

DOWNSIZE

"Go Spin or Go Home"

Written by
Carly Petrone

Carly Petrone

██
New York, NY 10024

████████████████████
cpetronester@gmail.com

COLD OPEN

EXT. CHARLOTTE HEALTH AND WEIGHT LOSS CENTER - MORNING

We see the front of the building with a large sign that says: Charlotte Health and Weight Loss Center: Since 1991. A GROUP OF OVERWEIGHT MEN AND WOMEN walk through the front doors.

AVERY (V.O.)

When people think of a health and weight loss center, they probably think of sipping cucumber water, a state of the art gym, eating delicious organic meals, and enjoying a hot stone massage.

INT. INDOOR POOL - CONTINUOUS

AVERY DAVIS, 30, Head Nutritionist and southern belle, stands next to an empty pool. CLIENTS in bathing suits still do water aerobics using weights and pool noodles. BARRY KOWZLOWSKI, 28, Exercise Specialist, hits on anything that moves, leads the class from outside the edge of the pool. Music plays.

AVERY

This isn't that kind of place.

MONTAGE - VARIOUS

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

GLORIA REED, 70, Head Cook, British spitfire with long white hair,, measures out cups of cottage cheese onto a line of trays. TONY, 28, her apprentice, stands next to her.

TONY

So, apparently everyone is complaining that we don't have flavored water here.

GLORIA

Why would water need to be flavored? It's water.

TONY

I don't know. But Bobby said we have to give them something.

Gloria angrily walks to the refrigerator. She pulls out a bunch of carrots with the stems still on them, chops them in half with a knife on the kitchen island, and throws them into a pitcher of water.

GLORIA

There.

She picks up the pitcher and walks toward the door.

GLORIA (CONT'D)

Those bloody bastards.

INT. MEDICAL ROOM - AFTERNOON

AN OVERWEIGHT MAN steps onto a digital scale. DOCTOR SHAY, 50, petite with stark white hair, writes down the man's weight on his chart.

DR. SHAY

Two-hundred and eighty-five pounds.

MAN

What? That can't be right. I weighed myself before I left to come here and I was just under two-fifty.

DR. SHAY

Well, the scale doesn't lie.

The man looks around and takes a 5-lb. dumbbell from the table next to him. He puts it onto the scale. It says it weighs 35-lbs. Dr. Shay doesn't notice. He's still looking down at his chart.

DR. SHAY (CONT'D)

Go ahead and put your shirt back on. I'll be right back with the results of your blood work.

Dr. Shay pats him on the back, and walks away, leaving the man in disbelief.

INT. MASSAGE ROOM - DAY

A FEMALE CLIENT wrapped in a towel lays on her back on a massage table. Serene music plays. ADAM HOUSLE, 40, Head Trainer and a curmudgeon, places sharp, jagged rocks along her arms.

WOMAN

Ouch!

INT. CAFETERIA - SERVING AREA - AFTERNOON

Gloria serves a MALE CLIENT a plate of stewed spinach. He looks at it in disgust.

GLORIA

What? Oh go wash it down with your
carrot water. Next!

END OF MONTAGE

INT. INDOOR POOL - DAY

Barry continues to teach his "water aerobics" class. Avery
stands next to the pool.

AVERY

We like to think of ourselves as The
Canyon Ranch of the South.

She looks behind her and smiles awkwardly back at the camera.

AVERY (CONT'D)

Our water bill has been a little too
high lately so we've had to cut back
on a few things. Like filling up the
pool.

(to others)

But that doesn't mean we can't work
out. Right?

She fake jogs in place. Barry turns on the hose and starts to
lightly spray the clients with water.

AVERY (CONT'D)

(to camera)

Excuse me.

She leaves to go deal with Barry.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

EXT. CHARLOTTE HEALTH AND WEIGHT LOSS CENTER - THE NEXT MORNING

BOBBY BROWN, 50, Health Center Director and former UNC football player, unlocks the front doors. He is holding a briefcase and a bag of fast food.

INT. ADMINISTRATION OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Bobby sits at his desk eating a sausage and egg sandwich. Piles of paperwork surround him.

BOBBY TALKING HEAD

BOBBY

Yes, my name is Bobby Brown. No relation. Thank God that damn reality show, Being Bobby Brown, isn't on the air anymore. I mean, when that first came out, everyone I knew called me "Bob-bayyy!"

He looks up as he screams it.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

(annoyed)

May Whitney Houston rest in peace, but boy, did she have some lungs on her. That man couldn't go anywhere without her yelling--

Gloria walks past his office, behind the camera.

GLORIA (O.S.)

Bob-bayyyy!

BOBBY

(super annoyed)

That.

Bobby raises his right hand and waves.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Good morning Gloria.

(to camera)

That show came out in what, 2005? And I'm still addressed like that by my staff on a daily basis. That Gloria. She's a pistol. She's been here longer than me, which is hard to believe.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFETERIA SERVING AREA - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Gloria reads through the clients daily food charts while inspecting various containers behind the counter.

GLORIA

This is bullocks! Why are we running out of cocoa powder this early in the month? Something is going on.

She notices the camera.

GLORIA (CONT'D)

Who are you? Get outta here. Shoo! Shoo!

She walks up to the camera and covers up the lens.

BACK TO:

INT. BOBBY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

BOBBY

(laughing)

She didn't want to talk to you? Well, that sounds about right. She basically hates everyone yet the clients love her for some reason. It must be the British thing.

Gloria walks past his office again.

GLORIA (O.S.)

Bob-bayyy! We need more cocoa!

BOBBY

Anyway, I should get back to work but thanks again for filming us. I think recording what we're doing around here will make everyone just a bit more productive. Unfortunately, we might have to shut down soon if we don't increase our enrollment by at least twenty percent. And as the Director of this facility, my number one priority is getting people to lose weight, get healthy, and feel better about themselves.

Bobby leans back proudly in his chair. He notices his breakfast sandwich and slowly pushes it off his desk.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - A FEW MINUTES LATER

NANCE DAVIS, 60, Receptionist, enters through the front doors and sits down at her desk. She is always smiling and singing rap songs too slowly. Today it's "Talk Dirty To Me" by Jason Derulo.

NANCE TALKING HEAD

NANCE
(too loudly)

Hi!

(softer)

Hi. I'm Nance. I've worked at the front desk for thirteen years. Ever since my daughter went away to college. It's been so rewarding. Watching people make a positive change in their lives. I'm just glad I can be a part of it.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - FLASHBACK

Nance hands out cupcakes to clients as they exit. Bobby takes them out of their hands as soon as they walk outside.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - BACK TO PRESENT DAY

Nance takes out Tupperware from her purse. She opens it and offers the cameraman a brownie. Avery walks past her and takes the brownies away from her.

AVERY

Nope. Sorry, Mom. Good try.

Avery dumps the brownies in the trash.

AVERY TALKING HEAD

AVERY (CONT'D)

Yep, I work in the same place as my mother. Which is pretty annoying but I couldn't pass up such a great job. I'm the Head Nutritionist here at the Charlotte Health and Weight Loss Center. I give each client a personalized food chart for the week and I'm always available for questions.

(pauses)

I mean, I was overweight my whole life until I went away to college. So I can relate.

(MORE)

AVERY (CONT'D)

Growing up, my mom only knew how to make hors d'oeuvres and desserts so... You know that movie *Mermaids*? I cried. Not when Christina Ricci almost drowned. When I saw her eating jalapeno poppers and marshmallow shish kebobs for dinner. I could finally relate to another kid.

INT. GYM - LATER THAT AFTERNOON

Barry, looking especially Guido this afternoon, lifts weights in front of the mirror. His intern, RACHEL PARISH, spots him. She's only working at the center to get college credit.

ADAM

So, Rach, did you hear the rumors? Apparently we gotta start recruiting clients ourselves or this place is gonna shut down.

RACHEL

What? Oh no, that can't happen. All I need is four more credits and then I can finally get away from this podunk town.

ADAM

So, you're in then?

He lifts up the barbell and secures it in place. He sits up and flexes, trying to impress Rachel. She doesn't care.

RACHEL

I guess. I mean, I could always hit up the freshmen in my dorm.

ADAM

Yes! The freshman fifteen. Good thinking. I call girls!

He checks himself out in the mirror and walks across to his office, whistling.

RACHEL

Gross.

Adam is across the room with a FEMALE CLIENT who is walking on the treadmill.

FEMALE CLIENT

I really just want to concentrate on making this part of my body smaller.

She motions to her upper arms.

FEMALE CLIENT (CONT'D)
How would I do that?

ADAM
(deadpan)
You lose weight.

The woman is offended. Adam doesn't even notice.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Bobby walks down the hallway. We close up on the door. The sign on it reads: Behavioral Health. He KNOCKS on the door. KATHY STURGENT, 51, resident Behavioral Health Therapist and self-proclaimed hippie, answers.

KATHY
Come in.

INT. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Bobby enters. A GROUP OF CLIENTS and Kathy sit in a circle on the ground. Each one is on a pillow. Kathy gets up.

KATHY
Now, just meditate on the idea that
your chocolate bar is covered in salt.

She takes out a bamboo stick from her dress pocket and loudly hits a giant gong in the corner. Everyone finds this calming except for Bobby, who yelps like a little girl and jumps back. Kathy leads him outside to the hallway and shuts the door.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

KATHY
What can I do for you?

BOBBY
I just wanted to let you know that we
are having an executive staff meeting
tonight at six p.m.

KATHY
Oh that is glorious. It's always great
to reconnect with my peers after a
satisfying day of work.

She gives him a big hug. He just stands there until she lets go.

BOBBY

(uncomfortable)

Right. Anyway, we're going to meet in this room because some of the patients are using the conference room for movie night.

KATHY

Of course. My space is your space. We're all just tiny specks in this universe of life, right?

BOBBY

Sure. Okay then. See you at six.

Kathy places her hands together and bows.

KATHY

Namaste.

Bobby isn't sure how to respond so he just nods, turns around, and leaves.

KATHY TALKING HEAD

KATHY (CONT'D)

You have to visualize success or else you'll never become successful. This is true for everything in life, not just weight loss. I, for example, am trying to have a baby. I'm 51 years old. Yet still extremely fertile.

(to cameraman)

You know, you should come to group sometime. You have a very clear orange aura about you.

The camera starts moving away from her.

KATHY (CONT'D)

Hey, where you going, man? Let's talk about your Sacral Chakra for a second!

AVERY TALKING HEAD

AVERY

(snickering)

Kathy did what? Yeah, I guess we should have warned you. Just don't get stuck alone in a room with her. I think my mother is the only person who can handle Kathy. Probably because they can talk about babies.

(MORE)

AVERY (CONT'D)

My mom wants me to be a grandmother so badly she's willing to do just about anything.

INT. NANCE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK

Three eligible men sit on her couch. Each one more disgusting than the other. Nance enters the room singing "Apple Bottom Jeans" too slowly, and carrying a platter full of jalapeno peppers and marshmallow shish kebobs.

NANCE

Thanks for answering my ad, guys.
Gosh, you really can go on Craigslist for just about anything these days, huh?

She pauses and gets stuck in her own thoughts. She snaps out of it.

NANCE (CONT'D)

Anyway, ya'll must be starving. Here.
Eat up.

She puts the tray of food on the coffee table in front of them.

NANCE (CONT'D)

This was my daughter's favorite dinner growing up. Speaking of Avery. She just turned 30, she has great motherly instincts, I can tell already, and her guilty pleasure is going to Comic-Con. So which one of you is ready to be a father?

She grabs a shish kebob from the tray like this is an everyday occurrence.

INT. AVERY'S OFFICE - BACK TO PRESENT DAY

AVERY TALKING HEAD

AVERY

Yep, my own mother tried to pimp me out. I mean, I know I'm her only child, but still. Sick right? It's not like I don't date. I date. I went out with that guy from OKCupid last month.

(pauses)

It's not my fault he never showed up.

She grabs a vegetable shish kebob from off screen and take a bite.

AVERY (CONT'D)

What?

INT. CAFETERIA - EARLY EVENING

EDDIE O'BRIEN, 38, enters the dining area. He is a New Orleans native, perpetual flirt, and former client who still eats most meals at the center. He has lost over 100 pounds but is a constant nuisance to everyone. He winks at the first woman he sees.

EDDIE

Hey sugah. Lookin' good.

He walks past a group of older men who are all wearing t-shirts and sweatshirts of their favorite sports teams.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Hey, go Saints! Huh?

He slaps one of them on the back. A little too hard. He makes his way over to Gloria, who isn't too happy to see him.

GLORIA

You do realize that this place is for people who need to lose weight?

EDDIE

Hey, I'll always be a fatty on the inside, Miss Gloria. You know that. Plus, if I don't eat what you make, darlin', I'll probably end up at some Waffle House somewhere. And you know I hold the title for most waffles eaten in one sittin'.

He winks at her.

GLORIA

Oh, don't we all know it. So, what are you having tonight?

Eddie picks up his food chart from the basket next to the counter.

EDDIE

Hot damn! It's my lucky night. Shrimp and grits. That's your best recipe yet, darlin'.

He eagerly hands her his menu. She dishes out the exact portion he needs while whispering something we can't quite hear. She hands him his tray.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

See ya tomorrow, sweet cheeks.

GLORIA

Oh bugger off!

Eddie walks toward the eating area and spots an attractive woman he hasn't met yet.

EDDIE

Hey! Little one, save a seat for me.

He runs after her. Gloria glances at her watch and takes off her apron.

GLORIA

Bullocks! I have to go to that stupid meeting. Tony, take over.

Tony walks out from the kitchen. She throws her apron at him. It whips him in the face but she doesn't notice because she's already gone.

INT. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The lights are dim, Kathy burns incense in the corner. Avery, Nance, Rachel, Dr. Shay, Barry, Adam, and Gloria sit on pillows in a circle. Bobby walks in. He starts coughing and turns on the lights.

BOBBY

Okay, listen up people.

ALL

Bob-bayyy!

BOBBY

Yeah, yeah, yeah. Can we please open up a window? That stuff is potent.

He waves his hands in front of him to move the smoke around.

KATHY

Isn't it wonderful? It's called Mystic Juniper Berry. It promotes spiritual centering and stress relief.

BOBBY

Well, I wish I could say we weren't stressed.

He goes to stand at the front of the room but can't see everyone so he moves to the middle of the circle.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Listen, we--

He turns around.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

We need to--

He turns again but can't handle not making eye contact with everybody.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Okay, everybody up.

They all get up and stand together. Bobby moves to the front of the room.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

I hate to say it but it looks like we need to start increasing enrollment significantly or else we are going to have to shut down. For good.

ADAM

How long do we have?

BOBBY

A month. Maybe two?

ADAM

What am I supposed to do? This is the most personality I got.

BOBBY

I've done everything I can to keep this place running but we just don't have the funds to keep our doors open much longer. So, unless you can sign up 100 new clients by next month, I'm afraid you better start looking for other jobs. I'm sorry, guys.

Bobby exits the room. He returns a few seconds later and takes all of the incense from Kathy. Everyone stands there, stunned.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. CHARLOTTE SUBURBAN HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

Nance and Avery KNOCK on the front door. They have flyers in their hands. A tall, good-looking man opens the door.

NANCE

(impressed)

Oh, why, hello young man. Aren't you a tall drink of water. Speaking of water. How many glasses of water do you currently drink a day? And are you fertile?

MAN

Excuse me?

AVERY

(embarrassed)

What she means to say is, hi, we're from the Charlotte Health and Weight Loss Center just down the street. We were wondering, are you interested in adopting a healthier lifestyle?

(under her breath)

Although you look plenty healthy to me.

MAN

What was that?

AVERY

Nothing.

She hands him a flyer.

AVERY (CONT'D)

Thanks for your time. Have a good day!

AVERY AND NANCE TALKING HEADS

AVERY (CONT'D)

We're passing around flyers for the open house we're throwing this weekend at the center. We figured if people in our own neighborhood don't know about it, we better start there.

(to Nance)

And Mom, you really need to cool it with the whole baby thing.

NANCE

What? I didn't see a ring on his
finger.

AVERY

That doesn't mean he wants to have a
baby with me!

NANCE

Honey, you gotta snatch them up while
you can. That guy had a nice house.
And hair.

Nance writes something down on the back of a flyer while
humming "Fancy" by Iggy Azalea.

AVERY

What are you doing?

Nance continues to scribble and sing.

AVERY (CONT'D)

Are you writing down my contact
information on the back of these? Does
he have one?

Nance stops singing and looks at her coyly. Avery takes the
paper from Nance, folds it up, and puts it in her pocket.

AVERY (CONT'D)

Come on. Let's go get more flyers.

INT. CHARLOTTE HEALTH & WEIGHT LOSS CENTER - CONFERENCE ROOM -
LATER THAT DAY

Everyone reconvenes at the table. Bobby enters the room.

ALL

Bob-bayyy!

Bobby gives up on saying anything back.

BOBBY

So, how'd we do out there today,
folks?

KATHY

(proudly)

I got us a discount on bulk shipments
of chia seed.

BARRY

I don't know what happened to the sorority girls at UNC but those freshmen were some serious grenades.

BOBBY

What's that like ROTC?

BARRY

(disappointed)

No, like losing weight is the least of their problems, bro.

RACHEL

That didn't stop you from taking their numbers.

BARRY

Hey, I can't help it if they like what they see.

Barry flexes his arms. Rachel rolls her eyes.

BOBBY

Anyone else get any leads?

GLORIA

Everyone thought Dr. Shay and I were from Harry Potter. That was kind of exciting. Must be the white hair.

BOBBY

So, basically we're back to square one.

Avery perks up in her chair.

AVERY

What if we had some sort of 24-hour event?

ADAM

Like what? I refuse to give massages for that long. I have OCD. If I touch someone more than 10 times in one day I'll...well, you don't want to know.

Gloria leans over to Rachel and whispers.

GLORIA

Well that explains a lot.

AVERY

No, I mean. What if we did something to attract the local media. Like a 24-hour spin class or something?

The entire group laughs, disapproves.

BOBBY

No, I like that idea, Avery. Get reporters out here to showcase our facility, attract more customers. Maybe people could donate for every mile a person rides? This could give us the exposure we need.

(to Avery)

Hey, Didn't you date that anchor from Channel 7 News?

NANCE

You dated RICH RICHARDSON? When?

AVERY TALKING HEAD

AVERY

Of course I didn't tell my mother about Rich. She probably would have figured out a way to get him to list all of his best qualities as a potential husband and father. On the air. I wasn't going to subject him to that. Bobby only found out about us because he saw us together at dinner a few months ago. I never would have pegged him as a fondue guy.

(pauses then realizes)

Gosh, I really do have a thing for foods on a stick. Maybe I should talk to Kathy about that.

INT. CHARLOTTE HEALTH & WEIGHT LOSS CENTER - CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Nance is on Facebook on her iPhone. Her wheels are already spinning.

AVERY

Are you asking Rich to be your Facebook friend?

NANCE

Hey, if it'll help keep this place open. I'm willing to do whatever it takes.

BOBBY

Thank you, Nance. Now, let me see if I can get someone to sponsor some spinning bikes for us. God knows we can't have our center looking like this when the media shows up on Saturday. Barry? Fill up the pool.

BARRY

Sweet! Rach, lets go fill it up and then go get spray tans. Adam, I'd invite you but you hate everything.

Adam nods in agreement.

ADAM

Valid.

Rachel and Barry leave the room.

BOBBY

Avery, why don't you contact the media since you already have a few connections.

NANCE

I'll help!

BOBBY

Great. Gloria and Tony, make sure the kitchen is spotless. Oh and that we have cucumber water on hand. For some reason folks get really impressed by that.

Gloria rolls her eyes.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Oh, and Gloria? Think you could tone down the sarcasm around the clients? We're trying to get them to *not* eat their feelings.

GLORIA

What do you want me to do? I'm British.

Gloria and Tony leave the room.

BOBBY

Dr. Shay? Do you know any local celebrities we could get to come on Saturday?

(MORE)

BOBBY (CONT'D)

I know you have some famous patients
over at your private practice
sometimes.

DR. SHAY

Let me see what I can do.

Dr. Shay leaves the room. That just leaves Bobby and Kathy.
She gets up from her chair and approaches him.

KATHY

Bob-bayyy! I have to say, I've been
very impressed with your leadership
skills over the past few days. It
shows real authority. Real virility.

Bobby clears his throat. He knows where this is going.

BOBBY

Well, I'm just doing my job, Kathy.

KATHY

I've noticed that you haven't been
wearing your wedding ring lately. Is
everything okay at home? Do you need
someone to talk to?

She is now right up next to him.

BOBBY

Oh, well, Diane and I are taking a
little time apart right now. But I
can't let that interfere with the work
that needs to be done here.

KATHY

Why shouldn't our personal and
professional lives intersect? You
know, you have a wonderful aura about
you. Did you know that?

Bobby is obviously uncomfortable. The camera starts to leave
the room.

BOBBY

(to cameraman)

Wait a minute. Where are you going?

We see the door shut.

EXT. CHARLOTTE HEALTH & WEIGHT LOSS CENTER - FRONT AREA -
SATURDAY MORNING

Balloons hang from the posts and a large sign hangs from the awning that reads: "Open House and 24-Hour Spin-a-Thon. Welcome Neighbors!" Local TV news vans are parked out in front. Eddie shakes hands with a REPORTER who gets out of his car.

EDDIE

Good morning. I've lost 100 pounds.

Another LADY walks by him.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Good morning. I've lost 100 pounds.

A LITTLE BOY walks by holding one of the balloons.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Good morning. I've lost 100 pounds.

Avery walks up to him. She is looking better than normal.

AVERY

Think you're overdoing it a little there.

EDDIE

Sorry. It's just, I'm nervous.

AVERY

You? Nervous?

EDDIE

Yeah, if this place goes under, I don't know what I'm going to do. You're like my family.

Avery feels bad for him and gives him a side hug. He, of course, takes it a little too far. He rests his head on her breast.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Awww, that's nice right there.

AVERY

Okay, big guy. Come on, we've got a long day ahead of us.

They both walk inside.

INT. RECEPTION AREA - CONTINUOUS

Nance welcomes people with what else, cupcakes. She spots Avery.

NANCE

Hi, honey. Wow, all dressed up, huh?

AVERY

Well, I figured I should look professional.

NANCE

Right. It's not because Rich is coming?

AVERY

(flustered)

How do you know Rich is coming? Did he confirm that he's coming?

Nance's phone pings.

NANCE

He says he's getting out of his car now.

AVERY

You both are already texting buddies. That's just great.

Avery takes a deep breath and fixes her hair. Rich enters the building. He has an Anderson Cooper look to him. Sparkling blue eyes, a tall frame, and dark, perfectly cut hair. He is holding flowers.

AVERY (CONT'D)

Rich. It's nice to see--

He completely ignores her and immediately walks toward Nance.

RICH

Mrs. Davis. It's so nice to finally meet you.

He hands her the flowers. Nance blushes.

NANCE

Why thank you, Mr. Richardson.

RICH

Please, call me Rich. Now, please, I'd love a tour of this place.

He motions for his cameraman to follow them.

AVERY TALKING HEAD

AVERY

I guess he's still hurt. I was the one who broke up with him. It was complicated.

INT. RECEPTION AREA HALLWAY- A FEW MINUTES LATER

Bobby stands with Dr. Shay. There is a WOMAN who looks just like celebrity chef Paula Deen standing outside of the demo kitchen.

BOBBY

Is that Paula Deen? I'm impressed, Dr. Shay.

DR. SHAY

No. That's her impersonator. Paula Jean. She's all I could get on such short notice.

BOBBY

Okay. Well, maybe no one will notice.

INT. DEMO KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Paula Jean is at the stove cooking a tofu stir fry in front of a GROUP OF PEOPLE. Gloria serves cups of cucumber water from a Gatorade tank in the nearby corner.

PAULA

And finally, you're just gonna add a touch of oil, ya'll.

All of a sudden the wok bursts into flames. She tries to put it out with a hand towel but the fire just gets bigger. Paula Jean runs for the huge Gatorade tank of cucumber water.

GLORIA

Oh no you don't. Do you know how many cucumbers I had to cut up for that bloody water?

Gloria is too weak to hold the tank. Paula Jean dumps the whole container of the water over the fire.

GLORIA (CONT'D)

Bullocks!

INT. GYM - DANCE STUDIO - A FEW MINUTES LATER

There are 20 RIDERS on stationary bikes lined up in rows.

ANGLE ON: Bobby taping a segment with Rich in the corner.

BOBBY

(to Rich)

So, people can donate a dollar for every mile their favorite team or biker rides. It's very exciting.

RICH

Very exciting, indeed. And are your trainers always that tan?

BOBBY

What?

He looks over at Barry and Rachel. They are on bikes in front. Both are a shade of orange that nobody should ever be.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

No.

BARRY

(to group)

My name is Barry and this is my intern Rachel. Now, let's start raising some money and burning those calories!

Music plays and Rachel and Barry start pedaling quickly. The rest of the bikers barely move.

RACHEL

And up! Let's get those butts up and out of those chairs!

Nobody does it.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

Nope? Okay. Do what you can! Whoo!

INT. GYM - DANCE STUDIO - AN HOUR LATER

Rachel and Barry are a sweaty mess. Their fake tan continues to drip off their faces.

BARRY

Alright everyone, let's see how much money we made during that first hour.

The camera pans over to the digital screen in the corner. It reads: \$20.

RACHEL

Alright. Well, that's twenty dollars closer to our goal of..

She looks over at the goal for the day.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

\$5,000.

Rachel and Barry get off their bikes.

BARRY

Alright let's make it up with this next group, shall we? I'm gonna leave my card here in case any of you ladies are interested in a personal training session with me.

All the woman give him a strange look. He finally sees himself in the mirror and gasps. He grabs Rachel's hand and they leave the studio.

INT. INDOOR POOL AREA - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Bobby casually walks with his back toward the pool as Rich interviews him.

BOBBY

We offer water aerobics classes three times a week and lap swim hour every day at 4 p.m. We chose to put in an indoor pool so we could use it year round.

RICH

Right. Kind of like how those two are using it?

We pan to the pool where Rachel and Barry are making out in the corner. The water on that side of the pool has turned a strange orange color. It's now decontaminated from their spray tans.

BOBBY

Why don't we check back in and see what's going on at the Spin-a-Thon.

He ushers Rich and the cameraman to exit the pool.

BARRY AND RACHEL TALKING HEADS

RACHEL

(smirking)

I don't know.

(MORE)

RACHEL (CONT'D)

Maybe it's because we might have to shut down this place and I never have to see Barry again? I can't stand this guy.

(pauses)

But it was hot.

They look at each other then start making out again.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. CHARLOTTE HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER - DANCE STUDIO -
THE NEXT DAY

SPY SHOT: Only one person is still spinning. It's Gloria. She is giving it all she's got. The donation sign reads: \$500.

BOBBY (V.O.)

Well, overall, I don't think the open house and Spin-a-Thon went quite as well as we had hoped.

BOBBY TALKING HEAD

BOBBY

We only got three new clients. Two of which were my parents. I think they just feel bad for me at this point. God, my life is sad.

INT. CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

Groups of people sit at various tables eating their breakfasts: Kathy and her HIPPIE FRIENDS pour large packets of chia seeds into their yogurts. Barry and Rachel playfully toss granola into each other's mouths. Adam, Nance, and Avery sit at the corner table with Rich's roses as the centerpiece.

AVERY

What is going on over there?

Nance looks over at Barry and Rachel.

NANCE

I don't know. But I think it's kind of sweet.

AVERY

(sarcastically)

As sweet as Rich?

She takes out a rose from the centerpiece and gives it to Nance.

NANCE

Oh come on. You know I just needed to check him out for myself.

AVERY

And what did you find out?

NANCE

That...

(she pauses)

I need to mind my own business.

Whatever happened with you and Rich is
between the two of you.

AVERY TALKING HEAD

AVERY

I'm sorry, you guys heard that right?

I might need to get a copy of that.

You know, for future use.

INT. CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

Eddie sits down with Avery, Nance, and Adam. He looks
depressed.

ADAM

What's with you?

EDDIE

I'm just not ready to let go of this
place. I'm so depressed I could eat
fifty-two waffles.

He sighs.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

You all know I can do that right? Eat
fifty-two waffles. I --

AVERY

Hold the record at Waffle
House.

NANCE

Hold the record at Waffle
House.

ADAM

We know.

Bobby and Dr. Shay roll a TV into the room.

ALL

Bob-bayyy!

Bobby turns on the local news with the remote.

ANGLE ON TV SCREEN: Rich sits at the anchor desk.

RICH

Hello and welcome to the Sunday
morning news hour. I'm Rich
Richardson.

Bobby leans over to Dr. Shay.

BOBBY

I don't have a good feeling about this.

He turns up the volume.

RICH

We start off this morning's news with our top story. Charlotte Health and Weight Loss Center has been facing bankruptcy for quite some time now. Yesterday, the center threw an open house and Spin-a-Thon in a last ditch effort to raise some extra funds.

The program cuts to a shot of Barry and Rachel teaching the spin class. They look awful.

We pan out to focus on Barry and Rachel.

BARRY

Hey, that's my girl right there!

He kisses Rachel.

ANGLE ON TV SCREEN: Rich sits at the anchor desk.

RICH

Let me tell you, I saw this center firsthand and it certainly needs more than five-hundred dollars to get it back up and running. That, of course, is the total amount of money that has been raised over the last 24-hours.

All of a sudden Paula Jean rolls onto the set.

PAULA

That's why I'm here today, Rich.

Rich is stunned. He listens to his producer from inside his right ear.

RICH

Why hello there. Ladies and gentleman, this here is North Carolina's resident Paula Deen impersonator, Miss Paula Jean.

PAULA

Hey ya'll!

RICH

I don't think the annual butter fair
is for another few weeks there,
darlin'.

PAULA

Oh, honey, there will be no more
butter in my future. I've gotta get
all skinny now that Paula Deen has
lost all that weight, ya'll. That's
why I've decided to buy the Charlotte
Health and Weight Loss Center.

CUT TO:

Everyone in the cafeteria jumping up and down with
excitement.

BACK TO:

PAULA (CONT'D)

Although it's gonna be hard with that
Hush Crunch place right next door. You
know, that place that serves up those
half chicken wing half hush puppy
things? I definitely gotta keep the
staff that's already there. If they
can stay up for a whole 24-hours and
not go grab one of those delicious
things, they've got some serious
discipline.

She waves at the camera.

PAULA (CONT'D)

See ya'll on Monday!

Dr. Shay turns off the TV. Bobby stands there stunned. Eddie
runs up and hugs them both at once.

EDDIE

Oh, thank you. I really didn't want to
eat fifty-two waffles. How did you get
her to buy the place?

DR. SHAY

Turns out Paula Jean has made quite a
lot of money impersonating Paula Deen
over the years. When I mentioned to
her this morning that we'll probably
have to close our doors, she
volunteered to help. Plus, I think she
felt a little bad about what happened
in the demo kitchen.

BOBBY

So, it looks like you all have a job to come to tomorrow. Unless you guys are too tired.

KATHY

Too tired? Hell, let's stay up another 24-hours and just see what happens.

BOBBY

So, I gotta run. Lots to do before the grand re-opening next week.

Everyone else follows suit and heads out.

EXT. CHARLOTTE HEALTH AND WEIGHT LOSS CENTER - SIX MONTHS LATER - DAY

Paula Jean stands outside of the building. She directs a crane that holds a large sign that says: Lose Pounds with Paula.

BOBBY (V.O.)

Boy, so much has changed since Paula Jean joined us.

BOBBY TALKING HEAD

BOBBY

First of all, we've gotten so many new clients that I had to hire an assistant.

We pan out to REVEAL Eddie, sitting next to Bobby. He is ecstatic.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

I figured he was already helping us out so much around here. Why not get paid for it. Right Eddie?

EDDIE

Oh, don't you know it, brother. You think we could Miss Gloria to add some waffles to the breakfast menu?

BOBBY

I'll see what I can do.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

SPY SHOT: Gloria and Tony happily cut up cucumbers on the kitchen island.

GLORIA TALKING HEAD

GLORIA

Oh sod it. I love cucumber water. I had to make so much of it for that stupid open house that I finally tried it. It's bloody refreshing.

INT. MEDICAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dr. Shay weighs a PATIENT on a new scale. It reads: 200 lbs. He politely pushes the man off of it and puts the 5 lb. dumbbell on the scale. It reads: 5 lbs. He smiles.

INT. KATHY'S THERAPY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Kathy is pregnant and rubbing her belly. There is a handwritten quote on the whiteboard behind her. It says: "Pregnancy after 50."

KATHY TALKING HEAD

KATHY

(beaming)

That's right. I'm expecting. I really think it's because of the new energy in this place. Paula Jean brought some serious Sacral Chakras in with her and I just kept concentrating on that.

(pauses)

Plus, I had sex with Adam.

ADAM TALKING HEAD

ADAM

Yeah, it happened the night of the Spin-a-Thon? I think I was delirious or something because I barely remember it.

He grabs something from his desk drawer.

ADAM (CONT'D)

(looking down)

Kathy thinks it'll help bring light to my life, whatever that means.

(to the camera)

If it's a boy, Kathy wants to name it Raindancer.

He holds up a rainstick and tilts it back and forth. It makes a soothing sound.

ADAM (CONT'D)

I guess she's part Native American or something. I don't know. I kind of block out everything she says.

He smiles.

ADAM (CONT'D)

I'm pretty excited to become a father though.

Embarrassed, he clears his throat and gets serious again.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Shoot, you should be talking to Barry and Rachel. They're the ones who can't keep their hands off each other. It's disgusting.

CUT TO:

INT. GYM - TREADMILL AREA - CONTINUOUS

Barry piggybacks Rachel while trying to run on the treadmill. They both laugh.

BARRY AND RACHEL TALKING HEADS

BARRY

Yep, I pretty much knew she liked me from day one.

RACHEL

(to Barry)

On my first day I asked to be transferred upstairs.

BARRY

Yeah, I thought you were just playing hard to get.

(to camera)

And it worked.

Rachel rolls her eyes.

RACHEL

Anyway, I found out that behind that lame Jersey Shore wannabe exterior, there lied a boy with a trust fund.

BARRY

That's true. Very true. I didn't even know what that was until Rachel and I started dating.

(MORE)

BARRY (CONT'D)

I thought it was a bank full of trust and I was like, what, bro? Why would you ever need that? Now we go to way nicer restaurants. And I finally got my own place.

RACHEL

Yeah, in your parent's basement. Big whoop.

BARRY

(aggravated)

Hey, what did I say? All the men in my family live at home until they're married.

RACHEL

I'm sorry, babe.

Barry relaxes.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

I love it when you get all riled up like that.

They make out.

INT. PAULA JEAN'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Paula throws out a life-size cut out of the old Paula Deen into the trash and replaces it with a thinner version of her.

PAULA JEAN TALKING HEAD

PAULA

I think everyone is really enjoying their time here. I'm even getting more involved in the day-to-day aspect of things.

INT. GYM - DANCE STUDIO - A FEW DAYS EARLIER

Paula Jean leads a zumba class. People in the class take pictures of her with their iPhones.

INT. PAULA JEANS' OFFICE - BACK TO PRESENT DAY

PAULA TALKING HEAD

PAULA

I think some people believe I'm the real Paula Deen.

(MORE)

PAULA (CONT'D)

But I'll take it if means they're writing those checks, honey. Now, mama's hungry. Let's go get some grub.

INT. CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

Avery and Nance sit at the table with Kathy and her older pregnant patients. Nance excitedly touches Kathy's belly.

AVERY TALKING HEAD

AVERY

My mom has actually calmed down about the baby thing. I think because Kathy actually got pregnant and now she can focus on that instead of my personal life. Which is great because now I'll have time to find out why all of my dates keep showing up as superheroes.

INT. CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

Gloria holds a tray of healthy waffles and walks them over to Eddie. His whole face lights up and he gives her a big hug.

GLORIA

Yeah, yeah, yeah. Save it for someone who cares.

EDDIE

I know you care Miss Gloria. I saw you spinning your little behind, trying to raise money for us. You love this place as much as I do.

GLORIA TALKING HEAD

GLORIA

Okay, maybe I do. But bloody hell, don't you go telling anybody that.

She takes a sip of cucumber water from a glass and smiles.

END OF SHOW