

HOLY COYOTE  
an original screenplay by  
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FADE IN:

EXT. DESERT HILLTOP - DAY

A cliff overlooks sun-soaked bluffs, arroyos, and cactus. O.S. voices and laughter grow louder. Two hikers, ANNIE and NATHAN, glowing with young love, rush into view and stop on the cliff edge to take in the glorious sight. Nathan pulls Annie into his arms.

NATHAN

You thinking what I'm thinking?

ANNIE

Yeah.

(coy smile)

Let's eat.

Nathan laughs. They move back from the cliff, and Annie spreads out a blanket from her day pack, as Nathan takes food from his pack. Smoked salmon, fancy cheeses. Cake.

Nathan's wallet starts to lift out of his back pocket, but he feels the movement and pushes it back, looking puzzled.

Earthquake! Rocks crash down the cliff. Annie cries out and Nathan grabs her arm to hold her steady. The quake slowly recedes. They look at each other, stunned.

NATHAN

You okay?

ANNIE

Yeah. You?

Nathan nods and strokes her cheek, leaving a dusty smear.

NATHAN

You rock my world, babe.

Annie laughs shakily, then gasps at something behind Nathan. A large brown coyote sits a few yards away, staring at them with amber eyes. Nathan eases in front of Annie, protecting her. She peers over his shoulder.

ANNIE

He's beautiful.

The coyote lifts an eyebrow. Annie rifles through her pack, her gaze locked on the animal. Nathan waves his arms.

NATHAN

Go on. Get out of here.

ANNIE

No, don't. Not yet.

The coyote glances at their lunch, licks his chops, then signals with a swift head movement - Leave! Annie pulls out her cell phone. The coyote stands and signals again - Leave!

NATHAN

Get away. Go!

The coyote growls. Frightened, Nathan backs away as Annie takes photos from around him.

ANNIE

Make him walk forward.

NATHAN

You mean like, be *bait*?

The coyote rolls his eyes. Humans are so stupid!

ANNIE

Just wave your arms again. He's afraid of you.

NATHAN

He doesn't look afraid.

A small twister appears behind the coyote, growing bigger as it sweeps around him and heads straight for Nathan and Annie. They scramble away from the twister - toward the cliff edge.

Annie stumbles! Her phone flies from her hand and clatters on the rocks far below. She teeters on the edge, terrified.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Annie!

Nathan reaches for her but their fingers barely touch as she falls backward to certain death! Annie screams.

The coyote's eyes flash. The twister zips beneath Annie and shoves her upward. As she falls into Nathan's arms, his wallet pops out his back pocket, flies through the air, and lands on the picnic blanket. Nathan and Annie don't notice - they're too shocked.

The coyote coughs, drawing their attention. Again the head movement - Leave! This time Annie and Nathan get it, and run for their lives! The twister follows them.

Finally alone, the coyote sits among the food, looking far too pleased with himself. His body begins to morph, and he shape-shifts into a man: thirty-something, with coyote-brown hair and amber eyes.

Meet COYOTE, the supernatural trickster of legend, a little scruffy and a lot of trouble. He pulls money from the wallet, shoves it in his pocket, and starts eating cake.

EXT. DESERT - DAY

A rattlesnake slithers, and a deer and fox trot toward a monolithic rock. A great horned owl circles above. The fox and snake yip and hiss to each other, deep in conversation. They draw near the solid rock wall, then slither and trot through a cleverly disguised opening, vanishing from view.

EXT. DESERT HILLTOP - DAY

Coyote eats cake as he watches Nathan and Annie run across the desert below him, their twister following like a faithful puppy.

Flapping. An anything-but-sleek crow, with a mole on his back, flops into the dirt near Coyote, spilling the mole from her perch. Coyote quickly flips the blanket edges over the wallet and food, hiding them.

The mole dusts herself off efficiently as the crow awkwardly ruffles dust from his feathers, loses his balance, and flops back in the dirt. The mole scurries toward Coyote, squeaking furiously. Coyote crosses his arms.

COYOTE

You know I don't understand Mole.

The mole huffs, then quickly shape-shifts into MOLE, a gorgeous, vibrant woman in her 60's. She squints at Coyote.

MOLE

Every other Supernatural knows the native dialects, and most of the human tongues as well.

Coyote notices the blanket hasn't quite covered the cake.

COYOTE

Teach me. How do you say "I need my space" in Mole?

MOLE

Don't push me, Coyote. Crow and I are your only friends these days.

The crow, more disheveled than ever, caws in agreement. Mole huffs at him and puts her hands on her hips.

MOLE (CONT'D)

Change?

As the crow transforms into CROW - a 30-something, googly eyed, twitchy guy with black hair jutting everywhere - Mole notices Nathan and Annie on the desert below, still running from their tornado. Irritated, she wrinkles her nose; the tornado falls to dust. Coyote covers the cake completely before Mole turns back to him.

MOLE (CONT'D)

Rattlenake has summoned a council. A council that may become a trial.

COYOTE

What's Crow done now?

CROW

Not me. You!

Coyote feigns surprise. Moi?

MOLE

Yes, you! The world is changing, Coyote, and you... well, you're getting worse.

COYOTE

Worse. Oh, Mole you wound me.

MOLE

You're just not getting it. We Supernaturals are here to *help* the humans, not to con them. Not to use them for our amusement.

Coyote yawns.

MOLE (CONT'D)

Like those poor hikers. Who knows what you've started in their lives, and just so you could eat their--

CROW

Eat?

COYOTE

Hey, I helped them.

Mole glares down at the hikers, now locked in an embrace.

CROW

Eat what?

Coyote reaches under the blanket and breaks off a piece of cake, brings it out. Crow's eyes light up.

COYOTE

They're bonding because of me. Right,  
Crow?

Crow nods enthusiastically, eyes locked on the chunk of cake.

CROW

Yeah. You bet. I agree. Completely.

Coyote tosses him the cake. Mole shakes her head, exasperated.

MOLE

(to self)

Maybe I can appeal to the council's  
compassion, or remind them--

COYOTE

I don't need any favors, Mole.

MOLE

Yes, you do. You just have no idea  
how much.

(to Crow)

Keep him out of trouble.

Crow nods obediently.

MOLE (CONT'D)

(to Coyote)

And you. Don't do *anything*.

She hurries away.

COYOTE

Mole!

Mole turns back.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

*Why?*

MOLE

Because I think you're better than  
you pretend to be, Coyote.

Coyote scowls. He doesn't like this answer.

COYOTE

No, uh, *why* is Crow never invited to  
the council? He's smart. He knows  
stuff.

They both glance at Crow - who is reaching for more cake.  
Caught red-handed, he jerks away, all twitchy and spastic.  
Mole walks away.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

I mean *why* are you mad I helped those hikers?

Mole stomps out of sight, down the hill.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

*Why* do you hate cake!?

CROW

I don't hate cake.

Coyote growls at him. Stay away from my cake!

INT. CAVE - DAY

The rattlesnake, deer, and fox, with the owl now hopping with them, move single file along a narrow rock corridor. The fox and snake linger behind, still yipping and hissing in whispers. The owl looks back at them with a stern face, then hoots loudly. The two fall silent.

INT. DESIERTO BANK - DAY

Small town bank. One of the tellers, RUBY - she'd be prettier with less makeup - makes a deposit and preens for a TEENAGE BOY who can't stop ogling her.

The other teller, JOSH, a nerd in Harry Potter glasses, glances jealously at Ruby and Teenage Boy flirting.

The ACCOUNTS MANAGER sits at a nearby desk. Her computer chimes. She briskly grabs her bag, and heads for the door.

ACCOUNTS MANAGER

Back in thirty.

JOSH

Yes, Ma'am.

EXT. DESIERTO BANK - DAY

Looming Herculean twins, TOM and his sister TESS, and their scrawny, hatchet-faced leader, Mr. SHADY, peek around the edge of the bank, and watch the Accounts Manager walk away.

The Teenage Boy comes out of the bank and walks toward them. Tess, Tom, and Shady all jerk out of sight, and act suspiciously casual in the alley: Tom whistles, Shady strolls regally, hands clasped behind his back, and Tess pretends she's looking for something in her massive purse.

The Teenage Boy glances at them and looks perplexed, but keeps going. The second he has passed by...

SHADY  
(to Tess)  
Let's go.

Tess smiles nervously at Tom, who gives her a thumbs up.

TOM  
You'll do great, Tessy.

Tess roots around in her massive purse and brings out a gun, looks embarrassed, shoves it back, and pulls out two fake beards and big farmer hats. Quickly, Shady and Tess slip on their disguises. Though Tess wears jeans and a baggy t-shirt, she still looks like a woman in a beard.

TOM (CONT'D)  
(with teary pride)  
If Mom could see you now...

TESS  
Thanks, Tommy.

Shady hurries toward the bank entrance. Tess smiles nervously through her fake beard at Tom, then follows, her massive purse hanging from her shoulder.

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Coyote theatrically eats the last bite of food, gets up, and wanders away without looking back at Crow. Crow quickly checks the folds of the picnic blanket. Any food left? No! With a scowl, he hurries after Coyote.

INT. CAVE - DAY

The deer, fox, owl, and rattlesnake stop at a solid wall. The fox whines, then yips. The owl hoots. The deer looks into a small hole, and a beam reads his iris.

A cloaking device dissolves, revealing a stone keypad with pebbles for keys. The rattlesnake strikes out a code. A hidden rock door slides open, revealing an elevator made of stone.

As they go inside, the deer steps on the rattlesnake's tail. The rattlesnake rattles and hisses, then shapeshifts into RATTLESNAKE: a lanky, thin faced man, all bony knees and elbows - which he uses to push his way inside the elevator.

RATTLESNAKE  
Watch your ssstep, Deer.

INT. ROCK ELEVATOR - DAY

As the owl pecks a pebble keypad and the door closes, the deer shapeshifts into DEER, a stoner with soulful eyes.



DEER

Sorry about that, Dude.

RATTLESNAKE

(mutters)

You're always sssorry.

The stone elevator shudders and starts to move.

INT. DESIERTO BANK - DAY

Finally alone, Josh glances at Ruby, sorting papers.

JOSH

What a morning.

RUBY

Hmmm.

Josh gathers his courage, clears his throat.

JOSH

Hey, are you doing anything--

The door bangs open. Josh looks up. Shady strides toward him, his hand in his pocket (with his gun). At the door, Tess reaches for the deadbolt - but the door opens before she can turn it. In comes SEXY GUY, looking handsome and virile. Tess rushes toward Ruby's teller window but Sexy Guy beats her there. Fidgeting, Tess stands in line. Shady, already at Josh's window, scowls at Tess, and takes his hand from his pocket. He'll wait it out.

SHADY

(brusquely, to Josh)

Uh, I want to open an account here.

JOSH

Certainly, sir. I can make that appointment for you.

Ruby laughs musically. Shady, Josh, and Tess all glare at Ruby and Sexy Guy. Shady gestures to Tess to do something. Tess ahems. No response.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Sir?

SHADY

I don't want to wait.

JOSH

Our Accounts Manager should be back at twelve thirty.

SHADY

I want you to do it for me. Now.

Josh puts on a plastic smile.

JOSH

I do not have the authority to open accounts, sir. Our Accounts Manager--

SHADY

I don't want the Accounts Manager!

Shady motions furiously to Tess again. Tess's next ahem echoes through the bank. Sexy Guy and Ruby continue to whisper and laugh together.

JOSH

Nevertheless, only our Accounts--

SHADY

I can't believe the level of incompetence in this place!

Finally, Ruby and Sexy Guy look up.

JOSH

Please feel free to take your business elsewhere, sir. May I recommend--

SHADY

We do this now!

JOSH

I told you--

SHADY

Not you!  
(to Tess)  
You!

Shady whips his gun out of his pocket, points it at Josh.

TESS

Oh.

Tess reaches into her purse, and pulls out kid scissors. Sexy Guy squeaks in terror and presses back against the counter.

SHADY

(to Josh)  
Back away from the counter. Don't touch anything.

TESS  
 (to Ruby and Sexy Guy)  
 Wait.

She shoves the kid scissors back in her purse, and pulls out a rubber snake. Startled, she throws it down. Shady points his gun at Ruby.

SHADY  
 You. Step back.

Ruby complies. Upset, Tess picks up the rubber snake, shoves it back in her bag.

TESS  
 (close to tears)  
 Stupid gun.

SHADY  
 (to Sexy Guy)  
 And you, over here.

Sexy Guy whimpers as he walks toward Shady.

INT. SACRED CAVE - DAY

A massive stone block for a table. Branches wound together make chairs. The stone elevator door opens to reveal Deer and Rattlesnake, still in their human forms, plus OWL: who looks suspiciously like Queen Elizabeth II, and FOX: a sleek, red-headed beauty. They take their places around the table.

RATTLESNAKE  
 We need to move quick on this. I have to help the orphans. Their well dried up.

FOX  
 It never ends, does it?  
 (looks shifty)  
 I've been trying to catch that chicken thief out at Four Mile Ranch.

OWL  
 (sighs)  
 I have to speak in the House of Lords.

DEER  
 I have to, hmmm, well... This won't take long. Coyote's okay.

Rattlesnake and Fox look at Deer with disbelief. Owl pushes a pebble button on the stone table in front of her.

AUTOMATIC VOICE

Recording.

OWL

Council convened. Owl, present.

DEER

Deer, present.

INT. DESIERTO BANK VAULT - DAY

Money and papers stacked on shelves against a wall. The tiny room is peaceful, static. Boom! Everything in the room shakes. The heavy metal door creaks opens. Smoke billows in. Both Tellers and Sexy Guy enter with Shady and his gun right behind them. Tess stays in the vault doorway.

SHADY

Stand against that wall.

Josh, Ruby, and Sexy Guy quickly comply.

SHADY (CONT'D)

(to Tess)

Fill your bag. Get the big bills.

Tess shoves money into her big bottomless purse as Shady holds his gun on their three captives.

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Coyote stalks along, frowning, Crow right behind him. Suddenly, Coyote stops, puts his hand to his ear.

COYOTE

Hey! You hear that?

CROW

No, what?

COYOTE

Mole. I think she's calling you.

Crow listens. Coyote slips behind a big rock, and hunkers down. He looks right, then left. No Crow. Coyote smiles.

CROW

That wasn't her.

Coyote startles. Crow sits on his right. How'd he do that? Coyote jumps up; Crow jumps up too. They keep walking, Coyote half a step ahead of Crow.

EXT. BACK ALLEY BEHIND DESIERTO BANK - DAY

Tom, leaning on a gray car, looks nervously at his watch.

Tess rushes out the bank's back door, leisurely followed by Shady as he removes his beard and hat. Tom jumps in behind the wheel. Shady reaches for Tess's bag.

SHADY

Give it to me.

She hands it over, and hurries on to the front passenger side. Shady puts the bag in the trunk.

INT. DESIERTO BANK VAULT - DAY

Josh, Ruby, and Sexy Guy are locked in. Josh searches the shelves and walls.

JOSH

It's here somewhere.

RUBY

(still frightened)

What are you doing?

JOSH

(satisfied)

Found it.

Josh pushes an emergency button. A admiring smile blossoms on Ruby's face. She turns the flirt on him.

INT. BANK ROBBERS' CAR - DAY

As Tess gets in, Tom notices she's upset.

TOM

What's wrong?

Shady gets in back.

TESS

A customer came in and I couldn't get him to go and then I couldn't find my gun, and then--

SHADY

Get moving!

Tom looks at Tess sympathetically, then drives them away.

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Coyote still leads the way. He stops. Crow stops.

COYOTE  
Hey, you thirsty?

CROW  
Yeah.

COYOTE  
I heard Solly gives away free beer  
every Thursday.

CROW  
Wow, that's nice of him.

They stand for a beat.

CROW (CONT'D)  
It's Thursday today!

COYOTE  
Wow, really? You got to go get one,  
man.

CROW  
Yeah!

Crow hurries away - but stops short after a few steps.

CROW (CONT'D)  
Hey, don't you want a free beer?

COYOTE  
I'm not thirsty.

Crow continues on, stops again.

CROW  
You drink beer when you're not  
thirsty.

COYOTE  
No.

Crow continues on, puzzled. He stops a third time.

CROW  
But I've seen you drink--

COYOTE  
Listen!

CROW  
I told you, that isn't Mole.

COYOTE  
I know. Listen!

Very distant sirens. Coyote scrambles toward higher ground, Crow close behind him.

EXT. STREET IN FRONT OF DESIERTO BANK - DAY

Sirens blaring, police cars race up, screech to a halt. OFFICER ROBERT, superman in a cop uniform, gets out of his car and stands magnificently. He spies the Accounts Manager running toward the bank and strides to intercept her.

OFFICER ROBERT

Excuse me, Ma'am. You have to stay back for your own safety.

ACCOUNTS MANAGER

But Josh and Ruby, the tellers...

OFFICER ROBERT

We'll save them, Ma'am. I give you my word.

He motions police officers into position.

EXT. HALFWAY UP HILL - DAY

Coyote and Crow look down on the small town. Police sirens wail. Lights flash as police cars race around.

COYOTE

That's crazy, man.

CROW

Maybe they drank all Solly's free beer.

Coyote notices a gray car moving away from town across the desert, a thin trail of dust behind it.

COYOTE

Interesting.

CROW

You mean tragic.

COYOTE

Not the beer. Look.

He points at the car.

INT. POLICE CRUISER - DAY

OFFICER MARTIN, an older policeman with a perma-frown, drives. OFFICER GEORGE, baby faced and eager, leans forward in the passenger's seat. Their car creeps along a back street as they look for anything amiss.

OFFICER MARTIN

Of course they're going to give the loser and rookie the slow streets.

OFFICER GEORGE

You're not a loser, Martin.

Officer Martin gives Officer George a glare.

OFFICER MARTIN

Not a rookie either.

Officer George looks out his side window just as they pass a space between two buildings. A dust trail on the desert!

OFFICER GEORGE

Stop!

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Tom drives Shady and Tess along the dusty desert track away from town.

INT. BANK ROBBERS' CAR - DAY

Tom and Tess in front, Shady in back, scowling at them.

TOM

You got the money. That's the important thing, sis. You succeeded. You're awesome.

A tentative smile from Tess.

TOM (CONT'D)

Mom would've been so proud of you today. Just like I am.

A real smile from Tess.

TESS

Oh Tommy, you're the awesome one. No one drives a getaway car like you. Mom would be proud of you today.

TOM

No. No, sis. She'd be proud of us both.

They both sigh contentedly, then give tiny waves to the car ceiling. Shady clenches his fists.

TESS

We can buy you a proper tombstone now, Mom.



TOM

Hey, Tessie. I was thinking about the words. How about: The Most Wonderful Mastermind Criminal of all Time!

Shady grinds his teeth.

TESS

That's brilliant. And underneath, Clever beyond Imagining, Smarter beyond... uh, uh, Really, Really Smart.

TOM

We could even have an angel on top, holding stolen jewels. Like when she stole the world famous--

SHADY

Shut up! Shut up! Another word, and I'm docking your cut.

Tess turns around to face Shady.

TESS

But--

SHADY

Five grand off.

Tom turns around too.

TOM

Hey, that's not--

SHADY

Ten!

TESS

But we--

SHADY

Fift...

(eyes bug out)

Stop!

Tom slams on the brake, stopping just short of a raging flash flood!

EXT. DESERT - BESIDE FLASH FLOOD - DAY

Tess, Tom, and Shady get out of the car and approach the flash flood. Muddy water and debris race past. A rocky crag is to their right.

Behind them, a coyote jumps unseen through an open window into their car.

TESS

What're we going to do?

TOM

Wait for it to stop. Flash floods don't take long. That's why they're called flash floods.

Tess looks puzzled, then gets it.

TESS

Cause they're gone in a flash. You're so smart, Tommy.

SHADY

Twenty!

Tess and Tom look at each other with dismay.

EXT. DESERT - ALONG BASE OF A HILL - DAY

Officer Martin and Officer George drive the police car along the tracks left by the bank robbers' car.

INT. POLICE CRUISER - DAY

Officer Martin talks into the radio as Officer George looks around.

OFFICER MARTIN

Checking out suspicious activity southwest of town. Will advise soon.

OFFICER GEORGE

Stop!

Officer Martin drops the radio and slams on the brakes. The bank robbers' car is ahead. Officer Martin backs slowly out of sight around the corner, then picks up the radio again.

OFFICER GEORGE (CONT'D)

Shouldn't we see if it's them first? What if we call for backup and the real perps get away.

Officer Martin lowers the handset.

OFFICER MARTIN

Okay, you go. But don't be a loser rookie and let them see you.

Officer George nods nervously, and gets out of the car.

EXT. DESERT - BESIDE FLASH FLOOD - DAY

The coyote jumps out through the same open window and trots around the back of the bank robbers' car. His eyes flash; the trunk magically unlocks.

A crow lands on the car roof and caws, drawing Shady's attention. Caw, caw! Shady walks back toward the car.

SHADY

Go on! Get out of here!

Behind the car, the coyote's eyes flash again - and the flood surges higher, sweeping around Tess's and Tom's knees. Tess screams as the current throws her off balance.

TOM

Grab my hand!

Shady turns back just in time to see Tess splash down.

TOM (CONT'D)

Tess!

Tom grabs Tess's foot and drags her, sputtering and coughing, to safety. Behind Shady, another loud caw! His hatchet face is suspicious as he turns. Something weird is going on.

The ground shakes! Shady staggers as small rocks bounce and tumble down the craggy hill beside him. A large boulder, halfway up the hill, rolls forward - revealing Officer George crouched behind it. Shady's eyes widen.

SHADY

Cops! Let's go! Now!

Shady races to the car.

INT. BANK ROBBERS' CAR - DAY

A big pile of coyote poo steams on the driver's seat. Shady jumps behind the wheel and plops down. He feels it, reaches down, and gets it on his hand.

SHADY

What the--!

EXT. DESERT - BESIDE FLASH FLOOD - DAY

All at once: the coyote runs away from behind the car; the crow flies away; the flash flood dries up; Officer George runs back toward the police car.

INT. BANK ROBBERS' CAR - DAY

Poop on both of Shady's hands and his lower face now. Oddly enough, there is nothing on his clothes. Shady drives forward, almost hitting Tom, who has jumped in front to stop him from leaving them.

Tess scrambles into the back seat, completely soaked, and gags from the smell. Tom gets in beside her, and retches. Shady, now with poop covering his face and spiking his hair, spins the wheel to drive along the flash flood bank.

TOM

No! The flood's gone!

Shady guns it straight across.

EXT. DESERT - BESIDE FLASH FLOOD - DAY

A second later - sirens! Officer Martin's and Officer George's police car rushes around the corner, bashing over the rough ground. They race across the wet draw. Sirens fade in the distance.

Caw! A crow lands on a nearby boulder. A coyote trots to where the bank robbers' car was parked, and digs furiously. A strap appears. The coyote shapeshifts into Coyote, the man. He grins as he pulls Tess's big purse out of the sand.

INT. SACRED CAVE - DAY

The Supernaturals sit around a large fire magically burning in the middle of the table. In the flames, they see Coyote carry the purse across the desert. Crow (again as a man) walks behind him.

CROW

(in the flames)

Mole's going to be mad at you.

Fox wiggles her fingers. The flames vanish.

RATTLESNAKE

It sseemsss clear that Coyote  
hassn't changed.

DEER

It's not like he stole it from the  
bank.

FOX AND RATTLESNAKE

Irrelevant.

RATTLESNAKE

I sssay we banish him.

MOLE (O.S.)

No vote without a full council.

The Supernatural council turns to see Mole by the open elevator, her hands on her hips. She strides to her chair.

MOLE (CONT'D)

And I say *NO* to banishment.

FOX

You haven't seen the latest, Mole.

RATTLESNAKE

He ssstole bank fundsss.

Mole flinches.

DEER

From bank robbers.

Mole heartens.

MOLE

Well, maybe he's teaching whoever first stole it a lesson. Did you ever think of that? Or maybe he's returning it to the bank.

Fox again wiggles her fingers. The fire reappears. An image appears: Coyote and Crow hustling along a street in town.

MOLE (CONT'D)

See? He took it back to town. He's returning it.

RATTLESNAKE

I doubt it. And we aren't here because of a sssingle infraction.

MOLE

Look, I know that Coyote can find trouble in an octogenarians' knitting circle. But he's just going through a bad spell. Patience is the key.

RATTLESNAKE

It's been a twenty year bad ssspell, and the last sssix months he'sss been worssse. I sssay we vote now.

FOX

I sss, uh, second that.

RATTLESNAKE

Banishment.

DEER

Dude. No.

FOX

Banishment.

MOLE

Definitely no.

They all look expectantly at Owl.

FOX

You're the tie breaker, Owl.

Owl clears her throat.

OWL

I'm not convinced yet either. Though  
I am inclined to take strong measures.

MOLE

Owl.

OWL

Mole, you believe in him. Go to him.  
Tell him he needs to show us the  
good you see in him.

Mole hangs her head. She already has.

RATTLESNAKE

And if he doesssn't lisssten? He  
won't, you know.

OWL

If Coyote proves himself unworthy of  
Mole's regard, no more chances.  
Agreed?

Fox, Rattlesnake, and finally Deer nod their heads. They  
look at Mole. She sits with a stony face and crossed arms.

OWL (CONT'D)

All we need is an indication that  
he's on the right path.

RATTLESNAKE

Six redeeming qualities.

MOLE

One.

OWL

One.

Owl holds up her hand, stopping Rattlesnake's protest.

FOX

But it has to be real. And if you  
find nothing, you pass judgment too.

Mole hesitates, then nods.

MOLE

He won't let me down.

EXT. DESERT - DAY

In their car, Officer Martin and Officer George come to a small road and pick up speed. They top a rise, and stop. Down below, a busy highway stretches for miles.

INT. POLICE CRUISER - DAY

Officer Martin hits the steering wheel with his hand. Officer George picks up the radio.

OFFICER GEORGE

We lost them.

Officer Martin jerks the radio from Officer George's hand.

OFFICER MARTIN

George alerted them to our presence.

OFFICER GEORGE

Hey.

OFFICER MARTIN

...and they reached the highway before  
we could apprehend them.

Officer Martin throws the radio down and looks at Officer George with disgust.

OFFICER MARTIN (CONT'D)

This is on you, rookie.

INT. HIPPIE VAN - EVENING

JORDAN, a frazzled young man, drives. The GURU, 60's, wearing homespun robes, smiles peacefully in the passenger seat. "Ohm" chants play on the vintage cassette player.

JORDAN

Why don't they name their streets?

GURU

All is as it should be, Jordan.

JORDAN  
Yes, of course, Guru.

He drives in silence for a moment.

JORDAN (CONT'D)  
But all we need is a sign. Gah!

Jordan slams on the brakes, barely stopping before hitting the jaywalking Coyote (carrying the massive purse) and Crow. The Guru smiles sweetly as they pass, then grows thoughtful.

GURU  
Hmm.

Jordan looks at him expectantly.

GURU (CONT'D)  
Try the next right.

Jordan drives forward, strangling the steering wheel in his white knuckled grip.

EXT. SOLLY'S BAR - EVENING

Coyote and Crow stride along a dark, dirty street. They come to an unmarked door. Knock, knock. A panel in the door slides open, and a huge BOUNCER bends down to peer out. He sees Crow and slams the panel shut. They wait. And wait.

MAN  
Move it!

A MAN and WOMAN push past Coyote and Crow. Knock, knock. The Bouncer looks out through the panel. Shuts it. The door opens. The Man and Woman saunter inside. Coyote and Crow go to follow but the door slams in their faces.

CROW  
Maybe the burlesque karaoke I did  
last week?

COYOTE  
You think? Try again.

Sheepishly, Crow knocks. The panel slides open. The Bouncer looks out, grunts angrily and starts to close the panel, but stops. He peers past Crow, then nods, and closes the panel.

Amazed, Crow looks back at Coyote, and startles. Behind him, a SHAPELY WOMAN with Coyote's face holds up handfuls of cash.

SHAPELY WOMAN  
(Coyote's voice)  
It's me, bird brain.



Crow looks insulted.

CROW  
Just the money would've been enough.

SHAPELY WOMAN  
(Coyote's voice)  
Not for karaoke and *burlesque*. Man.

The door opens. Crow and the Shapely Woman go inside.

INT. SOLLY'S BAR - NIGHT

Dingy, loud, and filled with PARTYERS. The Bouncer leans close to the Shapely Woman.

BOUNCER  
Hey, Babe. Want me to show you around?

The Shapely Woman winks at the Bouncer.

SHAPELY WOMAN  
(Coyote's voice)  
You devil you.

As the Shapely Woman sashays away, she shape-shifts back into Coyote's male form. The Bouncer blinks. Blinks again.

BOUNCER  
I got to go back to school.

EXT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT

A quiet street. The gray car pulls in the driveway of a rundown house. Tess and Tom lean out the open back windows to breathe. The garage door opens and the car goes inside.

INT. BANK ROBBERS' CAR - NIGHT

Shady, skin coated and hair spiked with excrement, stops the car and sighs in relief. It's done.

INT. SAFE HOUSE GARAGE - NIGHT

As the garage door closes, Tom and Tess leap out of the car in their rush to escape the smell. Shady jumps out after them, suddenly suspicious of their hurry.

SHADY  
Don't touch the money. I'll get it.

TESS  
Uh, you sure? I mean, you might get,  
uh--

SHADY  
Might get what!?

TESS  
Some of that... uh, stuff...

Shady strides around to the trunk and opens it to see - nothing!

TOM  
You want me to carry that, Boss?

Shady spins toward Tess and Tom, his face red with fury.

SHADY  
It's gone!

TOM  
Uh, no. We can still smell it.

SHADY  
The money, you idiots! The money's gone!

Tom and Tess edge toward the trunk to look, careful to keep some space between themselves and Shady.

TESS  
That was my good handbag!

Shady is already figuring it out.

SHADY  
Must've happened when we stopped.

Looks down at the excrement on his hands.

SHADY (CONT'D)  
Whoever left this, took it.

TOM  
Stealing money is just wrong.

Shady gives him a "you're an idiot" look.

TESS  
Mom would be very upset.

SHADY  
*I'm* upset! We're going back.

TOM  
Okay.  
(beat)  
Right after you shower.

SHADY

Now!  
 (to Tom)  
 You drive.

Shady gets in back. Tom edges toward the driver's door. Tess touches his arm to stop him, then hurries to grab a new smaller purse and a blanket from a nearby cupboard.

TOM

(whisper)  
 But there's nothing there.

Tess looks down at the seat with surprise. Totally clean.

TESS

It's all on him?

TOM

Holy crap.

Tess's eyes widen.

TESS

Really?

INT. SOLLY'S BAR - NIGHT

A rowdy party, with Coyote and Crow at the heart of it. Drinks flow. A couple guys wrestle in the corner. A PRIEST is in the crowd. SOLLY, the owner, stands behind the bar, eyes alight with greed. Money bundles line the bar as Coyote hastily scribbles a note on a slip of paper, shoves it in a money bundle, and turns to the crowd, bundle held high.

COYOTE

Whose life sucks?

PARTYER ONE

Mine! I need money for my daughter's education!

COYOTE

So she'll abandon you for some life-sucking job on the other side of the country, and forget about you.

Cheers as Coyote tosses the money to Partyer One. Jostled by congratulatory back slaps, Partyer One reads the note.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Don't forget. It's like a tax, man.

Partyer One smiles and nods. Coyote scribbles another note, and holds the next bundle high.

PRIEST

For the poor!

Coyote hesitates.

PRIEST (CONT'D)

For me to give to the poor, so I can  
feel better about my miserable  
existence.

Cheers as Coyote throws the money wad to the Priest. The  
Priest reads his note.

COYOTE

Remember to make it a check, Father.

Thumbs up from the Priest. Coyote turns back to the bar to  
write another note, and when he turns back:

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Whose life sucks?

PARTYERS

Mine does! Mine!

EXT. DESERT - BESIDE FLASH FLOOD - NIGHT

Flashlight beams cut the night. Tom's flashlight illuminates  
coyote prints. He follows them through the darkness.

SHADY (O.S.)

Find anything?

TESS (O.S.)

Not yet.

TOM

Not yet.

He keeps following the tracks. They disappear. Tom shines  
his light a bit farther. Boot prints!

TOM (CONT'D)

Over here!

Tess and Shady rush over to see the tracks.

SHADY

(to Tom)

Follow in the car.

Shady strides along the tracks, heading toward town.

TESS

(to Tom)  
I'm with you.

INT. SOLLY'S BAR - NIGHT

Only a few Partyers cluster around Coyote now, holding their glasses high. Two DRUNKS stand together, tears streaming down their faces and fists clutching cash. Solly waits behind the bar.

COYOTE

A toast to regret and longing!

Half-hearted cheers. The Drunks sob on each others' shoulders.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Fill them up, Solly.

Solly signals to his waiters to serve more beer, then grabs a handful of cash from the bag - except that he gets a sandwich instead. He tosses it aside, reaches in again.

A Partyer near the door cries out in surprise and steps sideways. Another Partyer does the same.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

A toast to the cold, inevitable demise  
of love!

A couple of cheers, and more sobs from the Drunks. A couple Partyers wander away.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

(to Crow)  
Tough crowd this.

Crow points to Partyers stepping aside to let someone pass.

CROW

Someone's coming.

Mole stomps from the crowd, spitting mad. She grabs Coyote's shirt and pulls him down to her level, gets right in his face. Partyers and Drunks scoot away as they all imagine angry mothers.

MOLE

I can't believe you came here! Do  
you want to be banished? Do you want  
to disappoint everyone who ever called  
you friend? Don't you have a single  
shred of self respect or preservation?

Solly leans in from behind the bar.

SOLLY  
Need some help, mate?

Coyote gently pulls from Mole's grip, and straightens.

COYOTE  
No, I got this.

He takes Mole's arm to lead her to the back. Crow follows.

COYOTE (CONT'D)  
(to Crow)  
Give us a minute, man.

Coyote and Mole arrive at the back door. Their eyes meet.  
Mole is still shaky with rage.

COYOTE (CONT'D)  
Don't let me do this to you, Mole.  
You're better than this.

With an effort, Mole calms herself, breathing deep.

MOLE  
Sorry. Sorry I lost it.

COYOTE  
Yeah, well, I'm kind of irritating.

Mole laughs, a little hysterically.

MOLE  
Understatement of the millennium.

She puts her hand on Coyote's arm.

MOLE (CONT'D)  
Return the money. That'll end the  
trial right now.

Coyote averts his eyes.

MOLE (CONT'D)  
You have no use for human currency.

COYOTE  
I know.

MOLE  
Then why? I don't understand. Tell  
me what's happening.  
(beat)  
I'm your friend, Coyote. I want to  
help.

Coyote looks at her. Will he open up? He looks like he might... but then he shakes his head.

COYOTE  
Sorry, Mole. This is something I  
have to do alone.

Coyote opens the back door for her.

COYOTE (CONT'D)  
And you need better friends than me.

He turns back to the party, leaving Mole looking devastated.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Gagging PATRONS flood from a fast food joint. Moments later, Shady emerges. Tess and Tom walk down the street toward him. When they get close, they pinch their noses.

TESS  
(nasally)  
No one suspicious in the bowling  
alley.

TOM  
(nasally)  
Except us.

Shady points at a pub across the street.

SHADY  
You check that pub. I'll get the  
restaurant.

Shady stomps down the street toward the restaurant. Tess and Tom breathe easier again. Patrons stream from the restaurant, gagging.

TESS  
Almost feel sorry for them.

TOM  
Better them than us.

INT. SOLLY'S BAR - NIGHT

Coyote approaches Crow at the bar. Solly awaits Coyote's next request.

CROW  
What did she say?

COYOTE  
 (to Solly)  
 Tequila. Forty pounder.

Solly thumps a 40 pounder of Tequila on the counter, and goes to grab more cash from the bag. Gets a wig instead. He throws it aside with disgust.

Coyote goes to a full booth, and growls at the Partyers there. They scatter. He sits and sloshes Tequila into a shot glass. Crow cautiously sits across from him. Coyote shoves the full glass toward Crow, then gulps straight from the bottle.

CROW  
 So, she's mad?

COYOTE  
 Worse. Hurt.

Crow shakes his head, downs his tequila, and puts out his glass for more.

EXT. STREET - DAWN

Tess sits on the sidewalk, leaning against a building. Tom leans beside her, head tipped back and snoring. Down the street, Shady confronts a retching GAS STATION ATTENDANT.

SHADY  
 I have as much right to be here as anyone!

GAS STATION ATTENDANT  
 You're making me sick, man! I'm going to call the cops.

Tess sees the sky is growing lighter. One of the Drunks staggers along the sidewalk toward her, grinning ear to ear.

DRUNK  
 Rich. I'm rich.

The Drunk trips over Tess's legs and lands on Tom.

TOM  
 Hey.

They flop around a bit, the Drunk giggling maniacally. Tess lifts the Drunk off Tom and sets him on his feet, then notices money on the ground. She picks it up.

TESS  
 This yours?

The Drunk takes it.



DRUNK

Thanks, Love.

The Drunk staggers onward, and Tess sits next to Tom again.

TESS

You okay?

Tom snores in response. The Drunk vanishes down an alley. Tess's eyes widen. She looks down the street.

TESS (CONT'D)

Hey, wait!

She races after the Drunk.

INT. SOLLY'S BAR - EARLY MORNING

The Shapely Woman (Coyote's woman form) slow-dances with the Bouncer. Crow leans on a tabletop, snoring. Few Partyers remain. The crowd is down to the dregs.

Tess and Tom burst in. Everyone in the bar gags as Shady strides out from between them. The Shapely Woman quickly dances the Bouncer past Crow, kicking Crow on the way by. Crow wakes to see Shady, Tess, and Tom, and he panics - which draws Shady's attention.

SHADY

Get him!

Tess and Tom head after Crow. The Shapely Woman steps back from the Bouncer, shape-shifts into Coyote's male form, and gives him a "come hither" look. The Bouncer roars and jumps toward Coyote, ready to pummel him. Coyote sidesteps, and the Bouncer plows into Tess and Tom. They all sprawl into a bellowing heap on the floor. Coyote leaps over the bar and grabs the big purse beside Solly.

COYOTE

Thanks, Solly. It's been great!

Coyote shoves a note in Solly's hand.

SOLLY

Anytime, man. Stay cool.

Coyote and Crow dash for the back door, bills fluttering behind them from the open purse. Solly reads the note, grins.

SHADY

You idiots! Quit fooling around!  
They're getting away!

EXT. STREETS - MORNING

Money wafts behind Coyote as he and Crow race along a street and out of sight.

Officer Robert drives a police car down the street. A \$100 bill plasters against his windshield. He pulls over to inspect it. Shady, Tess, and Tom, in pursuit of Coyote, see Officer Robert and duck down a side alley.

Officer Robert sniffs the air. What is that horrible smell? More money on the street distracts him. He follows the money trail on foot, back toward Solly's. Shady, Tess, and Tom tiptoe out of the alley, then continue their pursuit.

INT. SOLLY'S BAR - MORNING

Officer Robert heroically bursts in to see bank money spread across the bar, Solly counting it with glee. Solly's face falls. Officer Robert whips out his cell phone, not noticing Solly slowly slide a wad of bills into his pocket.

OFFICER ROBERT  
Backup to Solly's asap.

INT. POLICE STATION - FRONT DESK - MORNING

Officer George comes in as Officer Martin and OFFICER AGGIE, a young policewoman, are leaving.

OFFICER GEORGE  
Hey, is something happening?

OFFICER MARTIN  
Not for you. You're grounded for incompetence, negligence, and stupidity. Robert's orders.

OFFICER AGGIE  
(kindly)  
Sorry, George.

Officer George watches them go like a forlorn puppy.

INT. DESERT VISTA MOTEL - HALLWAY - MORNING

A low budget motel. Jordan knocks on a room door.

GURU (O.S.)  
One moment.

The door opens and the Guru peeks out.

JORDAN  
It's getting late, Guru.

GURU  
Ten more minutes.

JORDAN  
But you told her we'd be there at 8.

GURU  
The Universe has other plans this morning.

JORDAN  
Uh, you want me to take your suitcase?

The Guru sighs.

GURU  
Always with the *doing*.

He opens the door wide, and Jordan enters.

INT. SOLLY'S BAR - DAY

Officer Robert and Solly face each other in a booth. Officer Martin stands beside Solly, taking notes. Officer Aggie snoops behind the bar.

SOLLY  
Yeah, I swear, man. I don't know where he is. He split, all of a sudden like.

OFFICER ROBERT  
Why?

SOLLY  
Two mountains came in with this stinky guy, and he just ripped out of here.

OFFICER MARTIN  
We need a description.

SOLLY  
Didn't see their faces.

OFFICER ROBERT  
The guy with the cash was here all night. You saw *his* face.

SOLLY  
Don't really recall.

Officer Robert looks up at Officer Martin.

OFFICER ROBERT

You think we should arrest Solly here for selling liquor without a license? Or maybe he was involved in that robbery.

SOLLY

Brown hair. Hazel eyes. Skinny. Thirties.

OFFICER ROBERT

When did he leave?

SOLLY

Don't know.

Officer Robert raises an eyebrow.

SOLLY (CONT'D)

Half hour ago.

Officer Robert pulls out his cell.

OFFICER ROBERT

Beth, set up roadblocks out of town. Looking for a thin man in his thirties, brown hair, hazel eyes.

Officer Robert disconnects.

OFFICER ROBERT (CONT'D)

Now about the money...

Solly slides down in his seat.

EXT. DESERT VISTA MOTEL - DAY

Hurrying down the street, Coyote spots Jordan hefting a suitcase into the back of the hippie van. Jordan shuts the door and walks back to the hotel. Coyote, with Crow following, run toward the hippie van.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Tess scans with binoculars. She sees Coyote and Crow just as they reach the hippie van and jump inside. She drops her binoculars in excitement, then scrambles in her purse, pulls out a balaclava, shoves it back, pulls out a cell phone. Her fingers shake as she dials.

TESS

I found them! Outside the Desert Vista Motel.

INT. DESERT VISTA MOTEL - GURU'S ROOM - DAY

Jordan sits and waits on the bed as the Guru meditates on the floor. Suddenly, the Guru jumps up. Jordan does too.

JORDAN

Time to go?

The Guru smiles, then hurries toward the door. Jordan follows him, looking perplexed.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

Alrighty then.

INT. BACK OF HIPPIE VAN - DAY

Coyote and Crow hear muffled voices as the Guru and Jordan get in the front of the van. Jordan drives, hits the curb, and the purse tips, spilling money, disguises, and weapons.

EXT. STREET IN FRONT OF DESERT VISTA MOTEL - DAY

Tom screeches up in the gray car. Tess jumps in front. Shady runs from another direction and dives in back. Tess's and Tom's heads jut out the windows to breathe as Tom drives after the hippie van.

INT. BANK ROBBERS' CAR - DAY

All eyes locked on the back of the van as it putters along.

SHADY

Run them off the road as soon as  
we're out of town.

Twin-glance between Tess and Tom. Yikes.

EXT. ROAD LEAVING TOWN - DAY

The hippie van and gray car pass the last of the buildings. The car accelerates, racing up beside the van.

Road block ahead! The car swerves off on a side road.

INT. HIPPIE VAN - DAY

Jordan drives stoically ahead.

JORDAN

Crazy driver.

He slows and stops in the short queue at the road block.

EXT. ROADBLOCK - DAY

A police car and two officers - OFFICER SIMON, a burley policeman, and OFFICER BETH, a delicate, middle-aged policewoman - let a car through the road block. CHILDREN wave to them from the back seat and Officer Beth waves back. The hippie van is next. Officer Beth approaches the driver's side, Officer Simon the passenger's side.

OFFICER BETH  
Driver's License and Registration,  
please.

JORDAN  
Certainly, Officer.

Jordan reaches over and rummages in the glove box.

OFFICER BETH  
Where you headed this morning?

JORDAN  
Rancho Espiritu.

Officer Beth's eyes widen as she takes in the Guru.

OFFICER BETH  
You're the Guru.

JORDAN  
He is.

OFFICER BETH  
Can I get my picture with you?

The Guru smiles a lopsided twinkly smile.

GURU  
I am sorry, my dear.

OFFICER BETH  
Oh. No, I'm sorry. I forgot. Well,  
it's just such an honor, Sir... uh,  
Guru. And thank you for coming to  
our little town. Cinta's put  
everything she has into her grand  
opening, and with you here, it's  
going to be a tremendous success.

OFFICER SIMON  
Sorry to break up the fan meeting,  
but can we see some ID?

OFFICER BETH  
These guys are okay, Simon.

Officer Simon looks suspiciously at the Guru.

OFFICER SIMON  
I'll check the back.

Officer Simon moves behind the van.

JORDAN  
What's the road block for?

OFFICER BETH  
The bank was robbed and we think  
they're still--

OFFICER SIMON (O.S.)  
Hey!

Officer Beth, instantly all business, pulls her gun as she rushes around the back. Officer Simon and Officer Beth stare after a coyote trotting away across the desert. A crow flies over the coyote's head.

OFFICER SIMON (CONT'D)  
They were in the back.

OFFICER BETH  
Weird.

Officer Beth and Officer Simon turn to look in the back of the van - and see the purse, money, and weapons. Officer Beth looks devastated.

OFFICER SIMON  
Always the quiet ones.

EXT. ROCKY OUTCROPPING NEAR ROADBLOCK - DAY

Coyote and Crow, as men, watch as Jordan and the Guru are led to a police car in handcuffs, and driven off.

CROW  
What do we do now?

COYOTE  
I needed that money.

CROW  
Why?

COYOTE  
(evasive)  
Uh, no reason. Coyote living just  
sucks sometimes. Everyone's always  
trying to shoot me.

(MORE)

COYOTE (CONT'D)

(gloomy pause)

Not that being human's much different.

CROW

We could go to Antelope's house and hang out. He has a huge TV...

Coyote looks at him like he's nuts.

CROW (CONT'D)

Oh. Yeah. Forgot. Sorry.

(pause)

How about Buffalo-- oh, yeah.

(pause)

You don't have many friends.

Coyote is incensed.

COYOTE

I have friends. Tons of them. Plethoras.

Awkward silence.

CROW

*Imaginary* friends?

Coyote jumps up.

COYOTE

I'll show you.

Coyote marches away from town.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Just gotta make one stop on the way.

Crow scurries after him.

INT. BANK ROBBERS' CAR - DAY

Tom (driving), Tess, and Shady ride down the street in front of Solly's Bar. Officer Martin and Officer Aggie, looking chummy, are having a smoke outside the bar door.

SHADY

Duck!

Tess and Tom take a deep breath before they both duck down inside the car.



EXT. SOLLY'S BAR - DAY

Officer Martin and Officer Aggie watch the car coast by without a visible driver.

OFFICER MARTIN

Must be one of them octogenarians.

Officer Aggie nods wisely.

INT. BANK ROBBERS' CAR - DAY

Tom, Tess, and Shady pop up and look back. No one pursues them. Tess looks relieved. Tom, discouraged.

TOM

So the cops got the thieves *and* the cash at the roadblock. And now they got *all* the money from the bar...

Tess realizes what he's saying.

TESS

It's over.

SHADY

No one's stupid enough to take all that money to a seedy bar. They hid most of it before they even got there.

TESS

So it's not over?

SHADY

Not even close. We break them out of jail.

(rubs hand gleefully)

Torture them for answers, and voila, we have our money back.

Tess and Tom mouth "torture?" to each other with distaste. Shady chuckles evilly.

EXT. ORPHANAGE - DAY

Coyote and Crow run across the desert away from the orphanage, chased by angry NUNS and ORPHANS waving sticks.

CROW

If you hadn't tried stealing their pie--

COYOTE

Aren't they supposed to turn the other cheek?

CROW  
No, I think it's 'return some cheek'.

COYOTE  
Well, they did that.

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - DAY

Coyote and Crow walk through the big ranch gates. Typical ranch buildings spread before them - except there's also a Sweat Lodge, a Meditation Hall, Dining Hall, Dorms, and comfy outside seating areas.

CROW  
This isn't a ranch. Where are the cows?

COYOTE  
There used to be cows.

CROW  
Where's your friend?

COYOTE  
I don't know. The daughter lives here now.

AMY, a vivacious young woman, pops up from an outdoor seating area. She rushes toward them.

CROW  
That's her?

Coyote shakes his head. Amy's eyes glow as she reaches Coyote and takes his hands in hers.

AMY  
At last, you're here. I can't believe it!

COYOTE  
Uh, yeah. We're here.

Amy laughs with joy. In the background, TWITCHY GIRL, a googly eyed, spiked-haired woman sees Crow and stops short.

AMY  
I mean of course I knew you were coming but just seeing you here, in front of me...  
(beat)  
Welcome! Welcome, Guru.

Coyote hesitates, then puts on a noble air. Twitchy Girl sidles closer.

COYOTE  
Thank you, little one.

Crow mouths "little one?"

AMY  
Amy. I'm Amy.

COYOTE  
Ah, yes, Amy. I apologize for our  
disheveled appearance. We've walked  
many miles.

AMY  
You walked? I know you embrace  
minimalist living, Guru, but I can't  
imagine... You must be so tired.

COYOTE  
Not me. I'm far too strong. But my  
brother is fatigued, aren't you...  
Charles?

Twitchy Girl can't stop staring at Crow as she edges closer.

AMY  
Your assistant is your brother?

Coyote thinks fast.

COYOTE  
As are all men, and women my sisters.

AMY  
You are so wise, Guru.

COYOTE  
I'm hungry too.

CROW  
Me too.

AMY  
Uh, well, lunch is just over, but  
I'm sure Cook will have something  
for you.

As Amy leads them toward the Dining Hall, Twitchy Girl follows  
at a discrete distance.

AMY (CONT'D)  
You'll love the food here.  
Everything's vegan. Cook's organic,  
fair trade, sprouted spelt muffins  
are to die for.

Crow and Coyote make "yuck" faces to each other.

COYOTE  
How about some steak?

Amy looks shocked, then laughs. The Guru is a joker!

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Shady, Tess, and Tom wait in an alley across from the Police Station. Tess and Tom fidget, while Shady stares out, ignoring them. Tess's purse is even larger.

TESS  
(whisper to Tom)  
Nothing's *still* happening.

TOM  
(whisper to Tess)  
We're never going to get Mom's headstone at this pace.

Shady pretends not to listen to them.

TESS  
(whisper to Tom)  
She knows we lost the money, Tommy. She's looking down on us - feeling disappointed.

Tom glances at Shady's back and speaks a little louder.

TOM  
It's not over yet, sis. Shady knows what he's doing.

Tess understands what Tom is doing.

TESS  
You're right. He's so smart.

Shady smiles.

TESS (CONT'D)  
Almost as smart as Mom.

Shady grinds his teeth, whips out his phone, jabs in numbers.

SHADY  
Help! My wife is beating me! 123 Amarillo Lane. Hurry!

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - DINING HALL - DAY

Coyote and Crow sit on benches at a long table. Amy faces away from them on the other side with a cell phone to her ear. BOAZ, a gloomy young man, puts muffins in front of Coyote and Crow.

BOAZ

I've followed your teachings for  
years, Guru. And now--

Amy shushes Boaz with a wave, and he walks away dejected. Crow and Coyote grimace and take a tentative bite. It's delicious and their faces show it - until they catch each others' eye. Quickly, they make "yuck" faces and fake retch.

Boaz, coming back with drinks, sees their expressions and looks concerned. Twitchy Girl slips in through the doorway.

AMY

(into phone)

Okay. See you in a minute.

She disconnects. Boaz gives Coyote and Crow their drinks.

BOAZ

Is the food okay, Guru?

Amy frowns at Boaz.

AMY

Let the Guru eat in peace, Boaz.

BOAZ

Sorry, Guru.

Boaz reluctantly leaves. Twitchy Girl scoots a bit closer.

AMY

(to Coyote)

Cinta will be here in a second.

Coyote nods, his mouth too full to speak.

AMY (CONT'D)

And here she is.

CINTA, dark hair flowing, flawless skin, intelligent and kind eyes - she's got it all! Coyote swallows audibly, and jumps to his feet. Crow stumbles up after him, tipping his chair. Crash! Cinta takes Coyote's hands.

CINTA

Guru, we are so honored to have you  
here.

Coyote seems speechless.

CINTA (CONT'D)  
And this is Jordan?

AMY  
Charles.

CINTA  
Charles?

Coyote collects himself.

COYOTE  
Jordan Charles. I sometimes call him  
Charles.

CROW  
*Sir* Jordan Charles. At your service.

CINTA  
You've been knighted?

COYOTE  
No, he forgot his meds.

Awkward moment.

CINTA  
Well, everyone is dying to meet you  
both. You're here just in time for  
afternoon meditation.

Cinta, Amy, and Coyote walk toward the door, Crow hangs back to gulp down more food. He notices Twitchy Girl watching him shovel it in, makes a "yuck" face, and hurries to the door.

INT. POLICE STATION - BOOKING ROOM - DAY

Totally dispirited, Officer George takes Jordan's mug shot. Poor Jordan looks even more depressed than Officer George. Click.

OFFICER GEORGE  
Turn, please.

Jordan obediently turns. Click.

OFFICER GEORGE (CONT'D)  
Next.

Jordan slumps out of sight. The Guru steps in front of the camera, a massive smile on his face.

OFFICER GEORGE (CONT'D)  
You may not want to smile, Sir.

GURU  
I do want to smile. Thank you.

OFFICER GEORGE  
But no one smiles for these things.

GURU  
It's my first photograph. I want to look nice.

OFFICER GEORGE  
You've never had your picture taken?

The Guru grins wider as he shakes his head.

GURU  
I've never been arrested for robbing a bank either. It's all very exciting.

Officer George doesn't know what to say to this.

OFFICER GEORGE  
Suit yourself.

Click.

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - OUTSIDE MEDITATION HALL - DAY

Three Spiritual SEEKERS join Coyote, Cinta, and Boaz as they walk toward the Meditation Hall. Crow, Amy, and Twitchy Girl walk behind, Crow between the two women.

BOAZ  
When I heard you were going to be here, I had to come.

Coyote's hardly listening.

SEEKER ONE  
I even canceled my visit with the Dalai Llama.

SEEKER TWO  
Guru, can you help me with my meditation technique?

CINTA  
Are you on the list?

SEEKER TWO  
(proudly)  
Top fifty.

Coyote stops short. The others stop as well.

COYOTE

Fifty?

SEEKER TWO

Can you get me in earlier, Guru?

Crow, Twitchy Girl, and Amy catch up and stop.

COYOTE

Uh...

BOAZ

You can't jump the line.

Twitchy girl edges closer to Crow. He moves away.

SEEKER THREE

You can switch with me. I'm mainly here for the solstice party anyway.

CROW

Party?

Twitchy Girl nods enthusiastically - right beside Crow again. Crow moves away once more.

COYOTE

Actually, no need for appointments. I'll align the energies instead and uh, caretake your inner selves at the exact solstice moment where the earth shifts and reality enters a new stage of being and... well, you know. Solstice surprise!

The Seekers, Cinta, Amy, and Boaz look both confused and elated, while Crow looks disgusted with Coyote. Finally...

AMY

You can do that?

COYOTE

I can do anything.

CINTA

Will you... I know you just got here but will you lead the meditation? It would mean so much to everyone.

COYOTE

Oh, I think I--



CROW

Sure he will. He can do anything.

Twitchy Girl giggles, again right beside Crow. Crow startles.

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Mole sits by her fire TV, watching Coyote in the flames. With dismay, she wiggles her nose. The council comes up in the fire.

MOLE

You saw?

Owl and Deer nod.

RATTLESNAKE

(in flames)

Yesss, we sssaw!

FOX

(in flames)

We most certainly did.

MOLE

They said he was the guru, not him.

FOX

(in flames)

He didn't correct them.

MOLE

That's not enough to banish him.

OWL

(in flames)

I agree.

Fox huffs.

OWL (CONT'D)

(in flames)

But I suggest you get him out of there quickly, Mole.

MOLE

I'll do what I can.

Mole wiggles her nose again and the image fades. Mole sighs.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Tess and Tom lean against the alleyway wall, bored to tears. Shady dials again.

SHADY  
(falsetto voice)  
This the po-lease?

INT. POLICE STATION - CELLS - DAY

Officer George escorts a serene, happy Guru and depressed Jordan to a cell. The two prisoners step inside.

JORDAN  
We don't even look like criminals.

Officer George locks the cell.

OFFICER GEORGE  
If there's been a mistake, the  
investigating officer will know soon  
enough.

JORDAN  
Who is the investigating officer?  
When can we talk to him?

Officer Beth steps into the room. Jordan brightens.

JORDAN (CONT'D)  
Or her.

Officer Beth ignores him.

OFFICER BETH  
There's a crime wave out there,  
Georgie. Five calls in ten minutes.  
Can you manage here alone?

OFFICER GEORGE  
I'll try.

GURU  
He'll do a fine job.

Officer Beth refuses to look at the smiling Guru.

OFFICER BETH  
Nice to know the perps have faith in  
you.

OFFICER GEORGE  
He's just--

Officer Beth doesn't wait around.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Tess and Tom practice their quick draw together. Shady shoves his phone in his pocket, an evil grin on his face.

SHADY  
Give me the disguise.

Tess pulls a handful of curls from her purse. She looks at Tom, pure happiness on her face.

TESS  
Got it the first time.

SHADY  
(disgusted)  
What is that?

Tess's face falls.

TOM  
She just started her new bag, Boss.

Shady huffs as he snatches the mop of ringlets.

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - MEDITATION HALL - DAY

Coyote at the front of a large group of Seekers, Twitchy Girl in the front row beside Crow. All are in full lotus position, except Coyote. He's trying but isn't flexible enough. Frustrated, he looks at Crow - who has donned the position flawlessly. Cinta, sitting nearby, leans forward.

CINTA  
Are you okay, Guru?

Coyote sits normally. Stares out at the crowd. What's he supposed to do? Suddenly, Coyote smiles, tips his head back, and howls! Stunned expressions surround him. Then Cinta starts howling. Crow grins, then howls. The others join in - all but a few Seekers who whisper together, looking bothered.

INT. POLICE STATION - FRONT DESK - DAY

Officer George stands with his back to the door, filing paperwork. Suddenly, he gags. Something smells horrific!

SHADY  
Hey!

Officer George spins around; his eyes widen. Shady wears a girly cowboy hat over the ringlets, a silk scarf around his neck.

SHADY (CONT'D)

A hippie van almost ran me down, the  
one in your impound lot.

Officer George speaks nasally in an effort to block the smell.

OFFICER GEORGE

I'll give you a form--

SHADY

I want a description of the driver.

OFFICER GEORGE

But... how would I know what he looks  
like?

SHADY

You have him here, don't you?

Shady moves his hand to his coat pocket where there's a gun  
sized lump. Officer George notices a scar on Shady's wrist.

OFFICER GEORGE

But this may not be the driver who  
almost ran you down.

SHADY

Scruffy, thirties, brown hair, yellowy  
eyes.

Officer George shakes his head.

OFFICER GEORGE

Not the same guy. But you should  
still report it.

Officer George turns to the filing cabinets, opens one.

OFFICER GEORGE (CONT'D)

Chances are, the van is long gone,  
but you never know. Here's the form--

Slam! Officer George looks back. Shady is gone.

INT. BANK ROBBERS' CAR - DAY

Tom and Tess pick up Shady. Just before he jumps in, they  
each take a deep breath of air.

SHADY

To the road block.

TOM

The road block?

Shady controls himself with effort.

SHADY

They got in the van. The van didn't stop until the road block. Unless they leapt invisibly from a moving vehicle, they got out when it stopped.

TOM

But the cops would've seen--

Shady leans toward Tom, fists clenched.

SHADY

They got out at the road block!

Sweating, Tom jams the car in gear and takes off. Breathing heavily, Shady leans back in his seat.

SHADY (CONT'D)

Then they went across the desert.

TESS

Across the desert?

Shady's about to blow!

INT. POLICE STATION - CELLS - DAY

Officer George carries a tray holding two apples, two dry rolls, and some sickly looking cheese slices into the cell block. The Guru meditates on the floor. Jordan jumps up hopefully, then sees the tray. Dispirited, he takes the tray.

JORDAN

Thanks for getting us vegetarian anyway.

Jordan sits beside the Guru, holds out an apple. The Guru opens his eyes, sees how depressed Jordan is, puts his hand gently on Jordan's arm.

GURU

Remember, Jordan, dissatisfaction comes from desire.

Officer George, who is leaving, slows down to listen.

JORDAN

I know, Guru. I'm trying.

The Guru shakes his head.

GURU

Trying *is* desiring a certain outcome,  
even if that desire is to no longer  
desire. Instead, focus on what *is*.  
This beautiful apple...

Officer George keeps walking.

EXT. DESERT NEAR FORMER ROADBLOCK - EVENING

Shady, Tess, and Tom scour the desert. Tess sees the same  
boot prints as before.

TESS

Over here!

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - COYOTE'S CABIN - NIGHT

Cinta and Coyote walk toward his cabin. Behind them, Crow  
crosses their path. He looks back. Yup, Twitchy Girl follows  
him. Crow breaks into a jog. Twitchy Girl jogs after him.  
Cinta and Coyote keep walking.

CINTA

I am so honored that you came here,  
Guru. I've admired your work for  
years.

COYOTE

Yes, of course, little one. There is  
much to admire.

Cinta stops in amazement, and Coyote stops beside her.

CINTA

I understand. Thank you.

Coyote raises an eyebrow, questioning.

CINTA (CONT'D)

If I have a gift, then say it. I  
only make my strengths more ego-based  
if I treat them with traditional  
modesty and self deprecation. I need  
to express truth, not convention, be  
honest about what is and is not.

COYOTE

Uh, exactly.

CINTA

Modesty is yet another manipulation,  
a game that distracts us and detracts  
from truth. Oh, Guru. Thank you.

COYOTE

Anytime.

They start walking again.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

So if you were to tell me about  
yourself, being completely honest,  
what would you say?

CINTA

If you're asking what gifts I have,  
I don't really know.

(pause)

Maybe I don't have any.

COYOTE

You have gifts. Probably more than  
you realize.

They reach the cabin, and stop to face each other.

CINTA

Do you know what they are?

Coyote leans toward her, searching her eyes - then pulls abruptly back. Cinta wraps her arms around herself, ducks her head.

COYOTE

Maybe you should ask someone who  
knows you best. Like your mother.  
Do, uh, you see her often?

CINTA

I'm sorry. I shouldn't have asked.  
Have a good night, Guru.

Cinta hurries away.

EXT. DESERT HILLTOP NEAR RANCHO ESPIRITU - DAWN

Exhausted, Shady, Tess, and Tom see the ranch in the distance.  
They trudge toward it.

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - COYOTE'S CABIN - MORNING

Coyote wakes in his bed, opening his eyes to see Mole sitting  
at the table in the tiny kitchenette in his one room cabin.  
Two coffees on the table.

COYOTE

You going to yell at me again?

MOLE

No... Guru.

Coyote gets out of bed, sits across from Mole in his boxers.

COYOTE

They started it.

MOLE

And you need to end it before you hurt someone. They're innocents.

Coyote scoffs and gulps his coffee. It burns all the way down.

COYOTE

They're not innocent. They're humans.

MOLE

These humans are seeking truth and meaning.

COYOTE

Then maybe they can teach me something.

Mole gives a "you might be right" look, and sips her coffee.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

So why are you here? Still looking for the hidden good in me?

MOLE

Why are you here? That's the question.

COYOTE

(all innocence)  
What do you mean?

MOLE

No offense, but this doesn't seem like your natural environment.

Coyote looks out the window, evasive. Mole studies him.

MOLE (CONT'D)

It's that young woman who runs the place, isn't it? You're attracted to her.

Coyote looks disgusted.

COYOTE

I'd never, not her.



MOLE

Why not? She's beautiful. Kind.  
(beat)  
Easily influenced.

COYOTE

Because I don't want to hurt her.

MOLE

There's only one way to not hurt  
her. Leave.

COYOTE

I can't. I have a meditation to lead.

MOLE

You mean the Guru has a meditation  
to lead.

COYOTE

But he's not here, is he?

They have a staring match as Mole tries to figure this out.

MOLE

I may not know what game you're  
playing, but I know there is one.

COYOTE

This isn't a game.

MOLE

Then what is it?

Coyote stares out the window again. Mole realizes she's not  
going to get an answer. She goes to the door, and stops there.

MOLE (CONT'D)

You need to open your eyes, Coyote.  
See how when you hurt one lowly human,  
no matter how pretty she is, you  
hurt everyone.

Coyote is incensed.

COYOTE

I see just fine.

Mole opens her mouth to say more.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Save your breath, Mole. My life, my  
choice.

Mole shakes her head, and leaves, the door clicking softly behind her. Upset, Coyote dumps his coffee in the sink.

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - OUTSIDE MEDITATION HALL - MORNING

Coyote slouches toward the Meditation Hall, stumbles over a stone, then glances back at it crossly. A second stone appears in his path, and he trips over it too. He looks wildly around.

COYOTE

Ha ha! Very funny, Mole!

CINTA (O.S.)

Good morning, Guru!

Cinta hurries toward him, all sunshine and smiles. His scowl deepens, and her joy slips away. They walk toward the Mediation Hall together.

CINTA (CONT'D)

Is something wrong?

COYOTE

Do I look blind to you?

CINTA

No?

Another stone appears in his path. Coyote trips and stumbles forward. He rights himself, frustrated and embarrassed.

CINTA (CONT'D)

You seem tired, Guru.

COYOTE

I *am* tired. Yes. That's it. And yes, you may lead the meditation this morning, my dear.

He strides onward, leaving a surprised Cinta to catch up.

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - MEDITATION HALL - DAY

Cinta brings a cushion to Coyote, who stands before the crowd of eager Seekers. Amy and Boaz sit in the front row. Twitchy Girl waits for Crow near the door.

CINTA

(quiet)

For you, Guru.

Cinta sits on the ground, and Coyote sits beside her. With the cushion, he too can get into the full lotus position. Twitchy Girl gives up, and joins the meditation.

CINTA (CONT'D)  
I will be leading the meditation  
this morning.

Murmurs of dissatisfaction. Cinta looks worried.

CINTA (CONT'D)  
A guided nature meditation if--

SEEKER ONE  
Why isn't the Guru leading?

CINTA  
I, uh--

SEEKER FOUR  
I could've stayed home for this.

Some agreement from the crowd. Coyote nods encouragement to Cinta, and she rallies.

CINTA  
The Guru is tired, and he asked me  
to lead.

The murmurs grow quieter.

CINTA (CONT'D)  
This morning, we'll do a nature  
mediation to turn our minds toward  
the glories that surround us...

INT. POLICE STATION - FRONT DESK - DAY

Officer George sits at the computer, watching the security footage from the bank. Officer Simon rifles through a file cabinet behind him. Officer Martin comes in. Officer George quickly minimizes the screen.

OFFICER MARTIN  
Get me some coffee.

Officer Martin leaves and Officer George rises to get the coffee.

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - MEDITATION HALL - DAY

Coyote sits half dreaming. Cinta murmurs soothingly.

CINTA  
Feel the current sweeping you along.  
You are safe in the river's embrace.  
Your worries separate from you, flow  
away from you.

INT. POLICE STATION - FRONT DESK - DAY

Officer George sits down again to watch the video footage. He zooms in on one bearded face and moves single frames forward, inspecting each one. Officer Simon takes out a file and goes to leave.

OFFICER SIMON

Hey, I could use some coffee too.  
Bring it to my office.

Officer George looks frustrated, but still gets up to fetch coffee.

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - MEDITATION HALL - DAY

Coyote blissfully listens to the hum of Cinta's voice.

MOLE (V.O.)

Blind.

COYOTE

(whisper)  
Mole.

Cinta stumbles in her guided meditation.

CINTA

Uh, beside the river, a mole waddles  
along...  
(voice fades into  
background)

MOLE (V.O.)

Open your eyes and truly see.

Coyote opens his eyes. What is this filament of light touching his chest? The string of light draws out to touch Cinta, who doesn't appear to feel it. The light splits and continues on to Boaz and Amy, and from them to the other Seekers, even the dissatisfied Seekers sitting in back, until all are connected by a bright web. A fly buzzes past, a filament of light connecting it. A plant to the side, connected. Coyote jams his eyes shut, irritated.

COYOTE

I am not blind.

CINTA

Uh, the mole speaks softly in your  
ear. I am not blind. You are not  
blind.

INT. POLICE STATION - FRONT DESK - DAY

Finally alone, Officer George starts the video footage again. He sees the scar on a bank robber's hand. He recognizes it!

OFFICER GEORGE

Who's the loser now?

Officer George grabs a blank paper and starts to sketch.

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - MEDITATION HALL - DAY

Back row of the crowd of Seekers: who else but Shady with lots of breathing space around him. Tess and Tom meditate like pros nearby. Shady simply glares at Coyote.

The meditation ends. The Seekers closest to Shady jump up to move farther from him. Tess and Tom edge away too but Shady motions them over. They reluctantly comply.

TOM

That was amazing. I feel like I dropped ten years.

TESS

Me too. If she's that good, just think how good the Guru's gonna be.

SHADY

He's the guy from the bar, you idiots. The thief.

Tess and Tom look at Coyote, who is talking to Cinta.

TESS

Oh. Yeah.  
(beat)  
He likes her.

SHADY

Hmm.

INT. POLICE STATION - OUTSIDE INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Officer George knocks on the Interrogation Room door, a paper in one hand. No answer. He knocks again, louder. The door opens. Officer Martin looks out.

OFFICER MARTIN

Go away.

OFFICER GEORGE

I need to talk to Robert.

He glances around Officer Martin and sees Officer Robert questioning the smiling Guru.

OFFICER MARTIN

He's busy.

Officer Martin goes to shut the door, but Officer George puts his foot in the way. Officer Martin is furious! He pushes Officer George back and steps out into the hallway with him.

OFFICER ROBERT (O.S.)

What is it?

OFFICER GEORGE

I found--

OFFICER MARTIN

Nothing, Sir. I'll take care of it.

Officer Martin shuts the door.

OFFICER MARTIN (CONT'D)

What did you find?

OFFICER GEORGE

I met one of the bank robbers. He came in here when everyone was gone on those prank calls.

Officer George inhales sharply.

OFFICER GEORGE (CONT'D)

He *made* those calls. So he could empty the station. But why?

Another gasp from Officer George.

OFFICER GEORGE (CONT'D)

His partners must've double crossed him and he wanted to know if they'd been caught.

Officer Martin snatches the paper from Officer George. It's a drawing of Shady, complete with ringlets, scarf, and girly cowboy hat. Officer Martin shoves it into Officer George's chest.

OFFICER MARTIN

I'm sick of wasting my time with you. Go do something useful before I scrub the toilets with your head.

Officer Martin turns back to the door.

OFFICER GEORGE

But Jordan and the Guru didn't rob  
the bank. The perps are still out  
there.

Officer Martin goes inside the Interrogation Room and slams  
the door.

INT. POLICE STATION - OUTSIDE CELLS - DAY

Officer George walks forlornly past the cell block.

JORDAN (O.S.)

Hey! Anyone there? Hello?

INT. POLICE STATION - CELLS - DAY

Jordan is alone in his cell. Officer George comes in.

OFFICER GEORGE

Yeah?

JORDAN

Has anyone phoned Rancho Espiritu?  
They'll wonder what happened to us.

Officer George looks puzzled.

OFFICER GEORGE

You were supposed to be there  
yesterday morning.

JORDAN

Yeah.

OFFICER GEORGE

And they don't know why you didn't  
arrive.

JORDAN

As far as I know.

OFFICER GEORGE

So why didn't they report you missing?

Now Jordan looks puzzled too.

JORDAN

I don't know.

OFFICER GEORGE

(suddenly decisive)

No need to call them. I'm heading  
that way now. I'll tell them.

He strides out.

JORDAN

Thank you?

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - COYOTE'S CABIN - DAY

Coyote walks in, and stops short. He recognizes that smell! Tess and Tom come from behind him, each seizing an arm. They propel him to a chair in the middle of the room and make him sit. In front of Coyote, an armchair slowly turns to reveal Shady, looking villainy as he polishes his gun.

SHADY

Where's my money?

COYOTE

And what money would that be?

Shady motions his head to Tom. Tom looks like a deer in the headlights. Shady signals again. Tess gets it.

TESS

Oh.

She pulls fluffy pink handcuffs from her purse (which is now even bigger). Embarrassed, she shoves them back. Shady rolls his eyes. She hauls out duct tape next. Tom tapes Coyote's hands behind him to the chair.

SHADY

So once more, where's my money?

COYOTE

You should keep better track of your stuff, man.

Shady approaches Coyote, gun still in hand, and leans down. They're nose to nose. He presses the gun to Coyote's heart.

SHADY

Last chance. Where is it?

COYOTE

Oh, you mean the *bank's* money.

Coyote grins.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

I spent it.

Tess makes a choking noise. Tom thumps her on her back.



SHADY  
 (unbelieving)  
 You *spent* it?

COYOTE  
 Yup. At the bar. It was an awesome party, man. Too bad you missed it.

Shady looks at Tess and Tom hulking behind Coyote.

SHADY  
 Search the room.

Coyote chuckles. Shady backs off as Tess looks under the bed and Tom looks in the closet. They find nothing, and stop.

SHADY (CONT'D)  
 Not just for money, idiots. A key. A map. A clue. For Pete's sake.

Tess and Tom exchange a glance.

TESS  
 (whisper)  
 Who's Pete?

Tom shrugs, and goes into the bathroom. Energetic thumps emerge. Tess upends the mattress and slices it with a very large knife that must've come from her new magical purse.

COYOTE  
 Explain to me, why do bad guys always cut the mattress? Wouldn't it already be cut if I hid something in there?

Tess glares at him, and moves on to the cupboards.

SHADY  
 (to Coyote)  
 You can stop this. Just tell us where it is.

COYOTE  
 Oh no no, go ahead. Mi casa es su casa.

The toilet flushes. Tom comes out of the bathroom, TP trailing from one shoe. Tess finishes searching the main room. They both turn to Shady, looking a bit sheepish.

TOM  
 Uh, can't find nothing, Boss.

SHADY  
 Okay, so what *did* you find?

Tess and Tom look at each other, confused.

SHADY (CONT'D)

You said you can't find nothing,  
which means you found something!

COYOTE

Maybe Pete has it.

Enraged, Shady swings his gun toward Coyote - but suddenly, it's not a gun. It's a sharp spined cactus branch. Shady screams! Coyote's eyes flash, and the rug beneath Tess's feet whips across the room. She falls!

TOM

Tess!

The overhead light crashes down on Tom's head. He doesn't go down, but he's shaken. He staggers to Tess's side.

TOM (CONT'D)

You okay?

Shady drops the cactus, leaving wicked looking spines jutting from his skin.

SHADY

Get him!

TESS

(to Tom)

I'm okay. Get him, for me.

Tom strides toward Coyote - but a single floorboard pops up to smack him in the nose. He yells in pain.

TESS (CONT'D)

Tom!

Tom clutches his blood-spurting nose. Shady's hand shakes as he pulls out a single massive spine. In the midst of the chaos, the tape holding Coyote unwinds. Calmly, he saunters to the door, where he turns. Tess and Tom edge closer to Coyote, but stop short when he puts up his hand. What's he going to do now?

COYOTE

Feel free to use the shower. Towels  
in the cupboard. Peace and light, my  
sister and brothers. Say hi to Pete  
for me.

And he's out the door. Shady bellows in anger and pain! In the silence that follows:

TESS

Pete doesn't get any of our money,  
does he, Boss?

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - FRONT OF OFFICE - DAY

A police car pulls up and parks. Officer George gets out and walks to the office door. Twitchy Girl wanders by, obviously searching. In the background, Crow comes out of the Dining Hall, a vegan muffin in each hand. He sees Twitchy Girl walking away, and slips furtively into the shadows.

Coyote walks by. Crow takes a big bite of a muffin, then throws the rest at Coyote to get his attention. When Coyote looks, Crow points at the police car.

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - OFFICE - DAY

Cinta sits behind her desk, Officer George across from her. Her face shows shock and confusion.

CINTA

You're joking.

OFFICER GEORGE

I'm afraid not, Ma'am.

CINTA

But - sorry, I just don't understand -  
how can the Guru be in custody?

OFFICER GEORGE

If you don't mind, Ma'am, I'll ask  
the questions here. He was set to  
arrive yesterday morning, right?

Cinta nods.

OFFICER GEORGE (CONT'D)

So why didn't you report him missing?

CINTA

For being late?

OFFICER GEORGE

He's a little more than late.

CINTA

Not really.

OFFICER GEORGE

After twenty-four hours we usually  
consider a person missing.

CINTA

He's not missing. I just ate lunch with him.

OFFICER GEORGE

You mean he's here? And Jordan, uh, his assistant too?

CINTA

Jordan Charles. Yes.

(confused)

So they aren't in custody then.

OFFICER GEORGE

Yes, they are. Since yesterday.

Cinta gets up.

CINTA

The Guru can clear this up.

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - COYOTE'S CABIN - DAY

Shady, Tess, and Tom (bloody TP sticking out of his nostrils) straggle away from Coyote's cabin. They see Officer George and Cinta come toward them, rush to a flower bed, and pretend to weed. Cinta and Officer George hardly notice them as they pass. Knock knock on the cabin door. No answer.

CINTA

Maybe he's meditating.

Officer George knocks, louder. Again, no answer.

OFFICER GEORGE

Stand back.

Officer George throws his shoulder against the door - and rebounds into Cinta! They both fall, ending up face to face. They stare into each others' eyes, enchanted.

TWITCHY GIRL

You seen Jordan Charles?

Twitchy Girl looks down on them. Cinta jumps up, brushes herself off. Officer George, red-faced, climbs to his feet.

CINTA

In the dining hall. It was a while ago though.

TWITCHY GIRL

Thanks!

Twitchy Girl takes off. Alone again, Cinta and Officer George can't meet each other's gaze. Cinta turns the doorknob; the door isn't locked. Now Officer George is really embarrassed. The door swings open to reveal the ruined cabin. Cinta gasps.

OFFICER GEORGE

You need to tell me about this guru.  
And a photo, if you have one.

CINTA

(still shocked)

No pictures. The Guru says that a teacher's image can obstruct a student's connection to the divine.

OFFICER GEORGE

Then describe him to me.

EXT. DESERT HILLTOP OVERLOOKING RANCHO ESPIRITU - DAY

Coyote sits at the top of the hill, watching Cinta and Officer George walk back to her Office. Crow stands beside him, impatient.

CROW

Come on, Coyote.

COYOTE

You go.

Crow sits down beside Coyote.

CROW

It's because of her, isn't it? Cinta.  
You like her.

COYOTE

I don't like her.

CROW

That's why you're always staring at her?

COYOTE

Okay, I like her. But I don't *like* like her.

CROW

Why not? She's the most beautiful human I've ever seen.

COYOTE

Surely you can comprehend non-sexual relationships, Crow. You like me don't you?

Crow looks disgusted. Coyote rolls his eyes.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

You idiot. I like her, but the way you like me.

CROW

So you admire her?

Coyote smiles a slow smile.

COYOTE

You admire me?

CROW

No, no. I didn't say that.

COYOTE

Yes, you did.

CROW

No, I said *I perspire*.

COYOTE

You *perspire* me?

CROW

I mean I... I inspire. That's it. I inspire you.

COYOTE

Yeah. In your dreams.

Down below, Officer George and Cinta walk toward the police car. Twitchy Girl rushes toward them. Crow looks down at Twitchy girl, then stands.

CROW

I can't go back, man. I just can't.

COYOTE

I know. I won't tell Mole.

CROW

She'll know anyway.

COYOTE

Yeah.

Coyote stands, faces Crow. Crow's eyes glisten with emotion.

CROW

It's been fun, Coyote.

Crow goes to hug Coyote, but Coyote puts up his hand.

COYOTE

Just go, man.

Crow walks quickly away, raises his arms, transforms into a crow, and flies away. Down below, the police car drives off. Coyote starts down the hill.

INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

A WAITRESS hands Officer George a bag of takeout.

OFFICER GEORGE

And it's vegan?

WAITRESS

Sure is, hon.

OFFICER GEORGE

Thanks.

INT. POLICE STATION - CELLS - EVENING

Officer George carries the takeout to the Guru's and Jordan's cell, and hands it through to Jordan.

OFFICER GEORGE

You know a male in his thirties,  
brown hair, amber eyes. Skinny.

Jordan shakes his head.

OFFICER GEORGE (CONT'D)

You, Guru?

GURU

I do not.

Officer George starts to leave.

GURU (CONT'D)

Thank you for your kindness, George.

OFFICER GEORGE

Just doing my job.

GURU

Then thank you for being good at  
your job.

At the door, Officer George stops.

OFFICER GEORGE

You're the only one who thinks that.

GURU

It's what we are that defines us,  
not what others *think* we are. What  
are you?

OFFICER GEORGE

Uh, I'm not really into--

GURU

Into seeing yourself clearly? How  
can you act wisely if you don't see  
yourself honestly?

Officer George is at a loss for words.

GURU (CONT'D)

Throw the opinions of others away.  
Remove them from your mind, lock  
them out, whatever you have to do to  
discard them.

The Guru watches Officer George watch him for a long moment.

GURU (CONT'D)

Now, what are you?

Officer George's eyes widen.

OFFICER GEORGE

I'm good at my job.

The Guru smiles and nods.

GURU

That you are.

INT. POLICE STATION - FRONT DESK - EVENING

Officer George studies papers strewn across the desk. He  
checks one report against another, against another.

Highlight on Report One: Brown hair, hazel eyes, 30's.

Highlight on Report Two: Brown hair, yellowy eyes, 30's.

OFFICER GEORGE

Who are you?

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - OFFICE - EVENING

Cinta at her desk. A knock. Amy looks in, smiling.

AMY

The Guru's back. Finally. Time for  
Satsang. It's going to be awesome.



CINTA

Great. Thanks, Amy. I'll be there in a minute.

Amy leaves. Cinta straightens her papers, and gets up.

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - FRONT OF OFFICE - EVENING

Cinta locks the office door, then walks through the growing darkness toward the Meditation Hall. Suddenly, a large figure grabs her from behind, clamping a hand over her mouth to keep her quiet. Tom! He drags Cinta back into the shadows!

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - MEDITATION HALL - NIGHT

Coyote and Amy wait with the rest of the Seekers. Some Seekers murmur together, frowns on their faces. Dissatisfaction is growing. Amy chews her fingernails. Boaz rushes up.

BOAZ

She's not there, and the office is locked.

COYOTE

She just lost track of time.

BOAZ

Then where is she?

AMY

Don't argue with the Guru, Boaz. I'm sure he's right.

BOAZ

Sorry, Guru.

AMY

Maybe she decided to do a quick meditation before the party.

COYOTE

Where does she meditate?

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - OUTSIDE CINTA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Amy leads Boaz and Coyote along the hall toward the door.

AMY

She has to be in her room. She wouldn't just leave.

Amy knocks on the door.

AMY (CONT'D)

Cinta? Cinta, are you there?

Coyote notices the note on the door, takes it down.

BOAZ  
What's that?

Coyote reads the note, then hands it to Amy.

AMY  
(breathless)  
Kidnapped.

Boaz snatches the note and reads it.

BOAZ  
I'm calling the police.

AMY  
No! They say they'll hurt her. We  
have to do what they say.  
(turns to Guru)  
But I don't understand why they want  
you to come to Rainbow Canyon, Guru.

COYOTE  
(uncomfortable)  
Who knows why kidnapers do what  
they do?

SEEKERS (O.S.)  
(distant chanting -  
ongoing)  
Satsang. Satsang. Satsang.

AMY  
What are we going to do?

COYOTE  
Leave it to me.

AMY  
But--

But Coyote is gone.

BOAZ  
They said noon tomorrow.

AMY  
(unsure)  
He knows what he's doing.

The chanting grows louder.

BOAZ

We can tell them he's sick. They're not going to like it though.

AMY

It can't be helped. You talk to them, and I'll call her family.

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

Coyote hurries through the desert, away from Rancho Espiritu.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - NIGHT

Coyote strides into the middle of Rainbow Canyon, a steep walled box canyon with a narrow entrance and three caves high up the rock walls.

COYOTE

I'm here!

Silence.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Come out, you cowards!

No response. With superhuman speed, Coyote climbs up to a cave and goes inside to check it. He comes out moments later.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

If you bring her out now, I won't hurt you...

(whisper)

Much.

Nothing. He hurries on to the next cave. And the next. He comes out of the third cave, looks down into the canyon. It's deserted. He jumps down, landing far below, unharmed.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Mole! Crow!

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

Mole and Crow sit together by their fire, watching Coyote in their fire TV.

COYOTE

(in the flames)

I need your help!

Crow stands up. Mole shakes her head at Crow.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

(in the flames)

It's a big desert! I can't search it all myself.

CROW

You don't want to help him?

MOLE

What if this is the one thing that can get through to him, Crow? What if his attraction--

CROW

He says he doesn't *like* like her.

COYOTE

(in the flames)

I know you can hear me, guys!

MOLE

And you believe him?

CROW

Yeah. He says he *admires* her. Or inspires her... Or I said that.

MOLE

That makes more sense.

COYOTE

(in the flames)

I'm sorry I said I didn't want your help, Mole! I do! I really do!

MOLE

Consequences speak louder than we do, Crow. If he's likes her, he might feel bad if she's in danger.

CROW

But then... Cinta might be hurt.

Mole looks miserable. The fire TV crackles. Owl's face comes up in the flames.

OWL

(in the flames)

We need your report, Mole. No more excuses.

Mole sighs, nods, and stands. Wiggles her nose. The fire TV turns into a regular fire.

MOLE

You did a good job for me, Crow.  
Thank you.

Mole walks into the night.

EXT. ANOTHER DESERT HILLTOP - NIGHT

Coyote stops at the top of a hill, peers over the dark land spread around him.

COYOTE

Cinta!

EXT. DESERT - DAWN

Tireless, Coyote runs across the desert, still searching. He sees a puff of dust in the distance - a car racing across the desert. He changes direction to intercept.

INT. VW BUG - MORNING

DENISE, a dynamic, wiry woman in her 50's, speeds along, looking more at the landscape than where she's driving. Suddenly - thump - a body smacks against her windshield. She slams on the brakes, sending her victim flying forward.

EXT. DESERT BESIDE VW BUG - MORNING

Denise jumps out of her car to see Coyote, his back to her, laying in the dirt.

DENISE

Oh no no no no.

She hurries to his side, completely distraught, and carefully turns him over. When she sees his face, fury leaps to her eyes. She steps back and kicks him in the ribs.

DENISE (CONT'D)

I should've known!

She gets in another good kick before he jumps up. They face each other, both angry.

DENISE (CONT'D)

Where is she!?

COYOTE

Why didn't you tell me!?

Denise feigns to the right, then grabs Coyote as he steps to the left. One swift Karate move, and he's on his back.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Whoa. That's new.

She leans over him, deadly serious.

DENISE

Where is she?

(beat)

I know you know.

COYOTE

Some guy took her.

DENISE

Why?

Coyote hesitates. Denise slaps him across the face.

COYOTE

I took something from him.

Denise slaps him again.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Money.

Denise threatens to slap him again.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Bank money.

DENISE

You stole from the gang that robbed  
the Desierto Bank. Are you insane?  
Why would you do that?

COYOTE

I did it for--

Denise slaps him again, harder than ever. Then she's on her feet and pacing. Coyote sits up.

DENISE

So it's obvious. We give them the  
money, and they give us Cinta.

Coyote would rather be anywhere than in his own skin.

COYOTE

Except uh, I don't have it anymore.

Denise looks at him with disgust.

DENISE

How Cinta turned out so good and smart and kind, I'll never know.

COYOTE

Speaking of that, why didn't you tell me you were pregnant?

DENISE

When was I supposed to tell you? *Before* you left me without saying a word, or *after*? And how'd you find out anyway?

COYOTE

Completely by accident, six months ago. Six months out of twenty two years, Den. I can't believe you'd betray me--

DENISE

I betrayed you!? I betrayed you!!!  
You're the one who...  
(controls herself)  
This is irrelevant. We need to save Cinta.

COYOTE

I'll get her back for you. Not that you deserve my help or anything.

DENISE

You know what? Cinta and I have done fine without you so far! We'll keep on doing fine! I'll save her!

Denise stomps back toward her car.

DENISE (CONT'D)

You go do what you do best, and disappear.

COYOTE

Aw, come on. I'm sorry. I want to find her. I want to help.

DENISE

No! You only make things worse. Everywhere you go, people end up getting hurt. Go torment someone else.

COYOTE

But Denise...

She gets in her car, and zooms off, leaving Coyote in a cloud of dust.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Fine! I'm done with you both! Go  
live your stupid, pointless human  
lives without me. I! Don't! Care!

EXT. SACRED CAVE - DAY

Fox, Rattlesnake, Deer, Mole, and Owl sit around the stone table, watching Coyote on the fire TV as he stomps through the desert, kicking sagebrush and cactus. Owl gives the Queen wave, and the flames disappear.

MOLE

It isn't how it looks. It can't be.

FOX

It's exactly how it looks. He's  
abandoning his daughter.

RATTLESNAKE

For the sssecond time, I might add.

DEER

If I hadn't just seen it--

MOLE

It's my fault. He called me for help  
and I didn't go.

OWL

He makes his own choices, Mole. This  
isn't on you.

MOLE

But if I'd--

RATTLESNAKE

You did more than anyone, Mole.

Mole looks down at the table, defeated.

FOX

Time to vote.

All but Mole look to Owl. Owl pauses, then sighs. Nods.

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Shadows hang from saguaro cactus. Coyote trudges along. For the first time ever, we see him tired and breathing hard. Coyote drops onto a boulder, wipes his brow, and sits like The Thinker as he stares unseeing into the distance.



COYOTE

I don't owe them anything.

He jumps up and starts to pace.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

She betrayed *me*.

Faster. Back. Forth.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Cinta's going to be okay.

Back. Forth.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

That stupid human is bluffing. He won't hurt her.

Coyote spins around to pace back, but Mole stands in his way, her eyes radiating sadness. Coyote can't take it and turns away - but Crow stands behind him, looking mad. Coyote strides away from both of them.

MOLE

The council voted.

Coyote stops but doesn't turn.

CROW

After you stopped trying to help Cinta. That wasn't cool, man.

Mole touches Crow's arm. Let her do the talking.

MOLE

(to Coyote)

You should sit down.

Coyote turns to face them.

COYOTE

Bad news then. What a surprise.

Mole slowly approaches, hunched over as if she carries the world on her shoulders.

MOLE

Your powers have been taken.

Coyote's devastation strips away all his sarcasm. He slumps to the ground in complete despair.

MOLE (CONT'D)

Including your immortality.

COYOTE

I... I can *die* now? Just like...

MOLE

Just like the humans.

COYOTE

So this is what it feels like. To know death is... so close.

(hysterical laugh)

Kind of terrifying.

CROW

Yeah, Cinta knows all about that right now.

Coyote looks up at Crow with haunted respect, then slowly stands. He faces Mole, puts a hand on each of her shoulders.

COYOTE

Don't blame yourself. I totally deserve this.

(to Crow)

I hope you think better of me someday, man.

Coyote hurries away.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - DAY

Coyote stands in the center of the canyon, looks around.

COYOTE

I'm here! Hello!

Echoes, then silence.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

You want money? Come and get it!

A scuffling sound and Coyote looks up. Tess drops a rope ladder from a high up cave. Shady climbs down. Coyote walks to meet him, wrinkling his nose when he gets close. They face each other alone.

SHADY

You're early.

COYOTE

No point in procrastinating.

SHADY

You get me my money, you get the girl. Simple.

COYOTE

Not so simple. The police have it.

Shady scoffs.

SHADY

That's your problem. Have it here before dark, or we'll release her from the cave. Without a ladder.

Shady smiles evilly.

COYOTE

I'll be here.

Shady stomps away.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Hey, if a crazy woman shows up here at noon, just ignore her, okay?

Shady keeps stomping.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Okay then. It's a deal.

Coyote turns to go.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Coyote puts the pay phone receiver down, pulls a ball cap low, and strolls nonchalantly toward the Police Station. Officer Robert and Officer Beth rush out and jump in a squad car, then roar away, lights flashing.

INT. POLICE STATION - FRONT DESK - DAY

The front door opens. Coyote's head appears. It's clear. Coyote hurries inside. He stops by the front desk for a moment, scribbles a note on a post-it, and leaves it there.

OFFICER GEORGE (O.S.)

Right away, Martin.

OFFICER MARTIN (O.S.)

Be quick about it.

Coyote dashes down a...

INT. POLICE STATION - HALLWAY - DAY

Coyote hurries past the Lunch Room where Officer George pours a coffee for Officer Martin. He reads door signs as he goes. Ah, there it is!

Sign on door: Evidence Room.

The door is locked! Coyote scowls, looks hard at the doorknob and tries it again. It's still locked. He tugs on it madly, throwing his weight from side to side. Still locked. He kicks it, then silently howls and hops on one foot!

He goes to the...

INT. POLICE STATION - EMPTY OFFICE ACROSS FROM EVIDENCE ROOM - DAY

Coyote goes inside, just in time to avoid Officer George coming out of the Lunch Room with the coffee. He looks around. There's nothing inside that can help him. Back to the...

INT. POLICE STATION - HALLWAY - DAY

Officer George disappears into Officer Martin's office as Coyote comes out of the Empty Office.

OFFICER MARTIN (O.S.)

More cream.

As Officer George comes back out, Coyote dives into a...

INT. POLICE STATION - STORAGE CLOSET - DAY

Coyote nabs a hammer from a toolbox. Looks out in time to see Officer George go into the Lunch Room. The Hallway is empty again.

INT. POLICE STATION - HALLWAY - DAY

Back at the Evidence Room door, Coyote winds up and whacks the doorknob. Smash!

INT. POLICE STATION - LUNCH ROOM - DAY

Officer George has his head in the fridge. He straightens. Did he just hear something?

INT. POLICE STATION - EVIDENCE ROOM - DAY

The door opens. Coyote jumps inside, hammer still in hand, and tries to close the door. It won't close properly. He pushes it again, but then he's distracted by shelf after shelf of goodies! And there, a big purse!

A hand shoots through the crack in the door and grabs his shoulder, jerks him out of the room.

INT. POLICE STATION - HALLWAY - DAY

Officer George pushes Coyote against the wall.

OFFICER GEORGE

Who are you?

Coyote puts on a squished innocent look.

COYOTE

Just a concerned citizen, Officer.  
Passing by and saw a bad dude breaking  
in. He ran off when he saw me. That  
way.

Coyote points with eye movement, down the hall.

OFFICER MARTIN (O.S.)

What's going on out there!?

OFFICER GEORGE

I can handle it, Sir!

OFFICER MARTIN (O.S.)

You better. Rookie. I'm doing  
important stuff in here.

OFFICER GEORGE

(to Coyote)

I suppose you found that hammer by  
the door too.

Coyote drops the hammer. Clunk!

COYOTE

Uh, yeah.

Officer George's eyes widen. This is the guy everyone's been  
describing - the bank robber and fake guru!

COYOTE (CONT'D)

You better hurry. He's getting away.

OFFICER GEORGE

You're the *guy*.

COYOTE

Yeah, the guy who stopped a break  
in. That's me.

OFFICER GEORGE

Brown hair. Hazel eyes. Thirties.

COYOTE

Doesn't that freak you out, man? To  
know you're born with a death  
sentence? We're like amoebas.

OFFICER GEORGE

Amoebae.

Officer George steers Coyote down the hall.

COYOTE

Hey, you're supposed to be an officer  
of the *peace*, man.

OFFICER GEORGE

And you, my friend, robbed the  
Desierto Bank.

INT. POLICE STATION - CELLS - DAY

Officer George pushes Coyote into an empty, open cell, and  
closes the door. He hurries out. Coyote shakes the bars.

COYOTE

Hey, let me out! I have to get out!

GURU

Ah, so you're the one.

Coyote looks over at the Guru and Jordan in the neighboring  
cell, the Guru in full lotus position, an enigmatic smile on  
his face. Jordan simply looks confused.

GURU (CONT'D)

The one who took my place so  
admirably.

JORDAN

Him? Admirably?

GURU

He is the reason we are here, Jordan.

Jordan glares at Coyote.

JORDAN

I know.

GURU

This young man helped us. He covered  
for us at the ranch, so we could  
encourage George.

JORDAN

He covered for us? You mean he messed  
everything up.

COYOTE

Hey.

GURU  
Possibly. We shall see.

Coyote scowls at them, then starts to pace. The Guru approaches the bars between the cells.

GURU (CONT'D)  
You doubt you messed things up?

Coyote ignores him.

GURU (CONT'D)  
No, you believe you did mess things up. And yet, all things are not bad.

Coyote stops.

COYOTE  
Not bad? My daughter is in danger.  
I'm a thief. I lied to people who  
trusted me. I betrayed my friends,  
disappointed my peers, and the only  
woman I've ever loved hates me...  
(quieter)  
And has for a very long time.

GURU  
Well, that *is* bad.

Coyote continues to pace.

GURU (CONT'D)  
But it doesn't have to remain that  
way. It can be a gift for change.

COYOTE  
I'm a loser. That's my gift. I mess  
things up, remember?

Coyote shoots a look at Jordan.

GURU  
You *can* choose that.

COYOTE  
I didn't choose any of this.

The Guru laughs kindly, then takes Jordan's sleeve and pulls him gently away from Coyote's cell.

GURU  
The biggest lies we tell are to  
ourselves. Time to wake up, Coyote.

COYOTE

Hey, how do you know my--

Boom! Coyote is thrown away from the back wall as it disintegrates to rubble. Dust rolls over them all. Coyote and Jordan cough. The Guru covers his nose with his robe.

OFFICER GEORGE (O.S.)

Guru! Jordan!

Officer George staggers in through the inside door, coughing in the dust. He grabs his keys.

OFFICER GEORGE (CONT'D)

Hold on! I'll get you out.

Crow appears in the gaping hole in the outside wall, holds out his hand to Coyote.

CROW

(just like the  
Terminator)

Come with me if you want to live.

Coyote doesn't hesitate. The Guru waves goodbye to Coyote as he disappears out the hole. Officer George rushes into the Guru and Jordan's cell, quickly ushers the guru and Jordan out, then turns back.

GURU

Go after them. We won't leave.

Officer George hesitates. Can he trust them? Yes. He scrambles out the hole after Coyote and Crow.

INT. POLICE STATION - HALLWAY - DAY

Officer Martin storms from his office. What the hell has Officer George done now? As he disappears around a corner, Coyote and Crow come from the other way. They run into the Evidence Room, and a second later, run out. A big purse flops over Coyote's shoulder.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Crow blinks rapidly as he and Coyote run toward a police car, and the car magically starts. He and Coyote leap inside and drive off as Officer George runs around the building. Officer George jumps in the last police car, and races after them, sirens blaring.

INT. POLICE CRUISER - DAY

Officer George grabs his radio.



OFFICER GEORGE  
10-80. 10-80. Stolen car. One of  
ours. Heading south along...

EXT. ROADS - DAY

Various shots of one police car chasing the other. Officer George is a more cautious driver, and gets farther behind.

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Crow drives off the road and straight across the desert. Now far behind, Officer George follows.

EXT. OUTSIDE RAINBOW CANYON - DAY

Crow's and Coyote's police car comes to a screeching halt. Coyote jumps out, lugging the purse. Crow drives off. Coyote hurries toward the canyon mouth, getting out of sight just as Officer George roars past, chasing Crow in the stolen police car.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - DAY

Coyote walks into the middle of the deserted looking canyon.

COYOTE  
Hey! Anyone home? I got it!

Coyote sniffs the air, gags from the smell.

COYOTE (CONT'D)  
I know you're here.

Shady steps out from behind a big boulder.

SHADY  
Let's get this over with.

COYOTE  
Not so fast. I want to see her.

SHADY  
First, you prove yourself.

COYOTE  
Why does everyone want me to prove myself? I'm a generous guy. I care for others. I'm considerate.

SHADY  
The money, you idiot.

COYOTE  
Oh. Just a peek now.

Coyote holds the purse in front of him, opens it.

SHADY

What's that?!

Shady tears the purse from Coyote's hands, and throws it to the ground. Jewelry spills from the purse.

SHADY (CONT'D)

You grabbed the wrong purse? How could you screw this up? Are you completely useless!?

COYOTE

Hey! Let's not get personal here. That's worth something.

SHADY

I'm not a jewel thief. I. Am. A. BANK! ROBBER!

COYOTE

Maybe you should diversify.

Shady rams Coyote in the stomach. Coyote crumples to the ground. Shady kicks him once, twice! Groaning, Coyote tries to protect himself. Shady pulls a gun out, points it between Coyote's eyes. Coyote freezes, staring down the gun barrel.

SHADY

Bring them out!

No one emerges from the cave.

INT. RAINBOW CANYON - CLIFF CAVE - DAY

Tess and Tom play thumb wars.

SHADY (O.S.)

Hey! Idiots!

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - DAY

Shady's face grows red with anger.

SHADY

Bring! Them! Out!

No one. Shady raises his pistol in the air. Bang!

EXT. A MILE FROM RAINBOW CANYON - DAY

Officer George stays low as he advances on the now abandoned police car, his weapon drawn. A distant gunshot echoes across the desert.

Officer George stops, looks in the direction of Rainbow Canyon, then continues toward the car.

The front door hangs open. It's empty - and then he sees the tracks. Officer George looks back toward the canyon. Then back at the tracks. What will he do?

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - CLIFF CAVE - DAY

Tess and Tom force Cinta and Denise from the cave, to the edge of the cliff.

TESS  
Sorry, Boss!

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - DAY

Coyote's eyes widen when he sees Denise. Shady smirks.

SHADY  
Guess who showed up at noon.  
(to Tess and Tom)  
Push one of them over!

Coyote springs at Shady, completely desperate. The gun goes flying. They scramble after it, bumping it and sending it into a narrow chasm. It's lost. They struggle hand to hand.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - CLIFF CAVE - DAY

Tess and Tom look at each other, confused, as they hold Denise and Cinta effortlessly.

TESS  
Which one?

TOM  
The old one.

TESS  
But she's a...  
(glances up, then  
shields her mouth  
from Heaven)  
A mom.

TOM  
The young one?

DENISE  
No, the old one. Or, even better,  
you could let us both go.

Tess and Tom laugh.

TESS

You're funny.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - DAY

Coyote grabs hold of Shady's shirt, pulling him close as he strains to reach a rock to bash him with.

COYOTE

Really wish you'd used the shower.

Shady knees him in the groin and Coyote goes down in agony. Shady breaks free and runs toward the ladder.

SHADY

Shoot him! Get him!

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - CLIFF CAVE - DAY

Tess and Tom watch Shady run toward the ladder, Coyote close behind him.

TESS

Now shoot him, get him? What happened to push one over?

She and Tom let Denise and Cinta go, and the two women rush back to the cave.

TOM

I wish he'd be more specific.

TESS

How about I shoot him, and you get him. He'll be easier to get if he's shot.

TOM

Thanks, sis.

Tom starts down the ladder. Tess pulls an arrow from her purse, looks completely exasperated, and throws it down. She looks heavenward.

TESS

Help me, Mom. You know what I need.

She closes her eyes in concentration, then plunges her hand into her purse - and pulls out two nose plugs. Joy! She slips hers on, then looks down at Tom, now at the bottom.

TESS (CONT'D)

Hey, I got something for you!

She heads down the ladder. Denise grabs Cinta's hand and they run to the ladder to escape.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - DAY

Tess descends too quickly, slips, and lands on Tom just as Shady, wheezing heavily, reaches them. Shady points at Coyote.

SHADY

Get him.

Coyote stops short, eyes up Tess and Tom as they stand (Tom putting on his nose plug). They're mountains! Coyote runs, and the twins chase him. Shady starts up the ladder, dodging the rocks that Denise and Cinta drop on him.

Coyote, Tess, and Tom run here, dash there, with Coyote one step in front. Coyote sees Shady is a quarter of the way up the ladder, jumps up on a boulder and turns, holds out his hand. Stop! Tess and Tom stop.

COYOTE

You've seen what I can do. Now back off.

Tess and Tom do not back off - but they don't advance either.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

You don't look like common thugs to me.

Tess looks insulted.

TOM

Sure we do.

COYOTE

Nah. You have a certain... je ne sais quoi.

TESS

Jenny say what?

COYOTE

Jenny says you look like jewelry thieves.

Tess smiles. What a compliment! Shady continues to climb the ladder in the background. Denise and Cinta still drop rocks, slowing him down.

TOM

She does?

COYOTE

Yeah. Smart. Strong. Sophisticated.  
 (lifts an eyebrow)  
 Rich.

Tess and Tom share their twin glance.

TESS

Like rich enough to buy...

COYOTE

Anything you want. And no putrid  
 bosses. What's more, you have a start-  
 up opportunity right at this moment.

Coyote points to the purse of jewels laying in the dirt.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

I'll give you my jewels, if you leave.

Tess looks overjoyed, but Tom still isn't convinced.

TOM

We could just take it after we get  
 you.

Officer George crests the canyon rim behind Tess and Tom, a  
 small figure, far away.

COYOTE

Sorry, this is a limited time offer.  
 Very limited. Just ask the cop on  
 the ridge behind you.

Tess and Tom spin around to see Officer George in the  
 distance, talking into his radio.

TESS

Time to go, Tommy.

TOM

Sounds good to me, Tess.

The two bruisers race for the canyon mouth, scooping up the  
 big jewel purse on the way. Coyote leaps off his boulder and  
 races to the ladder.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - ON LADDER - DAY

Shady is more than halfway up, but Coyote climbs faster.  
 Shady notices the ladder shaking and looks down. He pulls  
 out his knife.

COYOTE

Denise!

Denise looks over the edge, sees Coyote, and scowls.

DENISE

What are you doing here? I said I'd take care of it.

COYOTE

I know, but I want to help. And you have to know the truth. I shouldn't have left. You were right. It was the worst thing I ever did.

DENISE

You think?

CINTA

(to Denise)

You know the Guru?

DENISE

The Guru?

Coyote climbs faster.

COYOTE

(panting with exertion)

I was an idiot. A frightened idiot. I never loved anyone before you. Then you being human. Old age, death, and all that. You know.

DENISE

So you left me *earlier*? That makes no sense.

Coyote catches up to Shady and grabs his ankle. Shady slashes down with his knife. Coyote releases him to dodge the blade.

COYOTE

I was scared.

DENISE

You mean, you were a coward.

Coyote grabs Shady's ankle again and Shady slashes again. This time Coyote doesn't let go. Blood blooms on his forearm.

COYOTE

Yeah. No excuses. I messed up. But not anymore.

Shady drops down a rung and smashes Coyote in the head with his boot, then quickly climbs again. Coyote is dazed, but struggles after Shady, faster than ever.

DENISE

Yeah, you messed up. And you lost  
out big time. It's too late.

Coyote grabs Shady's ankle again, and when the robber slashes  
again, he grabs Shady's wrist. Denise sees the blood.

DENISE (CONT'D)

You're bleeding? How can you...

Struggling with Shady over the knife, Coyote looks up at  
Denise. Their eyes lock.

COYOTE

Forgive me.

DENISE

Quit fooling around. Use your powers.

COYOTE

Forgive me. Please?

DENISE

I'll think about it.

COYOTE

Good enough for me, Babe. Now cut  
the rope.

DENISE

But--

COYOTE

Cut it!

Denise still hesitates.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

For Cinta!

Denise disappears. Cinta looks down in horror as Shady and  
Coyote struggle over the knife.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - CLIFF CAVE - DAY

Near the cave mouth, Denise sees one side of the ladder with  
the arrowhead. It gives way! One side of the rope ladder  
collapses. Cinta runs toward her.

CINTA

No, Mom!

Tears roll down Denise's cheeks as she looks at the second  
(last) rope. Cinta puts her hands over Denise's, stops her.



CINTA (CONT'D)  
 We'll find another way. We can't  
 kill anyone, especially the guru.

DENISE  
 He's not the guru, Baby. He's...  
 he's your father.

Cinta gasps in shock. Denise throws the arrow down in horror.

DENISE (CONT'D)  
 You're right. We'll find another  
 way.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - ON LADDER - DAY

Cinta and Denise look over the cliff to see Coyote and Shady  
 still fighting over the knife.

COYOTE  
 I told you--

DENISE  
 I don't care. I'm not going to do  
 it.

COYOTE  
 You're the most obstinate!

Shady boots Coyote in the head again, and Coyote lets go.  
 Shady reaches the top of the ladder and starts to pull himself  
 over the edge, an insane light in his eyes and evil grin on  
 his face. The grin vanishes. Coyote has grabbed Shady around  
 both ankles with both arms, completely releasing the ladder.

COYOTE (CONT'D)  
 Irritating!

He starts to swing. Shady drops the knife so he can hold on.  
 Coyote swings wildly back and forth.

COYOTE (CONT'D)  
 Bullheaded woman!

Shady slides off the edge, pulled backward by Coyote. They  
 fall together, Shady on top of Coyote. Down, down, down.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - CLIFF CAVE - DAY

Thud! Dust puffs far below, obscuring visibility. Denise  
 puts her arm around Cinta.

DENISE  
 Come away from the edge, Cinta.  
 Everything will be okay.

Cinta sobs and tears streak Denise's face as Denise leads Cinta back toward the cave.

EXT. RAINBOW CANYON - DAY

Officer George puffs with exertion as he reaches the canyon. Sirens! Two police cruisers race up. Officers Robert, Beth, Martin, and Simon get out of their cars. Shady wakes up, sees superhero Officer Robert advancing on him, and tries to run. He collides with Officer George.

OFFICER GEORGE  
Going somewhere?

Officer George snaps handcuffs on Shady, then directs him toward the others.

OFFICER ROBERT  
Excellent work, George.

A crow hops near where Shady landed. Where's Coyote? Rodent tracks in the dirt. The crow chortles softly and follows the tracks, hopping and fluttering farther and farther from the police who are now rescuing Cinta and Denise. Deeper in the canyon, the mole tracks change to bare human footprints. The crow rounds a big boulder to see Mole, now in her human form, and Coyote. He's unconscious and dirty, with blood in his hair. Crow caws a question. Mole shakes her head.

MOLE  
I think I'm too late.

Mole leans over Coyote. The crow shapeshifts into human form.

MOLE (CONT'D)  
Come on, Coyote. Breathe.

CROW  
We should try mouth to mouth.

COYOTE  
(croaks)  
Thanks, but I'd rather die.

A huge sigh of relief from Mole.

MOLE  
How are you feeling?

Coyote tries to move, but it hurts. He groans.

COYOTE  
Human.

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - EVENING

Officer George's police car drives onto the ranch. Amy and Boaz are surrounded by a group of riotous Seekers outside the Dining Hall.

INT. POLICE CAR - EVENING

Officer George, Cinta, and Denise pull up in front of the Office.

OFFICER GEORGE

Be sure to tell him he's in the clear. In a way, we owe him. Shady would've gotten away if he hadn't stolen that money. But don't tell him that. He may want a medal or public apology or something.

DENISE

You don't need to worry. I doubt we'll ever see him again.

(pause)

Thank you, Officer. For everything.

OFFICER GEORGE

I didn't do anything but call in the Calvary. It was... what is his name anyway?

Denise gives him a sad smile, and gets out. She closes the door. Alone with Officer George, Cinta suddenly looks shy.

CINTA

Officer, I was wondering, we're having a party tonight to celebrate the solstice. Um, would you... would you like to come?

OFFICER GEORGE

That's the strangest thing.

Cinta tries to hide her disappointment.

CINTA

I understand. You're busy.

OFFICER GEORGE

No, it's not that.

He pulls a sticky note out of his pocket, the one Coyote left on the front desk.

OFFICER GEORGE (CONT'D)

I've already been invited.

Cinta takes the note.

CINTA  
Where did you get this?

OFFICER GEORGE  
I think it was from him. The guy who  
saved you.

Cinta's eyes glisten with tears.

CINTA  
He wanted my party to be a success.

A sharp knock on the passenger side window. Cinta turns to  
see Amy, looking worried. She turns back to Officer George.

CINTA (CONT'D)  
So you'll come?

OFFICER GEORGE  
Nothing can keep me away. Nothing.

Cinta smiles.

CINTA  
Well, I better get busy. We start in  
two hours. See you soon.

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - DAY

As Officer George's police car drives off, Cinta is surrounded  
by angry Seekers.

SEEKER ONE  
Where's the Guru? I didn't pay to  
hang out with these losers.

Cinta starts to respond but is cut off.

SEEKER FOUR  
I want my money back.

Again, Cinta is cut off.

RANDOM SEEKER  
Me too.

ANOTHER RANDOM SEEKER  
I do too.

CINTA  
Enough! Anyone who wants their money  
back will get it!  
(MORE)

CINTA (CONT'D)

Anyone who wants to meet the real  
Guru, stay for the party.

SEEKER ONE

But I want both. No, I *demand* both!

Cinta gets in his face.

CINTA

You can't have both.

SEEKER ONE

Then I'm leaving.

CINTA

Wonderful. Whoever wants their money  
back, follow me!

She strides toward her Office. Almost everyone follows her,  
leaving a few Seekers, including Amy, Boaz, Twitchy Girl,  
Seeker Two, and Seeker Three behind. Amy looks upset.

AMY

(to Boaz)

She's ruined.

INT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - CINTA'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Cinta enters the room, looking exhausted, to see Denise  
sitting on her bed.

DENISE

We need to talk.

Cinta closes the door firmly behind her and crosses her arms.

CINTA

Only if you tell me the truth this  
time.

Denise pats the bed beside her but Cinta doesn't move.

DENISE

His name is...

(blinks back tears)

Was Coyote. We fell madly in love.  
I'd never felt anything like it  
before. But he wasn't who I thought  
he was. He was... well, *special*.

CINTA

That means nothing. Everyone's special  
in their own way. Why didn't you  
tell me the truth?

DENISE

I should have. I'm sorry. I was selfish. It's just, when you were young, I was the center of your whole world. I couldn't bear you thinking he'd left because...

(pause)

Because I wasn't good enough to make him want to stay.

Cinta relents a little, and sits beside Denise on the bed.

DENISE (CONT'D)

And then later, it just seemed easier than explaining who he is...

(quieter)

Was.

Cinta puts her arm around her mother.

CINTA

I'd never think bad of you for him leaving. Never.

DENISE

Can you forgive me?

CINTA

Yes. Both of you. I mean, we all make mistakes. We're human.

Denise laughs, just a little hysterically.

DENISE

Well, actually...

(pause)

We'll talk later. After the party.

Cinta shakes her head.

CINTA

There is no party. Almost everyone left.

DENISE

Oh Baby, I'm so sorry.

CINTA

I keep telling myself that everything happens for a reason. But Mom, I thought this was what I was supposed to do with my life. Then, very first retreat, I ruin it.

DENISE

You haven't. You've created a beautiful oasis here. No one I know could've done better, especially with everything that's happened today. And sure some guests left, but some stayed. Give them, and us, the most wonderful solstice party ever.

CINTA

I don't know what that will prove.

DENISE

It'll prove that you're here to stay.

Cinta smiles just a little.

CINTA

We'll make it the best party ever.

EXT. DESERT - EVENING

Coyote hangs out by a campfire, sore, tired, depressed, and alone. A crow flutters in, caws, and shape-shifts into Crow.

COYOTE

Well?

CROW

They're home. Everyone's happy.

Coyote nods dejectedly.

CROW (CONT'D)

So... you're not going back?

COYOTE

They don't want me. I let everyone down.

MOLE

Yes, you did.

Mole steps boldly into the firelight.

MOLE (CONT'D)

But you're getting better.

Coyote smiles sadly.

COYOTE

Yeah. Too late.

MOLE

Coyote, look at me.

Coyote looks up.

MOLE (CONT'D)

Not too late. The council reversed their decision.

Surprised, Coyote goes to rise. Mole puts up a hand. Stop.

MOLE (CONT'D)

Because of what you did. Because you sacrificed yourself for others - far too dramatically, in my opinion. But what do I know?

Mole pulls a cactus branch from nowhere, and whacks Coyote across the head with it. Coyote yelps, then laughs.

COYOTE

It didn't hurt.

He pulls out a spine and flicks it into the fire, then sweeps Mole up in his arms, spins her around.

MOLE

Put me down, you big buffoon. There's too much to do to be fooling around with us.

COYOTE

There's nothing more important.

MOLE

As usual, wrong again. Next lesson: discernment.

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - EVENING

Cinta and Denise, Amy and Boaz, plus the few Seekers left, set up tables and carry food out of the Dining Hall.

AMY

I don't know what we're going to do with all this food.

DENISE

We're going to eat it. Every bit.

Amy looks worried.

BOAZ

Hey, look!

Everyone looks to where he points - to a line of cars driving in through the ranch gates! The cars park, and the occupants get out, looking ready to party.



Hikers Annie and Nathan, the Two Drunks, the Priest and the Bouncer from Solly's Bar, then Solly himself, with Partyer One and Partyer Two. Beside Solly's car, Officers Robert, Beth, Simon, and Aggie get out of Officer Robert's car. They laugh with Solly and the two Partyers about the strange situation. The Nuns and Orphans drive up in a bus. Everyone that Coyote invited.

AMY  
(relieved)  
We don't have to eat it all.

BOAZ  
Who are they?

Cinta blinks back tears.

CINTA  
Dad's friends.

She goes to greet her guests. The Priest is the first to hand her a check.

PRIEST  
For you, my child.

Cinta doesn't know what to say.

CINTA  
But, Father.

Partyer One and Partyer Two push checks into her hand, then look at Solly sternly. He's a little slow handing over his but once it's done, he smiles.

CINTA (CONT'D)  
I don't know what to say. Thank you.  
Thank you all so much.

More people approach Cinta, checks in their hands and smiles on their faces.

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - NIGHT

Everyone at the party listens in awe as the Guru and Mole discuss the nature of the universe. Off to one side, Jordan and Officer Beth laugh together. Boaz and Amy meditate side by side, hand in hand. Orphans run with kites and Nuns trailing behind. Officer George and Cinta meander past, away from the others in the dark.

CINTA  
It's been the most amazing, wonderful  
night ever.

Officer George takes Cinta's hand.

OFFICER GEORGE

I know.

SEEKER TWO (O.S.)

Look! Everyone look at the moon!

Officer George and Cinta turn to look at the horizon. Cries of awe and surprise as the large, golden moon rises. Officer George puts his arm around Cinta. Suddenly, northern lights dance across the night sky! If you look really close, you can even see the stars do a tight Van Gogh swirl.

A little apart, Denise sits on the grass and watches the show.

DENISE

I know you're here.

A dark form comes out of the night. Coyote. They sit together in companionable silence for a moment.

DENISE (CONT'D)

I'm not going to get in the way of you being a dad.

COYOTE

She's an awesome kid. You did a great job with her.

(pause)

Is she like me?

DENISE

You mean a freak that turns into a dog? No, she's better. She's human.

COYOTE

I'm sorry I hurt you, Den.

DENISE

I know. You said. I forgive you. Goodbye.

COYOTE

No.

Coyote reaches for her hand. She pulls away.

DENISE

It'll never work, Coyote. You're  
(motions to the sky)  
*This*. And I'm not.

COYOTE

You are to me.

DENISE

I'm a human, remember? I'm going to die, remember? Besides, you're too irresponsible and impulsive.

COYOTE

Be irresponsible and impulsive with me, Den.

DENISE

You're too young.

Northern lights illuminate Coyote quickly shape-shifting into a man in his eighties.

COYOTE

(creaky voice)

I'm not *that* young.

She looks over, laughs in surprise, then hits his shoulder.

DENISE

I'm no octogenarian yet, you idiot!

Coyote chuckles as he shape-shifts again, this time into his fifties. Denise tries to control her smile.

COYOTE

I love you, Den. There's no one else for me. Never has been.

They stare into each others' eyes.

DENISE

You called me irritating. Bullheaded.

COYOTE

You are. I love that about you. You always surprise me.

(pause)

Besides, you know all my worst flaws, and you like me anyway.

Denise doesn't answer.

COYOTE (CONT'D)

Don't you?

DENISE

(reluctant)

Okay, I do.

Coyote smiles with relief and strokes her cheek as they look into each others' eyes.

COYOTE  
Besides, I learned something today.

They start leaning in toward each other.

DENISE  
(mildly sarcastic)  
That love conquers all?

Coyote nods, serious. They're inches away now.

COYOTE  
That, and something else.

Closer.

COYOTE (CONT'D)  
Mole gave me back my powers.

DENISE  
The northern lights kind of gave that away.

COYOTE  
No, listen. *Mole gave me back my powers.*

Understanding dawns. Denise gasps.

DENISE  
That means--

COYOTE  
Immortality--

DENISE  
Can be *given*.

Coyote and Denise kiss passionately. Up to the northern lights, blazing in an intense burst of colors.

Down to Cinta and Officer George watching the show. Energy courses through Cinta's body and suddenly her eyes glow amber.

CINTA  
Whoa.

FADE OUT.

VIGNETTES IN CREDITS:

EXT. RANCHO ESPIRITU - NIGHT

At the party, Officer Robert strolls majestically. Crow rushes past him with Twitchy Girl right behind him. She trips over a fallen kite. Crow stops to help her - but Officer Robert beats him to it.

OFFICER ROBERT

Are you okay, Miss?

Twitchy Girl's and Officer Robert's eyes lock. Twitchy Girl slowly raises her hand. Gallantly, he assists her. After she stands, he continues to hold her hand.

OFFICER ROBERT (CONT'D)

Would you do me the honor of watching  
the lights with me?

She smiles a beautiful smile, and they walk away together. Crow looks after them a little longingly, then heads for the food table.

EXT. ORPHANAGE - DAY

Rattlesnake, wearing a plumber's uniform, knocks on the door. A large and very STERN NUN opens the door.

RATTLESNAKE

I'm here to fix the well.

STERN NUN

There's nothing wrong with the well.  
God fixed it. It was a miracle.

Rattlesnake looks suspicious.

RATTLESNAKE

Did anything else, uh, strange happen  
that day?

Stern Nun towers over him.

STERN NUN

Are you implying it wasn't a miracle?

RATTLESNAKE

No, no. I just wondered if anything  
happened? Another miracle perhaps?

The Stern Nun looks even more menacing.

STERN NUN

Are you implying that we found a  
large sum of cash in our kitchen  
after that guy tried to steal a pie?

RATTLESNAKE

Not at all. Wait. What guy?

STERN NUN

Brown hair, amber eyes, thirties.

Rattlesnake stomps away, fists clenched and furious.

EXT. FOUR MILE RANCH - DAY

A fox (Fox, in her animal form) runs away from a yelling  
RANCHER, a chicken in her mouth.

THE END