson is number one.

*Smiles while holding up her index finger indicating "number one."*

BO! Continue to Redeem Rural America!

Preach Jesus!

Outperform Tyson's Chicken!

And Make your Pittsburg, Texas something like a New Jerusalem, the best town on earth!

ADA:

*Vanishes.*

BO:

Grandmother come back, come back!

*Appears on bed rolling around as if struggling in dream.*

Meemaw, come back!

#### **41. 1997. Testimony of what its like to work in PILGRIMs**

BETH:

What is your day working at PILGRIM's Processing Plant in Mount Pleasant, Texas, like?

Martín: Well, I'm a stacker. I stack the Boxes which contain the chicken. The heaviest is 40 pounds, I stack the Boxes on to a pallet. I work the night shift, because night shifts are the positions that are always more in demand. They pay a dollar or so, more.

BETH:

Well doesn't working evenings take you away from family time?

MARTÍN:

After a certain amount of time working for the night shift a worker may ask to be switched to the day shift. Yet I don't want to switch cause the workflow in the night shift tends to be at a more relaxed pace, and my family needs the dollar more. Also I have a fixed entry time but not a fixed exit time which sometimes gives me some extra time to my day. My shift starts at 4:30. Some days I am out by 9 PM. The latest I've been out is 3 a.m.

BETH:

In what ways is the chicken company exploiting you?

MARTÍN:

Pardon me, Maam?

BETH:

*Gives up on Martín and goes to Esmeralda:*

Do you find it difficult to work at this place?

ESMERALDA:

Well I had to wait for two months before they called me into the day shift.

BETH:

Well what do you do?

ESMERALDA:

I grab the nuggets or sliced breasts and place them into Boxes.

BETH:

Do they keep you guessing as well about what your hours will be each day?

ESMERALDA:

I do have a fixed schedule which is 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Shifts are to be clocked in three minutes prior to their entry time.

BETH

Do you earn as much money as the men?

ESMERALDA:

My husband earns a dollar more an hour.



BETH:

Well, what on earth does he do to deserve this?

ESMERALDA:

Well he has to work in a darker room which is a little more dangerous, because there is a lot of water, and an electric current going through this trough. There is another part of the line he works where he gets a lot of grease and blood all over him.

BETH:

OK, what don't you like about working here?

ESMERALDA:

For one thing it is sometimes hard, because it is always cold. We have to wear insulated overalls. And if we get a certain amount of points, or tardies we are laid off. For example if I clock in at 6:33 a.m., I will receive half a point and if I clock in late from my break another half point is given, until I have five which is a very bad sentence

BETH:

So sooner or later everyone is removed?

Esmeralda:

No, every two weeks the points are removed.

BETH:

OK let me finally try you. What do you least like about your position at PILGRIM's?

KASSANDRA:

Well, working the graveyard, shift.

BETH:

What is the worst thing about that?

KASSANDRA:

Just being so tired.

BETH:

Are you both highly fatigued and placed near dangerous machinery?

KASSANDRA:

Well the hardest thing to do is inspect a whole eviscerated chicken in three seconds, making sure it has no tumors or other suspicious marks.

BETH:

So you had to inspect one chicken after another and keep the line rolling by getting in 20 inspected birds per minute?

KASSANDRA:

Yes.

BETH:

And what happens when you fail?

KASSANDRA:

They sometimes have to shut the line down, and everyone will haze me about that. It is said that if the line pauses even for 50 seconds, it costs the company \$500.

BETH:

Do you get arthritis or other muscular disorders over time doing such highly repetitive work? I mean, at 20 times a minute we are talking about---Hmm—let me check this on my cellphone . . .

*Looks down at cellphone.*

—about 10,000 repetitions a day!

KASSANDRA:

No, but some of the older women who have been here a while definitely do have problems such as you have described.

BETH:

Please tell me you belong to a union or to the League of United Latin American Citizens—LULAC?

KASSANDRA:

What?

## **42. 1997. BO speaks to Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce**

BO

The PILGRIM Pride Corporation is anticipating the building of the most market-focused chicken processing operation in the world in Mount Pleasant. In 2002 when it opens, it will be able to bread, baste, braise, chill, cook, debone, disassemble, eviscerate, freeze, marinate, sectionalize, slice and dice, price, wrap, and certify 350,000 chickens per day, and produce over a period of three months, 800 different products. This plant will give highly specialized, skilled jobs to 4,000 tax-paying citizens of Titus and Camp Counties. The business and growth it will bring to Mount Pleasant, we believe, is incalculable. We believe that with the

emergence of this plant, that many of you sitting here, will more than double your wealth by the year 2012.

We, of course, thank the city of Mount Pleasant, and all of our business colleagues for making this vision possible.

Lukewarm applause:

BO:

Yes you have a question?

SAM HATCHER:

Mr. PILGRIM, with due respect to your great achievements in the Poultry business, there is a significant group in Mount Pleasant that would like you to stop this project right now!

*Uneasy standoff.*

We don't want Mount Pleasant to become a company town

We don't want the expansion of a company that already has paid 500,000-dollars in environmental fines

We don't want our wastewater plant to be re-clogged by the blood of your chickens.

We don't want to have to flunk 100s of additional students who haven't yet learned English, and can't learn correctly in our overflowing classrooms and schools.

And . . . And . . . We don't want to have to smell forever, the odor of offal and chicken fat that hangs like a pall over our city every day.

*Great applause.*

### 43. **Results of the Rumble with Mount Pleasant**

Narrator:

The Story of BO PILGRIM's struggle with leaders of Mount Pleasant constitutes a story in itself. Civic leaders such as Texas Lieutenant Governor Bill Ratliff, Mayor Jerry Boatner, and banker, Art Scharlach did succeed in blocking a radical expansion of the Mount Pleasant Pilgrim plant. According to a journalist of the Austin-based *Texas Observer*, the vendetta between Pilgrim and Ratliff, in particular, occurred over decades.

### 44. **2003: Patty and BO:**

PATTY PILGRIM:

*Crashing and rolling on her bed.*

Well living in our dream house for ten years now has been wonderful.

BO PILGRIM:

Is this place as wonderful as our company's new 12 million dollar Hawker XP jet?  
I know you liked the ride.

PATTY PILGRIM:

Well it was better than American Airlines; but every jet is just so . . . utilitarian on the inside. I even prefer our own 500 KingAir to the Hawker.

BO PILGRIM:

Yeah, it is this (*Pointing around to the home*) creation of yours (looking around) that's not only restful, but delightful. The 15 million dollars was worth every penny. The artworks you bought, the pool, the gardens, and the walkways keep me going. I feel as healthy today at 75 years, as I did in my 40s.

PATTY PILGRIM:

*Skeptically.*

Well you had open heart surgery in 1975, BO.

BO PILGRIM:

Yes I did. But now I eat fresh vegetables with my high omega-3 chicken and eggs. I conduct business while hiking any one of five nature paths around our estate with a cell phone and a high-speed, unlimited data plan.

PATTY PILGRIM:

I just wish the people around here would quit calling our place, “Cluckopolis.” We try to raise tastes, we try to show that the people in rural areas are refined, and can even build a chateau in the style of Louis XIV. And all we get for our efforts is to be laughed at!

BO PILGRIM:

Well dear I do think we made a mistake in calling it Chateau de PILGRIM. Practically no one around here knows French. We kind of set ourselves up . . .

On the other hand, they’re not going to be laughing much longer. Patty, we’re about to close the deal Con-agra, we’re going to become the second biggest chicken producer in the country.

PATTY PILGRIM:

*Excited*

You mean its going through?

BO PILGRIM:

Yes it is. Bruce Rohde of Conagra is a good ole country boy with a lot of integrity. I trust him as much as Goolsby.

We're going to be nipping right at the playboy's heels.

PATTY PILGRIM:

The playboy?

BO PILGRIM:

Yeah, Don Tyson. The pagan king of Arkie Chickendom.

And We're going to have a real chance to redeem rural America!

#### **45. Gold Kist is Available:**

CLIFF BUTLER:

O Mr. PILGRIM, sorry to rush in. But do you know what is coming available?

Number 3, Gold Kist!

#### **46. Considering the Offer of a Century. 2006**

TEXT ON SCREEN:

Considering the Offer of a Century. 2006

O.B. GOOLSBY:

*Real Macho-Like.*

We cannot give Gold Kist \$500 million just in Goodwill for their company. We've got to stop!

CLIFF BUTLER:

*Moderating, showing just a little fear he might lock horns with Goolsby.*

I have been told, by a most reliable authority, that Gold Kist stockholders will not refuse \$21 a share.

CLINT RIVERS:

*More forceful than Cliff.*

This will allow us to go around their management, don't you see it O.B.?

O.B. GOOLSBY:

*Growling:*

If we could only devote the \$500,000 million to innovation rather than another merger, we could leave Gold Kist in the dust, and steal their customers.

*Emphatic.*

We don't need to be financing Hawaiian vacations for their stockholders!

CLINT RIVERS:

*Does a quick calculation on his phone while talking.*

But we will emerge as the number one chicken company in the world if we get it!

Six years ago, Tyson's had three times the market share we did. But we've been doing great. And PILGRIM'S PRIDE plus GOLD KIST equals 25 percent of the U.S. market! That's more than Tyson's 21 percent! And that will be immediate.

CLIFF BUTLER:

A takeover would give us an economy of scale with super-competitive prices, and double our market recognition. Gold Kist will provide remarkable synergies in the realms of sustainability and bird care.

O.B. GOOLSBY:

The debt to equity is goin to be too much. Especially if the economy goes bad

CLIFF BUTLER:



You know, I would prefer to focus on opportunities.

*Pauses, like he has a pretty good rhetorical trump card coming up.*

Let's be really pro-BO for a moment!

*Laughs a little, while smiling in appreciation to Mr. PILGRIM.*

With Mr. PILGRIM's friend, George Bush in the White House, what can go wrong?

I hope everyone remembers that when Bush won the Presidential election in 2000, BO PILGRIM and PILGRIM's Pride together ranked 8<sup>th</sup> as a career donor to Bush.

Why did Bush beat Ann Richards for Texas Governor in 94? Let's not overlook the \$100,000 Mr. PILGRIM raised in one gathering for Bush at his Chateau.

And that's was when Bush was very beatable. Without BO there might not have been Bush!

CLINT RIVERS:

We have political power. We have symbolic power. Mr. PILGRIM represents a rare blend of personality, product, and [brand]. No one, not Tyson's, not Perdue, has this. And finally economic power! Our own Rick Cogdill has gotten Lehman Brothers of the Big Apple on Board for the financing of the Gold Kist takeover! We have a lock on this moment!

CLIFF BUTLER:

*Holds up his fist, and looking urgently toward BO.*

*We don't call ourselves PILGRIM's Pride for nothing. We've reached our time to become number 1!*

O.B. GOOLSBY:

*Hangs his head. Clearly disappointed with the direction of the conversation.*

Well Mr. PILGRIM what do you think?

BO PILGRIM:

Boys: I probably should have died 30 years ago. Like my brother Aubrey. But I haven't. Why am I still living?

I've devoted a lot of prayer to this.

*Somewhat confused. Silence.*

I dared myself to be Number 1.

*Checks his watch.*

I think we need to absorb Gold Kist ASAP!

## 47. 2007 PILGRIM speaks at Hughes Springs High School.

TEXT ON SCREEN:

2007. Bo PILGRIM speaks at Hughes Springs High School.

BO PILGRIM:

And so, don't turn your back on the American Dream. If I could rise from a family of seven that only had 80 dollars to its name back in 1940, livin in little old Pine, Texas, I know that each of you can reach for the very stars of heaven.

Finally today, my associate and your teachers are now passing to each of you Both a copy of my autobiography, *A PILGRIM'S Progress*, and the Book of *Mark* from the Bible. Please don't throw these away, My Book has your complete guide to becoming a CEO of a major corporation. And as for the Gospel of *Mark*, I have to tell you, there is a twenty-dollar bill tucked somewhere inside. Read this Book you ahl, and you will have something

pleasant to purchase today, and an eternal life with God ahead to contemplate.  
Thank you, all for the invitation, it was good being here.

*Huge applause.*

#### **48. 2007: CEO. O.B. Goolsby dies.**

*Text on Screen: PILGRIM's Pride CEO O.B. Goolsby, after a very long day of hunting blackbuck with clients in South Texas, 2007.*

O.B. GOOLSBY:

*By himself with whiskey. Vehement.*

O God, Why did you make me what I most wanted to be?

*Cries.*

A C.E.O.!

Con-artist Expounding Obscenely!

*Cries.*

Why does the damn Bush administration have to subsidize ethanol?

*Takes a big slurp of whiskey.*

You don't encourage people to burn what they should eat.

*Looks at his whiskey.*

Or drink!

The price of chick feed is getting astronomical.

*Voice becomes higher and full of sarcasm:*

And all stupid Cliff and Clint want me to do is buy grain futures with a ridiculously high cap.

*Cries.*

And then the Russians and Chinese don't trust our American chicken because of the avian flu crisis.

Two-million packages of leg quarters with nowhere to go.

I hate Vladimir Putin. Doesn't he know that a cooked bird can't spread the virus?

The whole economy is beginning to tank. Including Lehman (LEE man) Brothers! The credit market is frozen.

*Working up to a climax of despair, and tears.*

And we . . . we . . . . . are way over-leveraged.

*Big slurp of whiskey.*

No way out. *Cries.* No Way!

49. **PILGRIM told about CEO's death.**

CLIFF BUTLER:

Mr. PILGRIM, I must share with you a call I just received.

BO PILGRIM:

Look, I'm tryin to focus on solutions right now.

CLIFF BUTLER:

Its about O.B. He's dead! He died of a heart attack last night in South Texas!

50. **PILGRIM Makes Supreme Shareholder's Report Full of PILGRIM's Pride.**

BO:

Dear shareholders and members of the PILGRIM Pride Family.

I have momentous news for you today, but first let us devote a prayer of thanksgiving for O.B. Goolsby. Speaking frankly, he was a big man with big dreams, one hard-drivin CEO, that sometimes frightened people. But O.B. was truly one of our own, a God-fearing East Texas alpha male with 25 years in the chicken business.

First I'd like to announce that we have confirmed the choice of our search committee headed by Cliff Butler, and my son Ken PILGRIM.

Our new CEO will be another seasoned veteran, one who also has been with us for over 20 years, Mr. J. Clinton Rivers!

Clint Rivers is a real visionary. He was the quarterback who threw the winning touchdown pass in the Gold Kist takeover, uuuhh I mean merger (*smiles*).

This has made us:

The number 1 chicken company of the world!

We have surpassed Tyson's. We have surpassed Perdue Farms. We have surpassed everyone.

*Takes off and folds up glasses.*

Here in 2008, we have recently learned that Lehman (LEE man) Brothers of New York City has ranked PILGRIM's Pride the number one agribusiness in the United States to invest in.

We have made the family farm prosperous once again! Today our average chickenhouse produces 85 times more chickens per year than in 1946.

The future thus cannot be more golden.

Our first mission is to do nothing less than feed the world with nutritious proteins.

And our second mission: to redeem rural America. We will not forget this mission.

Thanks be to Jesus, Thanks be to God!

### **51. Don Tyson and PILGRIM Meet for the Last Time:**

DON TYSON:

Well, Mr. PILGRIM Congratulations for becoming the number one chicken producer in the world. Believe me though, you'll have to answer for it. Animal activists, environmentalists, Wall Street, worker's rights advocates—they'll all hate you!

BO PILGRIM:

Well Mr. Tyson that may be. The important thing for me is that I can uphold what is really important for me. And that is, that though Jesus Christ has tempted me with fire, he has blessed me beyond measure. As a former Sunday School teacher, I have wanted to say that to the world, and now I believe I can.

DON TYSON:

I guess I've always preferred to fish on Sundays.

BO PILGRIM:

Don, you know maybe God intended this moment to happen so I could speak to you about this. Don, turn your life over to Jesus Christ, and you will be saved!

DON TYSON:

Well I'll think about it. But sometimes Christians like you remind me of that film with Belushi and Aykroid. *The Blues Brothers*. I mean how dya know you're on some mission from God?

BO:

Well, I've been in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ since my daddy died at age 11, and I know . . .

DON TYSON

But wait. Didn't one of the holy sages say somewhere that Pride comes before the Fall? Why do you call your company, "Pilgrim's Pride?"

BO:

*Started by the Question. Speechless.*

*DON TYSON*

In fact, I just have a hunch, that when you got Gold Kist, you bit off just a little bit more than you can chew.

BO PILGRIM:

Don. I will certainly concede that that argument is a rational one. But I don't believe it!

## 52. **PILGRIM and Rivers Face Questions:**

CAROL:

Reports indicate that there are thousands of PILGRIM's workers who suffer from arthritis, fibromyalgia (figh-broe-my-AI-gia), carpal tunnel syndrome, bursitis, tendonitis, and other repetitive motion disorders.

What have you done over the years to deal with this problem?

BO:

*Showing signs of age.*

We know our workers often suffer-- pain. We have had two CEOs of PILGRIM's Pride suffer fatal heart attacks, and I myself nearly died of one in 1975. I came close in 1982. Most of our plants have trained nurses on call. We also have a chaplaincy program of 500 ministers who attend to the spiritual problems that attend our work.

CAROL:

But what have you done to address these specific illnesses I mentioned?

BO:

Well, to work at anything I think is to risk oneself. And though the risk may be high, I have never ceased working in my 80 years of life, and have no plans to retire.

BETH:

What about your plants. Isn't the meat processing industry still the most dangerous industry?

CLINTON RIVERS:

Well Our Lufkin plant once did 3.5 million safe work hours. STRAIGHT!

You know, A long time ago there was this Triangle Shirtwaist Fire that killed 150 workers in New York City. Doors were locked, the flames engulfed workers, and some jumped to their deaths. In January 1992, there was a fire at our Mount Pleasant PILGRIM plant. A defective hydraulic line on a fry cooker came loose. 1,100 people evacuated. Only 4 people were burned. All recovered. So there was no Triangle Shirtwaist factory disaster in Mount Pleasant. Just the opposite.

CAROL:



In 2007, Homeland Security got 76 calls that PILGRIM's was using employees with fake IDs. In one case the company re-hired the same worker under a completely different name, and new social security number.

*Pauses to see Clint's reaction. More angry as if looking vainly for a sign of guilt.*

Haven't you been exploiting your Mexican-American workforce, kind of like the slaveholders of old? You hire illegal immigrants so you might have ultimate power. You threaten with hints of exposure and deportation. Thus you govern your processing plants by creating a climate of fear and acquiescence!

CLINTON RIVERS:

Both the great majority of our workers, and our corporation have a great incentive to be law-abiding, good citizens. You are wrong to think that we use the national government against our workers. We are, in fact, often as surprised as they are by sudden incursions from the Feds. We constantly have to watch our step, for one moment the Environmental Protection Agency is doing an investigation. On another day, we have to worry about compliance with the United States Department of Agriculture mandates. As for the failures of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, or ICE, or whatever you call it these days, do you know they have found Mexican aliens working for the FBI and the Border Patrol? Since when does PILGRIM Pride have the duty to solve a national problem regarding social-security-card fraud?

**53: 2008: December 1. PILGRIM's files for bankruptcy.**

*PILGRIM is returning home from the office.*

PATTY PILGRIM:

Our chef has a wonderful meal tonight—one of your favorites—

*Says it with relish.*

Bouillabaise! (BOO yah BASE seh)

BO:

Patty, I'm afraid your billionaire husband is going to have to let our French chef go, and settle for the fact that our 35 percent ownership in Pilgrim stock is about to plummet in value.

PATTY PILGRIM:

Oh, don't tell me that Clint has reversed himself again! Can't you overrule him?

BO:

You know, you would think that President Bush might remember the time we jumpstarted his campaign against Ann Richards in 94, and in fact, his whole political career, and entertained him right here—in our chateau?

But his handlers won't even let me talk to him. Bush has sold out to Midwest farm bloc,

*Says with disgust.*

and all their ethanol shysters.

PATTY PILGRIM:

Well what does that mean for us?

BO:

Patty, we still own a good 30 percent of PILGRIM stock. We've of course, diversified, but we could lose at least half of our liquidity within a year.

*Stares off in a distance.*

PATTY PILGRIM:

Why don't you call your friend, Don Tyson? Maybe you could swing a deal.

BO

Don's dying of cancer. His son, John, is taking over. He doesn't want to talk us. He knows if he did, he'd be making the same mistake we made . . . with Gold Kist.

*Enraged and angry.*

PATTY

I knew we should have never trusted that Virginian at the top. Don't tell me, Clint Rivers . . . wants to declare bankruptcy.

BO PILGRIM:

*Glumly, agedly. Shakes his head "yes". Patty moves to hug and console him.*

Perhaps God wanted me to see that pride really does come before the fall.

### **53. Narrator Gives us the Score.**

**NARRATOR**

On December 1 2008, PILGRIM Pride Corporation declared bankruptcy, and filed for protection from creditors. For PILGRIM employees in Northeast Texas, that day was like a tornado that tossed all their expectations, and day-to-day concerns to the winds. The value of PILGRIM stock dropped precipitously. The shareholders in time ceased to own any share of the company, and became like creditors, though they were last in line to salvage any wealth from the over-leveraged corporation. The Bank of Montreal provided the cash to keep PILGRIM's in operation, but was first in line to collect any earnings, and cash the company assets. Finally, in September, JBS, a Brazilian International Meat producer, announced that it had attained 64

percent ownership in PILGRIM's Pride Corporation, and would control the businesses offices, grain mills, processing plants and some 4,000 company operated farms.

The Fall of PILGRIM's Pride was a minor disaster for Northeast Texas in the sense that the area lost the headquarters of the world's number one meat operation. Shareholders lost everything. Some 600 of the area's best homes were vacated as JBS moved the PILGRIM Corporation to Greeley, Colorado.

On the plus side, however, the great majority of farmers and distributors of PILGRIM's Pride did not lose their operations or any outstanding obligations owed to them by PILGRIM's. PILGRIM banks, initiated in 1993, continued to flourish, with Bo PILGRIM as the majority stockholder. Today there are 16 PILGRIM banks stretching throughout the state of Texas. The PILGRIM brand also continued to appeal to the extent that JBS has kept the PILGRIM Pride name to the present day. In the year, 2020, Tyson's is again the number one chicken company in the world. JBS's PILGRIM Pride, however, is the number two chicken producer in the nation.

Lonnie BOe PILGRIM died in 2017 at the age of 89. His wife Patty followed in 2018 at the age of 80. In 2020, their Chateau is in the process of being sold.

#### **54. Final Scene by BO Statue in PILGRIM Bank: Students evaluate the meaning of the PILGRIMage.**

STUDENT A:

Well, what is the meaning of this BO PILGRIM story for us?

STUDENT B:

Well, Mr. PILGRIM was kind of at the center of a lot of important developments:

STUDENT C

How about the transition in our area from traditional farming to agribusiness? When the PILGRIM Corporation claimed title to the bird in 1958, we began to see a much more scientific, integrated, efficient and some would say regimented approach to food production.

STUDENT D:

There has been a change in the national and regional diet. Per capita consumption of poultry products in the United States has increased ten times since the year BO PILGRIM was Born. In 1930, the ratio of red meat to poultry in the American diet was 15 to 1. Today it is approaching 1 to 1, though beef, pork, veal, and lamb continue in 2020 still have a slight edge over poultry.

STUDENT E.

The repopulation of Northeast Texas: In 2020, Hispanic students comprise 70 percent of Mount Pleasant High School, 40 percent of Pittsburg High School, and 17 percent of Daingerfield High School. Residents attest that the big migration of Hispanics to Mount Pleasant and surrounding communities started around the year 1988, one year after PILGRIM's PRIDE had initiated its Mexican operation.

STUDENT F

Mr. PILGRIM represented a defiant small-town tradition of Northeast Texas. He refused, even with the benefits he would have received with labor, to move to Dallas, or to move his operations to a big city.

STUDENT G

Mr. PILGRIM was one of the reasons why we might continue to refer to our region's location in the "Bible Belt." He supported many area churches, revivals, and gave millions of dollars to the construction of chapels. As an evangelist himself who handed out salvation tracts, he was a very open witness of the Christian faith.

STUDENT H

Mr. PILGRIM was a partisan of the community college. He sponsored the community college Bowl tournament for two years, and helped cover the tuition of hundreds of students from Camp County who attended Northeast Texas Community College.

#### STUDENT I

Mr. PILGRIM was an adamant supporter of the Republican Party, a party that has won 60 to 80 percent of the vote in the semi-rural districts of Northeast Texas in recent elections.

#### STUDENT J

Even Mr. PILGRIM's "Chickengate" issue in 1989 had consequences. PILGRIM helped turn the tide against a generous outlay for workman's compensation. Today Texas is the only state in the union without mandatory workman's compensation.

#### STUDENT K

Finally Mr. Pilgrim attested to the flux in our regional identity. For about the last 100 years, a Western identity has eclipsed the Southern identity in our area. Northeast Texans enjoy TexMex food, often dress in cowboy regalia, and even now have cowboy churches. Though Pilgrim described himself as a good Texan, the area's leading entrepreneur hearkened back to even earlier identities. Rather than Texas and Western beef, he sold chicken. Rather than sporting a ranch or hacienda, he sported an 18th-century Chateau. Rather than dress like a cowboy, he dressed like a Puritan. Pilgrim suggested the reemergence of a Saxon Earl, in middle England, pious, ostentatious, and proud; tickled to give handouts to his subjects, and model a better life.

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[1] In 2017 we had 61 scenes, and 14 actors. There were 4 males and 10 females. The cast assumed 24 characters: 7 were male, and 16 female. The script was 68 pages long. In 2018 we had 49 scenes. 14 actors again: There could be 5 males, and 9 females. The 2018 cast assumed 20 characters: 9 would be males, 11 females. There is also a need for 2 extras. The script was 80 pages long. In 2019, we had 51 scenes, 21,000 words, and it lasted too long. The script was 82 pages. There were 22 roles, played by 18 actors; seven were males, 11 females.