

ANGELUS SUMMA MAXIMUS

By Andrew G. Watters

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This is the story of the Protagonist. The Protagonist was born in 1980, the older of two sons of a successful, highly educated, highly intelligent couple in California. Even in his earliest phases of development, the Protagonist was exceptional across all measures that are important. Blessed with a sporadically photographic memory, extremely high intelligence, and opportunities that others didn't have, the Protagonist had most every advantage in his early years. But the Protagonist also had challenges; his parents were workaholics who endlessly slaved away in professional jobs that did not provide meaningful gains for the family. His parents, while supportive and helpful 90% of the time, would severely neglect the boys the other 10% of the time by, for example, not doing or knowing things that normal parents do or know, such as that house cats need to be treated with flea treatments or else the house will be full of fleas. This inconsistency between support and neglect caused the Protagonist to be confused, and to suffer. The confusion led to mental greatness, because the Protagonist was always trying to explain in his mind what he saw in the world. The suffering led to hopelessness and a sense of dependency that prevented the Protagonist from making his own choices in life, because he was always paralyzed by the need for parental approval or was defeatist with regard to the options available. These challenges stayed with the Protagonist well into his twenties, when he graduated college. The biggest two choices of his life were whether to marry a young lady he met in college, and whether to join the Army after graduating college or go to law school. The Protagonist was never happy with either choice, which was not to marry and not to join the military. Instead, the Protagonist found himself safely parked in law school, which was full of awful, toxic people and perhaps the biggest mistake of the Protagonist's life up to that point. In any case, the Protagonist graduated law school in the standard three years and went to work in a series of dead-end jobs doing "bitch work" at area law firms for several years. Around ten years of his life from age 21-31 were almost entirely devoted to law, and were a complete waste of his abilities and talents.

In 2009, the Protagonist was unemployed and living with his parents after failing to secure a new job upon being fired from a law firm for illegitimate reasons. The Protagonist stayed up for five days straight doing his usual software engineering, until he temporarily went insane. During his insanity, he received a vision from God. In the vision, God first started out by endlessly criticizing the Protagonist's life up to that point, with particular focus on the Protagonist's failure to marry the woman God had selected for him in college, and the Protagonist's failure to serve his country— both mistakes stemming from the Protagonist's failure to listen to what was in his heart. After reducing the Protagonist to a blubbing mess with judgments in every area of his life, forcing the Protagonist to prostrate himself and prepare to accept God's final judgment on his life, God told the Protagonist to rise. The Protagonist, in tears and unable to speak, heard what could only be God's true voice. The Voice said: "the truth will only flow through you if you accept what you must do. Step into the light, and accept your calling and vocation. I have chosen you as the future President of the United States. You will serve

the people for the greater good and mete out truth and justice in my name. Go forth, and sin no more.” The Protagonist, exhausted, finally fell asleep. When he woke up, he was in the hospital and spent a week recovering from both the trauma and the gravity of the vision.

The Protagonist, though nominally successful at relationships in his twenties, had a lengthy drought for twelve years from 2009-2021, during which he was hopelessly single and forever alone for two reasons: first, he was only attracted to superintelligent women with perfect bodies and refused to lower his standards; second, he was an alcoholic, and his weight gain and unpleasant manner during that period prevented most women from being open-minded about him. The bottom line is that this twelve-year period of depressing dating outcomes caused the Protagonist to question his entire worldview, as well as his self-worth. Because if he was so gifted and exceptional, why was no one interested in him?

When several important things from his prior visions came true, the Protagonist realized that it was bits and pieces of the future that he was seeing all those years before. For example, the Protagonist saw himself as a successful trial attorney and law firm owner back in 2004, when he took Trial Advocacy in law school and aced the course, also winning a full mock trial in simulated court. By 2021, this vision had come true, which coincided with a period of success in the Protagonist’s personal life that led to marrying his wife and having a baby. The successes after so many failures caused the Protagonist to gain the confidence to make another big decision: whether to take action toward the future he was seeing.

Initially there were baby steps— a failed Congressional campaign in 2022, followed by offers the Protagonist sent to NATO and the new President to serve in the Department of Defense, or elsewhere that might benefit the Allies. These offers, though appreciated, were declined. Because who would believe that a trial attorney and law firm owner might also be highly capable of serving in a civilian executive role in the defense sector? Nobody.

So, in early 2025, the Protagonist decided to stop playing Mr. Nice Guy. He shopped his law firm around to the highest bidder, which was a growing national law firm without a presence in California. The Protagonist sold his law firm for \$5 million, of which he actually received \$2 million up front and the rest over the next four years. This gave the Protagonist his desperately needed fuel for a modest political machine. The Protagonist decided to use his wife’s connections in L.A. to run for Congress in 2028 as a Centrist Democrat, which was his lifelong political view. With millions of dollars in the bank as seed money, the Protagonist embarked on a successful Congressional campaign by asking all the right questions, such as: why should the Democratic Party be the party of woke, trans, and other ridiculous failed liberal agendas? The Protagonist was brave enough to say that that the Democratic Party should not continue its trajectory of failing to connect with Americans due to outrageously excessive virtue-signaling and liberal mouthpiece news outlets, such as the New York Times. The bottom line is that the Republicans beat the Democrats fair and square in the 2024 elections, and the Democrats have absolutely no legitimate excuses for losing the entire government.

With the Party in shambles and defeated, the Protagonist presented himself to voters as the closest to the center that any Democrat will ever be— a Bill Clinton or Al Gore-type figure, which is not what you would expect out of San Francisco. In the middle-of-the-road district in which the Protagonist and his wife lived, the Protagonist was in-step with voters and was also a realistic choice considering his policy platform, which was focused on truth, justice, and the American Way, and not the dumb ideas promoted by the Party leadership. The Protagonist stayed consistent from 2025 to 2026, when he started laying the groundwork for the campaign. By waiting until the next Presidential election, the Protagonist was able to earn and save even more money toward his Congressional campaign. He started the campaign in early 2027 and learned from his prior mistakes. His gifts and experience as a trial attorney and professional arguer meant that he won every debate with his primary opponents, crushing them with unassailable logic and cornering them with their concessions and their own words. He also had the advantage of having programmed his own augmented reality glasses to call up prior quotes and source material relied on by his opponents, which he then shredded. The Protagonist shot his shot, with nothing held back and no reason not to win this time. And he won, gaining a seat in Congress in the 2028 election. This gave the Protagonist a platform on the national stage, from which he served constituents while simultaneously offering solutions to nationwide and even global problems. His speeches were excellent; his solutions and deals were perfect. His horse-trading was optimal. He and his family were telegenic. In other words, the Protagonist had the bearing and possibility of being a leader at the Presidential level. There was only one remaining problem: the Protagonist had to figure out whether he was sure enough of himself to take the leap when the time was right.

From 2029-2031, the Protagonist kept his head down in Congress, telling himself that he just wanted to do a great job for constituents— and he won re-election in 2030 as a result. His political consultants from the Congressional campaign approached him in mid-2031 and told him that he should seriously consider a Presidential run. They told him there was no precedent for a Congressman to leap from that office to President, but look at Barack Obama— first-term Senator to President. And look at J.D. Vance— first term Senator to Vice President. So it has happened in the Senate already.

As the Protagonist was contemplating the decision of whether to pursue an outrageously expensive, all-consuming, difficult campaign while simultaneously raising two young kids, a timely phone call arrived from the Governor of New York. The Governor was herself considering running for President. She was popular, experienced, smart, and capable. But the Protagonist disagreed with her on one very important issue: gun control. The Protagonist's view, shared with the Republican Party, was that self-defense is a human right, and the Second Amendment enshrined in the Constitution guarantees that right for all, to the fullest extent of existing Federal law. The Governor laid out her vision for the campaign and asked the Protagonist whether he would have any potential interest in serving the country as Vice President. The Protagonist was flattered by the invitation. However, he respectfully declined, stating that he would not be able to work in an administration that advocates against the Second Amendment. The Protagonist stated that this is in his heart, and his hands are tied on accepting a role with any administration— other than President. The Governor laughed and said

“check back with me in six months,” referring to the upcoming primary battle that she was expecting to win.

A conversation with his wife led the Protagonist to decide to enter the race for President. She told him that this was God’s choice for him, and this was his opportunity. So he should take it and not make the same mistakes he made decades before in not pursuing opportunities he cared deeply about.

The Protagonist entered the race for President in Spring 2031 for the 2032 election. He and the Governor sparred repeatedly in primary debates, with the Governor doing better than expected. She kept pointing to her track record, and the Protagonist kept pointing to his ability. There were other candidates, but the Protagonist and the Governor were the top two in polling, and were running neck and neck for months. Voters loved the Protagonist’s radical honesty about everything, including his own views and failures; voters loved the Governor’s political experience and track record. The question was: who would the Party choose in the primary elections?

Iowa came in for the Protagonist. New Hampshire came in for the Governor. This pattern continued until one final debate. In the final debate, which was head-to-head between the Protagonist and the Governor, the two candidates were asked to share in ten minutes their visions of future America and what they believed the future held. The Governor went first, stating a typical “cautiously optimistic” canned answer and pointing to her track record of managing one of the largest states in the Country for years. The Protagonist, realizing this was his chance to dazzle, began with: “In 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King told us that he had a dream. His dream changed the world. I would like to share with you that I also have a dream.” The audience, shocked and in awe, fell silent. “I have a dream that one day, America will be universally known as the greatest beacon of freedom, justice, and truth the world has ever known. America is an idea—and that idea is the greatest that anyone can conceive. There is no greater idea or symbol than America. The future holds challenges, but also opportunities. Challenges such as preventing World War III; preventing the extinction of the human race through Artificial Intelligence; and ensuring equality for all Americans. Opportunities such as extending the hand of peace to our enemies; improving our way of life; and aligning the world with a common purpose. That purpose is to survive, thrive, and enjoy being alive. I have a dream.” Thunderous applause. The Protagonist continued the peri-oration, concluding with his vision for American leadership in an uncaring, indifferent world: “we are leaders because we care. I care— I’m not talking about what is up here” (gesturing to his head). “I’m talking about what is in here” (gesturing to his heart). “So I’d like to close with a quote from my idol, Ronald Reagan.” Gasps in the audience. “I know in my heart that man is good. That what is right will always eventually triumph. And there is purpose, and worth, to each and every life.” Thunderous applause. Everyone in the room knows that the Protagonist has just sealed his primary victory, including the Governor.

The Protagonist and the Governor run as President and Vice President in the 2032 election. After a difficult, expensive, and emotionally exhausting election season debating the future of America, they narrowly defeat the Republican incumbent and win.

The next four years are marked with continuations of the efficiency, cost-cutting, and personnel decisions made in the preceding Republican administration. Taking a page out of the Donald Trump playbook, the Protagonist and the Governor integrate their media appearances with favorable media outlets— but they also don't hold back from interviews with conservative outlets. Because why would anyone avoid an interview where all they have to do is tell the truth? The administration is successful in rebuilding the Democratic Party from the shambles it was in from 2024-2032. The Party has dropped the ridiculous virtue-signaling and instead focuses on the greatest good for the greatest number of people, as it should.

The Protagonist and the Governor run for re-election, and they win in 2036. More of the same excellence takes place, and there is a high approval rating for both of them.

As the Protagonist demonstrates, he is a servant of the people, always considering the best interests of regular Americans, as well as people around the world. In the Cabinet Room, the momentous, world-changing decisions are always optimal. There has never been a President as in tune with the truth and the law as the Protagonist. Over the second four-year term, the Protagonist realizes that he has reached the pinnacle of self-actualization, and is a role model and a hero to regular people. Toward the end, the Governor begins a campaign for President. She wins the primary but loses the election to a Republican who has appropriated the Protagonist's style as his own. The Republicans regain the White House and the House of Representatives. The Protagonist semi-retires at age 56, and begins a career as a film director like he had always dreamed of, decades earlier. He makes fictional films about war, which is all he can see in the far future. At this point, some people are saying the Protagonist must have been sent by God, because he has done so much for the country and the world that it cannot be explained any other way. The Protagonist politely disagrees with these groups, stating that he is just a regular guy with substantial gifts who happened to make it, unlike the millions of others who don't. Eventually, these groups persuade the Pope to weigh in on the nature of humanity and divinity, and the Pope agrees with the Protagonist that he is a fortunate, blessed, but regular guy.

The Pope, who had been in marginal health for some time, suddenly dies. A church scholar points out a little-known fact: any baptized Catholic male is eligible for election to the papacy. Believers across the world waste no time in drafting the Protagonist, who was baptized Catholic, to offer his name for consideration, because what else does he have left to accomplish in life?

The College of Cardinals meets in Rome. There is endless debate: should the church really elect a layperson to the highest religious office in the world? Should he really be an American? And a former President, at that? What about his background and lack of devotion to the church over several decades? His personal life? He's a family man and has done well financially, isn't the Pope supposed to be modest and hopelessly devoted to a life of singleness? The advocates for the Protagonist point out that as he himself said, it's not what is in his head; it's what is in his heart that matters. And the Protagonist's heart is not gold; it's a *new element* that combines the best properties of

gold and titanium, and diamond. With his diamond heart, the Protagonist is the perfect choice to unify the fracturing church in the first half of the 21st century. As Plato once said, only those who don't seek power are fit to wield it. The Protagonist fits that mold perfectly. He was the mold. After several days, the election takes place. The Protagonist is elected Pope on the seventh ballot. Upon the election, the following exchange occurs: "Accetti la tua elezione a sommo pontefice?" ("Do you accept your election as supreme pontiff?") "Accepto." ("I accept.") "Con quale nome dovremmo chiamarti?" ("By what name do you wish to be called?"). "Johannes Paulus Tertius." ("John Paul the Third."). The Protagonist chooses his regnal name in tribute to the most consequential Pope in the history of the church, Pope Saint John Paul II.

The Protagonist, now known as John Paul III, proposes a radical idea in his first encyclical: because quantum effects are required for cognition to occur, and because God created Man in God's image, thinking must be something that God and Man share. But because thinking requires quantum effects, thinking is only possible inside the universe. And of course, nothing exists outside the universe. Therefore, either God exists inside the universe with us, God does not exist, or the concept of God cannot be understood by Man. Because (2) contradicts the Bible and (3) contradicts the Bible's teaching that Man is in God's image, and because nothing requires God to be outside the universe, John Paul III concludes that God exists inside the universe with us. God created the universe around himself for himself to live in. The encyclical is met with disbelief among the faithful, and accusations of heresy. But John Paul III stands by his beliefs. The rest of his reign as Pope is marked by efficiency, accountability, and progress by turning the church's vast land holdings and investments into revenue-producing assets, which allow the church to proselytize to the whole world more effectively than ever before. Combined with John Paul III's technical proficiency, this is the best era of all time to be a believer, and not just for Catholics. John Paul III lives out the rest of his life improving the lives of others and honoring God. As he reaches 90, he slows down and decides that he has accomplished enough. This coincides with a final, rapid illness.

In John Paul III's reference frame, he dies.

He wakes up in Heaven with God. God presents as a large, handsome, humanoid man composed of thousands of shards of obsidian glass that shimmer as He moves. God tells John Paul III that he was right: God created the universe for himself to enjoy. God also created Heaven, which is a region of the universe, and God resurrects souls into new bodies in that realm if he deems them worthy. God deemed John Paul III worthy. John Paul III was, without realizing it, an angel sent by God to help mankind see the truth. But the people realize it: God takes the new John Paul III to a portal showing him Earth after his death. He sees a scene of his own funeral, and hears loud chants of "Santo subito!" (Saint now!), just as the crowd did with his predecessor, John Paul II. God fast-forwards ten years in the portal, and John Paul III sees himself canonized as Pope Saint John Paul III. There is nothing left for John Paul III to accomplish, or do. His life is complete and he is in Heaven. But then God offers him a choice: would he prefer to stay in Heaven, or return to Earth and repeat his same life knowing that he is an angel sent by God? It's a difficult choice because, had he known the truth, John

Paul III might not have accomplished all that he accomplished in his life, and things could have turned out very differently. But it would have given him certainty and confidence that are immeasurable. Upon weighing yet another huge decision, this time John Paul III decides with his rational self: he decides to stay in Heaven and observe Earth for as long as God wills it. God could do with his life as God pleased while John Paul III was on Earth, and God chose right. So did John Paul III in allowing someone else to continue the dream.

The End.