

Snowga

"Pilot"

Written by
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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

1

INT. CROWDED YOGA STUDIO - DAY

1

CLOSE UP: two palms are placed at a heart in prayer.

SFX: A LONG EXHALE

Camera pulls slowly away from hands to reveal, AUDREY, who is standing in front of the class. She speaks through the mirror, the class stands behind her. Her back is to them.

AUDREY

Moksha. In Sanskrit we translate Moksha as liberation. Freeing yourself from the cycle of samasara, from dukha, from suffering. The ancient yogis believed that the first step in to this Moksha - this liberation - was true self-realization. Take this final moment of class today and perhaps take this time to be with your true self.

A DITZY GIRL stares at herself in the mirror spaciosly and twirls her hair.

A YUPPIE TYPE stares at himself, then at his watch, then rolls his eyes and taps his thigh nervously.

An UNKEMPT WOMAN closes her eyes, smiles, and lets out a huge fart.

SFX: LONG, DRAWN OUT FART NOISE

Those next to her quickly look at her and sneer or wince. She continues in her smiling bliss.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Ok. Let's all take savasana. Now I HAVE allowed a few minutes in class for you to give yourself this time, this precious space, to truly devote yourself to this liberation. So please do let yourself go and take all the time you need. When you do feel ready to leave, please make it an offering to be as quiet and as mindful as possible.

(CONTINUED)

Nearly everyone immediately gets up, noisily rolls their mats and clunks their water bottles. One girl mindlessly steps on a BLISSED OUT MAN.

BLISSED OUT MAN
(jerking his head up)
Hey! Show some respect!

MINDLESS GIRL
Respect that I am on my lunch hour,
asshole!

AUDREY
(desperately and quickly)
Mindful AND respectful, please?!

BLISSED OUT MAN
Hear that, bitch?

Mindless girl slams studio door.

AUDREY
(Sighs and says almost to
herself)
Namaste.

Audrey watches as the rest of the students slowly drift out, one by one. ADEN, Audrey's hipster, dreadheaded boyfriend, stands outside the glass doors and motions to Audrey, who tip toes out of the room.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
Is something wrong?

ADEN
You look so sexy in there, i just
need a kiss.

They kiss.

AUDREY
Wish granted. Are we still on for
Vesuvio's after class?

ADEN
Mmmmm....maybe not, actually. I
have a private student coming.

AUDREY
No worries. I'll see you at home
then?

ADEN

Sure - why don't I pick up some
Thai on the way home?

AUDREY

As long as she isn't just "some"
Thai and she isn't sexier than me.
I gotta get back in there. Gemma,
likes to take a long savasana.

ADEN

I think you and I need a long
savasana later. And by savasana, I
don't mean savasana.

AUDREY

Haha. Bye.

Audrey slowly creeps back into the room and sits crosslegged
in front of the mirrors. She smiles contentedly.

AUDREY(V.O.) (CONT'D)

My name is Audrey Hines. I teach
yoga. I do it because I want to
bring peace.

A STUDENT angrily packs up and is checking a text on her
blackberry. Audrey sighs.

AUDREY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Sometimes I feel like my teaching
falls on deaf ears.

The same student does a little hands to heart prayer style of
"thank you" to Audrey as she exits. Audrey offers it back,
smiles and slowly scans over the remaining people in the
room. A WOMAN who has clearly had numerous plastic
surgeries, is staring in the mirror, discouragingly pinching
pockets of non-existent fat and trying to suck and press in
her waist.

AUDREY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Most of the students here don't
want a strong conscience, they want
a strong core.

The same woman picks up her stuff and smiles and gives a
little wave to Audrey as she exits. Audrey smiles and gives
a little wave back.

AUDREY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

So be it.

(CONTINUED)

DAN, the bitchy and flamboyantly gay studio owner, stands outside the room, looking through glass windows and exasperatedly points to his watch at Audrey. Audrey nods back. There is one student left in the room, GEMMA, a sweet younger woman in her thirties who is part Inuit.

Audrey walks over to Gemma and gently touches her hand.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

(in a soft voice)

Gemma, I'm sorry, hon, we are at our time.

GEMMA

Oh...no problem. I think I just drifted off there.

They talk as Gemma begins to grab her towel and roll up her mat.

AUDREY

You know Gemma, I have to say I admire your ability to find calm even among a bunch of rushed students. You always seem to have a lovely and long savasana at the end of each class.

GEMMA

I think I must get that from my dad's dad. He was one of the leaders among the elders in his community.

AUDREY

Your last name is Ota right? Japanese?

GEMMA

Inuit. My dad is Inuit, he moved down here for work before I was born.

AUDREY

Amazing.

GEMMA

Yep. He was. He always said that my grandfather found peace no matter what life brought him. So I always remembered that. I do my best.

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY

We all do. It's hard though. This isn't a peaceful city. Well, I guess no city really is.

GEMMA

I'm not so sure about that. I've visited my relatives in Inuvik, and they seem pretty peaceful. I guess it's not really the same kind of "city" though.

AUDREY

Oh, that's funny. I have relatives there too. My aunt moved there a long time ago. She got this huge grant AND She was really in love - I guess you would have to be to move there eh?

GEMMA

Actually - it's an amazing place - I mean there's tons of grants, yes but it's literally, its the top of the world. You should go and visit her!

AUDREY

Can you imagine? Yoga at the top of the world. Oh, dare to dream.

Gemma reaches up and gently but firmly holds Audrey's arm.

Audrey immediately has a vision in short quick flashes.

MONTAGE

Audrey she sees herself on a plane.

Audrey looks down at herself as as a snow angle.

Audrey is laughing in a bar.

Audrey is staring into a burning fire on a snowy terrain at dusk.

END MONTAGE.

Audrey snaps back to the studio, Gemma's hand still on her arm.

GEMMA

You should go.

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY

Gemma?

GEMMA

You should go Audrey. You should go. They need you.

AUDREY

Sorry - what?

GEMMA

They need you - out there - someone is motioning for you to go to the lobby.

AUDREY

Oh. Right. That's just Dan.

They exit the studio and Audrey turns off the lights.

INT. YOGA STUDIO RECEPTION AREA - CONTINUOUS

The two girls makes their way into the reception room. An incensed Dan confronts Audrey.

DAN

Audrey, honestly, what the hell? You went over a full five minutes. Do you think you are the only teacher here at this studio?

AUDREY

No, but the students-

DAN

Do you think your students are the only students who need the studio to practice yoga? I only have 15 minutes now to go in and spray the mirrors and wipe the floor for the next class. If I am any later, I will miss the next round of sign ins and we can't exactly afford for people to NOT pay for class. This isn't a freakin drop in centre.

AUDREY

I'm sorry Dan-

DAN

Did you plug the 3 month pass for 900 bucks? I would like to sell at least 10 a day.

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY

Sorry, there wasn't a opportunity
in the class-

DAN

Really? Because SOLEIL and SHAYLA
both find the opportunity.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. YOGA STUDIO - OTHER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

SHAYLA, a Paris Hilton type, is instructing dolphin pose to a
group of large, middle age women, all sweating, groaning and
struggling.

SHAYLA

If you're having problems with
this, you may want to think about
the 3 month pass. And that way
your Dolphin won't look more like a
Whale.

The women look up from this intense posture, horrified.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. YOGA STUDIO - OTHER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

SOLEIL, a severe and bikini-model-pretty lululemon clad
teacher is teaching a class. She walks up to a MIDDLE AGED
MALE STUDENT who is sweating and huffing his way through
Dancer's Pose and whispers.

SOLEIL

You know, we are selling a 3 month
pass for only 900 bucks. Who
knows? Maybe it will bring your
wife back.

He begins to cry.

INT. YOGA STUDIO RECEPTION AREA - CONTINUOUS

AUDREY

Right.
(turns to Gemma)
Sorry Gemma. Please know that the
meditation you take after class IS
important. At least to me.

GEMMA

Don't worry. I get it. Dare to
dream, right Audrey?

(CONTINUED)

Gemma exits into the change room.

AUDREY

Right. Dare to dream.

Audrey starts spraying mats and hanging them. Dan is making a huge sign that reads "COMPASSION".

DAN

Anyway tardy, try to get those preggio bitches in and out today. Claire's Ashtanga class is becoming really popular and I want to cram as many housewives as I can in there.

AUDREY

That's....um...really motivating Dan. I'll see what I can do. Maybe I'll set up the mats and bolsters for them so we can start a little sooner.

Audrey heads toward the cold studio. Shayla, intercepts her by directly stepping in her path.

SHAYLA

Audrey I wanted to talk to you about that retreat in Picton. I'm gonna have to bail.

AUDREY

Bail? But we've been planning on going for 2 months! Why?

SHAYLA

Well-

Shayla makes eye contact with Dan and they exchange a smile.

SHAYLA (CONT'D)

Dan has agreed to give me all the prenatal classes from here on in and we've decided to host a "Mega birthing bash weekend" to kick off the next round of classes. I am gonna try to get as many of those hormonal hippos through this door as I possibly can. I get 5 extra bucks per unborn head! So I'll get even more if I get a few ladies who have been invitrofied with multiples..

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY

Dan! What the hell?! I thought I was teaching the next round of prenatal.

DAN

Audrey don't make up your own story about this, Shayla has been demonstrating a deeper commitment to the studio as of late. It's her turn.

AUDREY

But....huh? She doesn't even have prenatal training!

Dan holds up his "COMPASSION" sign as an answer.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Yes of course. So terribly sorry! I should have more compassion for someone that just took half of my pay from me and punked out on her friendship commitments. Why doesn't someone here show me a little compassion?

SHAYLA

You know what? I was trying to shield you from what was about to happen, but you know what? Go into that room. See what you'll see. And see if I care.

AUDREY

What the hell are you talk-

Audrey walks in to see Aden and Soliel. Soleil is in "Warrior II" and Aden is "adjusting" her. One hand is on her upper thigh, the other on her chest and her head is facing him. They are kissing. They look up, caught.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Aden?! SOLEIL? Oh my god. That's not the kind of compassion I was hoping to see.

ADEN

Baby...I was just...adjusting her.

SOLEIL

I really do love hands-on adjustments.

(CONTINUED)

Soleil steps toward Audrey, her palms outreached.

SOLEIL (CONT'D)

You know Audrey, you shouldn't fear change.

AUDREY

You know what? Aden....Soliel....
For the first time in my life...I don't! Good bye.

Audrey is storming out of studio.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

That includes you too - Dan!

ADEN

So do you want me to sleep on the couch tonight?

AUDREY

Sure. No. I mean yes! I mean it doesn't matter because I won't be there.

SOLEIL

Where are you going?

AUDREY

(discovering the words as they fall from her mouth)
Inuvik? Yep. That's where I am going. I'm going to Inuvik.

DAN

What?

AUDREY

Yep. Got a grant actually. So yeah, have a nice life being - you know - compassionate with one and other. Maybe that's what you need. But in Inuvik, they need me. They need me.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

4

EXT. INUVIK AIRPORT - DAY

4

The door of a "First Air" jet plane opens to a wheeled, moveable staircase.

(CONTINUED)

Audrey exits the plane and descends, taking in her frigid surroundings. She pauses, next to the FLIGHT ATTENDANT at the bottom of the stairs.

AUDREY
Oh. My. God. That is cold.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Welcome to Inuvik.

AUDREY
Yeah. I guess so.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Is this your first time?

AUDREY
Yep!

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Oh, that's awesome.
(to team of kids waiting
at bottom of stairs)
We've got a VIRGIN!!!!

The kids immediately begin to pound Audrey with snowballs.

AUDREY
AHHHH! What the hell?

CHILD
It's tradition! When you come to
Inuvik, you need to get hit in the
face.

SECOND CHILD
Its like, if you can't take getting
hit in the face, you can't take
Inuvik.

AUDREY
That's an incredibly beautiful
metaphor but shouldn't you be in
school?

CHILD
It's Saturday!

AUDREY
Right.

INT. INUVIK AIRPORT - DAY

The airport is basically a room. Aunts Sophie and Sura rush toward her.

SOPHIE
Audrey! You made it!!!!

AUDREY
Was the jury out on whether or not I would? Are the planes that sketchy?

SURA
Whatever. Did you bring them?

AUDREY
What? Oh...yeah...

Audrey reaches into her carryon for a box of Timbits.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
This wasn't the easiest thing to get through security by the-

SURA
Sweet nectar of the trans-fat gods!
Hardened drops of the balls of Tim Horton himself...

Sura stuffs 3 into her mouth.

AUDREY
That's...really...nasty. I'm not sure if they actually used Tim Horton's balls as the mold.

SOPHIE
It's been a while since someone has come to visit us.

AUDREY
Please god, don't ever let me get that excited over left over doughnut holes.

Sura rummages through the box.

SURA
They never give you enough of the chocolate ones. And why do they include the plain? No one actually eats plain Tim Bits!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

Those are always the ones that end
up going stale and crusty.

SOPHIE
You hungry honey?

AUDREY
You know what? The food on the
plane was actually not bad - but I
could go for something.

SOPHIE
What you in the mood for?

AUDREY
Oh I'm not sure. I could go for
something spicy, like Korean. Oh
you know what, I could really go
for, Tabouleh, if you guys are into
Lebanese that is...

SURA
You're joking right?

AUDREY
...right...?

SURA
Good. You may find your dining
options a little more limited
here...although the new thing at
the Mad Trapper are Nachos. They
are so good. A little spicy, but
good.

AUDREY
Yes...I've...had..nachos.

SOPHIE
Awesome. See? Right up your alley.

5 INT. MAD TRAPPER RESTAURANT - DAY

5

Sura, Sophie and Audrey are being waited on by GLEN, a forty
something man with kind eyes.

GLEN
Hey ladies! Well, this must be the
famous Audrey.

AUDREY
Yes - I mean famous no; Audrey yes.

(CONTINUED)

GLEN

Well honey, it doesn't take much to be famous around here.

SOPHIE

I think I told you Audrey, that we had someone living downstairs, under the gallery. Well, that's Glen.

GLEN

Yes, it's true. We're roomies. Temporary situation actually. They needed a tenant and I needed a place to live. That was two years ago. It's actually one of the few houses here with a basement.

AUDREY

Well, it's great to meet you. I'll be shacking up in the attic for a little while, it looks like - just waiting for my grant to come in. So until then.

GLEN

So, what can I get you Audrey?

AUDREY

Got a veggie burger?

GLEN

Um, once we did. Let me go check what's in the freezer.

Glen rushes to the kitchen.

SURA

(in a whisper to Audrey)
He had a bit of a gambling issue and lost his house and his wife. Just in case you are wondering why he lives in our basement.

AUDREY

Don't worry Sura, he seems lovely.

Glen returns.

GLEN

No veggie burgers today, I'm afraid.

AUDREY

Well I'm a vegetarian but really I'll eat anything that's like...local. You know, something that hasn't travelled.

GLEN

We can do that. So you ladies want our new nachos I'm guessing and Audrey we've got a venison burger with your name on it..

AUDREY

Venice-? Ok....yeah, sure.

GLEN

Oh - I forgot to ask - Sura you want to splurge and get the guacamole for 5 bucks?

SURA

Sure - it's a special day.

AUDREY

Five bucks for Guacamole??!

SURA

Honestly, you're going to be sorry you didn't get the nachos.

AUDREY

I am already. So tell me about this guy that owns the studio space?

SOPHIE

Well, he's interesting. He bought up the old arena and he's been looking for something to do with that space upstairs.

AUDREY

So, you think he'll be willing to negotiate something?

SURA

What your aunt isn't saying, hon, is that this guy is a bit of a dick.

SOPHIE

Well, he's had a hard life. He could have been a great hockey player.

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY

So? What happened?

SURA

He busted his leg really bad in a skidoo accident. At first they said he wouldn't be able to ever walk again. Apparently he made a miraculous recovery.

SOPHIE

But not miraculous enough. He never played again.

SURA

So he's stuck here. And he's miserable. Everyone felt sorry for him, you know, 15 years ago. Now he's just a relic.

SOPHIE

Anyway, his mum, Hazel, is lovely and she helps him run his properties. He's bought up a couple of the older, more decrepit properties here in Inuvik.

AUDREY

Wait a minute....decrepit...I thought you said this was a studio space?

SOPHIE

Well, honey it will be...when your done with it, it will be!

AUDREY

But-

SURA

Nachos!!

Glen comes with the nachos and venison burger.

GLEN

And here's your side of guac.

Glen puts a thimbleful of guacamole on the table.

GLEN (CONT'D)

Audrey. I forgot to ask you if you wanted bacon on that burger.

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY

Maybe not today. I'll...work my way
up to that one.

SURA

Get the bacon. You'll need that
strength when you have to deal with
Tom.

AUDREY

I get my strength from other
things, Auntie Sura. Yeah, no
bacon for me. Not today anyway.
Wait...do you have any veggies?

GLEN

Pickle?

AUDREY

A Pickle.

Beat.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

That sounds about right.

6 INT. STUDIO SPACE - DAY

6

Audrey is alone and wandering around, checking out her new
digs.

AUDREY

Hello? HA-lloooo?

Audrey walks over to a sandwich board leaned up against a
windowsill. The paint is peeling. She traces her finger
along it. It's filthy. She looks out at the harbour.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Inuvik...What the hell am I doing
here?

HAZEL

Excuse me?

AUDREY

Sorry...just talking to myself...

HAZEL

You must be the yoga girl then?

AUDREY

Yes. Yoginis often talk to
themselves. Sorry.

(CONTINUED)

HAZEL

Sure. Well, my son will be here shortly. I help manage his properties.

Hazel begins to stick out hand, then hesitates.

HAZEL (CONT'D)

Do yoga people shake hands?

AUDREY

We prefer to say hello by putting our hands in prayer position and bowing.

She does a "namaste" version of hello. A beat goes by where Hazel just stares at Audrey. Then Audrey laughs.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

I'm totally joking. Great to meet you.

Audrey extends her hand and they shake.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

I noticed a sandwich board here - do you mind if I use it?

HAZEL

That thing? Sure. I guess. If you want.

AUDREY

This studio is going to need a lot of work to be "yoga ready".

HAZEL

Really? Well, I guess you and my son can discuss that. He'll be here soon.

Hazel exits. Audrey looks and sees an old paint can and brush in the corner. She smiles.

6

EXT. MIDDAY. OUTSIDE OF RINK/STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

6

Audrey is placing the freshly painted sandwich board out front. She's done a great job, it looks fantastic and very colourful. It reads "Free Yoga Tomorrow Night!". She stares at it, happy and pleased. Tom walks up to her.

TOM

What the hell do you think you're doing?

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY

Giving the gift of yoga to the
people of Inuvik?

TOM

Do you realize that you'll have
every single person in this town
here if you give your classes away
for free?

AUDREY

Yeah, I'm sorry - have we met?

TOM

I'm Tom. Your landlord. I'm
assuming your that granola girl
from Toronto.

AUDREY

I usually answer to Audrey.

TOM

Sure, fine. So you have first and
last month's rent or what?

AUDREY

Woah. What? I'm sorry - it's
freezing - can we go inside?

TOM

Suit yourself.

Tom and Audrey enter.

INT. STUDIO SPACE - DAY

Tom and Audrey walk-and-talk on their way to Tom's office.

AUDREY

I'm not sure how long I will
actually be here and I was
wondering if you could give me a
cut rate on that rent?

TOM

Yeah right. Absolutely not.

AUDREY

Well, the studio is not exactly in
tip top shape. No where close
actually.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

I need to create a sanctuary where people aren't inhaling dust in pranayama and aren't worried about stepping on a rusty nail in tadasana. The building is insured right?

TOM

Sure, yeah.

They enter Tom's office. Tom sits behind his desk.

AUDREY

Well, I'm not paying a cent until the studio up to snuff and until then, I'm not charging anyone. I want to give people yoga for free while we get the studio in check and I don't really want to waste any time while I'm here.

TOM

Why are you here then? Because you are wasting everyone's time, mostly your own. People here don't need yoga - they need jobs! They need something to do other than huff gas.

AUDREY

That's exactly why they need yoga!

TOM

That's exactly why they don't! Believe me, you won't be the first hippy chick who thinks she's going to revolutionize Inuvik. Do yourself a favour chicky, go back to your buddies in Vancouver and open a studio there, where all the plastic surgery yummi mummies can afford it.

AUDREY

Woah. Woah. Woah! On so many levels, woah. First off, I'm from Toronto.

TOM

Same difference.

AUDREY

You're an ass.

(CONTINUED)

TOM

Now! There! See now you sound
like a real person.

AUDREY

Ughh! Show some.....Compassion!

Audrey slams the door and storms off, tears in her eyes.

7

EXT. INUVIK STREET - DAY

7

AUDREY

Stupid! Stupid! Why the hell am I
here?

Audrey looks around, trying to find the house which is just
down the road.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

What number is it again?

Finds house.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

78? I think that's it.

8

INT. SOPHIE AND SURAS HOUSE - DAY

8

She approaches door. She knocks. Then finds that it is
open. She goes into their house for the first time. It is
very eclectic and on the verge of being cluttered, with lots
of art and "meaningful" objects everywhere.

AUDREY

Auntie Sophie? Auntie Sura?
Anyone home??

The phone rings.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Hello? Anyone?

She finally answers the phone.

INT. BRUCE'S HOUSE - INTERCUT

BRUCE

Audrey? Is that you?

AUDREY

Oh my god, Bruce. Thank god.

BRUCE

How's it going sis?

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY

Horrible! I hate it here! It's 5 bucks for half a Dixie cup of Guacamole, Tim Bits are a rare delicacy and....

BRUCE

And what?

AUDREY

The studio space is a total mess. I thought I could maybe clean it up and offer some classes while we get it ready but the landlord is a total dick.

BRUCE

Ok, you aren't going to like what I have to say then.

AUDREY

What?

BRUCE

The grant office called me today, apparently you gave them my number as a secondary contact?

AUDREY

Oh yeah, I have to get a plan for up here on my phone-

BRUCE

Actually you might not...

AUDREY

Why's that?

BRUCE

You didn't get the grant.

AUDREY

You're. Kidding. Me.

BRUCE

No. Apparently it's only for minorities.

AUDREY

Well....that's...that's just...stupid! Believe me, I am minority here.

SFX: A DOOR CREAKS OPEN

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Someone's at the door. I'm gonna
have to call you back.

Sura and Sophie enter.

SURA

Audrey! You found the house all by
yourself? I see you're making
yourself at home.

AUDREY

Speaking of home....Bruce just
called. I didn't get the grant. I'm
sorry guys, but home is where I am
going. I guess this wasn't meant
to be. I was so stupid coming
here, for some reason I thought
maybe Inuvik needed me. But I
guess life just needed to kick me
in the ass one more time. Toronto
sucks, I'm sick of living in 300
square feet and guys that won't
commit - and I don't even have my
condo anymore -but this seems like
it was a stupid idea, even for me.
I'm sorry I let you down, but I'm
going back.

9

END OF ACT TWO

9

ACT THREE

INT. "TROPICAL BOUNTY" GROCERY STORE - DAY

Audrey and Sophie are grocery shopping.

SOPHIE

I really wish you'd reconsider
Audrey.

AUDREY

I don't think so. I guess it's just
not meant to be. I'm so confused.

She picks up an orange.

SOPHIE

Maybe you'll learn to like spending
\$3.00 on an orange.

(CONTINUED)

They look up to see a native girl, ATKA, waving. She is her cashier girl uniform as she works at the grocery store. She is exuberant and has the type of energy that overpowers the room.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Oh! Atka! This is my niece I was telling you about!

ATKA

I'm soooooo excited to meet you!

AUDREY

Oh! Well, it's nice to meet you too. I'm Audrey.

Audrey sticks out hand. Atka throws her arms around Audrey in a huge bear hug.

ATKA

Oh Audrey, we've just been waiting for your arrival! We are going to be fast friends I know it.

AUDREY

Well, it'll have to be fast - I'm actually leaving in a couple of days.

ATKA

But you just got here?!

AUDREY

I know, but the funds didn't come through...

ATKA

But, but, I'm sure you'll make enough to stay, everyone is so excited to try yoga. My husband and I, we studied, in our travels. Actually, my husband's dream is to teach. Someday me too - but for now, we work here.

SOPHIE

Atka and her husband VISHNU are very well travelled. They've backpacked all throughout Asia.

ATKA

(huge booming voice)
VISH! VISH! Get over here.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

Audrey, that girl from Toronto who
is opening up a yoga studio is
finally here.

Everyone in grocery store looks up, checks out Audrey and
begins to whisper. VISHNU, an extremely chilled out man of
South Indian descent, strides over. He speaks without irony
and everything he says is 100% sincere.

VISHNU
Hey yoga girl.

AUDREY
It's Audrey. Great to meet you
both.

Vishnu goes in for an uncomfortably long hug. Audrey tries
to release but he doesn't.

VISHNU
(with eyes closed)
I know this is the beginning of
something truly magical. Wait.
I'm feeling a connection here I
think. Yes. Wait for it. Wait...
there it is....
(sighs)
....yes.

AUDREY
Uh. I'm so sorry, but I won't be
opening a studio here after all, my
grant didn't come in.

VISHNU
Unacceptable. You were brought
here for a reason.

ATKA
Inuvik needs Yoga! It needs you.

VISHNU
(taking Audrey's hands)
You weren't meant to go back to
Toronto. You were meant to be
here. The first step to Moksha is
self realization.

Vishnu drops his hands quickly.

VISHNU (CONT'D)
There. That is all I have to say.

Vishnu's words resonate with Audrey as snapshots of the past few days FLASH before her eyes.

MONTAGE

Audrey's lips mouthing the word "Moksha" in slow motion.

Audrey's hands at her heart.

Gemma repeating "My grandfather found peace wherever life brought him"

Dan holding up the "COMPASSION" sign.

Soleil repeating with palms out, "You shouldn't fear change, Audrey"

Audrey in class, hands are her heart, repeating "Moksha".

END MONTAGE

Audrey snaps back to the present.

AUDREY

You are right. You are right. You are so....right.

ATKA

We saw the sign for free yoga tonight, that's still happening right?

Audrey takes a deep breath.

AUDREY

It is now.

9 INT. AUDREY'S YOGA STUDIO - NIGHT

9

Audrey is teaching a very full class in her ramshackle studio. She has attempted to make it nicer by giving it a scrub and a sweep and placing candles and a few budhas around the room.

The class is full of all ages and all types, many are Inuit. All characters previously introduced are there - Atka, Vishnu, Sophie, Sura, Glen, and Hazel. All except Tom. They are all lying on their bellies, preparing for bow pose.

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY (CONT'D)

So for many of you this is your first practice, but I just want to demonstrate where your practice can take you...try if you can to kick your heels into your buttocks and reach around to grab your ankles. Now this is Bow pose or Dhanarasana.

The class struggles to get into position

AUDREY (CONT'D)

And...I know that some of you hunt....so I thought maybe you could imagine your arrows and maybe even your holster. Funny enough, the sanskrit word for quiver, is Tuuna.

The class breaks out into giggles and laughter, many lose the posture completely.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

I know! It's really funny, because you know...tuna the fish, but in sanskrit it means something different.

The class is now in full blown yell-laughing.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Ok. What am I missing?

INUIT MAN

The way you said it sounds like "tunnu" which for us means fat. It's like you are calling us all fatties...

AUDREY

(horrified)

Oh my god. Oh I am so sorry. Oh, I would never do that! I mean, I know people who would, in Toronto, but that's not me.

INUIT MAN

No, it's funny because some of us are fat! It's ok! It's just funny.

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY
(smiling)
Right.

Audrey glances at her watch.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
I'd like to take you into savasanna
now actually. Please lie on your
mat or towel -

One man looks up from his big seal skin that he brought.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
- or your seal skin, whichever. But
please let your feet fall to the
sides and your shoulders begin to
sink as the floor rises up to
support them. Your palms turn
toward the sky. Now, as you lie
here, send up a little gratitude
for your practice. We ask that in
savasanna you remain in complete
silence.

Suddenly a loud booming noise is heard through the walls.
The walls shake. It is as though they are inside a speaker.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
(to herself)
Really? I mean - Really?
(to class)
Well, please know that savassana is
the most important posture of our
practice. And when you practice
yoga again...if...you practice
again...that you should remain in
this ultimate stillness for at
least a few minutes.

The walls shake more and the music seems to get louder.
Audrey begins to shout to be heard.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
When we say Namaste, we say that
the divine in me bows to the divine
in you. I say it and then you - if
you feel so inclined - repeat it
back.

Now she is fully shouting.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
Namaste!

(CONTINUED)

The class shouts back.

CLASS
Namaste!

Part of the ceiling falls at the back of the room as a result from all of the pounding music.

AUDREY
Thank you. A lot. Excuse me everyone.

Audrey leaves the class. She's furious.

9

INT. THE SEAL CLUB - NIGHT

9

Audrey enters. The music is loud but there is no one at the bar.

AUDREY (CONT'D)
Hello? Excuse me?!

Suddenly a body pops up from underneath the bar, he is facing away from her. It is DAVE, who doesn't turn around to talk to her as he wipes a glass.

DAVE
Yeah?

AUDREY
You have got some nerve! Can't you at least look at me when I am talking to you?

Dave turns around. He is impossibly, undeniably handsome but is the kind of guy who doesn't really care much for what he looks like. He's rugged and in his mid thirties.

DAVE
Oh...Sorry. Yes?

AUDREY
(a bit gaga)
You. You are. Um. Your music is really. Loud. Um. You're loud.

DAVE
(apologetically)
Oh, I am so sorry. We were testing the speakers. I've been waiting months for them to be shipped, but you know, it took a while to get them from Yellowknife.

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY

Yeah. Things take awhile.

DAVE

Sorry - do you live around here?

AUDREY

I'm a yoga girl. I mean I do yoga.
I mean I teach it. I mean, I'm
Audrey. Hi.

DAVE

Oh! You're the one who's opening
up the studio next door? So good
to meet you. I'd love to take a
class. I'm Dave.

AUDREY

I'm Audrey.

DAN

You said that.

AUDREY

So did you.

DAN

What?

AUDREY

I was just teaching a class next
door and your music...it was really
disruptive...part of the ceiling
caved in.

DAN

Well, the ceiling, you'll have to
blame Tom for. As far as the music
goes though, maybe we can sit down
and figure out a schedule? You
know, so we aren't stepping on each
other's toes?

AUDREY

You are completely right. Our toes
should never touch.

DAN

(laughing)
What?

AUDREY

I'm sorry. I'm a bit jet lagged I think and my brain is a bit fried. It's been a crazy two days.

DAN

But wait a sec, I thought I heard that you weren't opening up the studio after all?

AUDREY

Wow. Word travels really fast in this town. Um, that hasn't been...fully...decided.

DAN

Well promise me you'll treat me to a class before you decide?

AUDREY

Definitely.

DAN

Cool, come over in the next few days and we can straighten a schedule out. If you stay that is.

AUDREY

Definitely.

Audrey begins to walk out and trips on a chair. She sheepishly looks back at Dan.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

We don't have...chairs...like this...in Toronto. I'm totally joking.

DAN

Bye Audrey.

AUDREY

By Dave.

DAN

Dan.

AUDREY

Dan. Yep. Dan.

Audrey walks into Yoga studio quietly. Everyone is gone. Just her mat at the top of the room remains. Her cell phone rings. She looks at her phone. It's Bruce.

AUDREY (CONT'D)

Bruce? I told you to call me at Auntie Sophie's - my phone doesn't have a plan for here...yet.

INT. BRUCE'S HOUSE - INTERCUT

BRUCE

Hey Audrey - I think I've found you a flight.

AUDREY

That's good Bruce, but I don't think I'm going to need it.

BRUCE

What?

AUDREY

You know what? I think, I'm gonna stick it out, at least for a little bit. See if I can get a deal on this studio, see if people are willing to help me make a go of this. Sorry Bruce, I've gotta go. I'll call you back. There's something I've gotta do.

BRUCE

Audrey!

Audrey lights at a candle that sits on a little ledge in front of her mat. She sits on her knees, brings her hands to her heart and closes her eyes.

AUDREY V.O.

Sometimes the path to self-realization, the path to true freedom - to Moksha - takes some unexpected turns. So what can we do? Sometimes you just have to stay on the path and enjoy the ride. Ok, so I have no idea where this path leads either. But, for the first time in my life, I think I'm just going to enjoy the ride.

Audrey opens her eyes. A smile creeps onto her lips.

(CONTINUED)

AUDREY
Namaste.

FADE TO BLACK.