



WONDERFALLS

"Totem Mole"

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Air #112

Final Shooting Script

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WONDERFALLS

"Totem Mole"

TEASER

A1 EXT. SATSUMA RESERVATION - DAY A1

Sharon's SUV drives past a welcome sign greeting visitors to the Satsuman land.

1 OMITTED 1

2 EXT. SATSUMA RESERVATION - CONTINUOUS - DAY 2

CAMERA CRANES DOWN to Sharon's car as it parks at the pump filling station on the modest Indian Reservation. Shacks, the odd larger structure, and a Trading Post/general store. SHARON is the first to hop out, waiting impatiently for MAHANDRA and JAYE to emerge -- she can't lock the car until the last door is closed.

MAHANDRA

This sudden impulse of yours to visit my ancestral lands is great but aren't you supposed to be at work?

JAYE

I couldn't stand the thought of spending another day looking at those faces with their stupid little mouths constantly running and making all sorts of unreasonable demands on me.

MAHANDRA

Are you sure you should be in a customer service industry?

JAYE

I told the Mouth-Breather I had to leave the country to score my sister some drugs.

They finally shut the last door and Sharon instantly locks the car with the key remote.

(CONTINUED)

SHARON

We drove an hour and a half out of town so I can buy tax-free cigarettes in bulk...

JAYE

Yes, but on sovereign land.

MAHANDRA

And here I thought you were just trying to avoid the boy.

JAYE

Oh, I'm doing that too. I'm also pretending he never existed. Which requires being places he's not.

(re: application)

So what happens after you hand that thing in?

MAHANDRA

They verify my claim and then I'm embraced by my people as a part of the Satsuma Indian Nation.

JAYE

That's awesome.

SHARON

It's also fraud. You're not an Indian. You're black.

MAHANDRA

Uh, one eighth Satsuman on my grandmother's side. This doesn't take away anything from the six eighths of my heritage that was ripped from their land exploited by whitey. I'm just embracing the one eighth that stayed on their land and was exploited by whitey. But even a fraction of my fraction makes me eligible for full tribal citizenship.

JAYE

And a cut of the gambling monies.

MAHANDRA

This isn't about money. It's about tribe pride.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

2

CONTINUED: (2)

2

MAHANDRA (CONT'D)

However, if qualifying for a title
four federal grant will pay off my
student loans then justice is
served.

(reacts)

Where's the casino?

They glance around the modest reservation.

MAHANDRA (CONT'D)

This place doesn't even have a
Stuckey's...

Sharon points to a large public structure with one of those
cheap pop-in white-lettered marquees: "Tribal Affairs."

SHARON

Oh, look. Bingo night. Every
second Monday. Ya just missed it.

Mahandra heads off to the Tribal Affairs building. As Sharon
now heads off toward the Trading Post:

SHARON (CONT'D)

(as she goes)

Fill it up with premium. Don't
drip on the paint. And the
windshield could use a wash.

Jaye is left alone. As she moves to gas the SUV, she glances
over at a ramshackle building. A OLD INDIAN MAN sits rocking
in a rocking chair. Jaye nods politely.

JAYE

Hi.

Nothing. Just rocking. Jaye pops the gas tank, reaches for
the gas nozzle, glances around the rez.

TOTEM MOLE (O.S.)

Go over there.

Jaye looks to the Old Indian. His expression hasn't changed.

TOTEM MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Over there.

Jaye looks the other way. A TOTEM POLE with a carved MOLE is
erected before a traditional WIGWAM.

TOTEM MOLE (CONT'D)

Go on.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED: (3)

2

JAYE

Leave me alone! You can't be here.
This is sovereign land. Sovereign,
sacred, silent land.

TOTEM MOLE

Go.

JAYE

An authentic Satsuman totem should
not be speaking English.

TOTEM MOLE

*I'm not authentic. They put me
here for the tourists. Go.*

Jaye sighs, replaces the gas nozzle and moves toward the wigwam.

3 INT. THE REZ - WIGWAM - CONTINUOUS

3

Moody. Shafts of light from above. The place is ringed with a haze of smoke. Incense and candles burn. Jaye enters, coughs, squints to focus, waves at the smoke.

JAYE

Hello?

And as the smoke clears, Jaye gasps as she nearly topples over an OLD WOMAN who sits up on the edge of a long bench, her hands crossed over her chest. She lifts her magnificently worn face and looks at Jaye. It's a bit startling.

JAYE (CONT'D)

Ahh! Oh, sorry. Excuse me.
Didn't mean to wake you.

OLD WOMAN

Enter and sit. I have been waiting
for you, Lion with Dented Face.

JAYE

What did you just call me?!?

Jaye stares in slack-jawed wonder as the Old Woman beckons for Jaye to sit on a stool opposite her.

OLD WOMAN

Sit, child. Why do you hesitate?
You come with many questions.

(CONTINUED)

JAYE

(doesn't sit)

But very little money. So if you're like the local fortune teller or something...

OLD WOMAN

They speak to you... in many voices. In many forms.

Jaye's taken aback. Stares as the Old Woman continues:

OLD WOMAN (CONT'D)

You have been sought out for a great purpose. For this you have been chosen.

JAYE

No. I don't want to be chosen. In this instance, I'm anti-choice. Also, chosen by what? Who are "they?" Do you know?

OLD WOMAN

Yes... many questions.

JAYE

Yeah. If you're just gonna be all cryptic, it will affect your tip.

OLD WOMAN

You entered this place only to silence the voices. You wish to silence them forever.

That just hangs there for a moment. Jaye swallows, her breath comes more shallowly. Finally, quietly:

JAYE

Can I? I mean, is there some way?
(a plaintive whisper)
Can you tell me how?

OLD WOMAN

Why do you think you're here?

JAYE

Okay, cryptic -- and yet I think I like where you're goin'...

As Jaye pulls up the stool, sits opposite the sagely woman...

BLACK OUT.

(CONTINUED)

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

4 OMITTED 4

4A EXT. THE REZ - DAY 4A
Establishing.

5 INT. RESERVATION TRADING POST - DAY 5
A tidy yet modest store which sells practical items as well a lot of Satsuman kitsch. GERRY, the working-class Satsuman proprietor, hefts a giant cardboard box (a forty carton case sized box) onto the counter.

GERRY
One case of Milestone cigarettes.
Will that be all?

SHARON
(digs for credit card)
Make it two. Just because I have
eighty cartons doesn't mean I won't
quit before I smoke them all.

Gerry spots someone else that neither Sharon nor the audience sees yet. His attitude toward Sharon changes subtly.

GERRY
I need to see your resident card.

SHARON
Oh. I'm not an Indian. Native.

GERRY
I can only sell you three packs.

SHARON
That's not really worth the trip.

GERRY
Sorry. New rule. Three pack limit
for non-Natives.

SHARON
What moron started that rule?

GERRY
That one.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

Deanna LITTLEFOOT -- a smoldering brunette with a laser stare, stylish business suit and small ENTOURAGE. She shoots Gerry a look. Sharon registers recognition.

LITTLEFOOT

Hello, Tyler.

SHARON

Littlefoot? Deanna Littlefoot! Ohmygod! This is so... wow. Hey, congratulations, I read in the alumni newsletter that you're practicing upstate with Kershner-McKenzie now. Very prestigious.

LITTLEFOOT

I left Kershner-McKenzie.

SHARON

Oh. You did?

LITTLEFOOT

I was needed here. The people were being exploited, they had no one looking out for their interests.

SHARON

Good for you.

(to Gerry)

And good for you, too. She's the best. We went to law school together. We were both top-of-our-class.

(to Deanna)

Remember the time you got our beloved two-hundred-year-old mascot banned from campus?

LITTLEFOOT

It was a sexist symbol of patriarchal oppression.

SHARON

Yeah...

(to Gerry)

It was a beaver.

She looks back at Littlefoot. Sharon continues to smile, forcing it, really. Littlefoot is stoic. Finally:

SHARON (CONT'D)

This three pack rule, that's all you, isn't it?

(CONTINUED)

LITTLEFOOT

The people are through being slaves
to imperialist aggression by
relying on non-native trade.

SHARON

God. You haven't changed a bit.

LITTLEFOOT

Neither have you. You always did
need to be reminded of your place.
You were never top-of-our-class,
Tyler. I was.

SHARON

Okay, you were 'one,' I was 'two.'
Whatever. This is silly. How
about we just leave that whole,
ugly competitive thing in the past
where it belongs?

LITTLEFOOT

I don't know what you're talking
about. You were never any
competition. And you weren't "two"
-- you were like, sixth.

SHARON

(a beat, turns to Gerry)
I want my cigarettes. Two cases.

Gerry looks longingly from Sharon's gold card to Littlefoot.

GERRY

She might get cancer?
(off Deanna's stone-face)
I'm sorry, Miss.

Behind Deanna Littlefoot, Mahandra enters. Sharon smiles.

SHARON

Mahandra! My good friend who just
happens to be a member of the
Satsuma Nation.
(to Gerry)
She'll take two cases.
(to Mahandra)
Show him your membership card.

MAHANDRA

I don't have one yet. I just
turned in my application. The
Tribal lawyer has to review it.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (3)

5

LITTLEFOOT

That would be me.

Sharon looks to Littlefoot, whose eyebrow goes up. She turns and exits. Mahandra looks to Sharon:

MAHANDRA

Did you just screw me?

5A INT. THE REZ - WIGWAM - DAY

5A

Jaye sitting across from the Old Woman, mid-rant:

JAYE

...and then they told me to "mend what is broken" which I thought meant my heart -- 'cause it was definitely broken -- but they really wanted me to get Eric back with his cheating wife. That alone would be reason to get rid of these things, right? Anyway, if you could tell me how to get some relief, I'd really appreciate it.

Before the Old Woman can offer any advice:

BILL

Excuse me...

Another FIGURE appears through the mist behind Jaye: BILL HOOTEN. He's Native American, 20's, conservative business dress. Jaye turns and looks at him.

JAYE

Hi. We're sort of in the middle of something. Would you mind waiting outside until we're through?

BILL

Um, what are you in the middle of?

JAYE

We're having a conversation.

BILL

You're having a conversation with my dead grandmother...?

(CONTINUED)

5A CONTINUED:

5A

Jaye reacts to that. She glances back to the Old Woman, who is not only not sitting on the edge of the bench, but is laying back with her arms folded over her chest. Oh yeah, and she's wearing a death shroud.

JAYE

Okay, that's just odd...

6 EXT. THE REZ - WIGWAM - DAY

6

Littlefoot and her entourage are intercepted by a YOUNG TRIBE MEMBER. He says something to her and they all start moving. In the b.g., Mahandra is running up. She keeps pace as they move.

MAHANDRA

Excuse me. Here's the thing -- that crazy blonde woman? I'm not her "good friend." In fact, I wouldn't really say we're "friends" in any meaningful sense of the word. The truth is...

Mahandra trails off as she sees what they're now approaching: Jaye in the midst of some chaos -- an argument between Jaye, Bill Hooten and some of the other tribe's people...

LITTLEFOOT

What's going on?

SATSUMAN CITIZEN

She disturbed Gentlefeather's sacred resting place.

MAHANDRA

...I don't know her, either.

Bill crosses to Littlefoot.

BILL

Hi. This is all making me really uncomfortable. I'm trying to respect my grandmother's wishes. I am. And I thought I'd be fine with a Native funeral but not if you're allowing tourists to participate.

Sharon and Gerry appear as a larger crowd gathers.

LITTLEFOOT

What were you doing in there?

(CONTINUED)

JAYE

I was paying my respects. And I have a few more... respects to... pay. And some cash? I have cash. Not a lot. Can I make a pledge? I just need to talk to her for one more minute.

BILL

Talk to her?

JAYE

Did I say talk? I meant see.

ANGLE: GERRY as he takes in Jaye's behavior, clocking it.

BILL

(to Littlefoot)

I'd rather she didn't. And if you're still doing that pyre thing could you hop to it before more people come and poke my dead grandmother.

SHARON

You poked a dead grandmother?

JAYE

I didn't poke.
(to Bill)
There's gonna be a pyre?

LITTLEFOOT

I think it's best you and your friends leave, Tyler.

MAHANDRA

(by way of clarification)
Not friends. Acquaintances...
(calling after her)
What about my application?

LITTLEFOOT

(without turning back)
Denied! But if you care to contest, tribal court meets tomorrow morning at 11:00am. Hope you have a good lawyer.

Mahandra gives Sharon a burning look.

(CONTINUED)

SHARON

It'll be fine. I'll personally represent you. Pro bono. That means "free."

Mahandra eyes her and moves off. Sharon follows.

SHARON (CONT'D)

What?

We land on Jaye, lost in her thoughts, left standing there as the crowd begins to disperse. She watches Littlefoot and Bill walking toward the Tribal Affairs office. She glances back toward the wigwam. Gerry steps up next to her...

GERRY

Her spirit spoke to you...

JAYE

No. Hmm-mmm. But does that sort of thing happen a lot around here?

GERRY

Not like it happens every day but we're taught that our holy ones can sometimes linger between this world and the next.

JAYE

She was holy?

GERRY

Gentlefeather was our Seer. Our spiritual guide.
(glances to Littlefoot)
And a voice of reason among many louder, more angry voices...

JAYE

I'm very sorry for your loss, but could I maybe speak to the new Seer person? The back-up Seerer?

GERRY

There isn't one. The line ended with Gentlefeather.

JAYE

It's a line? Well, what about him? He's the grandson, right? He's in line. Hey. It's his holy grandma, right? Can he talk to her?

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (3)

6

Jaye glances over toward the Tribal Affairs Office, where Bill Hooten has stepped in something disagreeable. ('Cause what's TV's Wonderfalls without a poo reference?) He scrapes his shoe with a stick.

GERRY

He doesn't have the gift. Besides, he barely spoke to her when she was among the living. Why should it be any different now?

Gerry moves away. Jaye lingers, watching Bill scraping his shoe in the distance. Now, over her shoulder:

TOTEM MOLE

Show him who's special.

As Jaye takes that in...

7 OMITTED

7

7A INT. WONDERFALLS - DAY

7A

Jaye at work. She seems preoccupied. She's organizing a shelf with little Maid Of The Mist Indian dolls. She reacts now and registers recognition as she spots AARON approaching, looking a little concerned.

AARON

What's the matter?

JAYE

Nothing.

AARON

Nothing? You said it was an emergency.

JAYE

An emergency of sorts. What d'you know about Satsuman Indian legend?

AARON

Mmmm... not a lot.

JAYE

(spots someone coming)
Good. Okay. You can be my authority. Shut up.

(CONTINUED)

7A

CONTINUED:

7A

She quickly unclasps a TURQUOISE bracelet from her wrist as... Bill Hooten, holding a slip of paper with an address scribbled on it, enters the shop a bit uncomfortably. He spots Jaye, makes his way to her.

JAYE (CONT'D)

Hi. You came. Thanks.

AARON

She tell you it was an emergency?

JAYE

(to Bill)

I'm Jaye. We didn't really get a chance to meet officially.

BILL

You're the girl who was talking to my dead grandma.

AARON

(sotto, to Jaye)

It's inanimate people, too?

BILL

You said you had something that belonged to her. Please don't tell me you took it off her body.

JAYE

No, it was in the dirt. Someone must've dropped it.

She hands him the bracelet. He looks at it, then glances at the rack sporting dozens more.

BILL

Uh... this is from that shelf.

JAYE

Huh. Yeah. Okay...

Jaye takes it back and clasps it back on. She picks up the Smooshed-faced Lion and waves it in his face.

JAYE (CONT'D)

How about this? Does this mean anything to you? Lion With Dented Face? Ya getting anything?

Bill recoils. Doesn't like this.

(CONTINUED)

BILL

Does that belong to my grandma? I don't understand.

(to Aaron)

I don't understand.

(to Jaye)

Is there a reason why I'm here? Is this about a time-share?

JAYE

No time-share but there is a video.

BILL

I can't watch a video. Tax season is a very busy time of year for me. I have things to do.

JAYE

I'll fast forward through the beginning and get right to the meat. Please. For your grandma. I'll give you a gift certificate.

CLOSE SHOT ON A TV SCREEN as the cheesy *Maid of the Mist* video is nearing its end.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

...and because Lelawala, daughter of Chief Eagle Eye surrendered to her destiny, the tribe lived on in peace and prosperity...

PULL BACK TO REVEAL we are...

7B INT. WONDERFALLS - A SHORT WHILE LATER

7B

Jaye is showing Bill the video on one of the shop's screens. Aaron hovers, still not sure what this is about. Neither is Bill, actually. Jaye turns off the set, turns to him.

JAYE

There. See? You need to do that.

BILL

Throw myself over the Falls?

JAYE

No, surrender to destiny! You have to follow in Grandma's footsteps.

BILL

Oh. You're one of those.

(CONTINUED)

7B CONTINUED:

7B

Bill turns and walks away. Jaye quickly blocks his path.

JAYE

It's in your blood! You're the next in line!

BILL

I got out of that line. I'm in a new line now. Thanks though.

JAYE

No, no. The new line is the wrong line. The old line is the line you wanna be in. Grandma's line.

BILL

Whatever you're looking for, you're looking in the wrong spot. I don't have the gift, any gift.

JAYE

You do, you do have the gift. It's your destiny. And what'd the Maid of the Mist teach us about destiny?

AARON

The Maid of the Mist isn't even a real myth -- it was fabricated by whitey to bring in tourists.

She socks him.

JAYE

Maybe the gift is hormonal like menopause and develops as you mature. I mean, when was the last time you checked?

BILL

I've been checking since the day I was born. So was everyone else. That's a lot of pressure. We all gave up and so should you.

JAYE

But grandma...

BILL

I broke my grandma's heart. It's like she knitted a sweater for me I could never wear. When I was a boy I'd pretend to communicate with spirits just to make her happy.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

7B

CONTINUED: (2)

7B

BILL (CONT'D)

They put me in special education.
That's why I left the rez.

JAYE

Because they made you ride the
short bus?

BILL

Because I have no place there. My
place was reserved for someone with
a gift I don't have.

JAYE

But how do you know for sure? Like
for sure, for sure?

AARON

Yeah. Many of the great spiritual
leaders didn't realize they had
gifts before they were actually
called to use them.

JAYE

Oo, that's good.

AARON

Saint Paul was a punk until he was
blinded by the light. And Gandhi
was drinking and whoring it up when
he heard the cry of his people.

JAYE

And Neo was just a big geek until
he swallowed that little red pill.

Bill seems to be taking this in.

BILL

I'm kind of a geek.

JAYE

Yes, you are. But in a good way,
like Neo. So come on. Take the
red pill. You know you wanna.

Off Bill, tempted by the idea of belonging...

7C

INT. RESERVATION LONGHOUSE - DAY

7C

ON BILL'S FACE colored in ceremonial paint. He sits in a
circle of TRIBES PEOPLE.

(CONTINUED)

7C

CONTINUED:

7C

Bill breathes deep, loops his shoulders back, looks to --
Jaye and Aaron sitting apart from the circle, but nearby.

AARON

Is this like spiritual leaders
anonymous? Are you his sponsor?

JAYE

He's gonna be my sponsor. He just
needs to finish his little spirit
leader SATs first. Then he'll know
all the answers or at least have
access to the dead person who does.

Bill offers Jaye his wrist:

BILL

Feel my pulse.

JAYE

(feels pulse, reacts)
Are you having a heart attack?

BILL

I'm just really excited. I've
always wanted to do this. You
don't understand. Always. But
grandma would never allow it. She
was afraid they'd laugh at me.

JAYE

Nobody's laughing now, are they?

They glance at the Tribes People who stare at Bill wondering
what the hell he's doing there. Jaye reacts. Gerry enters
the circle with a ram's horn and a feather.

GERRY

The grandson of Gentlefeather has
returned to us. We will commence
with the Journey of the Feather.

JAYE

So is it a feather 'cause his name
is feather or is it --

AARON

Shhh.

(CONTINUED)

GERRY

The feather is drawn to the energy
of the Seer through concentration
and reflection. It'll be the first
sign that Bill Hooten has the gift.

Using a ram's horn, Gerry blows a feather high into the air.
It floats down toward Bill, who's willing it towards himself.
Jaye and Aaron watch the feather's trajectory.

Suddenly the feather veers toward Jaye! She tries blowing it
back toward Bill through the corner of her mouth. No luck,
as it lands on of Jaye! Oops.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

7D INT. THE REZ - OLD MEETING LODGE - DAY

7D

Bill's still standing in the circle, clearly disappointed. Gerry and the tribe members mumble to each other while looking at Jaye, who plucks the feather off her shoulder and steps over to Bill.

BILL

Ohgod. Grandma was right. And I was concentrating really hard.

AARON

You probably weren't even concentrating at all, were you?

JAYE

Yes, I was. I was concentrating on it going the other way. So this doesn't mean anything.

(to Bill)

You're not really gonna hang your destiny on a feather, are you?

BILL

That's what the Journey of the Feather is all about.

JAYE

Well, yeah... but no one knew there was gonna be a breeze.

GERRY

There's no breeze.

AARON

And yet that feather took a mean left turn.

GERRY

Are you sure you don't have some Satsuman blood somewhere in your genealogy?

JAYE

I don't have the gift if that's what you're asking. Me pale face. In fact I wear a lot of foundation so I'm more pale than I look.

OFF Gerry and Aaron scrutinizing Jaye...

8-11 OMITTED

8-11

CLOSE ON - LIT CIGARETTE

It falls to the ground and the perfect black pump ENTERS FRAME and grinds it out. CAMERA CLIMBS up the leg to REVEAL Sharon exhaling a cloud of smoke. We are --

12 EXT. THE REZ - DAY

12

Sharon and Mahandra stand next to Sharon's SUV.

SHARON

I've been waiting for this moment
my entire life.

Mahandra steps out from behind the SUV.

MAHANDRA

Nobody tells Mahandra McGinty what
tribe she can't be in.

Sharon begins pulling accordion files, books and file boxes from the backseat and loading them into Mahandra's arms.

SHARON

Sixth in our class. That bitch.
You know, at the luncheon honoring
the top ten graduates she only
talked to five and above. She has
a paragraph in every alumni news-
letter. Each and every one of
them. She goes on and on about all
the things she's accomplished since
the last newsletter. And we get
them like every other month.

MAHANDRA

Well, next alumni newsletter
there's gonna be a paragraph on you
and how you grabbed Littlefoot by
her little moccasins and swept the
dirt floor of that courtroom.

SHARON

Yeah.

Sharon strides on, Mahandra follows.

12A INT. THE REZ - OLD MEETING LODGE - A SHORT WHILE LATER 12A

Gerry studies the feather as he and Jaye speak off to the side of the circle. The other tribesmen watch.

JAYE

It's static cling. I was out of dryer sheets.

GERRY

Lots of things seem to cling to you including the spirits of old women.

JAYE

What? That's crazy -- She didn't --
(off his look)
Alright. We may've had words. But she said nothing about purposes or being chosen or anything like that.

GERRY

But you were chosen.

JAYE

Nope.

GERRY

Her spirit chose to talk to you. It never talked to me. And I couldn't get her to shut up when she was alive. You are Gentlefeather's successor.

JAYE

No, I'm not. She never said that.

GERRY

The tribe needs a spiritual leader now more than ever. Leftist fury has clouded Littlefoot's judgement. She will bring financial ruin if she stands unopposed. All this b.s. about exploitation. I've got a business to run.

JAYE

I'm not a leader. I need a leader. I need a leader who can talk to dead grandma and find out how to lift a particular burden of mine. Besides, they don't want a white chick fighting their battles. It doesn't look good.

(CONTINUED)

12A CONTINUED:

12A

GERRY

This is true.

JAYE

(re: Bill)

I'm tellin' you, he's your native spirit guy. He's in line for the gift. He just needs to get to the window and collect it. In the meantime, he's malleable. You can get him to do whatever you want.

GERRY

I suppose a puppet leader is better than no leader at all.

JAYE

It sure is. I say you grab that puppet and use him as a battering ram against Deanna Littlefoot and liberal oppression.

Gerry sighs... then steps over to a fellow tribe member -- they mumble amongst themselves.

GERRY

This lodge is drafty. The Journey of the Feather cannot be honored today. If Bill Hooten, grandson of Gentlefeather is destined to be our Seer, as I believe he is, he must prove himself. There are three tests...

Jaye smiles with renewed hope at Bill, who's already feeling the pressure.

BILL

I don't wanna fail more tests. I'm fine with quitting right now.

JAYE

There's no quitting. This is destiny. You can't quit destiny.

12B INT. THE REZ - TRIBAL COURT - DAY

12B

A modest court room in an old wooden lodge. Sharon, sits next to Mahandra at a table stacked with books and boxes. She steals a glimpse at opposing counsel across the aisle -- Deanna Littlefoot.

(CONTINUED)

MAHANDRA

She is your broom. And this floor
may not be dirt but it is dirty.

SHARON

And I'm ready to sweep.
(eyes Littlefoot)
Karma's comin' around and it's
gonna knock her to the ground. Oh.
I need to write that down.

And she writes it down. The TRIBAL JUDGE enters -- all rise,
as he takes his place and BANGS his gavel.

TRIBAL JUDGE

The tribal certification hearing of
Mahandra McGinty will now commence.

ON SHARON

who stands to present her air-tight case.

SHARON

Your honor...

LITTLEFOOT

Your honor...

*
*

LITTLEFOOT

Point of order. In accordance with
the new rule passed by Tribal
Council last night, birth records
may be not be computer generated,
abstracted or transcribed. These
are, and therefore are NOT
admissable. Motion to dismiss.

TRIBAL JUDGE

Motion granted. All court costs
will be paid by the defendant.
Please see the clerk for your bill.

He BANGS his gavel, gets up and walks away. Littlefoot
beams. Sharon is stunned. Mahandra seethes.

13 INT. THE REZ - OLD MEETING LODGE - A SHORT WHILE LATER 13

Jaye, Aaron and a few LOCALS are gathered in the great room,
standing by as Gerry sits Bill before a group of objects --
eyeglasses, pipes, animal skulls, household items.

GERRY

(to Bill, re: objects)
You must choose which one of these
things belonged to Gentlefeather.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

13

CONTINUED:

13

GERRY (CONT'D)

(aside to Jaye)

At least it's multiple choice.

Bill looks nervous as he surveys the items.

AARON

(sotto, to Jaye)

I think someone's having a
spiritual awakening.

JAYE

(re: Bill)

He is? You think so?

AARON

Not him. He's having a panic
attack. You. You're having a
spiritual awakening.

JAYE

That's the stupidest thing I've
ever heard. You're stupid.

AARON

You're being called.

JAYE

Yeah? Well, I'm transferring the
call to his extension.

(leans over to Bill)

Recognize anything?

BILL

Not really. I don't think grandma
smoked a pipe. And I'm not sure if
she wore glasses.

AARON

You don't know if your grandmother
wore glasses?

BILL

I feel bad enough already. What do
you want me to say? I haven't seen
her since I was eighteen.

JAYE

Just relax... open yourself up to
the experience...

A BEAR SKULL in the middle of the pile interrupts:

(CONTINUED)

BEAR SKULL

Pick me.

JAYE

(to Bear Skull)

Shhh.

(to Bill)

You can hear the --

BEAR SKULL

Pick me!

JAYE

I'm talking!

Aaron eyes her, then the Bear Skull.

JAYE (CONT'D)

(back to Bill)

You have to listen...

The Bear Skull continues to annoy Jaye like a mosquito buzzing in her ear:

BEAR SKULL

Pick me, pick me, pick me!

Jaye glares at it, then looks over at Bill -- picking up items and putting them down, without a clue as to which one was his grandmother's.

JAYE

(conspiratorial whisper)

Ear-bay Ull-skay.

Bill looks at her, confused.

JAYE (CONT'D)

The bear skull.

Bill grabs the bear skull and holds it up. Gerry nods, eyeing Jaye. Bill turns to Jaye, dumbfounded.

JAYE (CONT'D)

Yay! You got one right. I think we can all see who the new Seer's gonna be.

OFF Aaron and Gerry staring at Jaye...

JAYE (CONT'D)

What?

14-15 OMITTED

14-15

16 INT. THE REZ - TRIBAL COURT - A SHORT WHILE LATER 16

Sharon is at Mahandra's side as the clerk hands her a bill. Mahandra looks at it -- steam rising from her head.

MAHANDRA

900 dollars?!?

Mahandra shoots Sharon a look as she hands her the bill.

SHARON

This is outrageous...

MAHANDRA

Got that right.

SHARON

...Littlefoot's hourly rate is higher than mine.

Mahandra shoots her another look.

MAHANDRA

Why should I pay 900 dollars to not be a member of the tribe? I'm already not a member of the tribe.

Steam rises from Sharon's head. She marches over to Littlefoot, who's gathering up her papers.

SHARON

You just always have to be number one, don't you? But do you have to do it at the expense of others?

LITTLEFOOT

Fine. I'll do it at your expense.

Littlefoot hands Sharon a stack of papers.

SHARON

(confused)

These are copies of my credit card receipts...

LITTLEFOOT

Cigarettes purchased from the rez by non-natives are subject to the New York State cigarette tax.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

SHARON

You wouldn't --

LITTLEFOOT

You owe \$6,750. Before interest.
You can pay the court clerk.

Littlefoot snaps her briefcase closed. She strides off, leaving Sharon in desperate need of a cigarette. Sharon turns around to find Mahandra right in her face.

MAHANDRA

Your little game of petty
jealousies is costing me money.
This was all about paying debts,
not incurring them.

Mahandra strides off, leaving Sharon reeling.

17 INT. THE REZ - OLD MEETING LODGE - DAY

17

Bill stands before an open window, struggling to light a big ceremonial pipe. Jaye tries to help Bill -- cupping her hands over the match.

GERRY

The raven will come to the one who
can summon the energies of the
Earth Mother.

Aaron grabs Jaye by the arm and takes her to the other side of the room.

JAYE

Hold on, I wanna see the raven.

AARON

There's not gonna be any raven.

JAYE

What are you talking about? We're
one bird away from getting the
tribe its new Seer.

In the background, Bill's looking a bit wobbly -- he leans out the window and makes a FEEBLE BIRD CALL.

AARON

All signs point to you being the
Seer.

(CONTINUED)

JAYE

That's ridiculous.

AARON

He can't even get the pipe lit.

JAYE

That's 'cause the window's open.

Jaye shuts the window next to her, then BAM! A RAVEN SMASHES into the closed window right next to Jaye -- it was heading right for her. Everyone looks -- including Bill standing at the open window on the other side of the room. Jaye steps in front of the window to block the smattering of feathers on the glass.

JAYE (CONT'D)

That wasn't a raven. I hit the window with my elbow.

Gerry stares at her, shakes his head.

AARON

Why are you fighting this? Is it 'cause you're lazy? Do you just not want the responsibility?

JAYE

I admit that's a factor. But let's face it. Seering or whatever isn't my destiny. I'm just not cut out for that kind of work.

AARON

And you think he is? Look at him. The man's an accountant, Jaye. An accountant.

A couple tribesmen steady Bill, he looks a little green.

JAYE

I guess he got the pipe lit. This is painful. I'm like those parents that force their uncoordinated children to play sports.

AARON

Somebody needs to put him out of his misery.

With that Bill collapses face down to the ground, out cold.

(CONTINUED)

AARON (CONT'D)
(glancing around)
That's not what I meant.

Jaye rushes up to Bill's side.

JAYE
Yeah. Um, he doesn't have a pulse
anymore.

GERRY
This is the final test -- to depart
from this world and return after
speaking with his ancestors.

Off Jaye...

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

17A INT. THE REZ - OLD MEETING LODGE - DAY

17A

Jaye straddles unconscious Bill, pounding on his chest with her fist -- THUMP-THUMP-THUMP. Bill sits up right into Jaye, staring at her as he gasps for air. Aaron and Gerry look on.

JAYE

Hi. We thought we lost you.

GERRY

Technically, he's supposed to bring himself back to life.

BILL

Was I dead?

AARON

For like a minute. Which means you could have brain damage. So you should probably get that checked.

A couple of tribesmen help Bill to his feet. He looks at his hands, touches his body, like he's discovering himself for the first time.

BILL

I touched the other side. I saw my grandmother. She was like a vision in the mist.

GERRY

Did she speak to you?

BILL

She told me not to go into the light.

JAYE

That was me, actually. But I'm sure she said it, too. Did she say anything else? Anything about, I don't know, silencing voices, or...

BILL

Nothing like that. She said I lost my path, but I would find it again.

GERRY

That's not very specific.

(CONTINUED)

17A CONTINUED:

17A

JAYE

Or helpful.

BILL

(still reeling)

I talked to my dead grandma. I do
have the gift. This is my path.

(embraces tribesman)

This is my path.

GERRY

(to Aaron)

Brain damage, huh?

JAYE

I don't know. Maybe he did talk to
her. Who am I fooling? At least
you got your puppet spirit leader.

AARON

Don't you think it's cruel to let
him believe he's the new Seer when
clearly he's not. I mean, clearly.

JAYE

(shrugs)

What harm could it do?

18 OMITTED

18

19 EXT. THE REZ - DAY

19

Sharon trudges with a stack of files and law books toward her SUV. A bitter Mahandra follows, just watching her struggle with her keys.

SHARON

Little help?

Aaron and Jaye approach from the Old Meeting Lodge. Aaron spots Mahandra, puts up his hand.

AARON

If it isn't Mahandra Tanawanda.

MAHANDRA

No, it isn't. That name was killed
in the cross-fire of a bitter law
school rivalry.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

JAYE

What did Mom say about your competitive streak?

SHARON

I didn't do anything. Littlefoot ambushed me.

TOTEM MOLE (O.S.)

Comfort her.

Jaye turns to see the Totem Mole scowling at her. She startles into a patronizing hug with her sister.

SHARON

What are you doing?

JAYE

I'm comforting you.

SHARON

Well, stop.

Jaye moves to withdraw the hug and her turquoise-beaded bracelet snags Sharon's hair. They try to free themselves.

SHARON (CONT'D)

Ow. Ow. My hair.

JAYE

Stop it. Stop pulling.

Jaye finally gets her wrist free and we see the bracelet still tangled in Sharon's hair. They exchange a look.

JAYE (CONT'D)

Just keep it.

MAHANDRA

Is there no end to your mayhem?

Mahandra stalks off, Jaye follows.

SHARON

I feel really bad about this.

20 INT. WONDERFALLS - DAY

20

Bummed out, Jaye attacks a cardboard box. Inside, she finds a shipment of Indian Princess dolls. She sighs, moves to an open display shelf and starts stocking them.

(CONTINUED)

BARREL BEAR (O.S.)
Show him who's special.

Jaye turns to see the Bear blink at her.

JAYE
I did. And now he thinks he brought himself back from the dead. Too bad he didn't talk to grandma while he was flatlining. He might've got me my answers.

BARREL BEAR
Show him.

JAYE
Yeah. We had this conversation.

Jaye turns to move and spots something on the other side of the display case --

THE FEATHERS of an Indian headdress move like a shark fin through the shelves. Jaye watches as the feathers round the corner. She startles. It's ALEC in the headdress.

ALEC
I think we should have to wear these for Chief Joseph days, don't you? We could say we're scalping prices. Look. It comes with a kazoo.

He blows on the cheap plastic kazoo but it dies in his throat. He quickly pulls off the headdress and straightens his hair. Jaye turns to see:

BILL in full ceremonial regalia. Jaye startles.

Behind Bill stands a GROUP OF NATIVE AMERICANS -- including Gerry and some other familiar faces from the Rez. Bill's countenance has changed. He is no longer plain. He is puffed-up and proud. He steps up to the Maid of the Mist video display, picks up a tape.

BILL
This video portrays a racist myth. It claims our people performed human sacrifice. Hi, Jaye.

JAYE
Hi.

BILL

Tell me, proud brothers and sisters. Have we ever sacrificed one of our own?

SATSUMAN CITIZEN

You said we were going shopping.

BILL

We are, but first we must take a stand! So, tell me -- have we ever sacrificed one of our own?

TRIBE MEMBERS

(put out)

...No.

BILL

The only thing that's been sacrificed is our good name! So it is here, that we will sit as one. Til that name is returned to us untarnished.

Bill motions for everyone to take a seat on the floor. They look at each other. Then, amid sighs, they eventually sit down. Bill triumphantly turns back to Jaye. Alec's mouth hangs open in partial shock.

ALEC

(sotto, to Jaye)

Tell your friends they have to leave.

Jaye crosses to Gerry.

JAYE

Is he still on the peyote?

GERRY

Don't blame the drugs. This is your fault.

JAYE

How is it my fault?

BILL

This woman is the reason why we are here. She came to me and portrayed this lie as legend.

(to Jaye)

I have never felt so alive.

(CONTINUED)

JAYE

(to Gerry)

He's your puppet leader. Shouldn't you be winding him up and sending him off to battle Littlefoot?

GERRY

He is Littlefoot. Worse.

They watch as Bill corrals his protestors.

BILL

I want everyone two arms-lengths apart. Spread out. Spread like the hawk's wings over the downy mountains as she hunts her prey the cotton-tailed rabbit.

Off Jaye, eyeing her Frankenstein...

21 INT. FITNESS CENTER - DAY

21

Sharon, in workout duds, steps onto a treadmill, drapes her towel, places her water. She turns and smiles to the woman running on the treadmill next to her -- it's Littlefoot.

SHARON

Hi. This is your gym, too?

LITTLEFOOT

Yeah. Never seen you here before.

SHARON

Huh. I'm here all the time. But mostly in the evenings.

She pushes buttons trying to start her treadmill.

LITTLEFOOT

Really? That's when I kravmaga.

SHARON

Is that the one where they teach ya how to rip someone's throat out?

LITTLEFOOT

It's a no nonsense approach to personal safety.

Littlefoot reaches over and works the control panel. Sharon's treadmill jerks, so does she -- almost falling. She rights herself and begins to run.

(CONTINUED)

21

CONTINUED:

21

SHARON

Thanks.

Littlefoot eyes the turquoise-beaded bracelet.

LITTLEFOOT

You wear jewelry when you work out?

SHARON

Just turquoise. Helps me feel centered. It's a Native American gemstone but you already knew that.

Littlefoot eyes her, then turns up the speed on the treadmill and starts running a little faster. Sharon does the same.

SHARON (CONT'D)

You know, I was thinking. We have a lot in common. We work out at the same gym. I wear turquoise. Why can't we just bury the hatchet?

LITTLEFOOT

The hatchet?

SHARON

That wasn't a racial slur.

Littlefoot cranks it up a notch, runs faster. So does Sharon, getting winded.

LITTLEFOOT

Looks like those cigarettes are *taxing* you.

Littlefoot again cranks it -- into high gear. Sharon tries to match her -- they're running like bats outta hell.

22

INT. WONDERFALLS - A SHORT WHILE LATER

22

The protest is in full swing. Bored Native Americans sit around the Maid of the Mist display and look sternly at any customer who dares consider the video. Pleased as punch, Bill sits with them. Gerry hovers nearby, not sitting.

A CUSTOMER approaches the counter, puts down some merchandise and takes out his wallet.

BILL

Thank you for supporting this imperialist establishment.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

22

CONTINUED:

22

BILL (CONT'D)

Enjoy your purchase and have a racist day.

The Customer puts his wallet back in his pants and scurries out of the store. Alec turns his burning gaze onto Jaye. She calls after the customer:

JAYE

Wait! We've got some stuff that's not racist. Look!

(pulling it from the shelf)

A rainbow teddy bear! He represents all peoples. And he's gay friendly!

But the customer's gone. Alec pulls Jaye aside.

ALEC

Get rid of them.

JAYE

What?

ALEC

You brought them here, you get rid of them.

JAYE

What do you want me to do? Litter and get them to chase me?

ALEC

I don't care what you do. Just make sure you do it in the next five minutes or you're fired.

JAYE

You can't fire me.

ALEC

No. But I can write you up.

(as he goes)

Which I'm going to do -- right after I call security.

Alec exits into Peggy's office. Jaye looks helplessly over at Gerry. Gerry shrugs.

JAYE

Bill? Can I talk to you for just a quick second?

(CONTINUED)

BILL

Sure.

Bill hops up. He moves with Jaye for a little privacy.

BILL (CONT'D)

Isn't this great? They all really look up to me.

JAYE

Yeah, you made them all sit down. Bill -- you're not the guy.

BILL

What? What do you mean?

JAYE

I'm sorry, but it's true. I know you wanted to be the guy, and I wanted you to be the guy... ..and you look great in the outfit, but... you're not the guy.

BILL

You're saying I'm not the guy?

JAYE

Not so much the guy.

BILL

But I passed the tests...

JAYE

No. You cheated. I mean I cheated. I cheated for you.

BILL

What?

JAYE

I'm sorry. It's selfish and it's unfair, but I'd hoped that if you were special like your grandmother, that you could give me some answers, maybe help unburden me of some... burdens. I thought I was supposed to show you that you were special. But now I don't think that was the lesson... I think I was supposed to show you that I was. And that you're... not. Special.

(CONTINUED)

BILL

But I never thought I was... I
told you I wasn't...

JAYE

I know.

BILL

You said I was...

JAYE

Yeah.

BILL

So how is that a lesson?

JAYE

Actually, I'm not sure the lesson
was for you. Sometimes these
things are a little murky...

BILL

But... I finally found my place in
the tribe...

JAYE

It's the wrong place.

He holds her look for a beat, then glances over at Gerry.
Gerry looks back -- Bill instantly reads that he knows
everything. Bill stiffens. No way.

BILL

I don't accept that. I follow in
the footsteps of Gentlefeather. I
am a great spiritual leader to
my...

JAYE

(cuts him off, calls over
his shoulder to others)
The cops are coming.

They instantly get up and start filing out. Bill reacts to
that.

BILL

Wait! Where are you doing? Where
are you going?

JAYE

They're leaving. Nobody thinks
you're the guy, Bill.

(CONTINUED)

Gerry has now stepped up and joined Jaye.

GERRY

I'm sorry Bill Hooten, grandson of Gentlefeather. I wish you did have the gift. The tribe yearns for one with real vision. But it is not to be.

Bill backs away from both of them, shakes his head.

BILL

No. No. This is another test.

JAYE

No. It's not a test, Bill.

BILL

It is. And I'm gonna pass it. You will not make me stray from my path. And I will not leave this place until every piece of racist paraphernalia has been removed from these shelves.

Even as he says that he's grabbed a shopping basket and just starts throwing items into it. Off Jaye and Gerry's dismay --

23 INT. FITNESS CENTER - LOCKER ROOM/STEAM ROOM - DAY

23

Sharon and Littlefoot are wrapped in towels. Sharon looks longingly at Littlefoot's water, still wearing her bracelet.

SHARON

May I have a sip?

LITTLEFOOT

I see you prepare for the sauna as well as you prepare for court.

Sharon reacts to the heated bracelet on her wrist.

SHARON

Ow. Ow. Turquoise gets hot.

She slips it off and sets it on her towel next to her thigh.

SHARON (CONT'D)

Okay, fine. You hate me, I hate you. And as long as we're being honest, I also hate turquoise.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

SHARON (CONT'D)

But I beseech you on behalf of my friend, who is an innocent in this matter and really can't afford your fee. Don't make Mahandra McGinty suffer. She deserves a fair trial.

Littlefoot enjoys watching Sharon sweat too much to even budge an inch.

LITTLEFOOT

She did have a fair trial. She just should've picked a better lawyer. You always wanted to be number one in the class, Tyler. But that's just not your lot in life. And now class is out and you've been outclassed. Give my regrets to your non-native client.

SHARON

FFFF--ine!

As Sharon huffs out, we see the bracelet dangling from her towel snagged in the terry cloth.

24 INT. FITNESS CENTER - OUTSIDE STEAM ROOM - CONTINUOUS 24

As Sharon exits, she slams her towel in the steam room's door. She yanks it free, cranks the heat dial to maximum, sticks her feet in her flip-flops next to the door and marches away...

REVEAL the turquoise bracelet, jammed in the door crack.

25 INT. FITNESS CENTER - STEAM ROOM - CONTINUOUS 25

Steam level rises quickly, engulfing Littlefoot -- like water filling a tank -- finally obscuring her from view. She moves toward the door, pushing it but it's not moving.

LITTLEFOOT

Tyler. You bitch.

26-27 OMITTED 26-27

28 INT. WONDERFALLS - DAY 28

Bill moves down an aisle, filling his basket. Jaye dogs him.

(CONTINUED)

JAYE

Bill, please. You have to stop this. I'm only gonna have to restock everything --

Alec enters from Peggy's office, is nearly mowed down by Bill. Bill grabs one of the toy gun sets off the shelf.

BILL

What is this? Cowboy and Indian massacre set? Is this what you teach children?

ALEC

(eyes narrowing)
He's not shopping, is he?

JAYE

(snaps at Alec)
I'm handling this --

Alec moves away. Backs away, really...

JAYE (CONT'D)

(to Bill)
It's just a toy.
(to Gerry)
Some help here?

GERRY

It is kind of offensive.

JAYE

Yes. Yes it is. Look, I'll take it up with the owner, I swear. But just give it to me.

She grabs it. He won't let it go. Little tug-o-war.

JAYE (CONT'D)

Everything's being videotaped...

SECURITY GUARD

Freeze! Mall security!

Jaye looks over, Alec is cowering-ish behind the MALL SECURITY GUARD, who looks more than nervous and not a little sweaty. Bill and Jaye continue to tug with the toy.

SECURITY GUARD (CONT'D)

I ordered you to freeze! You better! I have permission to shoot you!

(CONTINUED)

JAYE

Bill! Just give me the gun!

SECURITY GUARD

GUN!

Jaye lets go of the toy, turns toward the Security Guard --

JAYE

No, it's a t --

But she doesn't get the word "toy" out as the Guard pulls his gun and fires.

SLOW MOTION as Bill stumbles back, hit. He knocks into a display shelf, then scissoring forward... a pregnant moment before he goes down... and then he doesn't!

CAMERA RESUMES NORMAL MOTION AS...

Bill straightens back up, looks at his bloodless hands. He locks eyes with a shell-shocked Jaye as he raises his arms heavenward.

BILL

Told ya. I am the 'one.'

Off Jaye's stunned disbelief...

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

29 INT. WONDERFALLS - DAY

29

As before, an amazed Bill grasps his chest. Jaye, Alec and the Native Americans stare at him in stunned wonder.

BILL

I died. And came back.

JAYE

It can't be.

BILL

I touched the other side. Again.
I re-touched.
(realizing)
I am invincible.

JAYE

Gerry? Thoughts?

GERRY

I'm pretty impressed with this one,
actually.

ALEC

(to Guard)
Shoot him again!

BILL

Won't matter. The bullets bounced
right off.

SECURITY GUARD

Well, yeah -- they bounce. They're
rubber.

ALEC

Rubber?

SECURITY GUARD

Yeah. And they're not bullets,
really. Pellets. Rubber pellets.
For crowd dispersal.

BILL

Oh... I'm not invincible.

Bill looks to Jaye, despair and realization setting in.

(CONTINUED)

BILL (CONT'D)

I'm really not the guy.

She shakes her head sadly.

JAYE

I'm sorry.

Bill looks from her to Gerry, then to Jaye again. He turns away, crestfallen.

BILL

(as he turns away)

Rubber hurts like hell.

As he moves toward the door (his back to Jaye and suddenly feeling rubber pellet pain):

BILL (CONT'D)

(as he goes)

Ow. Ow. Ohgod, ow. Ow. Ow.

Alec looks to the Security Guard.

ALEC

You're just gonna let him leave?

SECURITY GUARD

Well, yeah. He dispersed.

Alec humphs and moves off. The Security Guard exits. Jaye and Gerry look at the door Bill left through. Musing.

GERRY

For one moment there, I thought maybe the tribe had found their new Spiritual Leader.

He looks to Jaye and they hold a look.

JAYE

It's not me.

GERRY

No. And it's not Bill Hooten. Perhaps there is no one...

Then he exits. Off Jaye, feeling sad.

30 INT. FITNESS CENTER - OUTSIDE STEAM ROOM - DAY 30

Sharon casually walks by the steam room door -- she's showered and fully-dressed and primped. She notices Littlefoot's flip-flops are still outside the door.

SHARON

Oh, grow up, Littlefoot. What?
Now you have to sweat more than me?

Sharon tries to pull it open, but it won't budge. She notices her bracelet wedged between the door and jamb.

SHARON (CONT'D)

Ohgod. Deanna! Deanna!

Sharon glances through the window, but can't see anything but steam. She pulls at the door but it's not moving. Sharon rushes from the room.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

I need a little help here!

31 INT. FITNESS CENTER - STEAM ROOM - DAY 31

Littlefoot, growing delirious, stands at the door -- staring out, glassy-eyed.

WOMAN'S VOICE

Deanna Littlefoot...

Littlefoot turns around, moving through the steam as if in a trance.

LITTLEFOOT

Is that you Tyler?

LITTLEFOOT'S POV

She sees a figure in the mist. As she gets closer we see it's Old Madam Gentlefeather standing before her.

GENTLEFEATHER

You have much to learn...

Off Littlefoot, dazed and riveted...

31A EXT. THE REZ - DEATH LODGE - MAGIC HOUR 31A

Establishing.

32 INT. THE REZ - DEATH LODGE - NIGHT

32

Jaye stands in the doorway -- sees Bill lying down, arms folded over his chest.

BILL

Oh, look. It's the special one. Did you come to tell me how special you are? 'Cause I'd love to hear more about that. Did my grandma tell you how special you are?

JAYE

Sort of.

He winces a bit at that.

BILL

Did you really talk to her?

JAYE

Yeah. Did you?

BILL

I don't know anymore. The whole thing's a little hazy.

JAYE

It was probably the peyote.
(off his look)
Or... maybe you actually talked to her. I don't know.

BILL

Why would she talk to me when she has you to talk to?

JAYE

It was one conversation. Okay, so she said I had great purpose or whatever. She was vague at best. And then I talked about me for a while. That was it really.

BILL

I wish I had great purpose.

JAYE

No, you don't.

BILL

Yes, I do.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

JAYE

No, you don't. You really don't.
Having great purpose isn't all it's
cracked up to be. I've had great
purpose and I've had no purpose.
And I have to say, no purpose is a
lot easier. Expectations are low.
People don't ask you for anything.
Count your blessings.

33 INT. FITNESS CENTER - OUTSIDE STEAM ROOM - NIGHT

33

Sharon is at the steam room door with the GYM CUSTODIAN,
who's trying to pry open the door with a crow-bar.

SHARON

Behind this door is one very
dehydrated, very angry, very
litigious woman! Pry, man, pry!

The door opens. Steam pours out -- Sharon waves it away.

SHARON (CONT'D)

Littlefoot?

Littlefoot steps out, transformed -- she looks calm and
serene, her hair frizzed-out wildly. She stands before
Sharon, completely naked, arms-a-kimbo and stares right
through her with black, deeply-focused eyes.

LITTLEFOOT

Tyler...

Sharon, taken aback by the new Littlefoot, stands there as
Littlefoot walks off.

34 INT. THE REZ - DEATH LODGE - NIGHT

34

Jaye laying down, next to Bill, sharing his blanket... still
talking.

JAYE

Sure, it can be nice on occasion.
In a triumph of the human spirit
sort of way but most of the time
it's like the universe doing this:

She grabs his arm and starts hitting him with it.

(CONTINUED)

JAYE (CONT'D)

Why are you hitting yourself, Jaye?
Why are you hitting yourself?

BILL

Ow. Stop it.

He jerks his arm away.

JAYE

That's what being special really
feels like. At least that's been
my experience.

BILL

Maybe you're doing it wrong.

JAYE

I don't think there's a right way
to do it.

BILL

Well, you're not gonna find it with
that attitude.

JAYE

What?

BILL

You don't even realize how lucky
you are.

JAYE

You're the lucky one. I'd love to
be just an accountant. Well, maybe
not an accountant. But something a
little more interesting - to me -
yet equally not special.

BILL

Like a retail clerk?

JAYE

Preferably more interesting than
that.

(considers)

You'd really wanna be me?

BILL

Yeah. Pathetic, isn't it.

JAYE

We're both pathetic.

(CONTINUED)

BILL

But at least you're pathetic with great purpose. I'm pathetic with no purpose. And the saddest part... when I leave here there's no reason for me to ever come back.

JAYE

You could come back to buy cigarettes.

BILL

I don't smoke.

JAYE

You could start.

35 EXT. THE REZ - NIGHT

35

Jaye and Bill walk along. He hands her the case of cigarettes he's carrying.

JAYE

Aren't you even just a weency bit relieved you're not responsible for the spiritual well-being of an entire reservation? That's a lot of people. With a lot of problems.

BILL

(didn't think of that)
Oh. Yeah.

JAYE

And there's a lot of drama on the rez.

BILL

I know.

JAYE

If you're not coming back, can I just keep your resident card? My sister's gonna want more cigarettes when these run out.

(he gives her the card)

Thanks. Oh, look. There's some of your friends from the sit-in.

They pass the Satsuman Citizen and another Tribesman, who scowl at Bill. Bill ducks his head, walks a little faster.

(CONTINUED)

BILL
(sotto, to Jaye)
Are they following us?

JAYE
No. But they are staring.

Bill hurries right into Gerry.

GERRY
Goodbye, Bill Hooten.

BILL
Goodbye. Sorry about the uh, you
know, the protest and everything.
At least nobody got arrested.

GERRY
Mmm-hmm.
(to Jaye)
How's your burden?

JAYE
Yeah, it's not going anywhere.
How's yours?

GERRY
Littlefoot's rooted in like a tick.
I need a spiritual leader to burn a
match on her ass.

JAYE
If you find one, let me know.

BILL
You guys are making me feel really
bad.

JAYE
(reacts to something O.C.)
Isn't that your tick now?

CLOSE ON A FEATHER

as it floats to the ground. A foot steps into frame, and
onto the feather. PAN UP a shapely leg to discover it's the
transformed Littlefoot. As she walks we DROP INTO SLOW
MOTION AS THREE FEATHERS fall around her, circling her head
in a mystical fashion before SPEED RETURNS TO NORMAL and the
feathers drift away.

NEW ANGLE - JAYE AND BILL AND GERRY

(CONTINUED)

They all stare as Littlefoot glides toward them, a serene glowing presence. Jaye shoves the case of cigarettes at Bill, not wanting to be caught with the merchandise.

GERRY

I didn't sell her those.

LITTLEFOOT

You can sell your cigarettes to whoever you want. As long as they're of legal smoking age.

GERRY

I can?

LITTLEFOOT

Yes. Gentlefeather appeared to me.

BILL

She appeared to you, too?

LITTLEFOOT

A vision in the mist. She spoke of a horse. It's mane pulled thin from being forced to run in a direction it did not want to run. But now we must ride the horse in the direction it wants to ride.

Her words seem to have an effect on Jaye. Littlefoot steps right up to Bill -- puts her hand on his shoulder.

LITTLEFOOT (CONT'D)

And Grandson of Gentlefeather, I was told you would teach me how to ride this horse.

BILL

I don't know anything about riding horses. I'm an accountant.

LITTLEFOOT

Yes, your grandmother told me you were very good with numbers.

ON BILL AND LITTLEFOOT

As they walk toward the heart of the Rez, an INTERACTIVE LIGHT spills across their faces.

LITTLEFOOT (CONT'D)

Let me tell you about my vision...

(CONTINUED)

ANGLE TO INCLUDE LITTLEFOOT'S VISION

A BRIGHT, SHINY LAS VEGAS STYLE CASINO sprouts out of the ground, IGNITING WITH NEON, GLITZ and GLOW.

ON JAYE AND GERRY

They watch Bill and Littlefoot walk away sans vision and sans interactive light.

JAYE

I think your tick may have just burned its own ass.

GERRY

Did you see that thing with the feather?

JAYE

Oh, good. You saw it, too.

GERRY

You said you needed a spiritual leader to relieve your burden. There she is.

JAYE

Yeah. I guess so, huh?

Jaye watches them go, considering what to do.

JAYE (CONT'D)

You know, I'm not sure if my burden's a burden or not. I mean, other people seem to want it. And that should always make you pause before giving something up.

GERRY

A lesson my people have learned time and time again.

OFF Jaye considering. She smiles at Gerry and turns and walks away...

36-36A CONTINUED:

36-36A

END OF SHOW

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