

Brenda In Dharmaland

By

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BRENDA IN DHARMALAND

FADE IN

CREDITS

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, LIVING ROOM

Several easy chairs a sofa, coffee table and TV make up a very middle class room. There are empty beer cans on the coffee table along with a pizza box.

BRENDA KOLINSKY, short haired, husky, "tomboy" 30 year old ex-jock lays belly down on the floor with a large bag of ice on her back. She wears a softball uniform that says "coach" on the back and "Petes Peetza Joint" on the front. Her stocky blue eyed/thick glasses and hat wearing landscaper husband EDGAR sits in an easy chair reading "Landscapers Digest".
ALARM RINGS

BRENDA

(screams)

Time. G Get this ice off my back.

EDGAR

I'm right here, you don't have to yell.

Edgar gets up and takes the ice off her back.

BRENDA

I'm in a hurry. Got a game to win.

EDGAR

I don't want you goin' honey.
You're gonna make it worse. You know what the doctor said.

BRENDA

Screw the doctor. I got a game to win.

She slowly, painfully pushes up to her hands and knees.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

G.

Edgar gets on his hands and knees in front of her and backs in underneath her slowly, like a large construction vehicle. BEEP BEEP BEEP She clutches his waist.

He slowly raises up, lifting her with him. He reaches back and grabs her right leg putting her foot down. They stand together. He turns and spins her around, she steps on his feet as he holds her around the waist. They walk across the room like this. She leans on the sofa while he wraps a back brace around her. She releases the sofa and stands upright.

EDGAR

You don't look so good. You really oughtta-

BRENDA

I'm fine. Daddy didn't raise no quitter.

She hobbles toward the door.

EDGAR

Being hurt doesn't make you a quitter.

Brenda can't twist her spine so she turns her whole body around.

BRENDA

Yes it does. It's a sign of weakness. I'm not a weakling or a quitter, or a loser. I got a game to win. We're gonna kill those Bowlarama idiots. They think it's just fun and games. I'm gonna show em fun and games.

EDGAR

(sighs)
I'll meet ya there.

BRENDA

Ok. Love ya G.

She turns back around and heads toward the door.

EDGAR

Love you too B. Take it easy.

BRENDA

I'm fine.

She maneuvers out the front door.

EXT RURAL HIGHWAY, TRAFFIC

Brendas dilapidated jalopy waits for a construction vehicle to slowly move across the road. Brenda HONKS the horn.

BRENDA (CONT'D)
C'mon you idiots.

The construction vehicle stops and the driver gets out and looks at a tire. Brenda opens her window and tries to maneuver her head out.

BRENDA (CONT'D)
(screams)
For gods sake, hurry up. If I'm not there, we forfeit the game.

The driver ambles back into the vehicle and pulls it out of the way.

EXT SOFTBALL FIELD

Words across the screen read "A fool who persists in his folly will become wise".

Mt. Baldy, NY, a Norman Rockwell type small town softball game is being played on a beautiful crisp summer evening. The lights are on as the adult co-ed game is in progress. There is a popcorn and beer cart and a hot dog vendor walks around. The PLAYERS are rural "hick/rednecks" with uniforms that say Petes Peetza Joint and Bowlarama. BALL GAME AMBIENCE

Edgar sits on the wooden bleachers watching the game. His younger brother PETE, sits next to him wearing jeans and a T shirt that says "Petes Peetza Joint". Edgar's high school buddies/landscaping and snow removal partners, DON, a very large man with a button up shirt stretched to the brink of popping, and Ted, skinny with bib overalls on, sit with them. They are surrounded by local yocals and have a cooler between them. They all hold cans of "Milwaukees Finest" and bags of popcorn.

Brenda coaches on the third base line, signing madly but moving in a stilted, painful way.

EDWINA, Brenda's best friend since grade school is the scrawny umpire behind home plate wearing a bright pink warm up suit with a chest protector and mask.

There is a batter up and a runner on second. Brenda watches the uncoordinated batter intently. The batter is distracted by a cute girl on the bench. CHIRPING CRICKETS AY BATTAA...

PETE

How's that anger management going for Brenda?

BRENDA

(screams)

For gods sake focus. Move your right foot forward 2 inches and hike your left elbow. Swing like you mean it.

EDGAR

Better. Coaching is the problem. Incompetence makes her go ballistic.

PETE

Same as high school.

DON

Remember when she wanted to get on the wrestling team?

Brenda torques her back.

BRENDA

AAuuuuuughhhhhh.

EDGAR

She's my little fighter. It never made sense to me, but she's the athlete. I'm happy to sit back and watch but I'd be just as happy if she quit all this and we had another baby.

BRENDA

(screams)

You're killing me. Focus on the ball. Become one with the bat.

She sees the hot dog man.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

Somebody bring me a dog.

PETE

Fat chance. Where's Repete? He's the only thing she can't win at.

EDGAR

Behind third.

(sigh)

(MORE)

EDGAR (CONT'D)

Just like her. I'm crazy over 'em
both.

WOOSH OF BALL, CRACK of the bat. ROAR of the crowd.

Brenda frantically and painfully waves the player around third to home. In the background, REPETE, their scrappy 12 year old son wearing ripped jeans and a baseball shirt, and TIFFANY, a sassy 10 year old in a sparkly swimsuit and pigtails, take video. LOU ANN, Tiffany's emaciated grandma and girlfriend to HOWDY, Brendas burly white haired dad sit behind them on lawn chairs.

BRENDA

Run you dumbass.

LOU ANN

Tell 'em coach.

HOWDY

That a girl B. Rile 'em up.

The PLAYER rounds third. Brenda hobbles after her, chasing her towards home plate.

BRENDA

You run like a girl.

PLAYER

I am a girl.

BRENDA

That's no excuse.

BRENDAS POV

The shortstop bumbles and throws the ball.

The runner slides into home.

The catcher leaps to catch the ball.

The catcher tags the runner as she slides.

The crowd stands.

A beer drops and popcorn crunches.

Repete videotapes.

Edwina makes the call simultaneously with Brenda who has followed the runner all the way to home.

EDWINA
Yerrrrr out.

BRENDA
Safe.

EDGAR
Here we go.

BRENDA
Are you nuts.

EDWINA
Shee's out.

BRENDA
She was safe. Yer just jealous.

EDWINA
Of what fatty??

BRENDA
My successful career-

EDWINA
Crip.

Brenda gets right up in Edwina's face.

BRENDA
all state, Edgar, you name it. The
list-

EDWINA
Gimme a break. I kill you bowling.

BRENDA
Give me a break. I'm the best
bowler in town. I shoulda gone pro.

EDWINA
But ya didn't. Coulda, shoulda-

CAT CALL VO
Get on with the game.

Brenda lurches at Edwina and is held back by the player.

EDWINA
What are ya gonna do? It's just a
softball game.

BRENDA

That's why you're a loser. You don't care. You shouldn't be umping if you don't care. I could ump and coach at the same time.

EDWINA

She's out and so are you. You're out of the game.

Brenda fights to get away from the player still working to hold her.

BRENDA

You can't kick me out. This is my house.

EDWINA

Watch me.

EDGAR VO

Keep cool B.

BRENDA

(exasperated)
Auuughhhhh.

She lurches away from the batter and twists maniacally.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

AAaauughghgghhhhhhh. My back.

She falls hard backwards, landing in a splayed position. Her head slamming into the ground. A puff of dust rises.

EDGAR

Shit.

PETE

There goes anger management.

The two men scramble onto the field. Brenda is surrounded by people. She is out cold.

EDGAR

B. Can ya hear me. Honey?

MONTAGE-BRENDA POV

Old photos of Brendas' past

--Brenda and Edwina together at camp.

--Brenda at bat.
 --Brenda with a black eye.
 --Brendas dad coaching her.
 --Brenda holding a trophy.
 --Friends cheering for her.
 --Prom with Edgar.
 --Edgar and Pete holding up a fish they caught.
 --Brenda on crutches.
 --Brenda wrestling.
 --Brenda holding a UCLA banner.
 --Brenda holding UCLA athletic scholarship letter.
 --Brenda and Edwina pointing at her pregnant belly.
 --Brenda and Edgar getting married/cutting cake.
 --Brenda and Edgar holding Repete.
 --black

INT HOSPITAL ROOM

Brenda sleeps in traction and Edgar, Repete and Howdy sit beside the bed.

BRENDA
 (mumbles)
 Turn that light down. I'm tryin to sleep.

EDGAR
 B. You're awake. How do you feel?

Edgar takes Brendas hand, gives her a kiss on the cheek.

BRENDA
 Fine.

EDGAR
 You were knocked out cold honey.
 You threw your back out and hit your head.

Brenda tries to move.

BRENDA

Well, I'm up now so let's get outta here. Who won the game?

Edgar hits the call button.

EDGAR

We forfeited honey. You were knocked out.

BRENDA

That's no reason to forfeit. They should let us play it again. They just don't want to lose fair and square.

HOWDY

They said you're gonna have to stay in this time Brenda. So's ya don't move anything.

BRENDA

I'm not staying here. I'm fine.

Brenda tries to move again.

REPETE

I got video mom. Wanna see?

EDGAR

No. She doesn't need to see that.

BRENDA

That's ok, Repete. Are you being good for Grandad?

REPETE

He makes me work all the time.

EDGAR

Maybe all that work will teach you to stop fighting. That's the only way you can go back to your old school.

BRENDA

Be a winner not a loser Repete.

HOWDY

He's doing his best but his best ain't none too good.

REPETE

Can I come home when you get out
mom?

EDGAR

Stop trying to beat everybody and
we'll see. You too B. Stop trying
to beat everybody.

BRENDA

I was just trying to win the game.

UNINTELLIGIBLE VO A slim male NURSE with short hair, side
part, clean shaven, wearing a necktie, runs in and hovers
around Brenda checking her pulse, etc.

NURSE

The doctor will be right in.

EDGAR

You look like Dr. Morton.

NURSE

Mmmhm, everyone calls me Nurse
Bruce.

EDGAR

Ok Nurse Bruce. I'm Edgar, Brenda's
husband. Nice to meet you.

NURSE

Likewise.

A slim male DOCTOR with short hair, side part, clean shaven,
wearing a necktie enters. The two men and Repete stare.

HOWDY

By golly. I'm afraid I'm gonna get
you two mixed up.

EDGAR

Me too.

REPETE

Me three.

NURSE

(giggles)
It's ok, everyone does.

Edgar gives Howdy the eyeball. Howdy shrugs.

DOCTOR
How's the patient? Brenda, how do
you feel?

He looks at her eyes, tests the pupil reflex. He holds up
some brightly colored cards.

BRENDA
Fine Dr. Morton. Can I go now?

DOCTOR
What color is this?

BRENDA
Grey.

Holds up another.

DOCTOR
How bout this?

BRENDA
Grey.

DOCTOR
We've got two things going on here.
A possible hematoma and the
recurring back injury. Brenda,
we're keeping you in traction for
an extended period this time. This
is for your own good. One more
episode and you may need surgery.

BRENDA
I'll be good. I swear, I'll go home
and not do anything.

DOCTOR
That's what you said last time. We
have to immobilize you. We also
need to keep you under observation
for the head injury.

EDGAR
Honey, it's for the best. How long
do you think, doctor?

DOCTOR
A couple of weeks, maybe more.

EDGAR
Can I stay here?

DOCTOR
I think we can work that out.

BRENDA
Bu-

Edwina rushes in with flowers.

EDWINA
Brenda. I got here as soon as I
could.

She throws her arms around Brenda.

BRENDA
Aaaaooooowwww. Don't touch me.
You're the reason I'm here in the
first place.

EDWINA
No I'm not. You've been throwing
your back out for years.

BRENDA
Yeah. Probably since I met you.

EDGAR
B. It's not her fault. C'mon-

EDWINA
I'm sorry I riled ya Brenda. I
shoulda called her safe.

BRENDA
That's right. Now I'm stuck here.
Thanks a lot. Leave me alone
Edwina. This friendship ain't
working.

EDWINA
What? But-

BRENDA
I mean it. This is a break up.

EDWINA
You can't break up with me.

EDGAR
B honey-

BRENDA
We're broken up. Somebody get her
outta here.

Edwina cries.

EDGAR

C'mon Edwina, it's the head injury talking. Come back in a few days.

He walks her out.

MONTAGE-FRIENDS VISIT

Edwina feeds Brenda chocolates but Brenda pushes her away, spitting the chocolates at her.

Close ups of Brenda squinting to see.

The room filled with softball players.

Edgar sleeping beside her.

Edgar and Brenda eating Ben and Jerry's.

Lou Ann and Tiffany with flowers.

INT HOSPITAL ROOM

Brenda sits up in bed. Edgar enters.

EDGAR (CONT'D)

I think they're letting me spring ya today.

BRENDA

Finally.

EDGAR

How ya feeling?

BRENDA

Ready to get outta here, that's how I'm feeling. I hope I don't run into Edwina any time soon.

EDGAR

She's your oldest friend honey. It was an accident.

BRENDA

I still can't see colors G. I wanna see your baby blues.

The doctor enters.

EDGAR

Hi Nurse Bruce, is Dr. Morton
coming in?

DOCTOR

(sighs))

I'm Dr. Morton. Brenda, you ready
to go home?

EDGAR

Oh. I keep doing that. I'm sorry.

DOCTOR

No problem. Brenda?

BRENDA

Are you kidding me? I'm goin' crazy
in this joint. I gotta get outta
here.

EDGAR

(whispers)

She's like a caged animal.

DOCTOR

Hmmmmmm. You have some choices
here. Stay in traction in the
hospital. Go home, throw your back
out again and need surgery or go
home and commit to daily therapy.

BRENDA

I don't need therapy.

DOCTOR

Rehabilitative therapy not
psychotherapy. Although...

BRENDA

Rehab?

DOCTOR

This is it Brenda. This is the only
thing we haven't tried. Do I have
your word?

BRENDA

Alright. When is it?

DOCTOR

Every day at 10 sharp. Edgar, you
have to drive her.

(MORE)

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Get your things together. Nurse
Bruce will be in shortly.

Dr. Morton exits. Edgar and Brenda (moving slowly) pack.

The nurse enters.

EDGAR
Hi doctor, we're ready to go.

NURSE
Here's your paperwork. The doctor,
said to call if you need anything.
See you tomorrow.

The nurse exits.

EDGAR
(whispers)
What's with those two?

Brenda and Edgar hug.

BRENDA
Don't know, don't care. Get me
outta here.

INT HOSPITAL, EXERCISE ROOM-DAY

An all white, very clean exercise room with treadmills,
various sized hand weights, posters of outdoor vistas and an
open area with a few yoga mats and cushions. SITA, sits on
the floor and stretches. She is earthy attractive wearing
yoga clothes, obviously bra-less, and a lavender scarf.
Brenda and Edgar enter the room. Brenda, stiff and weak from
being in traction.

EDGAR
(sneezes)
What's that smell?

BRENDA
(sniffs)
Yeah, what is that?

SITA
Isn't it great? It's my oil of
abundance and joy.

Edgar wrinkles his nose and catches a glimpse of Sita's
breasts.

SITA (CONT'D)

You must be Brenda, welcome. I'm
Sita Shunyatananda.

BRENDA AND EDGAR

What?

SITA

Sita Shunyatananda.

BRENDA

What kind of a name is that?

SITA

My guru Bobbarajaramakrishnanandaji
gave it to me. Sita is Rama's
consort and Shunyatananda means "a
lovely vessel traveling the winding
road of blissful life, filled with
space.

BRENDA AND EDGAR

Huh?

SITA

You can call me Sita.

Sita flips her hair back and her hairy armpit is exposed.
Edgar notices.

EDGAR

Hi Sita. I'm Edgar, Brenda's
husband. Is this rehabilitative
therapy?

SITA

Yes, it is. It's therapeutic yoga.

BRENDA

They didn't say anything about
yoga.

SITA

They never do. Edgar, she'll be
done in an hour.

EDGAR

Have fun B.

BRENDA

Yeah, right. See ya later G.

Edgar exits.

RESET

HALLWAY

Just outside the door, Edgar pauses.

BRENDA OS

Oh for cryin out loud. Are you
crazy?

He ponders for a moment, peaks back inside and sees Sita showing Brenda how to stand upright in a pose called Tadasana. Brenda watches intently.

BRENDA

I know how to stand up.

Brenda takes a military stance.

SITA

This is mountain pose, tadasana.

BRENDA

Like, tadaaaaaa-sana? This is easy.
I'll be outta here in no time.

SITA

Calm the ripples of the mind
Brenda. Focus on the breath.

BRENDA

Ripples? Like water?

SITA

Just focus on breathing.

Brenda breathes loudly and forcefully.

BRENDA

Is this it? Cause if it is, I'm
gonna kick yoga's ass.

SITA

I think we should start with the
treadmill.

BRENDA

I can do that.

They walk to the treadmill. Sita sets it.

SITA

That should do it.

Brenda clambers on and begins walking slowly. Sita sits and reads a book. ALARM Brenda walks up to Sita.

BRENDA

Is that it? Can I go now?

SITA

Oh no, we have more to do. Come to your hands and knees in Childs Pose.

Sita demonstrates curling into a ball with her shins and head on the ground. Brenda comes into the position.

BRENDA

This rocks. I'm gonna tackle this fast.

MONTAGE OF BRENDA AND SITA OVER TIME

Brenda with her hands and feet on the ground, rear end in the air making a triangle shape. Sita pushing on her back.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

Push harder. No pain no gain!

SITA

That's not therapeutic Brenda. Urdvha danurasana can't be forced.

Brenda in a lunge with her hands in the air straining ridiculously. Sita's hands on her shoulders.

SITA (CONT'D)

There has to be a balance of effort and ease. If you don't get this, you're gonna get hurt again.

Brenda in a side stretch, her feet splayed, one hand reaching up, one down. Her neck muscles popping. Her face contorted.

BRENDA

This has gotta be the easiest one yet.

SITA

Stop competing with yourself Brenda. Allow the pose to happen.

Brenda huffs and puffs.

Brenda lays on her back with a block under her butt.

BRENDA

What's this supposed to do?

SITA

Setu bandha eases the back.

BRENDA

I just feel like I got my ass on a block.

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, LIVING ROOM

Brenda and Edgar sit on the sofa eating pizza.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

She don't get it. She's telling me to do hoover dam and baby back ribs and tricycle. I'm killing all of 'em and she says I'm not doing it right. I feel a little better but gimme a break. I'm better at it than she is.

EDGAR

No way. You're trying to beat the teacher?

BRENDA

Not trying, doing. She's a weakling. They're lucky I put up with her. I should register a complaint.

EDGAR

C'mon B. You seem better, calmer even.

INT HOSPITAL, DOCTORS OFFICE

Dr. Morton sits behind an old wooden desk with potted orchids on it. There's a bookshelf behind his head with medical books, his degrees are framed and hanging on the wall. Sita sits in a cushy chair opposite the desk.

SITA

She just doesn't get it. She so blocked. She's not in her body at all.

DOCTOR

Get her to talk. That might help.

INT. PETE'S PEETZA JOINT

A small homey restaurant/bar with red and white checkered tablecloths on the tables, a simple wooden bar and old fashioned sports equipment on the walls. Alcohol and beer are displayed behind the bar and the menu of pizzas, salads and sandwiches is painted on the wall.

Edgar, Pete, Don and Ted stand at the bar with pizza and beer.

PETE

It's weird not having her call me everyday.

EDGAR

Yeah, she's off. I think I see that spark every once in a while though.

PETE

Cheers to that.

The men clink glasses.

EDGAR

That yoga chic's flaky and she stinks and get this... She don't wear a bra or shave her armpits.

DON

Them yoga girls is kinky.

EDGAR

Really?

TED

I want my wife to start taking yoga.

EDGAR

Brenda's not into it. Just doing it to stay outta the hospital.

DON

Can she put her feet behind her head? I'd like to get my foot back there. Wonder if those gurus service themselves. Know what I mean?

TED

I'd never leave the house.

PETE

I didn't need that picture in my head. Tell Brenda I'm working on some new recipes. Maybe that'll excite her.

EDGAR

Yeah. The upside of all this is, she's getting her girlish figure back.

BUNNY, a thin 65 year old woman with jet black hair, theatrical make up and ram rod straight posture wearing tight capri pants with a tucked in shirt and scarf around her neck and low heels sashays into the restaurant.

BUNNY

Regards gentlemen. Did I hear something about a girlish figure.

EDGAR

Hey there Bunny. We're discussing Brendas recovery.

BUNNY

How is the poor dear? I've been dreadfully worried. She doesn't respond to my offer of a free make over. I think it would cheer her up. Don't you?

The men hem and haw.

EDGAR

She's not real big on that stuff Bunny.

BUNNY

Nonsense. We just have to find the right accoutrement. You tell her to call me.

She turns to Pete.

May I have a salad and veggie slice to go? Nothing beats your home grown pizza darling, nothing.

PETE

Thanks Bunny. Coming right up.

BUNNY

You gentlemen could use some sprucing up yourselves.

(MORE)

BUNNY (CONT'D)
I've got a wonderfully masculine
line of skin care for men-

She pulls a flyer out of her bag.

PETE
(cutting her off)
Her ya go Bunny. Fresh and ho.
Eight bucks please.

They exchange money and food. She leaves the flyer on the counter.

BUNNY
Lovely running into you all. Do
tell Brenda to call me. Tata.

Bunny exits. The men sigh.

DON
She scares me. Does she do yoga?

PETE
The world was her stage-

TED
I think it still is.

EDGAR
She's not so bad. Brenda might
like a little sprucing up.

INT PICK UP TRUCK

Edgar drives Brenda to therapy.

EDGAR
So ya think it's helping?

BRENDA
If it keeps that doctor off my
back, it's helpin'.

EDGAR
Seen him lately?

BRENDA
Him and that nurse keep checking in
on me. What's up with them anyway?

EDGAR
I can't tell 'em apart.

BRENDA
Do ya think they're gay?

EDGAR
Oh geez. I don't know.
You'd think they'd be living in a
city somewhere.

BRENDA
I wonder if they do yoga. It's
boring as shit. If they're gonna
make me do it, they outta have to
suffer through it.

They pull up to the hospital, hug and kiss.

EDGAR
How bout pizza tonight?

BRENDA
Ok. See ya.

She gets out of the car.

INT HOSPITAL, EXERCISE ROOM

Sita is on her belly, arched up, tongue stuck out. Brenda
watches her.

BRENDA
What the hell are ya doin'?

SITA
Lion pose.

BRENDA
Why the heck do they call this lion
pose?

SITA
The first yogis were given
information from the gods and saw
the relationship of everything to
everything else. If a pose isn't
named for a god or aspect of god,
it's named for an animal or plant
or even a feeling. Obviously, they
thought this pose was very
powerful. Simhasana was named for
the man-lion incarnation of Vishnu.
It's very powerful. You need it
right now. Try it.

BRENDA

I don't wanna try it. You look like an idiot.

SITA

All I have to do is tell them you're not cooperating and your back in traction.

BRENDA

Fine. Simblaaasana.

Brenda assumes the position.

SITA

Simhasana.

BRENDA

That's what I said.

SITA

You need your power back.
Roar.

BRENDA

What?

SITA

Roar like a lion. Show your power.

BRENDA

Geez. What I have to do.....Rooooooaaarrrr.

Sita laughs.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

That was great. I feel like a kid.
Roaaaarrrrr.

SITA

You're releasing some samskaras.

BRENDA

Samskaras?

SITA

Emotional and psychological trauma that live in the body. Sometimes for lifetimes.

BRENDA

Lifetimes? I got enough to worry about with this one.

MONTAGE BRENDA THROUGH THE AGES

Cave woman.

Egyptian.

Flapper.

BACK TO SCENE

SITA

You don't have to worry. Just experience.

BRENDA

It lives in the body. Like in my back?

SITA

Yeah.

BRENDA

So my back hurts because of emotional trauma?

SITA

Maybe. We hold emotions in the tissues of the body and they come out in strange ways.

BRENDA

What kinda ways?

SITA

Pain. Uncontrolled anger or sadness.

BRENDA

What if you have that?

SITA

Bring them to consciousness.

BRENDA

Huh?

SITA

Acknowledge it and get it out.

BRENDA

I kinda get that. I'm sorta in the ballpark.

SITA

Let's move on to the eye exercises.

Brenda rolls her eyes around in their sockets dramatically.

BRENDA

I think this one is helping.

SITA

Of course it is. Let's stand.

They both stand up. Sita begins circling her hips.

SITA (CONT'D)

Follow me. This will get you into your chakras.

Brenda circles her hips.

BRENDA

Chalk what?

SITA

Your energy centers. Breathe down to the pelvic floor. Use the diaphragm.

BRENDA

(inhales deeply)
What's this doing?

SITA

Tuning you into yourself. You're out of touch with your body.

Sita moves her pelvis forward and back. Brenda follows.

BRENDA

No I'm not. I am my body.

SITA

No you're not. You're so much more. It's just where you live.

BRENDA

Now ya lost me. Is this gonna help my back?

Sita swings her arms. Brenda does the same.

SITA

Yes. It will help your whole body and mind. You need to let go.

BRENDA
Let go of what?

SITA
Only you know that.

Sita circles her head. Brenda does the same.

BRENDAS POV

The room goes in circles.

Brenda is a kid spinning in circles outside on a beautiful sunny day.

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, LIVING ROOM

Brenda, Lou Ann, Howdy and Repete sit at the set dining room table as Edgar sets a large platter of grilled burgers and corn on the cob on the table which has a basket of bread, a plate of butter, coleslaw, potato salad, salt and pepper.

BRENDA
Thanks G. You're the grill king.

EDGAR
One of my many talents.

He puts some food on her plate and Repetes and passes it on.

HOWDY
How ya feeling these days honey?

LOU ANN
My joints is a-

HOWDY
I meant Brenda.

LOU ANNE
Right. My old lady woes is always the same.

HOWDY
You ain't a old lady.

BRENDA
Ya know, we've been doing some really crazy stuff, like the hoover dam and fish sticks and tricycle and I got no problem with 'em. I could beat anybody at one of those.

(MORE)

BRENDA (CONT'D)

But she had me spinning my chalk rocks the other day and I had an experience.

REPETE

What are chalk rocks mom?

BRENDA

Energy centers.

REPETE

What are energy centers?

BRENDA

Oh for gods sake. I don't know.
Some crazy yoga mumbo jumbo.

The platter gets passed, food is taken and eaten voraciously.

EDGAR

What was your experience?

BRENDA

All of a sudden I felt like I was a kid spinning in circles outside. Really happy and all. It was weird, but good.

REPETE

I like to spin in circles.

Howdy takes an ear of corn off the platter.

HOWDY

I couldn't spin in circles if ya paid me. Pass me the bread and butter.

Edgar hands him the bread and butter. Howdy butters a piece of bread and rubs the bread on the corn. He then chows down the whole ear, leaving corn all over his face.

LOU ANN

Ya got a little corn on your face there Howdy.

Howdy wipes his whole face with his napkin.

HOWDY

Did I get it?

LOU ANN

Spic 'n span.

REPETE
Can me and Grampa have root beer
after dinner?

BRENDA
If ya promise to be good and not
fight.

REPETE
I don't fight mom.

EDGAR
Why ya living with your grampa
then? Going to a different school?

REPETE
I don't know.....

LOU ANN
Let the two of 'em have their fun.
Yer only young once.

EDGAR
Oh alright.

BRENDA
How bout black cows? We got plenty
of ice cream.

REPETE
Cool.

FADE TO:

FADE IN.

They sit drinking the root beer floats, burping and laughing.

INT HOSPITAL, EXERCISE ROOM

Brenda is bunched up in a seated twist with Sita helping her.

SITA
Expand into it Brenda. Close your
eyes and feel the goodness.

Brendas body shifts, then shifts again.

BRENDA
Oooohhhhhhhh.

CRACK OF BAT, ROAR OF CROWD

EXT PETE'S GARDEN

A beautiful vegetable garden that supplies Pete's Peetza is filled with lush herbs, flowers and veggies. Brenda stretches and rolls her eyes while she and Pete cut herbs for pizza. Edgar builds a rock wall.

BRENDA

(stretching)

It smells great out here. I didn't want to believe it, but this yoga is doin' something. I might even dive a little deeper in.

Pete and Edgar eyeball each other.

EDGAR

Take it easy there B. We just wanna get you back to normal.

BRENDA

(angry)

Don't tell me what to do. I feel alive for once in my adult life and you're trying to hold me back.

EDGAR

I'm not holdin' you back-

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, KITCHEN

Lou Ann and Edgar sit at the kitchen table eating pie.

EDGAR

I don't know Lou Ann. That yoga is funny but if it helps her, I like it.

LOU ANN

That's right buddy. Anything that helps. We want our Brenda back. Nobody makes caramel, double fudge, chocolate chip brownies like Brenda Kolinsky.

EDGAR

Nobody eats 'em like her either. I love that about her. She tastes so sweet.

LOU ANN
Look at you, mooning over your
wife. You guys ok?

EDGAR
She's learning all this new stuff
and doesn't need me any more.

LOU ANN
Are you nuts? She needs you more
than ever. Start learning what
she's learning. Get a book.

INT BOOKSTORE

Edgar looks through the New Age section for books on yoga. An
older male CLERK with grey hair in bangs and braids walks up.

CLERK
Can I help ya find anything?

EDGAR
I'm looking for a yoga book to
please my wife.

The clerk pulls out the Kama Sutra and hands it to Edgar.

CLERK
That should do it.

Edgar takes the book.

EDGAR
Thanks man.

Edgar opens the book and flips through the pages astonished
and embarrassed.

EDGAR (CONT'D)
Is this yoga?

CLERK
Oh yeah.

INT PETES PEETZA JOINT

Edgar and Pete flip through the Kama Sutra.

EDGAR

Is this what she's learning from
that Sita?

PETE

I don't know. Look at that one.

They spin the book and look closely.

EDGAR

Do women actually do that??

PETE

Remember Lilly McDonald? She was
crazy.

EDGAR

I thought she worked in the
library.

PETE

Yeah, and everywhere else.

They turn pages and examine closely.

EDGAR

Brenda would never do that. I tried
to get her to do it at a ballpark
once and she called me a
blasphemer.

PETE

Really?

EDGAR

Yeah. She's shy.

PETE

Shy?

EDGAR

In that way. The ball park's her
church ya know.

PETE

Can we talk about something else?

EDGAR

What's she gonna want me to do??

He points at the book.

PETE

What is that?

EDGAR

I can't do that. I wish I could-

Pete slams the book closed.

PETE

Ya want a beer?

EDGAR

Yeah.

Pete grabs them a couple bottles. They open them and take a drink.

INT HOSPITAL, EXERCISE ROOM

Brenda does a side stretching triangle pose, feet splayed arms wide spread and Sita watches and adjusts her.

SITA

Lengthen your spine.

BRENA

(exasperated)

It's easy for you. You're skinny.

SITA

Inner focus Brenda.

Brenda closes her eyes, breathes deep and her body lengthens.

BRENA

(smiles dreamily)

It's like that first sip of a cold beer.

The doctor and nurse enter.

DOCTOR

Ladies? How are we today?

Brenda stands up.

BRENA

I don't know how you are but I'm feeling a little better these days.

Brenda pats Sita roughly on the back.

SITA

Brenda and I are doing very well. The goddess has blessed us today, thank you. How are you?

NURSE

We're lovely, thank you. Just concerned for the well being of our patient here. How's your sight coming along Brenda?

BRENDA

Colors are coming back but I still can't see Edgars' beautiful baby blues and that hurts my heart.

The nurse puts his hand on his heart and shakes his head in empathy. He then sneaks the doctors hand and squeezes it. They both sigh.

DOCTOR

Anything else?

BRENDA

My head don't hurt so much and my balance is better. I know something's missing though. It's hard to say but I'm just not right.

SITA

Brenda has come a long way. Now she needs to meditate and breath and give herself time.

BRENDA

Time fer what?

SITA

To get well and absorb the teachings of yoga.

BRENDA

What are you talking about?

SITA

It's time to deepen your practice Brenda. Don't worry, I'll help you.

BRENDA

Deepen my practice? What practice?

SITA

There's so much more than we can cover here in the hospital. You need to start doing things at home and meditating once a day. My guru, Bobbarajamakrishnanandaji says we need to be practicing yoga in our sleep and THEN we'll feel it.

BRENDA

Who?

SITA

Bobbarajaramakrishnanandaji. He's a beautiful soul who has changed my life. He's in LA at the Golden ashram.

BRENDA

(starry eyed)

LA. I almost went to school there. Had a softball scholarship and everything.

SITA

Why didn't you go? I love California.

BRENDA

Me and Edgar started a family instead.

SITA

How come I've never heard this before?

BRENDA

It don't matter.

SITA

It's your life. Of course it matters.

BRENDA

I had my dreams but instead I got Repete. He lives with his grandad right now. He got kicked out of the school district for fighting-

SITA

Repete?

BRENDA

That's his nickname. We named him after his Uncle Pete.

SITA

Mmmmmmm. Sweet.

BRENDA

He's kinda sweet, deep inside.

SITA

Like you. Bobba guides me, as you know.

She hands Brenda a book.

Here's a book of his for you to read. It comes with a DVD. I think you'll like it.

BRENDA

(reading title)

Bobba Yoga: Higher Consciousness in 10 Easy Steps. Is that true 10 easy steps?

SITA

It's a beginning. The next ten are in his next book. He did a series.

BRENDA

How many in the series?

SITA

70.

BRENDA

That's quite a series. Got Harry Potter beat. I loved Harry Potter.

SITA

(smiling)

Yes.

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, LIVING ROOM

Brenda sits watching the TV.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI VO

When we practice yoga we change our destiny. We burn off bad karma and begin to climb up the steep hill of evolution. Ooooooooooooooooooooo. Ooooooooooooo. (chanting) Hari, hari hari hari hari hari HA! (This repeats over and over).

Brenda is enthralled and chants loudly. She clumsily practices yoga poses. Capable but clownish and uncontrolled she bumbles around eating and drinking continuously while watching. The DVD ends. She picks up the changer and clicks it. COUNTRY ROCK MUSIC starts to play.

BRENDA

Yes.

Brenda dances, throwing in a yoga pose here and there. She wears herself out and plops down in the easy chair with the book. Edgar enters.

EDGAR

Whatcha been up to B?

BRENDA

Nothin'. Reading.

EDGAR

Oh.

BRENDA

I been thinking I want you to take a yoga class with me.

EDGAR

They do it in public?

BRENDA

Of course they do. Where else they gonna do it?

EDGAR

It seems like a private matter-

KNOCK on the door. Edgar crosses to open it and Lou Ann enters with Tiffany and Edwina sneaks in behind them.

BRENDA

Lou Ann. What brings you by?
Edwina. You're not welcome here.

EDWINA

I'm sorry Brenda.

LOU ANN

Give her a break Brenda. She wants to apologize. I was hoping to catch Howdy and Repete. I've got some cookies for them.

BRENDA

Oh fer crying out loud-

EDGAR

Not here.

LOU ANN

Too bad. I made snicker doodles.

EDWINA
I helped. I'm in anger management.
I'm really tryin-

BRENDA
(ignoring Edwina)
I love snicker doodles.

LOU ANN
Good. You can have em. My gout
kicked in while we was making 'em
and I just want 'em outta my sight.
Tiffany's even tired of me today.

They all look at Tiffany. She nods and rolls her eyes.

BRENDA
Well, hey there Lou Ann I been
doin' a lot of this yoga and it's
been helpin' me. Why don't you try
this?

Brenda stretches and rolls her head around. Lou Ann does the same.

LOU ANN
I can't do this stuff Brenda. It's
too hard, ooohhhh.

EDWINA
I wanna try.

Edwina stretches. Brenda ignores her.

BRENDA
Stop acting like an old lady. Try
this one.

LOU ANN
I am an old lady.

Lou Ann gives it a shot.

TIFFANY
Yeah, she is an old lady.

BRENDA
That ain't bad. Stretch like you're
reaching for something in the top
of the cupboard.

Lou Ann stretches more.
This could be some good stuff for
you. How's it feel?

Lou Ann stretches the other side.

LOU ANN

Good. It feels right good! Can I come over again and learn some more?

BRENDA

Sure thing. Any time.

EDWINA

Can I come Brenda?-

EDGAR

Just bring her some cookies.

Lou Ann gives Edgar a LOOK.

LOU ANN

Will do. Bye now. Tiff, say bye.

TIFFANY

Bye now.

They exit.

EDGAR

That's somethin'.

Brenda eats a cookie, lost in thought. Edgar walks up behind her and gives her a hug.

INT YOGA STUDIO

Brenda and Edgar dressed in matching sweats sit in meditation amongst people of varied types and sizes. Edgar dozes. Sita sits in front of the class.

SITA

Free the mind. OOOOOoooooooooooooooooooo.
Join me. Ooooooooooooo.

CLASS

Ooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo.

MONTAGE OF YOGA CLASS

Edgar dazed, huffing and puffing to keep up in sun salutation.

Edgar sits in a straddle, Sita sits facing him also in a straddle. Sita takes Edgars hands and pulls him towards her.

SITA

Release your inhibitions. Feel your
root chakra.

Edgar "deer in headlights" expression in standing lunge. Sita
behind him, pressing into him and stroking his thighs.

SITA (CONT'D)

Feel my presence. Open up.

Sita assists Brenda suggestively in downward dog. Edgar
shocked.

SITA (CONT'D)

Feel the sensuousness of the yoga.

Brenda and Edgar on their backs, holding their feet up in the
air, rocking back and forth. Edgar gives Brenda a raised
eyebrow LOOK.

EDGAR

(whispers)

Can you put your feet behind your
head?

Brenda FARTS loudly. Edgar convulses with silent laughter.

The whole class in deep relaxation. Edgar SNORES

END MONTAGE

SITA

Great class you two.

BRENDA

Sorry Sita. I didn't mean to blast
one. I was trying to hold it in. Oh
god.

SITA

What? I didn't even notice. Don't
worry about it.

EDGAR

How could you not notice? It was a
tear ass.

BRENDA

Let's not-

SITA

We all have our gifts-

EDGAR
That's for sure.

SITA
I meant, I think Brenda should
teach.

BRENDA
Ya know Sita, I've been thinkin'
the same thing. I do have a way
with people. I am a coach ya know.

EDGAR
This yoga stuff is alright but I
like you the way you are.

BRENDA
This is about what I want and
Bobbarollaraama might be callin'
me. I'm still the same me.

SITA
Bobbarajaramakrishnanandaji. He's a
beautiful man.....

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, LIVING ROOM

Brenda sits in an easy chair. Edgar and Repete fuss with the
TV. Howdy dramatically chews on a bagel throughout the
conversation.

HOWDY
So you really took a class
together?

EDGAR
Yeah and B cut a huge tear ass in
the middle of class.

BRENDA
C'mon. That was embarrassing.

REPETE
You sure it wasn't a fuzz or fizzy
fuzz?

EDGAR
Is that what's supposed to happen
in a yoga class cause you got that
down.

BRENDA
Leave me alone.

EDGAR
Maybe it was a tear ass slash jar
ass. What was is B?

BRENDA
It was embarrassing that's what it
was.

REPETE
What are they again Grampa?

HOWDY
Fuzz, you can barely hear or feel.
Fizzy fuzz is a fuzz with a pbffff
at the end. Tear ass has a sharper
feel to it, then jar ass jolts you.
Ya feel it, hear it, smell it. The
'ole sweet tater slide out speaks
for itself. them's the fart
classifications.

BRENDA
Thanks dad. Can we change the
subject? I like this yoga stuff
and you're making fun of me.

EDGAR
Oh B. No we're not. But you gotta
admit, if someone else did it,
you'd be laughing too.

BRENDA
(chuckling)
I suppose I did release some chalk
rocks.

EDGAR
How could Sita not-

HOWDY
Brenda, I think them doughnuts is
stale.

BRENDA
What?

HOWDY
That's the stalest doughnut I ever
et.

BRENDA

That's a bagel dad.

HOWDY

I'll be.

INT PICK UP TRUCK

Edgar drives. Brenda sits in the passenger seat.

BRENDA

I'm thinking about doing a teacher training. G.

EDGAR

Around here?

BRENDA

California.

EDGAR

California! Fer how long.

BRENDA

A couple weeks...

EDGAR

What about Repete? I, we don't got the money fer that. You think some more on that one.

They arrive at Pete's garden and get out of the car. Pete is there.

PETE

How you guys doin'? Brenda, you cut herbs and Ed, hit the tomatoes would ya?

They work in silence. Brenda hums and stretches as she picks.

PETE (CONT'D)

What's up with you two? I can hear that robin breathin' over there.

EDGAR

Nothin'. Brendas thinkin' about bein' a yoga teacher and I think she just needs to do what she's doin'. I like the way things are.

BRENDA
I do too G, but I'm bein' called.

PETE
Bein' called? By who?

BRENDA
Bobbakeeshariley.

PETE
Who?

EDGAR
Some California flake.

BRENDA
He's not a flake, he's a healer and
I'm going whether you like it or
not.

PETE
Oh geez. Don't get upset.

BRENDA
He don't understand.

EDGAR
I do too. I don't want you
changin'. I like you the way you
are. I got a bad feeling about that
guy.

Edgar squishes a tomato.

PETE
Hey. Watch it.

BRENDA
If I'm changin', it's fer the
better! If you haven't noticed, I
ain't said one mean thing about
Edwina. I'm trying to better
myself.

EDGAR
What about me?

BRENDA
If I'm better, we're better.

EDGAR
I don't like it B.

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, KITCHEN

Bunny and Brenda at kitchen table eating pie.

BRENDA

He just don't get it Bunny. This is what I'm supposed to do.

BUNNY

Men can be so problematic. So insecure. You know that's what it is, insecurity. He thinks you're going to run off with Bobba-loopy. You're a beautiful woman darling and he is afraid of losing you.

BRENDA

Bunny, yer too kind. You see beauty in a frog. I ain't interested in Bobbilini, I want to get educated and help people!

BUNNY

I know that darling. Don't worry about Edgar, with men it always has to do with their masculinity being threatened. Listen, let's get you a make over before you head out to California.

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, HOME OFFICE

Brenda sits at an old teachers desk in front of an outdated computer with a gigantic CRT monitor. Edgar enters.

EDGAR

Whachya doing there B?

BRENDA

(startled)

Nothing.

He looks at the screen.

EDGAR

Yer looking up flights? I told ya I don't like this.

BRENDA

Yes, but that's not what this is about! I'm going. I gotta do it. Daddy said he'd help me.

EDGAR

You asked your dad for money?
What's the deal here?

BRENDA

There's no deal. I'm going with
Sita to study with
Bobbarajaramahoey. That's all.

EDGAR

I knew she was trouble. She's
enticing you to leave your family.
I think she's hooked up with him.

BRENDA

Oh please, I was planning on coming
back.

EDGAR

What do you mean, was?

BRENDA

I don't know. I'm coming back. Quit
bothering me.

INT HOSPITAL, EXERCISE ROOM

Sita and Brenda sit on the floor. Sita peacefully with eyes
closed. Brenda, squeezing her eyes tight. Sita picks up some
tingshas and rings them.

SITA

You've come a long way Brenda. Let
yourself continue to open to the
universal spirit of love. Spread
your wings and fly.

BRENDA

Ok?

SITA

Will I see you in California? I'm
leaving in 2 days to be with
Bobbarajaramakrishnanandaji. I'm so
happy.

Sita dances around.

BRENDA

Yup, I'll be there. Edgar's not
big on me goin' but I'm gonna be
the best yogi ever.

SITA
 You don't have to be the best, just
 yourself.

BRENDA
 Oh.

SITA
 Give me a hug.

They embrace awkwardly.
 Follow your heart sweet Brenda.
 Follow your heart.

Brenda exits as Sita spins in circles.

INT GROCERY STORE, SNACK AISLE

Brenda, Edgar and Repete grab groceries as they talk. Their
 cart has beer, snacks, soda.

BRENDA
 Daddy said he'd help me.

EDGAR
 That ain't right B.

REPETE
 When you getting back mom?

BRENDA
 It's only a few weeks Repete. He
 can help me if he wants.

EDGAR
 Repete, go grab us some bread ok?

Repete runs off.

EDGAR (CONT'D)
 (whispers)
 Are you leaving me fer that Bobba?
 Cause if you are, just spit it out.

BRENDA
 Yer crazy.

Brenda stops cold because the Dr. Morton and Nurse Bruce have
 just walked up to them. Repete runs up with the bread hands
 it to Edgar and stares at the two men.

DOCTOR
Brenda, fancy meeting you here. How
are you?

BRENDA
Well, dr-

DOCTOR
Please, outside the hospital, call
me Bruce.

NURSE
Me too.

EDGAR
You're both named Bruce?

NURSE
Yes. Isn't it adorable? He's my
Bruce Lee.

DOCTOR
He's my Bruce Springsteen.

REPETE
I like Bruce Springsteen.

DOCTOR
So do I.

The all laugh.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
How are you Brenda?

BRENDA
Getting there doc- Bruce. I'm
thinking about teachin yoga. I was
inspired.

NURSE
That's wonderful.

EDGAR
She's fallin for that Booba
character.

REPETE
Who's Booba?

BRENDA
The teacher in California honey. I
haven't fallen for him.

(MORE)

BRENDA (CONT'D)

I got your daddy to keep me busy. I just want to learn how to teach and be happy.

EDGAR

Mmmmm hm.

DOCTOR

We must continue on. Dinner party tonight. Tata.

They exchange goodbyes and the two Bruce's head off.

REPETE

Are they gay?

EDGAR

Yes.

BRENDA

Like I said before, it's not about what you want. It's about what I want. I want to be a better person with you and only you. Can you understand that?

They get in line to check out and put their groceries on the belt while the cashier has a swig of pop.

EDGAR

Are you mad at me because you didn't get to California the first time.

Edgar nods in Repetes direction as Repete grabs a candy bar off the rack and eats it.

BRENDA

No, but this time I gotta take the leap.

REPETE

I wanna be gay when I grow up.

BRENDA

You go right ahead and do that honey. Just don't marry a bonehead like your father.

Edgar and Repete look at each other in amazement.

CASHIER

Learn something new every day,
don't ya?

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, KITCHEN

Edgar sits in the dark at home on the phone with Pete.

EDGAR

I swear to god Pete. She's having a
life crisis... she wants to go to
LA.....she wanted to go to school
there, remember?... she got that
softball scholarship.....No...

INT BUNNY'S COTTAGE, LIVING ROOM

The room is spotless and ornately decorated with paintings of
dancers, old photos of theatrical performances and Louie XXIV
love seat, chairs coffee table. Brenda sits down and Bunny
does her make up dramatically.

EXT AIRPORT

Edgar watches a plane take off.

Brenda sits on the plane made up like Bunny.

EXT CITY STREET

A cab comes to a screeching stop at the curb of a hectic LA
street, jammed with traffic and pedestrians. Brenda gets out
and walks into a building. There's a front desk with a woman
sitting at it. HEAVY BASS MUSIC PLAYS.

BRENDA

Is this-

OS

Booty, booty, booty, booty, do your
duty, use your booty. Get down
people.

Brenda walks across the entry and looks into a viewing
window. She sees a booty shaking dance class seriously
getting down. She turns to the receptionist. The receptionist
is shocked by her make up.

BRENDA

Is this the Golden Ashram?

RECEPTIONIST

Next door.

BRENDA

That's a relief.

Brenda scoots out, walks one door down and enters the Golden Ashram. It gleams with gold, pink and white lotus flowers painted everywhere. It's very peaceful and has light music playing in the background. There is a reception desk here too, with a woman sitting at it.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

(sighs)

I'm Brenda Kolinsky. I'm here for the training.

RECEPTIONIST

Welcome Brenda. We're so happy you're here. You're in the apple blossom room, down the hall, third door.

The receptionist hands her a schedule and map.

BRENDA

Apple blossom? Okey dokey. Is Sita here?

RECEPTIONIST

She's out right now but when I see her, I'll tell her you've arrived. Enjoy your stay. Meet in the garden of lotus room this evening at 5.

BRENDA

Garden of lotus room, 5? Okey dokey.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, GARDEN OF LOTUS ROOM

The room is ornately painted and has pictures of Bobba everywhere. Brenda sits with a large crowd of varied students and listens to Bobbarajamakrishnanandaji.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI

Welcome lovely blossoming yogis and yoginis. We are here today to absorb the great teachings into our very cells so that we live it, breathe it, sleep it. We become the beautiful sweet loving creatures that we are meant to be.

(MORE)

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI (CONT'D)

We will spend sumptuous amounts of time reading the sutras, practicing asanas and talking freely and openly about anything that occurs to us. We are a very open community here and want everyone to feel free to do and be, live and love.

Everyone claps.

MONTAGE - BRENDA GETS USED TO THE ASHRAM

--Brenda in a yoga pose with Bobba assisting her, smiling.

--Brenda and Sita sitting in a group eating. Brenda belches.

--Brenda doing dishes, Bobba and Sita observing.

--Bobba smelling Brendas neck in a standing lunge pose.

--Brenda in her room reading.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, BENDAS BEDROOM

Brenda dials her phone.

BRENDA

Hi G. Just checking in... No....

She hears her door open and someone walk in.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

I gotta go. I'll talk to ya later.

She puts the phone down.

Hiya, I'm Bren- what are you doing here?

EDWINA

I almost killed ya Brenda. I'm tryin to make amends.

BRENDA

Well, make em quick. I've got better things to do.

EDWINA

I'm sorry Brenda. Please forgive me! You've come so far, you can teach me to be better too.

BRENDA

Oh fer cryin' out loud. I ain't
come that far. Just leave me alone.

EDWINA

I'm sorry. I'm in anger management
now. I'm sorry for my
indiscretions.

BRENDA

I ain't responsible for you.

EDWINA

You were in the fight too.

BRENDA

Leave me alone you homicidal
maniac.

EDWINA

Edgar misses you horrible.

BRENDA

He needs to learn to take care of
his self.

EDWINA

Nobody does it like you.

BRENDA

How long you here for?

EDWINA

How long are YOU here for?

BRENDA

Geez. I might as well make the best
of it. C'mon I'll show you around.

They exit the room. As they walk through the hallway, they
exchange hellos with passersby and Sita walks up.

SITA

Brenda, how are you? Who's this?

BRENDA

Edwina. She's from Mt. Baldy too.

SITA

What a coincidence. Hi Edwina.

EDWINA

Not really. Hi Sita.

SITA

Bobbarajaramakrishnanandaji gave us the afternoon off. Want to go to the beach?

EDWINA

Who?

BRENDA

He's the guru. A real healer. When are we leaving for the beach?

SITA

After lunch.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, CAFETERIA

The kitchen is view behind the serving area. Students sit on bolsters around low tables. Brenda and Edwina sit and eat.

EDWINA

What the heck is this tripe?

BRENDA

It's not tripe. It's wheat gluten. I love it.

EDWINA

You've changed more than I thought.

BRENDA

Hurry up. I want to get to the beach. I've got better things to do than sit around waiting on you. Showing up uninvited.

They clear their trays and collect their things. In the background Bobba is surrounded by fawning women as he eats.

EXT BEACH

Sita, Brenda and Edwina lounge on the beach and catch rays.

EDWINA

It's beautiful here. I'm so glad I came. Thanks Brenda.

BRENDA

Don't thank me. I didn't invite you.

SITA

Are you doing the training Edwina?

EDWINA

No, I'm not nearly as advanced as Brenda. I just needed a vacation.

BRENDA

She's the one who knocked me out.

SITA

How?

BRENDA

She got me so mad I threw my back out and fell. Now she wants my forgiveness.

SITA

Well?

BRENDA

Well what?

SITA

Have you forgiven her?

BRENDA

She almost killed me.

EDWINA

I said I'm sorry.

BRENDA

Oh fer cryin' out loud. I'm takin a swim.

She gets up and strolls to the water. In the background she argues with someone as Sita and Edwina talk.

SITA

Don't worry. She'll get over it. Bobbarajaramakrishnananadajis good will is rubbing off on her. He has that quality you know. He has a powerful effect on people. He's a beautiful, giving man.

EDWINA

You got a crush on him?

SITA

He's my guru. I'm in a state of love.

(MORE)

SITA (CONT'D)

Even now, I feel all my chakras vibrating. His energy is contagious.

EDWINA

Your what?

SITA

Chakras. Your energy centers. They run up and down along the spine. He has freed my kundalini.

EDWINA

Sounds like he's freed a lot of things. You might wanna watch yourself.

SITA

No need. He watches over me.

EDWINA

Mmmm hm. Over under and sideways. He won't affect Brenda like that. She's a married woman. Loyal, strong and stubborn as a bull.

SITA

The Brenda I know is beautiful and sweet.

Edwina and Sita see Brenda tussle with the waves and people. They watch as she walks toward them. Brenda is quite dishevelled.

BRENDA

Nothing like salt water to clear your head. I'll give it my best shot Edwina. I can't make any promises. We have a history you know.

Brenda flops down on her towel. She is very sunburned.

EDWINA

That's great Coach.

BRENDA

No one's called me that in so long.....

SITA

The energy of the ashram is seeping into you Brenda.

(MORE)

SITA (CONT'D)

I can see it surrounding you too.
It's beautiful and rosy pink.

BRENDA

I think that's just the sun.

EDWINA

I see it too Brenda. You're
glowing. Maybe it's your kinkalini.

BRENDA

My what?

EDWINA

Kinkalini. Sita says-

SITA

Kundalini. It lies in the sacrum.
When it's released it travels up
your spine and you feel beautiful,
all encompassing bliss.

EDWINA

She says that's what Boobawhoositz
does to her.

BRENDA

I don't know what the hell you two
er talking about but right now, I'm
feeling pretty dam good.

Brenda smiles and stretches. The three of them become quiet
watching the activity of the beach as the sun goes down.

INT PETE PEETZA JOINT

Edgar, Pete, Howdy and Repete sit in the restaurant eating.

EDGAR

Edwina says she's just studying
yoga.

PETE

That's it then. You gotta trust
her.

HOWDY

I didn't teach B to be no cheater.

EDGAR

I forbid her to go.

PETE
Are you crazy?

HOWDY
You can't forbid Brenda to do anything.

REPETE
I get to come home when she gets back right?

Edgar rubs Repete's head.

EDGAR
That's right son.

PETE
She's not gone forever. She's got to recover.

HOWDY
She'll come back stronger than ever.

EDGAR
I'm callin her right now.

He picks up his phone and dials, listens to Brenda message.

BRENDA VO
This is blissful Brenda Kolinsky.
I'm off studying yoga. Leave a message.

He slams his phone shut.

EDGAR
Damn.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, BOBBAS OFFICE

Brenda sits in Bobbaramarajakrishnanandas office. It is very opulent with a large, antique desk and chairs and obscure drawings of alien looking creatures, mandalas, energy diagrams and pictures of Bobba on the walls. There is an odd barometer and a tea service on the desk.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI
Brenda, child, you are learning quickly. Take these sacred translations and read them. They've been passed down for generations. They'll take you to the next level.

BRENDA
Next level of what?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Consciousness. Cosmic
consciousness. Read them at night
and ask for dream interpretations.
I can come into your dreams and
help your subconscious to
understand.

BRENDA
You can come into my dreams?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Oh yes. I have the power.

BRENDA
What else can you do?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
You're not yet ready for that step.
You need to continue refining sweet
Brenda.

She picks up the papers.

BRENDA
Alright then.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Sweet dreams Brenda. Sweet dreams.

He waves her out. Brenda leaves the room. Bobba sits back in
his chair, puts his feet up and pulls out a magazine to read.
Sita enters and pours him tea.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, BRENDA'S BEDROOM

Brenda lays on her bed in her pjs reading the papers. Edwina
sits on her bed cutting her toenails.

EDWINA
Whatcha got there Brenda?

BRENDA
Nothing, just some readings
Bobbakrashacara gave me.

EDWINA
What about?

BRENDA
Cosmic stuff. He says I'm ready.

EDWINA
Of course you are. You're probably
the best pupil he ever had. He's
probably afraid you're gonna take
his spot.

BRENDA
I can't take his spot. He's the
guru.

EDWINA
You never know. I watch how you
learn Brenda. You're a quick study.

BRENDA
Yeah, but I'm not trying to beat
the guru.

EDWINA
You're also looking good too.

BRENDA
Really?

EDWINA
Really. Brenda?

BRENDA
Yeah?

EDWINA
Thanks for forgiving me.

BRENDA
You deserved it.

EDWINA
No I didn't.

BRENDA
Maybe not.

EDWINA
Edgar thinks you're having an
affair. I called him and told him
you weren't.

BRENDA
You're spying on me?

EDWINA

No. Not really. Checking on you and getting forgiven.

BRENDA

He's got a lot of nerve. He don't trust me after all this time.

EDWINA

He's afraid. You're his rock.

BRENDA

His rock?

EDWINA

He told me so.

BRENDA

Well he's a rock head.

EDWINA

I thought it would make you feel better. He loves you and wants you to come home. We all do.

BRENDA

Really?

EDWINA

How could we not? Look at you. You still hold all the records at the school-

BRENDA

That's true-

EDWINA

You're a great coach-

BRENDA

True-

EDWINA

You keep Pete in business-

BRENDA

I have been craving a pizza lately-

EDWINA

You're a pillar of the community and now you're a great yoga teacher too! Repete said if you come home, he'll be good.

BRENDA
He said that?

EDWINA
Sort of...

BRENDA
I gotta finish here. I'm just
beginning to feel like I belong.

Brenda puts the papers on the night table and crawls into bed.

BRENDA (CONT'D)
I'm getting some shut eye.

EDWINA
Goodnight coach. Sleep well.

MONTAGE DREAMS

She is a mermaid swimming in an above ground pool with Bobba. They get out of the pool and eat hot dogs.

Bobba enters the room, crawls into bed with Brenda, spooning her.

INT BRENDA'S ROOM NEXT MORNING

Brenda and Edwina awaken.

BRENDA
I had some crazy dreams.

EDWINA
You go ahead to class. I'm sleeping
in.

Brenda gets up and dresses.

BRENDA
See you at breakfast.

Brenda exits noticing mens slippers by the door. Edwina reaches for her phone and dials.

EDWINA
(whispering into phone)
Just letting you know everything is
good. Learning yoga, that's it.
She'll be home before you know it.

She hangs up, puts the phone down and goes back to sleep.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, YOGA STUDIO

The full class is in varying degrees of half moon pose. Bobba walks around assisting people provocatively as if feeling them up.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Open to the moon goddess Chandra.
Feel her wisdom in your loins. Open
your heart and body to amazing
possibilities.

He assists Brenda while she's on her back with her feet over her head, butt in the air, rocking suggestively.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI (CONT'D)

Flow the kundalini, child. Feel the
energy travel upwards.

She rolls onto her back.

BRENDA

(groaning)

I feel something alright.

Brenda does a back bend with her chest in the air, head and hips on the ground, which he holds her suggestively.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Keep the traveling energy. Soar
with the currents.

Bobba releases her.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI (CONT'D)

Let's take time for savasana. Make
yourself comfortable, relax
completely. Let the body and mind
go. Float beyond yourself.

Brenda falls asleep and snores. Time elapses. Sita nudges her.

SITA

Brenda, you're snoring again.

BRENDA

Mmm. I didn't sleep very well. Had
weird dreams.

SITA

Is everything OK?

Bobbaramarajakrishnanandaji walks up.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Delightful ladies. Are we alright
this lovely morning?

SITA
Yes, Bobbaramrajakrishnanandaji.
Wonderful. Brenda had a dream
filled night. Maybe her kundalini
is rising.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Mmmmmmm, was I in the dreams sweet
Brenda?

BRENDA
I'm not sure.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
I am.
Sita, didn't we have a breakfast
meeting? Shall we?

SITA
Yes.

Sita and Bobba walk away arm in arm. Brenda gets up as the
rest of the class prepares to go. Edwina walks up.

EDWINA
Wanna eat together Coach?

BRENDA
Alright.

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, KITCHEN

Edgar, Pete, Bunny and Lou Ann sit at kitchen table.

BUNNY
Have you heard from her?

EDGAR
Edwina said everything is fine and
they'll be home soon, but I have a
feeling-

LOU ANN
Whatd'ya mean?

EDGAR
I'm not so sure. I'm thinkin' I
might go out there.

PETE
C'mon. She's fine.

EDGAR
I don't-

PETE
She's just busy.

EDGAR
You know B. She likes to estivate
all summer long.

LOU ANN
Estivate?

PETE
Spend the summer in a lizard like
torpor.

VISION OF BRENDA, ASLEEP IN A HAMMOCK

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, YOGA STUDIO

Brenda, Sita and a roomful of students sit on cushions and mats. Bobba stands in front of the room with a chart of the physical and energy body.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI
It's all an illusion lovely yogis.
We create our surroundings with our
mind.

He takes the side stretching position of triangle pose.
See. I have become a triangle,
trikonasana. I am trikonasana.
OOOOmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm.

He comes out of the posture.
In teaching any pose you stress
that your student be completely
involved and not let his small,
meager monkey mind take over. Be
aware of peristaltic activity in
any posture. This awareness could
keep you out of harms way.

BRENDA
What's peristaltic activity?

He flips the chart to show the digestive system and the path
of food and gas through the body ending in an expulsion.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

The muscular contraction of the intestines that leads to expulsion of gas. It's very common. Movement begets movement.

BRENDA

You mean farting?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

That would be one less subtle way of putting it.

The class laughs loudly.

It's natural, just a chemical reaction to certain combinations of food. Remember, we're in the physical body. It does physical things even if we don't want it to.

BRENDA

I enjoy a good expulsion.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

I see we're coming down to the gross level. Let's rise above the material world shall we? Moving on-

BRENDA

Farts aren't material, they're gas.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

That's a demerit Brenda. You shall see me after class.

BRENDA

What the-

SITA

Shhhhhh. Private meetings are highly sought after.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, BOBBAS OFFICE

Bobbarajaramakrishnanandaji sits in a giant chair behind his desk with a teapot steaming. Brenda sits across from him.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Brenda, I've been watching you.

BRENDA

You have?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
You're hard to miss.

BRENDA
Thanks.

A woman runs in and pours Bobba some tea.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Would you like some?

He beckons the woman to pour another cup. She does, then exits.

BRENDA
OK...

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
This tea puts the drinker in the frame of non mind to understand the teachings of the cosmos. Do you want to understand the teachings?

BRENDA
I don't know. I just thought I could teach yoga.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
You will Brenda beloved, you will-how would you tell someone to do a forward bend, uttanasana?

BRENDA
I'd tell 'em to bend over.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Very good. Yes, very good. You're quite articulate.

BRENDA
What did you want to talk to me about?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Your comment today that the "fart" is gas was very astute. It's makes me think there's more to Brenda than meets the eye..... Have you ever considered slimming down? This tea will help with that too.

BRENDA

What the heck—I don't think peristaltic activity is the reason you called me in here. Are you kicking me out?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

On the contrary, I would like you to stay on.Do you belly dance?

BRENDA

No?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

That's a shame.

BRENDA

I have a husband and kid back home.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

I don't trust that little friend of yours. Be aware. She came here to thwart your mission.

BRENDA

What mission?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

The mission of cosmic consciousness, the unlocking of the mind. You are me, I am you, we are this tea, dooby, dooby dee-

He pulls out a pendulum and lets it swing.
Do you understand the art of yoga
nidra my child?

BRENDA

You mean deep relaxation?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

The uninitiated call it that. It's the same brain wave this pendulum will put you in. Look at the pendulum my child.

Brenda stares at the pendulum.
Relax little cherubim. Release your fears. You desire to become an integral-

Brenda drops off to sleep and begins to snore. Bobba picks up the phone and Brenda hears the words garbled and in slow mo.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI (CONT'D)

When does the grandfather show up?
This is going to take longer than
expected.....plenty.....out like a
light.....take off is
tomorrow....wear your
lavender....bring me my evening
clothes...yes.

A man rushes in with lavish clothing, hands it to Bobba and quickly runs out. Bobba strips down to his lavender scivvies, improv- checks himself out in a mirror, stretches, scratches his belly, changes into his elaborate dinner outfit. He studies Brenda a moment then launches into a crazy dance, waving his hands frantically around her (cleansing her aura). She snorts every so often. He plucks and preens and even combs her hair. He puts a lavender scarf around her neck and anoints her with oil. She stirs. He runs back to sit at his desk.

BRENDA

What the heck? I musta dropped off
there. What were we talking about?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Just how well you're doing Brenda.
Very, very well. You will do our
school proud. We do need to clear
you energy however.

He turns and pulls out a small machine with dials, buttons and two probes. Turning it on he begins waving the probes a couple inches from Brenda.

BRENDA

What are you doin'?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Clearing your vibration child.

BRENDA

I feel some vibrating in my
basement.

Brenda sniffs the air.

BRENDA CONT

What's that smell? Oh geez.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

I annointed you.

BRENDA

I gotta go.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Not-

Brenda squirms.

BRENDA

I mean, I gotta go.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Wait, sweet flower. We have more to discuss-

She runs out. The door slams behind her.

EXT GOLDEN ASHRAM - NIGHT

Brenda pulls out her phone and calls Edgar.

BRENDA

Hey.

EDGAR VO

B. What's up??

BRENDA

Just thinkin' of ya. How's Repete?

EDGAR VO

He's fine. What's going on Brenda.
Are you coming back?

BRENDA

No. I'm not done.

EDGAR VO

Spit it out. What's going on?

BRENDA

Nothing other than you're monkey
mind playing games with you.

EDGAR VO

I don't have a monkey mind.

BRENDA

Maybe you just don't think you do.

EDGAR VO

Are you callin' me a monkey?
Is that what you're learning out
there? How to insult people?

BRENDA

I'm sor-

EDGAR VO

Maybe you should stay. Come home
when you can be normal again.

BRENDA

I...didn't mean it like that.

EDGAR VO

I don't appreciate being called a
monkey. I gotta go B. I miss you
and want the real you to come home.

BRENDA

I....(sighs).....I miss you too G.

She hangs up and enters the ashram. She walks through the halls to her room and enters. Edwina is in bed asleep and Brenda changes and climbs into her bed. She sleeps fitfully (time elapses) and awakens with a start looking at the clock. It's 4 am. She gets up, ambles down the hall to the bathroom. She opens the wrong door. She has stumbled upon an orgy type situation/ritual in the "Golden Den". DEEP HOUSE MUSIC PLAYS. She sees Sita and several others with Bobbarajaramakrishna. They belly dance, chant, sing, whistle and cluck. They kiss Bobbas feet and caress him. Bobba gyrates maniacally. Brenda freaks out and high tails it back to her room, sees the scarf and the slippers, gasps and hurriedly jams all her belongs plus the reading material Bobba gave her, into her suitcase. Wide awake she tip toes out carefully, avoiding being seen by the few who are now up. She exits and stumbles over someone asleep in the doorway. There are quite a few people sleeping out front and winds her way around them. The sun rises.

EXT BEACH

Brenda takes a huge gulp of a gigantic soda with an audible Ahhhhhh. She sits on the sand, people watches and daydreams.

MONTAGE/DAY DREAM

Brenda and Edgar are slim groovy beachcombers having a picnic with Repete. They pull a huge pizza from a picnic basket.

BACK TO SCENE

Brenda gets hit with a volley ball and is jolted from her reverie. A young version of herself runs towards her.

BRENDA
 Watch it. You could hurt somebody
 with that thing.

GIRL
 Sorry. Chill out, lady. It was an
 accident.

BRENDA
 (sighs deeply)
 Right. Sorry.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, BENDAS BEDROOM

Edwina looks through the room frantically.

EXT BEACH

Brenda beach combs and lolls in the sun. She sees a man in the distance meditating, doing tai chi and yoga. She watches him through her day of sunning and eating. As the sun begins to set, she gets her things together. HARVEY, the meditator gets up and collects his things and walks in Brendas direction. He is slender and average looking.

BRENDA (CONT'D)
 You meditating out there?

HARVEY
 Yes.

BRENDA
 Isn't it hard with all these people
 around?

HARVEY
 It gives me more practice.

BRENDA
 Practice?

HARVEY
 Keeping the focus, emptying the
 mind of anything not necessary. Not
 thinking.

BRENDA
 That's a tough one. I can't focus
 on anything, let alone
 nothing....you from around here?

HARVEY
I have a place a few hours north.
The Blue Dharma.

He hands her a card. She reads it.

BRENDA
Dharma?

HARVEY
Your path. The reason you're here.

BRENDA
What if you don't know that reason?

HARVEY
We're all here for a reason. Tune
in to your heart and listen to
yourself.

BRENDA
Sometimes when I listen to myself ,
I only hear my stomach growl.

HARVEY
That's a start. You hungry?

Harvey pulls a bag out of his satchel.

BRENDA
Yeah.

HARVEY
For what?

BRENDA
I don't know. Pizza?

HARVEY
Have some.

Hands her the bag with nuts in it.

BRENDA
Thanks.

HARVEY
You're welcome to visit, any time.
The door is open to all seekers.

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, LIVING ROOM

Edgar and Pete sit on the sofa with beers. They have their feet on the coffee table.

EDGAR

That Bobbaloopy is confounding her.
I think it's a cult. I'm going out
there.

PETE

What did Edwina say?

EDGAR

Says she disappeared with all her
stuff.

PETE

Disappeared. I'm going with you.
Get a good picture of her.

EDGAR

Right.

He grabs a photo album from the coffee table and LOVE MUSIC PLAYS as he picks out pictures and gazes at them. Pete slaps Edgar on the back to jolt him from his daze.

PETE

Throw them in.

EXT AIRPORT

Edgar and Pete sit in traffic listening to the radio.

EXT BEACH

Brenda watches the surf and falls asleep.

MONTAGE/DREAM

Brenda at her kitchen table eating a gigantic hoagy.

Brenda in her bed, it turns to jello, she sinks into it.

BACK TO SCENE

Brenda wakes with a start, collects her things and ambles off.

EXT SEEDY NEIGHBORHOOD

MUSIC PLAYS as Brenda walks through a seedy neighborhood. She stops to ask a group of prostitute drag queens for directions. They point and she ambles off.

INT TRANSIENT HOTEL, BEDROOM

Brenda is in a dingy, cramped cheap hotel room. The walls are stained and the bed is sunken. She undresses, puts on her pajamas and sits on the bed. She picks up and dials her phone. RINGING.

EDGAR VO

This is Edgar Kolinsky. I'm not home. Call me later.

Brenda starts to cry and quickly hangs up. She dials again. RINGING.

HOWDY VO

Howdy here. Leave a message.

She quickly hangs up and breaks down, crying herself to sleep. RINGING She wakes, looks at her phone but does not answer. She listens to the message.

EDWINA VO

Where are ya, coach? I think something funny's going on.

Brenda hangs up and goes back to sleep. She is awakened by a fight. YELLING BANGING She bangs on the wall.

BRENDA

Shut up.

She peaks out the door at three DRAG QUEENS fighting in the hall.

QUEEN 1

Shut up yourself, bitch.

BRENDA

Are you talking to me?

QUEEN 1

That's right, that's my room. You took my best room.

BRENDA

It's my room you California freak. I paid for it.

Brenda heads into battle with the three she males. Clothes, wigs and shoes fly.

QUEEN 2

Cops.

The three queens run leaving Brenda in a pile of clothes, shoes and wigs on the floor. Two surly COPS swagger up to her.

COP 1

Haven't seen you around here before. This looks like a turf war.

COP 2

Let's see your i.d. hotstuff.

Brenda gets up. She is smudged with make up, has ripped clothes hanging off her and has a wig on her head.

BRENDA

It's in my room.

They follow her into her room. She hands them her drivers license. They look at it.

COP 1

You're quite a ways from home.

COP 2

Got us a runaway?

COP 1

We're gonna have to take you in lady.

EXT TRANSIENT HOTEL

Brenda and the cops walk onto the street to the car. A BUM sits on the sidewalk.

BUM

(laughing)
Busted.

COP 1

Watch it or your next.

BUM

Ooooohhh, you got her tonight but I'm on for tomorrow. That booty's knocking me out.

Brenda sighs as they get into the squad car.

INT POLICE STATION

CAMERA FLASH as Brenda gets her mug shot taken.

INSERT PHOTO OF BRENDA SHOCKED AND STUPIFIED

INSERT HER FINGER BEING FINGERPRINTED

Brenda is escorted to the desk SARGENT who sits eating doughnuts.

SARGENT

What do ya got?

COP 2

Disorderly conduct and prostitution.

SARGENT

(laughing)

She's no prostitute. Lady, you got somewhere to go? Let her use the phone. If she has somewhere to go, take her there.

They point Brenda to the phone. She pulls the Blue Dharma card out of her pocket and dials.

INT BUS STATION, TICKET WINDOW

Brenda is at the ticket window with a box of pizza. Her bag is snatched and the thief is gone before she can react.

INT GREYHOUND BUS

Brenda leans on her arm looking out the window.

EXT COUNTRY SIDE, THE BLUE DHARMA

From a distance Brenda drags herself up to the Blue Dharma. It's a little run down but cared for blue clapboard house with lilac bushes and fruit trees out front and a garden and barn behind. She comes to the door and peers in.

BRENDA

Hello? Anyone here?

O.S.

In the back.

She walks into an office.

BRENDA

I'm sorry to bother you.

HARVEY

Sit, have some tea?

BRENDA

Sure. Uh...I....

HARVEY

How can I be of service to you?

BRENDA

Someone stole my bag, I lost my money, my phone and I almost got arrested by mistake. Maybe could I do some cleaning in exchange for a room? I can cook. You seem so peaceful, I thought this would be a good place for me....

HARVEY

We could use some help. Do you garden?

BRENDA

Oh yeah, I help out back home sometimes. My brother in law Pete grows (begins to choke up) herbs for his pizza.....sometimes Edgar, that's my husband- (blows nose, trails off).

HARVEY

I'll show you to a room. Meet me back down here when you're settled.

BRENDA

Ok.

He picks up her tea and she collects her things.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, YOGA STUDIO

Edwina and Sita stand in the doorway of a studio. In the background, people do crazy yoga poses.

EDWINA

It's been a couple of days-

SITA

I'm worried.

EXT BLUE DHARMA

Harvey gives Brenda a tour of the garden, chicken coop, barn with mini goats, ponies and a lama etc. They stand in the barn with the animals.

HARVEY

These are my rescues. People love these cute little minis then realize they're too much work and I get them. They get hired out to mow down overgrown pastures.

BRENDA

They get paid for that?

HARVEY

Yeah.

BRENDA

The lama too?

HARVEY

No. Daisy's the ringleader around here.

BRENDA

I'm happy to help with 'em.

HARVEY

I'll show you the schedule when we get inside. Let's have a meditation with them so they're comfortable with you.

BRENDA

Whatever you say.

They sit on hay bales and close their eyes. The animals go on about their business. Brenda drops off to sleep. Fade to Brenda waking up with her arm around a goat and a dogs snout in her face. EARL a long haired 30 something surfer dude stares at her as his German Shepard, JEB, sniffs her.

EARL

I'm Earl, that's Jeb. We're your dinner escorts.

Brenda gets up.

BRENDA

I'm Brenda. Nice to meet ya.

They walk together toward the house.

EXT GOLDEN ASHRAM

Edgar, Pete and Edwina are out front. Edwina leads them to Bobbas office.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, BOBBAS OFFICE

Bobba and Sita sit with tea.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

She took my writings but we'll put the money to good use.

SITA

We need to find her.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

We need those writings. They're of great value. She'll be back. No one ever leaves.

(Sings)

you can check in any time you like,
but you can never leave-

Sita joins him singing something akin to "Hotel California".

Edgar, Pete and Edwina burst in. Everyone stops and stares.

SITA

Edgar. What are you doing here?

EDGAR

We came for Brenda. What have you done with her?

SITA

Nothing. She's disappeared.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

She's chosen to take leave of our humble establishment. She is on a quest.

EDGAR

I'm on a quest for my wife you
idiot. What did you do to her?

Edgar goes for Bobbas throat and Bobba draws back. Pete grabs Edgar, Sita throws her arms around Bobba, Edwina attempts to hit Bobba but Sita stops her.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

We did nothing with sweet Brenda
but give her our best intentions.
She is not in our midst. She left
without even a goodbye.

EDWINA

She was upset you phony. I never
trusted you.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

I never trusted you. You were sent
to thwart her mission.

PETE

Thwart her mission? We gotta get
outta here and find her.

EDWINA

What the hell-

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Not if I find her first.

SITA

Boobaramarajakrishnanandaji. What
are you talking about?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

We need those writings Sita
Shunyatananda.

SITA

What we need is to know Brenda is
safe, my master.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Of course.

He puts his hands on his temples, closes his eyes and begins to hum and wobble his head. Everyone stares.

I feel sweet Brenda safe and sound
contemplating her mission from the
stars. I'm sending her a message-
(he calls out)

(MORE)

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI (CONT'D)
Sweet Brenda. Call us, let us know
where you are. We will come for
you.

EDGAR
Let's get out of here.

EDWINA
I'm callin' the police. You're a
phony. Sita, you should be ashamed.

Edgar, Pete and Edwina rush out.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
You're the phony, phony. (calmly to
Sita) Transmission complete. We'll
find her.

SITA
She came out here because of me you
know.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
You're here because of me darling
Sita Shunyatananda, consort of Ram
for whom I am named. Let that not
be forgotten.

EXT GOLDEN ASHRAM

Edgar, Pete and Edwina stand out front.

EDWINA
I got the photos. We gotta make
copies and post 'em-

PETE
First the police station.

EDGAR
Right. We gotta file a missing
person. I been trying her phone
like crazy but it's dead. Oh my
god. If anything's happened to her
I'm gonna kill that Booba.

PETE
Don't think about it. Let's get
moving. That Bobbo dude's off his
rocker.

EDWINA

I'd like him to try to thwart this mission.

INT BLUE DHARMA, DINING ROOM

Homey dining room with china cabinet, large dining table with chairs. There are flowers on the table and beautiful paintings and an "OM" symbol on the wall.

Harvey, FLORENCE, a small, dramatic and feisty middle aged, Italian woman, LESTER, a thin, weathered ageless man and ROSALEE, a sweet, curvaceous brunette, early 40's, are setting out the food. Earl and Brenda enter.

HARVEY

Come sit. Brenda, you've met Earl. The rest are Florence, Lester and Rosalee. I trust you're meditation was good?

BRENDA

(chuckling)

I'm feeling better thanks.

They sit at the table.

HARVEY

Thanks to the beautiful dance of the sun, the moon and earth for this amazing meal we've been given.

Adlibs of "Amen" and "om shanti". They eat. Brenda gobbles.

FLORENCE

I was so tired when I got here, I slept for 3 hours with that crazy goat.

ROSALEE

Where you from sweetey?

BRENDA

I'm from Mt. Baldy, New York but was out here training to be a yoga teacher. That didn't work out so well.

HARVEY

I met Brenda on the beach and gave her an open invitation.

BRENDA

I lost my wallet and got my bag stolen. I didn't know where else to go.

EARL

What about home?

BRENDA

My ticket was in the bag and I just had a fight with my husband. He's mad at me. He thinks I'm having an affair.

HARVEY

Why?

BRENDA

I came to the Golden Ashram to study with Bobbashronaramara-

HARVEY

Bobbaramrajakrishnananda, we know him-

BRENDA

He's kinda loopy-

LESTER

Putting it mildly-

BRENDA

My yoga teacher back home was coming out and she loves him so I came too-

HARVEY

Then you "came to"?

FLORENCE

Ha. If that flake doesn't wake you up. You're dead-

HARVEY

You learned a lot from him, right Florence?

FLORENCE

You could say that.

HARVEY

We all came from somewhere.

BRENDA

I thought yoga was special but I don't know. Now it seems like just fancy exercise.

HARVEY

Follow your heart Brenda. The teacher comes in many forms. Search for truth.

BRENDA

Truth?

HARVEY

Your truth Brenda. We all have a personal truth that fits the universal truth.

Chorus of "mm hmm yup and ain't that rights".

INT POLICE STATION

Edgar, Edwina and Pete enter the station and walk up to the desk where an officer sits. They pull out the photo to show him.

EDGAR

We'd like to report a missing person.

He hands the officer the photo. The officer takes it and looks at it.

OFFICER

(pointing)

Isn't that her right there?

They all turn and look at the board with mug shots on it. They see a photo of her looking startled and a mess (wig askew, make up smudges, torn collar).

EDWINA

Oh my god. What did that fiend do to her?

OFFICER

She was picked up for disorderly conduct and prostitution-

EDGAR

Prostitution?

OFFICER

But was let go. A couple of officers dropped her at the bus station.

EDGAR

That's my wife you're talking about.

OFFICER

Mmmm hm. You're a lucky man.

EDWINA

Hey.

PETE

C'mon you guys. We've gotta find Brenda.

As they run out of the station, Edgar snatches the mugshot.

INT GOLDEN ASHRAM, BOBBAS OFFICE

Sita and Bobba.

SITA

So you got a transmission?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

The children of the light said she spent the night in a motel-

SITA

Really?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Yes. Then took a bus north.

SITA

The "children of the light"?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Yes. I've called the car service. We leave at once.

SITA

I'll get my things.

Sita sashays out. Bobba watches her butt.

INT BUS STATION

Edwina, Edgar and Pete scout around. Edgar finds a discarded bag and believes it to be Brendas.

EDGAR
You guys. Look at this.

Edwina and Pete come running.

PETE
What?

EDGAR
It's Brenda's.

EDWINA
You sure? It doesn't look like
Brenda.

EDGAR
Sita gave it to her.

He fishes around in the bag.

PETE AND EDWINA
Ooooohhh.

EDGAR
Here's her phone.

PETE
You think somebody stole it?

EDGAR
They snatch your bag and take the
valuables, then toss it. Let's
ask if they've seen her.

They all run to the ticket booth where a WOMAN sits behind
the glass.

WOMAN
May I help you?

EDGAR
Have you seen this woman?

He gazes at the photo, LOVE MUSIC PLAYS, then shoves the
picture under the glass. The woman takes it and looks at it.

WOMAN
Nope.

EDGAR
Can we ask someone else?

WOMAN
Hey Jerry. Come here.

JERRY ambles to the window. She shows him the picture. He looks up through the window at the three faces peering in.

JERRY
We get this all the time.

He takes the picture and walks away.

WOMAN
(calling out)
Next.
(To Edgar)
Have a seat.

They amble off and sit.

EXT GOLDEN ASHRAM

Bobba and Sita climb into a tricked out Vanagon with a hippy dude driving. It's got beads hanging in it and POP MUSIC plays inside.

DRIVER
Where to boss?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Gualala.

DRIVER
That's north of Frisco.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Yes.

SITA
How far north?

DRIVER
100 miles.

SITA
How far is San Francisco from here?

DRIVER
382 miles.

SITA

That's almost 500 miles.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI

Yes it is. Let's get moving.

DRIVER

Right boss.

They pull into traffic.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI

Anyone want a snack?

He pulls out some juice boxes then sends a text.

Along their journey, road and towns signs flash by in the direction of San Francisco then Gualala. Bobba also gets text messages and photos on his phone and responds with a grunt or snort and rapid texting.

EXT COUNTRYSIDE, BLUE DHARMA

Harvey, Brenda, Lester, Rosalee and Florence sit on tree stumps in the garden. In the background NINJALISCIOUS, a large black man, dressed in black with an I-phone and drink, hides and observes.

HARVEY

Every time we practice, we change our karma.

BRENDA

I don't get it. Karma seems like everybody's scapegoat. I'm trying to be good, but all I get in return is confused.

HARVEY

It's just equal and opposite reaction. We put out good energy, we draw in good energy. It's a universal law. Balance in the universe that doesn't always make sense. Live and move through the world consciously with the focus on the present moment.

BRENDA

You mean, right now?

HARVEY

Yes, right now is perfect. We practice with goodness to clear negative actions of our past.

BRENDA

Like my fighting?

HARVEY

Yes, but that probably came from actions in a past lifetime.

LESTER

That's right.

HARVEY

This lifetime we've been given the opportunity to evolve and burn off negative karma.

ROSALEE

So beautiful.

FLORENCE

Let go of the past Brenda. Just be you, here with us on this glorious day.

BRENDA

What if we don't evolve?

HARVEY

We come back and do it again.

FLORENCE

And again.

LESTER

Till we get it right.

She suddenly notices a gravestone under a tree with a bird sitting on it.

BRENDA

Harvey?

HARVEY

Yes?

BRENDA

Karma scares me.

ROSALEE
It's not scary, it's liberating.

INT BUS STATION

The woman walks out with 60 ish ANGIE.

WOMAN
You the people looking for this woman?

EDWINA
Yes.

WOMAN
Angie here thinks she was on her bus the other day.

ANGIE
I'm sure it was her. I remember 'cause she had a whole pizza with her in line and offered me a piece. She ate it all in about 10 minutes. Then she pulled out some turtles and started on them.

EDGAR
That's her. Where was she going?

ANGIE
North. San Francisco. She was going on from there. Maybe Gualala.

PETE
Gualala? What's there?

ANGIE
Nothing that I know of-

EDGAR
Did she say anything?

ANGIE
No, but she was nervous. I never saw anyone eat like that before.

PETE
Let's get our tickets.

EDWINA
We got a car dummy, let's go.

EXT HIGHWAY

Edwina, Edgar and Pete in compact car. Edwina leans close to Pete, her hand on his shoulder. Their progression is noted through the mileage to San Francisco and Gualala signs.

EXT BLUE DHARMA

Brenda and Rosalee hang wash out to dry surrounded by various animals. In the background Ninjaliscious observes them as he eats, grooves to his I-pod and drinks from a gigantic cup.

ROSALEE

Watch it. Drop anything, Jimmy grabs it.

BRENDA

How did you end up here Rosalee?

ROSALEE

I knew Florence and came out for a weekend. Ended up staying.

BRENDA

Don't you want to go home?

ROSALEE

I left my husband.

A goat nudges her.

Stop it Tracy. She's partial to sheets. Ate a whole one once. That wasn't easy getting out the other end. He was no good. Me and Lester talk about getting a place of our own.

BRENDA

Lester?

ROSALEE

Yeah.

BRENDA

I miss Edgar.

ROSALEE

Your man?

BRENDA

Yeah. Repete too.

ROSALEE

Repete?

BRENDA

Our boy. He's living with his grandad right now, but when I get home, he's coming back.

INT BLUE DHARMA

Brenda and Harvey clean the house.

BRENDA (CONT'D)

You think I can do it Harvey?

HARVEY

It's all a practice, Brenda. The discipline you're familiar with as an athlete and coach is the same discipline it takes to better yourself.

BRENDA

It's just about me.

HARVEY

Find the balance in your practice. Once you find that, you can help others.

BRENDA

(sigh)
I'm heading out to the barn.

HARVEY

Think about it.

BRENDA

I will.

Brenda heads to the barn and feeds the animals. Ninjaliscious observes from behind a tree. He gets pooped on by a bird.

EXT HIGHWAY

Edwina, Edgar and Pete in a small car, stuck in traffic. Edgar drives, Pete looks at a map and Edwina holds her stomach in pain. LOCAL MUSIC PLAYS on the radio.

EDWINA

When do we get there? I feel carsick.

Bobba, Sita and their driver, stuck in traffic. BUBBLEGUM POP MUSIC PLAYS on the radio. Bobba sings along as he texts.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
"yo, yo, yo, funny, nasty rap here"

SITA
This is going to take forever.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
No worries. I already have someone
scouting the premises.

SITA
What?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
I have a scout on the premises.

SITA
What premises? Where are we going?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
The Blue Dharma. My nemesis. Harvey
and I know each other from way
back. He likes to steal my
devotees.

SITA
Steal?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
He's conniving that one. He's had
more than one of my people at his
unruly, demon filled ramshackle den
of iniquity.

Sita shakes her head.

SITA
You sent someone to spy on them?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
That's such a negative word.
Ninjaliscious is an observer.

EXT BARNYARD

Brenda, Earl and Florence feed the animals. Ninjaliscious is
in the background shooing off animals. He spills his drink.

FLORENCE

Harvey can communicate with these guys.

BRENDA

Really? How?

EARL

He just tunes in. He's way tuned in man. That's why I'm here.

BRENDA

To tune in?

EARL

Yeah. Me and Jeb. We meditate.

BRENDA

Really?

FLORENCE

You'll see.

BRENDA

See what?

FLORENCE

Many things. Energy, behavior. Once you tune in you see many more things. You become more yourself.

BRENDA

I wanna be more myself.

EARL

Just hang around. You will.

BRENDA

When?

FLORENCE

That depends on you.

BRENDA

Great. Just what I don't need. More help from me.

EARL

It's not you. It's you getting out of the way.

BRENDA

I don't even know what that means.

EARL
Just chill.

BRENDA
I can do that.

FLORENCE
Forget about Bobba. He's a fake.
You want the truth.

BRENDA
How do you know about Bobba?

FLORENCE
Many years ago, we met in Rome. He
brought me here. Things happened. I
left in despair.

BRENDA
OOhhhhhh.

EARL
Not cool.

EXT HIGHWAY TRUCK STOP

Edgars car careens into the truck stop parking lot. Edwina jumps out and throws up beside the van next to them. They take note of it's decorative beads and sparkly interior and see a robe of Bobbas hanging over the seat.

EDWINA
That's Boobaloopys robe.

PETE
Are you sure?

EDGAR
They're going after B. Trying to
bring her back.

PETE
Hold on. Are you sure?

The camera pulls back to reveal the van is painted gold, pink and white with lotus flowers all over it. They look up to see Bobba, Sita and the driver walking through the parking lot.

EDGAR
Get down.

They all duck behind their car.

EDGAR (CONT'D)
Get back in the car, quick.

EDWINA
I need something to drink.

PETE
We'll pull off at the next gas
station. Just get in.

They scramble into the car and pull out. Bobbas crew is closer now and they see the car pull out.

Bobba wears a cowboy hat purchased at the truck stop, Sita has a stuffed animal and the driver has a large beaded seat cover. They walk through the vomit to get into the van.

INT VAN

They pull out.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
Do you smell something?

DRIVER
Oh man! What is that?

SITA
Eeeewwww.

EXT HIGHWAY

Bobba, Sita and their driver cruise along with the windows open. POP MUSIC They have their noses covered with lavender scarves. Incense burns, the smoke drifts out the windows.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI
(rapping)
"more funny rap here, yo, yo "

EXT BLUE DHARMA

Brenda and Harvey do yoga. Ninjaliscious is in the background.

HARVEY
That's right Brenda. We're all
unique and all the same. Listen to
your heart and breath.

BRENDA

How are we all different and the same both?

HARVEY

Space divided is still the same space.

Brenda stares, confused.

BRENDA

I don't get it.

HARVEY

When a house is built, the walls separate the space but don't change it's quality. It's still the same space. Think of the skin as the walls.

BRENDA

But, I'm filled with blood and guts and stuff.

HARVEY

On the quantum level we have as much space between our cells as there is between the planets. We're filled with space and energy.

BRENDA

That's deep.

HARVEY

Exactly. Go deep.

INT BARN

Brenda sits meditating with assorted animals around. A chicken sits right in her lap.

EXT HIGHWAY

Edgar, Pete and Edwina's car careens into the next truck stop parking lot. They all get out of the car.

Bobbas car pulls into the same parking lot.

INT VAN

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Stop.

The brakes screech as they come to a halt.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI (CONT'D)

I saw this car pulling out at the
last place.

They all get out of the van and walk around the car.

SITA

That's Brendas bag.

She points in the front window.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

They sabotaged us. My shoes will
never be the same.

DRIVER

I'll take care of that.

He kneels down and begins letting air out of the tires.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

(maniacal laughing))
That'll show 'em.

SITA

Show them what?

Bobba kicks off his shoes and leaves them by the car. The
driver and Sita do the same.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Sita, child. So naive. Get back in
the car.

They get back in the car, but it still stinks. They get back
out. Bobba pulls out the floor mats and leaves them by the
car. They get back in and peel out.

INDIAN MUSIC Bobba grabs his phone.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI (CONT'D)

It's Ninjaliscious. Ooohh. Photos.

He reads a text.

0 1700 hours. Activity minimal.

He then looks at the photo.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI (CONT'D)

It's a goat.

He shows the picture, then hangs up the phone.

INT BLUE DHARMA, LIVING ROOM

Harvey, Brenda, Florence, and Earl listen as Lester strums a guitar and Rosalee sings softly.

EXT HIGHWAY

Edgars' car chases the vanagon into a truckstop parking lot. All parties get out and a fight ensues. Edgar goes for Bobba. Pete tries to pull him off. It's general mayhem.

EDGAR

You let the air out of my tires,
pimp.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

You left vomit for us to walk
through you sad little man.

EDGAR

I'm not sad. I'm mad.

He goes for the throat.

PETE

Hey-

The driver tries to pull Edgar off Bobba, Edwina jumps on Bobbas back and Pete tries to get between Bobba and Edgar. Sita seizes the opportunity to rifle through a bag in the vanagon. Moving like lightening, Bobba and the driver systematically de-pants Edgar, Pete and Edwina then dive back into their car. Edwina tries to run after them but falls and Pete and Edgar fall in an attempt to help her up. They clumsily regain upright positions as TIRES SCREECH as the vanagon pulls out. Edgar, Pete and Edwina stand in the parking lot with their pants around their ankles in shock.

EXT BLUE DHARMA

Harvey, Brenda, Lester, Rosalee, Earl, Jeb and assorted creatures sit in meditation. Ninjaliscious observes them from behind a tree. Harvey rings some tinshas and everyone disperses.

HARVEY

Brenda.

Brenda ambles over.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

Any better?

BRENDA

Yeah. I'm settling. I gotta figure out what to do.

HARVEY

Use the house phone. Call your husband. He's worried.

BRENDA

How do you know?

HARVEY

How could he not be? Speak your truth. That's all you have to do.

BRENDA

Thanks, for everything.

HARVEY

That's why we're here.

They walk off together. Ninjaliscious follows at a distance.

BRENDA

I don't know why I'm here.

HARVEY

I think you do.

BRENDA

I haven't had a fight lately.

HARVEY

Imaging never having one again.

INT BLUE DHARMA, LIVING ROOM

Brenda on phone.

BRENDA

Hey G. I lost my phone. I'm at The Blue Dharma. I'm OK. I miss you.

EXT HIGHWAY, ROAD SIGNS

Both vehicles pull off the road. Edgar, Pete and Edwina sleep in the car at a rest stop and Bobba converts the vanagon to beds.

EXT HIGHWAY SIGN

"Town of Gualala" sign.

INT DINER

Fifties style diner with a long counter and stools and booths with small jukeboxes on each table.

Edgar, Pete and Edwina enter and sit at the counter.

WAITRESS

What can I get you all?

EDWINA

Do you know any yoga places around here?

WAITRESS

There's Blue Dharma.

EDGAR

Where is it?

WAITRESS

South about 3 miles, there's a T, take a right, go another 5 or 6 miles, go left at the red barn and follow the curve, take a right at the fork, then a quick left at the giant oak, bear left again at the wishing well, then an immediate right. You can't miss it. You ordering?

EDGAR

No. Thanks very much ma'am.

They rush out of the restaurant.

EXT COUNTRYSIDE, BLUE DHARMA

Brenda is balancing on her hands, arms bent, knees on elbows. Harvey watches.

HARVEY

That's it.

He taps her. She falls over. They laugh. Brenda lays in the grass, looking at the sky.

BRENDA

Look at all them clouds.

Harvey lays down and looks up.

HARVEY

(pointing)

There's a bear-

BRENDA

Or a rhino-

HARVEY

That one's a castle-

BRENDA

Home of the gods.

HARVEY

Ganesha.

BRENDA

Who?

HARVEY

The remover of obstacles, with the elephant head.

BRENDA

OOooooohhh.....name gods for me?

HARVEY

Hanuma-

Edgars face appears. His eyes are very blue.

BRENDA

Edgar.

HARVEY

No-

BRENDA

It's my husband Edgar.

She jumps up and throws her arms around him.

BRENDA (CONT'D)
You got my message.

EDGAR
What message?

He pushes her away.

BRENDA
I called home-

EDGAR
Imagine that. Calling home. Did ya
get an attack of conscience?

BRENDA
What?

EDGAR
I was out here with Pete and Edwina
looking for you. So is that pimp
Bobbaloopy character.

Pete and Edwina walk up.

PETE AND EDWINA
You found her.

BRENDA
Oh my god, I'm.....You're.....This
is Harvey. He saved me.

EDGAR
From what, your new life on the
streets?

BRENDA
No-

EDWINA
Boobbaji?

HARVEY
Possibly herself.

EDGAR
What do you think you're doing
running around California like some
hippy?

EDWINA
She's not a hippy Edgar.

Edgar whips out the mugshot from the police station.

EDGAR

We found this at the police station. What's going on?

PETE

Let's start from the beginning. Harvey, I'm Pete. Edgars brother. We've been afraid something happened to Brenda.

BRENDA

It did. It was horrible. I got picked up by the cops in LA cause I got in a fight with some loud mouth hookers. They thought I was homeless and took me to the bus depot. Then I came here.

EDGAR

You coulda called.

BRENDA

I did.

EDGAR

I was here.

BRENDA

I didn't know that.

EDGAR

You didn't think.

BRENDA

My stuff got stolen.

EDWINA

We found it at the bus station. That's how we knew you came here.

Sita runs up.

SITA

I'm so glad I found you. I ditched Bobbaramarajakrishnanandaji in town.

BRENDA

I got nothing to say to you.

SITA

I'm sorry. He's gonna be here any time. He wants the writings.

She pulls an envelope out of her bag and hands it to Brenda.
It's your money. He doesn't know I
took it, but I know you didn't mean
to leave it.

Brenda takes the envelope.

BRENDA
What writings?

EDGAR
What the heck-

SITA
The stuff he gave you to read.

BRENDA
That mumbo jumbo.

EDGAR
What-

BRENDA
It's a long story-

EDWINA
That place was crazy-

HARVEY
Let's all calm down and head
inside. We'll make dinner.

They all head toward the house. The Vanagon is in the
background.

BRENDA
I'm sorry G.

EDGAR
I just need you to be happy B.

INT BLUE DHARMA, DINING ROOM

Harvey, Pete, Edgar, Sita and Brenda are seated and talking
at the dinner table as Earl, Lester, Rosalee and Florence
join them with the food.

HARVEY
Here's to reuniting people, food
and spirit.

Everyone raises their glass and clinks them together. Food is
passed, served and eaten.

EDGAR

What is this place Harvey?

HARVEY

It's a haven for seekers and finders of the truth.

EDGAR

What are you B? A seeker or a finder?

BRENDA

Both I think.

ROSALEE

We're all both.

BRENDA

Two sides, one coin.

LESTER

I been playing hide and seek my whole life.

PETE

And?

LESTER

And nothing. Here I am.

EARL

Right on brother, right on.

BANGING YELLING In bursts Bobba, the driver and Ninjaliscious.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Aha. I found you .

HARVEY

Gene. Nice to see you. Grab some chairs. Have some food.

FLORENCE

Take my seat. I'm just leaving.

She gets up and dramatically offers her seat.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

We'll do nothing of the sort. I came for my writings. That is all. Sita. Brenda. I'm ashamed-

EDGAR

Listen here, Pimpaloopy. Get off your horse there. That's my wife-

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Oh how bourgeoisie.

FLORENCE

You are still so arrogant-

SITA

Bobbaramarajakrishnanandaji. Be nice.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

You're a traitor.

SITA

You're a con and a thief.

FLORENCE

Yeah.

HARVEY

Brenda, why don't you get Gene his writings so he can calm down?

BRENDA

Gene?

HARVEY

Just go.

Brenda exits.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

I tried and tried with her.

EDGAR

You tried to pimp my wife.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

(laughing)

Pimp?

Edgar goes after him and a tussle ensues. Brenda enters.

BRENDA

What's-? Here's your lamo writings Booby, now let us be.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

It's Bobbaramarajakrishnanandaji.

EARL

Can you say that five times fast?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI

(exclaims a big huff) I've had enough. Sita, let's go.

SITA

I'm staying. You're a fraud and I'm gonna let everyone know. You disgust me.

He turns to his driver and Ninjaliscious.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI

Maurice, Ninj let's go.

Maurice, the driver gives Harvey a look of "whatever" and they move to exit. Harvey hops up and quickly gathers some food, Brenda notices and takes it from him and follows Bobba to the door. She hands him the food.

BRENDA

Everybody needs to eat.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI

That's very thoughtful. Thank you.

He takes the food and turns to exit.

BRENDA

There's one thing I need to know?

Bobba turns back with a sigh of resignation.
Did you violate my trust that night?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI

What are you talking about?

BRENDA

When you hypnotized me. Did you violate me?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI

What-

BRENDA

I have the scarf and you had changed clothes. I need to know.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANDAJI

I was anointing you for induction into the harem.

BRENDA

Harem?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

That scarf was a gift for the dinner celebration, but you ran out so quickly-

BRENDA

Why'd you change clothes?

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

I was late. You fell asleep, seemed like a good use of time.

BRENDA

I saw you with everyone!

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

Oh that. Just blowing off a little steam. Fun and games, you know....

BRENDA

No. I don't and I got something to say about it. You play the big shot but you got more to learn than anybody. You're not even nice. In fact you're mean and you're a fake. You prey on vulnerable people who just want to better themselves and make everybody look bad. You should be ashamed of yourself. You're the one who needs to practice yoga for real.

BOBBARAMARAJAKRISHNANANANDAJI

You're giving me advise now? Tell your derelict husband I am most certainly not a pimp.

BRENDA

That's right. I'm giving you advise. Get real. You're busted. You're not a pimp but you're no better than one.

Bobba , Ninjaliscious and the driver exit. Brenda sits back down.

PETE

What was that about?

BRENDA
I just needed to clear the air and
my karma.

HARVEY
And?

BRENDA
I'm all good.

EDGAR
Thank god. You ready to come home?

BRENDA
Yup.

Everyone cheers. Brenda and Edgar hug.

BRENDA (CONT'D)
I missed those baby blues G.

EXT BLUE DHARMA- SUNRISE

Brenda, Edgar, Pete and Edwina pack the car. Harvey and the
others gather to say goodbye.

BRENDA
Harvey, I can't thank you enough
for helping me.

They hug. Everyone hugs Brenda.

SITA
I'll miss you Brenda.

BRENDA
You know where to find me. At home
where I belong. I'm bringing truth
to Mt. Baldy.

SITA
Good luck Brenda.

BRENDA
Bye all. Take care of Sita.

The men shake hands and they pile into the car.

EXT SMALL FARMHOUSE

Howdy and Repete work in the yard. The car pulls in Pete, Edgar and Brenda get out. Repete runs up to them. Howdy comes up. They all hug.

REPETE

Mom. I'm so glad you're back.

HOWDY

He's really straightened up.

BRENDA

We're all straightening up.

They all walk in the house.

INT SMALL FARMHOUSE, BEDROOM

Edgar and Brenda undress for bed.

EDGAR

I been trying to learn yoga.

BRENDA

Really?

EDGAR

Yeah, I think I'm the stallion and you're the mare.

BRENDA

Huh?

Edgar grabs the Kama Sutra.

EDGAR

I've been drinking garlic, pepper and licorice to enhance my virility.

BRENDA

That's what that smell is-

Edgar grabs his foot and tries to put it on his head.

EDGAR

I've been trying the sixty four arts to practice loving congress but I can't get my foot on my head yet. Can you do ekapada?

BRENDA
Ekawhatta?

Edgar holds out the book. Brenda looks at the picture.

EDGAR
Like this.

He grabs her and stares deeply into her eyes.

EDGAR (CONT'D)
This is twining creeper. Now you
climb me like a tree.

She tries to "climb" him. They fall over.

EDGAR (CONT'D)
I thought chakrabhanda looked good.
Let's ready the linga.

BRENDA
Ligna?

EDGAR
Little Eddy.

They stand.

BRENDA
That pepper's getting to you. This
ain't-

EDGAR
How bout matseeeyasa or creeping?

He points to the bed. She sits down. Edgar looks deep into her eyes, pulls a peacock feather out and begins to brush her with it.

BRENDA
What are you doing?

EDGAR
It says "the softness of the
feather sweeps away hesitation.

He pulls a garland of flowers from under the bed and puts it over her head. He turns on loud, screechy classical Indian music.

BRENDA
(yells over the music)
You bought these for me?

EDGAR
 (yells)
 Yes, to prepare you for the
 lovemaking.

BRENDA
 (laughing)
 This ain't the yoga I'm studying.

Edgar dances around, rips his shirt off.

EDGAR
 I can teach you more than Booba.

BRENDA
 Ok hot stuff. Show me what you got.

Edgar runs to the closet, pulls out a box and unloads a giant
 canvas, ropes, clothing etc. He tosses her some robes then
 pulls out a ladder.

BRENDA (CONT'D)
 What-

Edgar points up to pulleys he installed in the ceiling.

EDGAR
 This will only take a minute. It
 says here a swing, but I figured
 bigger is better. I got a hammock.

They climb in and he hoists them up. The hammock looks like a
 moving sack of potatoes. Edgars arms stick out as he slowly
 raises off the ground.

BRENDA
 You're on my arm.

EDGAR
 Sorry.

They move around. Ad lib "ooh, ow".

BRENDA
 What are you trying to do?

More moving around.

EDGAR
 Bavriini says embrace the jahana and
 stroke the yoyini.

BRENDA
Oh.

EDGAR
Now-

BRENDA
That's my elbow.

More moving.

EDGAR
Splitting the bamboo. Move your
leg.

The hammock starts swinging. Brendas face pops up followed by
Edgars. They almost hit a wall.

EDGAR (CONT'D)
Thank god it's over the bed.

He pulls her back in.

INSERT PULLEY LOOSENING

EDGAR AND BRENDA
Auuuuuuuuuuuhghghghhghghggggg.

DISSOLVE TO:

The hammock is on the broken bed with Brenda and Edgar
sprawled out exhausted.

EDGAR
Oooooohhhh, I think I hurt my back.

Brenda springs into action. Flips Edgar on his stomach, pulls
his hips over his heels in child's pose and massages his
back.

BRENDA
Breathe deep. How does that feel?

EDGAR
Oooohhh, that's better.

Brenda gives him a hug.

BRENDA
That's right. I got just what you
need.

DISSOLVE TO:

MUSIC

CREDITS ROLL

MONTAGE OF CLASS THROUGH CURVED LENSE- MUSIC

--The room spins as Brenda teaches a yoga class.

--Bunny sits in lotus pose, legs crossed.

--Lou Ann does a crazy twist.

--Brenda pats Edgar on the bootie in downward dog.

--Pete and Repete stand on their hands.

--Howdy stands on one foot.

--Ted in the splits.

--Don in a backbend.

--Edwina puts her feet behind her head.

END MONTAGE

THE END.

FADE OUT.