



Proudly Presents

# THE INVISIBLE LINE

**WRITTEN BY MANUEL MONTEZ  
AND KASSANDRA ORTIZ**

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## IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ

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**Characters:**

911 Operator

Nicolás Portillo

Eliseo Alvarado

Old Man

Awards Announcer

Ricardo Solis

**Scene 1: *The Call***

**911 Operator:** 911. What's your emergency?

**Nicolás:** Policía? Ayuda. *Help. Estamos sofocante. Nos estamos quemando. (Police? Help us. Ayuda. We are suffocating. We are burning up.)*

**911 Operator:** Please, repeat that, sir?

**Nicolás:** Mi nombre es Nicolás Portillo. Estamos en un camión grande. Somos Ilegales. *(My name is Nicolás Portillo. We are in a big truck. We are illegals'.)*

**911 Operator:** *(To someone in the room)* Hey, can someone here translate for me? Anybody speak Spanish?

**Nicolás:** ¡Por favor! Estamos en la parte trasera de un camión grande! No podemos respirar y muchos están muriendo! ¡Ayuda! *Help to us! Contratamos Coyotajes. Somos los ilegales! (Please! We are in the back of a big truck. We can't breathe. and many are dying. Help! ¡Ayuda! We hired Coyotes. We are illegals!)*

**911 Operator:** I need someone who can translate! *(Call Disconnects)* Sir? Hello? Hello? *(To someone in the room)* I lost the connection.

**Scene 2: *Evening. Eliseo's house.***

**Eliseo:** Nicolás! Who hit you?

**Nicolás:** I'm fine.

**Eliseo:** You don't look fine!

**Nicolás:** It's just a black-eye. I'm okay.

**Eliseo:** It's really swelling.

**Nicolás:** I just got jumped. I'm okay.

**Eliseo:** What happened?

**Nicolás:** I'm okay!

**Eliseo:** Nicolas, you're my best friend. Who did this?

**Nicolás:** Victor and one of his friends.

**Eliseo:** Victor with the MS-13? They are still trying to recruit you?

**Nicolás:** Yeah, and the 13 is still trying to recruit you, too!

**Eliseo:** I should have been at school with you today. This wouldn't have happened, if we were together.

**Nicolás:** Yes. It would have.

**Eliseo:** They wouldn't have come after two of us.

**Nicolás:** Yes, they would. They have people everywhere.

**Eliseo:** They control this town.

**Nicolás:** Everybody has to pay them for "protection."

**Eliseo:** Protection from them.

**Nicolás:** The police just let them do anything they want.

**Eliseo:** Like what happened to Daniel and his girlfriend last month, and Junior before.

**Nicolás:** Just there's nobody who will do anything.

**Eliseo:** What can they do? It's all about money.

**Nicolás:** And drugs.

**Eliseo:** (*Long pause*) Are you sure you're okay? Your face is pretty messed up.

**Nicolás:** It's mainly just my eye.

**Eliseo:** No. I just meant your face is messed up. That's why you don't pull girls.

**Nicolás:** Don't make me laugh. It hurts my head.

**Eliseo:** Just trying to make you smile, man. (*Pause*) We have to leave. We have to get out of here.

**Nicolás:** I know.

**Eliseo:** But if we get caught, they'll just send us right back. And they'd kill us.

**Nicolás:** If we don't join the 13 now, we're dead anyway.

**Eliseo:** Even if we join, we'd end up dead or worse.

**Nicolás:** I will never be a part of them.

**Eliseo:** But doesn't America give asylum or refuge or whatever for kids like us?

**Nicolás:** That's what every illegal immigrant claims.

**Eliseo:** But it's true for us!

**Nicolás:** So... IF we get caught, we just have to explain it to them.