

## **2 Studios in The Pines:**

### **A Musical**

#### **THE CAST:**

**Julia** *A Yoga instructor*

**John** *Assistant Yoga Instructor*

**Charlotte** *A friend and Yoga student*

**McKenzie** *The new Pilates Instructor*

**Vince** *Local Goof*

**Carlos** *His Sidekick*

**Mr. Pilton** *Greedy, conniving landlord*

**Benson** *His Employee and Sidekick*

**Police Officer**

**Townfolk**

**Yoga students**

**Pilates Students**

**Bar and Coffee Shop Patrons**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

*Various Townsfolk take turns singing lines*

### **BORN IN TEXAS:**

*Lights fade out then fade in to yoga studio full of students on right stage*

**Julia:** Ok class, my name is Julia. I will be your instructor. Let's begin.

### **YOGA SONG**

In the western world, the term yoga refers mostly to practices involving asanas, known as body postures. It is practiced mainly for physical fitness, stress relief, and relaxation.

You have the downward dog

The cat!

The cow

The plank

The cobra

Tree pose.

### **Instructor #1:**

*And now we're doing yoga, yoga*

*Yoga*

*I can't think of another word that rhymes with yoga*

**Student:** *You might want to be careful*

*If you're going to wear a toga...*

**Julia:** No!

There have to be some other words that rhyme with yoga.

**Student:** Besides toga?

**Everyone:** Yes!

Let's see...yogurt?

No

Ahhh...Mocha!

Close, but no

That's too bad! I really like mocha.

Me too, the one down at Java Jive is sooo good. Have you tried the double mocha almond?

**Julia:** Hey guys, let's focus here

*There're many types of yoga you can do*

*Hatha, Ashtanga, Kundalini*

*Just to name a few*

*If you like hot yoga,*

*You can also do Bikram*

*There's Bhakti, Visana, Aerial,*

*And then some*

Etc. and etc.

*If you need something easy,*

*There's restorative yoga*

**Student:** *Just don't try to do it in a toga!*

**Julia:** Enough

*It's great for your body, and it's healing for your mind*

*It helps you to relax and unwind*

**Instructor:** *But you'd have to go to Albany*

*Or even Saratoga,*

*To find another word that rhymes with yoga*

*Yoga, Yoga*

*We're going to fill this town with yoga*

**Julia:** The entire town will be healthier and happier by the time we're down with it!

You'll see...

.....

Townfolk walking through town

**Carlos:** Hey look Vince, that sign says “Pilots”. They must be putting in an airport!

**Vince:** It doesn't say “Pilots”. It says Pilates.

**Carlos:** Pilates, Hey maybe that's like that Pupusa place they got over by the plant.

**Vince** No, Pilates is I think a lot like yoga. But I think more exercise.

**Carlos:** Exercise? First all the stretching and now they're adding exercise? Why would anyone do that to themselves?

**Vince** Take a good look at your stomach. Not everyone wants to look like you

**Carlos:** Well, this is a fine specimen of the perfect dad bod. My wife told me herself.

**Vince:** Well, your wife's a good liar. C'mon. Let's see what this place is all about.

**Townsfolk #1:** Say, is that a Pilates studio going in?

**Vince:** Sure looks that way.

**Townsfolk #2:** I sure hope they don't put Julia out of business.

**Townsfolk #1:** Yeah, I don't know if this town can handle 2 studios.

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*Inside Pilates studio (left stage)*

**TF#1:** Don't mind us, we just came in to see what all this is about

**McKenzie:** Oh, well come on in. I'm glad you're taking an interest

**TF #2:** So what is Pilates?

**McKenzie:** Well, Pilates is a type of mind-body exercise. It was developed by Joseph Pilates....

**TF #3:** Wait, Pilates was named after a person?

**McKenzie:** yes.

**TF #3:** Kind of like the crapper.

**TF #2:** Ok, knock it off.

**TF #3:** Well then, is Pilates just like yoga?

**McKenzie:** Well, yes. In some ways it's a lot like yoga. But it's also different in a lot of ways. Yoga is a very old practice, while Pilates was invented in the 20th century.

**TF #2:** So Pilates is cutting edge...

**McKenzie:** Well, relatively speaking, maybe

**TF #3:** And that means yoga is old and outdated...

**McKenzie:** Well, no...

**TF #2:** and Julia at the yoga studio said it was a new way to get fit

### **PILATES SONG**

**McKenzie:** *Well, if you've never done it. Before, then it's absolutely new*

**TF #2:** Sounds like she misrepresented a bit

**McKenzie:** No, yoga is a new way for people who are used to traditional Western workouts...

**TF #2:** *So yoga was new, but now it's old hat. Did you hear that Stacy? Yoga is now old hat. Pilates is where it's at!*

**McKenzie:** I wouldn't say that.

**TF #2:** So how does one do a Pilate?

**McKenzie:** Well, Pilates is a mind-body workout that develops core strength and flexibility, as well as muscle control...

**TF #1:** So Pilates gives you abs?

**McKenzie:** Well, yes

(Townsfolk nod)

**TF #1:** Do you need a mat?

**McKenzie:** Well, you use apparatuses, which are provided for you right here in the studio. You see, pilates focuses on core strength over flexibility.

**TF #2:** *You don't need a mat.*

*And it makes you strong*

*And it gives you abs.*

So you're saying:

*If I want to be a hottie,*

*I should come here and do Pilates*

**McKenzie:** I didn't say that

**Tf #2:** Uh huh. Wink.

**TF #1:** *Do we learn to punch and kick*

**McKenzie:**

*No, you're thinking of karate,*

*But if you want solid core*

*Come do Pilates*



*The Ab Scoop*

*The Hundred*

*The Roll-Up*

*The Mermaid*

*The swan Prep.*

TF: *Well that doesn't sound too shoddy.*

*I think I just might sign up for Pilates.*

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Benson and Mr. Pilton walk by:

**TF #2:** Have you heard anything about the new Pilates place?

**Pilton:** The uh, Pilates studio. Yes. It seems like change is pretty inevitable around here.

**TF #2:** You said it. It seems like things are always changing these days.

**Pilton:** Benson, I believe the new Pilates studio is really taking off. What good news for the town.

**Benson:** Well, you sure gave her a good deal on the place. I don't know why, but suddenly you've become a real softie. It sure has the town talking.

**Pilton:** Yes, it looks like I do. And if they keep talking, that studio will take away half the business from the yoga studio down the block.

**Benson:** Gee, then the yoga studio might be forced to move, or close for good.

**Pilton:** Yes, I suppose they will. And when they move out, I can finally buy that decrepit old building the stubborn old yoga instructor has been holding onto.

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Pilates studio:

**McKenzie** (talking to her cat): Oh Princess, I can't believe we finally did it. Our own studio, right here in Pineyville. I thought it would never happen, but the opportunity was too good to pass up. It still just doesn't seem real. Could it be my dream is really coming true?

### **IS MY DREAM COMING TRUE?**

*Is my dream coming true?*

*Or is this just another fantasy*

*I've convinced myself is real*

*Even though I feel*

*Like maybe it's finally happening*

*I know somewhere in the back of my mind*

*I've told myself before*

*This could be the time*

*But each time I've been let down*

*My spirit's been crushed,*

*Through and through*

*But could it be this time?*

*I know that hope is blind*

*And is this ray of light*

*Just and unfaithful hue?*

*Or is my dream finally, really*

*Coming true?*

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Yoga studio:

**Julia:** Ok, class starts in 5 minutes.

**Charlotte:** Julia, I think some people are running late. Maybe the train is stopped across 3rd street again. We can wait another 5 minutes.

**Julia:** No, no one's running late. We've just lost a few students.

**Charlotte:** Is it the new Pilates studio? I don't know why they had to move here.

**John:** It's ok, Charlotte. I'm sure it's only temporary. They'll be back.

**Charlotte:** Oh sure, they'll come back when the new wears off. You'll see.

**Julia:** We've got a class to attend to. We need to focus on that.

**John:** You don't look like you're focused at all right now. Why don't you take a few minutes and let me start the first class. Ok?

**Julia:** No, it's fine. I need to do this. I can do it.

**Charlotte:** Oh, Julia...

**John:** Go get your mat, Charlotte. We've got this all under control.

**Charlotte:** Well, ok. We're here if you need us, Julia. (Walks off)

**John:** Are you sure you're fine?

**Julia:** I'm fine. Yoga is about being in the moment, and letting go, and if I can't, then how can I expect my students to...

**John:** You're right. I was just looking out for you. Go get em Tiger.

**Julia:**

**WE'RE HERE RIGHT NOW**

*Just clear your mind*

*Just let go*

*You're here and now*

*Your problems were so long ago*

*If I see trouble*

*On the horizon*

*I just breathe*

*And focus*

*And turn my eyes in*

*What does it matter?*

*What the future holds*

*We're here right now*

*And I know that this time is gold*

*But what if time*

*Does not exist*

*I still have an hour*

*To fill their hearts with bliss*

*It's just the ticking*

*Of a clock*

*And with each time*

*Become more present*

*Like a rock*

*So just breathe in*

*And then breathe out*

*We're here right now*

*And now is what this is all about*

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Pilates Studio:

**Pilates Student#1:** You're getting more members each week. I think things are looking good.

**McKenzie:** I know, I'm excited. Let's just keep doing what we've been doing.

**Pilates Student #1:** No reason to change it if it's working, I suppose.

I heard some of the new members are coming from the yoga studio.

**McKenzie:** Yeah, I guess I need to go over there and introduce myself. I really want us to work together. Between the two of us, we can target the whole community. Just think of the good we could do.

**Pilates Student #1:** I think that would be really nice.

**McKenzie:** Yeah, me too. Listen, I've got to go into town for a few things for the studio. Are you sure you'll be okay by yourself?

**Pilates Student #1:** Of course.

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*Mr. Pilton and Benson in an empty retail space (center stage):*

**Pilton:** Another beautiful empty space!

**Benson:** Yeah, another place out of business downtown.

**Pilton:** Yes, and I was able to purchase this space and add one more shop to my treasure trove downtown.

**Benson:** I guess so. It just seems so sad for the Johnsons. They had the general store in here ever since I can remember. I guess everyone goes to Walmart these days.

**Pilton:** Indeed, Minion. It was the market that pushed them out. And pushing them out has created a vacuum. And do you know what vacuums do?

**Benson:** They suck.

**Pilton:** no...well yes, but a vacuum creates a void. And from that void comes new life. New business. Opportunity for a more modern way to do business.

**Benson:** Yeah, but what is Mr. Johnson gonna do now?

**Pilton:** Why, he can come to work for me, in one of my shops. No reason for him to just sit around moping all day.

**Benson:** I guess so, it's just...

**Pilton:** See, there's no such thing as the local economy, Benson. There is just one big economy, and if you want to survive in it you have to adapt.

And to adapt, sometimes you have to break things down so you can build them back up again. Stronger, better. That's just the way of the world, Benson.

**Benson:** So what are we doing here right now, Mr. Pilton?

**Pilton:** We're breaking down, of course. Let's go.

(Yelling at workers) Let's get these shelves out of here. C'mon, I want this place spotless. I want everything clean, completely clean. As clean as can be.

Benson, my white glove, please.

(Benson hands white glove and Landlord pulls out magnifying glass)

### **ONE SINGLE SPECK ON THE FLOOR**

*A box in the hall*

*A hole in the wall*

*The tiniest scratch on the door*

*And if there's just one thing*

*That I hate even more*

*It's if there's one single speck on the floor*

*Dust on the mantle*

*A left-over candle*

*A smudge that they chose to ignore!*

*But if there's just one thing that I*

*Really do abhor*

*It's if there's one single speck on the floor!*

*If it passes the test, you can be on your way*

*But if there's one speck of dust then you will pay!*

*(And pay dearly I might add, this is non-negotiable)*

*Children at play on a bright sunny day*

*Will dampen my mood, that's for sure*

*But if there's just one thing that*

*Really makes me sore*

*It's if there's one single speck on the floor*

*Holiday presents and the joy that they bring*

**Benson:** *These are a few of his least favorite things*

**Pilton:** *Ok, Benson, no need to try to steal my thunder*

*Music in the hall*

*Family photos on the wall*

*People who clock out at 4:54 (they're the worst)*

*But if there's just one thing*



*That's rotten to the core*

*It's.....*

**Benson:** *The suspense is killing me*

*It's if there's one single speck on the floor*

.....

**Townfolk #1:** (walking by) Say, what are you doing in here?

**Benson:** Creating a vacuum.

**Townfolk #1:** Oh, well that sucks.

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*Downtown:*

McKenzie is carrying a bunch of packages and bumps into Johnny on the street, spilling her boxes.

**McKenzie:** Oh dear, I'm so sorry.

**John:** Sorry, let me help you with these.

**McKenzie:** No, it was my fault. I'm so clumsy....

**John:** No, it's not your fault, really. Let me just help pick these packages up. That's a lot of boxes.

**McKenzie:** Yes, I'm doing a little remodeling.

**John:** Ah, giving the place the old makeover.

**McKenzie:** Actually, I'm just moving in

**John:** It's good to make a place your own. You getting any good tips from remodeling shows?

**McKenzie:** Oh my God, so many!

**John:** My favorite is Flip My Space.

**McKenzie:** I love that one. And Front Porch Warriors.

**John:** Ah, I caught the marathon the other night.

**McKenzie:** Me too, So Good! Well, thank you for helping...

**John:** Is somebody helping you with this?

**McKenzie:** Like a boyfriend...

**John:** Or a contractor

**McKenzie:** Why did I say that? Yes, no...I have friends helping

**John:** Well, if you need any tips, I work at the yoga studio downtown. Come by anytime.

**McKenzie:** Oh. The yoga studio. Ok. Well, I really need to get going.

(Walks off)

**John:** Every time I meet a beautiful woman, I say something stupid and don't even know what it was I said.

**McKenzie:** I'm such an idiot. I run into the man of my dreams, and of course he works at the yoga studio. When he finds out who I am, he'll probably hate me.

### **SOMEONE LIKE YOU**

**John:** *I'm the type of guy who keeps his head*

*And thinks things through*

*But now I'm lost in the clouds*

*Wondering what to do*

*If it all seems too good, to be true*

*How can someone like me*

*Have someone like you*

**McKenzie:** *I'm the type of gal who dreams too much,*

*I admit*

*But I'm head over heels*

*At the thought of this*

*Though it all seems too good, to be true  
How someone like me can have someone  
As special as you*

**Duet:** *Seeing you caught me off guard today  
I thought all these feelings had been stowed away  
When it all seems to good, to be true  
How someone like me could have someone  
As beautiful as you*

.....

*At the TOWN FISH FRY:*

TF #4: Listen up, everybody, before we start the fish fry, we've got a new member of our community, McKenzie, coming all the way from the big city to teach Pilates. I think she's trying to get our community in shape, and I see some of you who could really use it. Now, I'm not naming any names, Vince, so don't worry...

**Vince:** Hey, I resemble that remark!

**Townfolk:** Welcome!

**McKenzie:** Thank you, you've all been so kind to me. I really appreciate it.

**TF #1:** Just don't body shame me

**McKenzie:** Of course not...

**TF #3:** Don't worry Larry, you can keep your sedentary lifestyle, and your beer gut.

**TF #1:** That's my Dunlop.

**TF #2:** your what?

**TF #1:** You know, where my belly done lopped over my belt buckle (crowd chuckles).

*Crowd moves away*

**Charlotte:** They sure are taking a liking to her. I sure hope she doesn't put you out of business, Julia...oh sorry. I shouldn't have said that.

**Julia:** No, it's ok. You can speak your mind. They do seem to like her, don't they?

**Student #1:** They like you too. Just in a different way.

**Julia:** Yeah...I guess so

*Other side of stage: Townsfolk gathering around McKenzie*

**TF #2:** So, McKenzie, are you a vegan like our yoga lady?

**McKenzie:** Uh, no. I'm vegetarian, not vegan. Actually, I'm Pescatarian.

**TF #2:** Pescatarian, huh. Well, we're mostly Southern Baptist around here.

**McKenzie:** No, Pescatarians can eat fish.

**TF #2:** Ain't that vegan?

**McKenzie:** No, vegans can't have any animal products. I'm mostly vegetarian, but this fish looks so good, and I haven't had a good fried fish plate in so long....

**TF #2:** Well, then you're in for a treat, this is the best friend fish in these parts.

**McKenzie:** Well, we should go get in line then. I hope they have cole slaw and hush puppies.

**TF#2:** You can't beat it. Patricia Smith makes the slaw every year. Just a little sugar and not too much vinegar. I don't like a lot of vinegar myself...

**McKenzie:** Sounds delicious.

**TF #2:** I guess them yoga folks can have their falafel.

**McKenzie:** Well, that sounds very good too....

**TF #2:** yeah, if you're a rabbit. Line's filling up. We'd better go.

*(Walk off)*

**Charlotte:** Did you hear that, Julia? They're making fun of you.

**Julia:** It's just harmless jokes...

**Charlotte:** She says she's vegetarian and then she's over there eating fish. You can't have it both way...

**Julia:** She did say she was pescatarian

**Charlotte:** I don't know. I don't trust her. It seems like she will say anything.

**Julia:** There's no reason to rush to any judgement

**Charlotte:** Well, I guess. But while we're over here not rushing to judgement, she's over there rushing to ingratiate herself with the community.

**Julia:** Well, she's free to do it. I, I should go meet her. Maybe not here in front of everybody. But later.

**Charlotte:** Yeah. And feel her out. I don't trust her.

(Townfolk surround McKenzie)

**TF #2:** What with the Johnson General Store closing, and McKenzie moving in, there's gonna be a lot of change downtown.

**TF #1:** There sure has been a lot of change over the years.

## **BACK IN 1985**

*We rebelled against our parents*

*With psychedelic drugs*

*Volkswagen bugs*

*Far out music and free love*

*We stood up for peace*

*And against war and hate*

*And everything felt great*

*Back in 1968*

*We rode around on bikes*

*With a Walkman by our side*

*Unless we got a new Atari game*

*We played all day outside*

*We jumped off homemade ramps*

*In the neighbor's gravel drive*

*And somehow, we survived*

*Back in 1985*

*Glued to our devices*

*That's how we spent our lives*

*We never left the house*

*Stuck there with our wives*

*We thought we might be goners*

*If we even caught the flu*

*But somehow, we pulled through*

*Back in 2022*

*Y2K didn't affect us*

*But our modems ran real slow*

*You can blame the phone lines*



*But I still blame Windows*

*We worried about the terror*

*But our freedom would be won*

*These colors didn't run*

*Back in 2001*

**Old Man:** Do you know what it was like back in 1945?

**TF:** No, what?

Old Man: I, I don't remember

*And somehow, we survived*

*And somehow, we pulled through*

*And everything was great*

*And ....*

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**COFFEE SHOP:**

John is in line in front of McKenzie.

**John:** Hi, Stranger.

**McKenzie:** Oh, hi... I , uh.

**John:** Listen, if I was too forward helping you with your boxes the other night...

**McKenzie:** No, it was fine.

**John:** I know you could have got them without my help...

**McKenzie:** It was much appreciated.

**John:** I know how Julia gets at the yoga studio sometimes, and I'm not trying to be a chauvinist or anything, I just see people needing help and I...

**McKenzie:** It's fine. Really. It was a very gentlemanly thing to do.

**John:** Really?

**McKenzie:** No, down the patriarchy! How could you? Of course, it was fine.

**John:** Sorry if I was forward. I'm sure you have a boyfriend or...

**McKenzie:** No

**John:** Or someone, someone special... in your life.

**McKenzie:** No, it's not like that. You weren't

**John:** Ok. Well, if you ever need a scoop on a good contractor just come by the studio. We know a lot of locals....

**McKenzie:** Do you.... Do you want to get some coffee, I mean with me.

**John:** As luck would have it, we happen to be in line at a coffee shop right now.

**McKenzie:** And here we are together. So we might as well....

**John:** We might as well have it together. I hear the double mocha with almond milk is good here. Unless you prefer cream...

**McKenzie:** I love almond milk.

**John:** Two double mochas with almond milk, please.

(They sit with coffee)

**John:** So, what brings you to town?

**McKenzie:** oh, uh, besides a 2012 Toyota Corolla?

**John:** You didn't tell me what kind of gas you put in it.

**McKenzie:** Oh....it's just, such a nice town.

**John:** Did work bring you here?

**McKenzie:** Actually, I'm thinking of settling down here.

John: With that special someone in my life.

**McKenzie:** Yes, with that special someone in my life. With my Princess.

**John:** I see.

**McKenzie:** Princess is my cat. Just me and my cat.... settling down.

**John:** This is a good mocha.

**McKenzie:** Indeed.

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*John and McKenzie walk together.*

**McKenzie:** This night was just perfect. Thank you.

**John:** It was wonderful. When will I see you again, McKenzie?

**McKenzie:** Soon. But right now, I must go. I have so much to do.

**John:** Good night.

**McKenzie:** Good night.

**PERFECT, IMPERFECT LOVE:**

**John:** *You are all that I long for,  
All that I need  
Every wish I've ever had come true  
A world full of charms  
Exists in your arms  
Together when the day is through*

*You're a light in my darkness  
A calm in the storm  
Such beauty in the little things you do  
And everything I see  
So beautiful to me  
What a wondrous world I've found  
Since I found you*

**Mckenzie:** *When I am alone, I remember  
All the other times I've made it through  
When love just seemed like a dying ember  
Waiting for a spark like you*

**Duet:** *You're a bright ray from Heaven  
On a life as flawed as mine  
For once my wish could finally come true  
And if perfect love only exists above  
Let me share this perfect, imperfect love  
I have with you*

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*Yoga Studio, students laying on their backs:*

**Instructor:** Then follow with the reclining twist. And now we move into what many have called the hardest yoga pose to master, the corpse pose.

Laying flat on your back, just rest your arms by your side...

**Carlos:** Oh my god, I nailed it. First try!

**Vince:** Yeah, well you've been practicing this one your whole life.

**Carlos:** I think I've mastered it. I've mastered the hardest yoga pose to master. I'm a yoga master. I don't think I have to practice any more.

**Instructor:** Ok, class. That's all for today. Come back next week and we'll have some more restorative poses for you to practice. Thank you all so much.

**Vince:** You can get up now.

**Carlos:** (still laying on his back) But I'm still mastering this pose.

**Instructor:** Thank you so much for showing up today.

**Vince:** Sure thing. Our wives talked so highly of this place, we decided to come check it out.

**John:** You did pretty good for your first time.

**Carlos:** So good, we're gonna go celebrate at the Rusty Mule.

**Student #1:** You never get out anymore. Why don't you come join us?

**Student #2:** Yeah, you could use a little stress relief right now.

**John:** Well, maybe just a couple.

**Julia:** You go have a good time. I'm going to clean up in here a bit.

**John:** Ok, but let me clean up next time.

**Julia:** Ok, but don't have too much fun. I do want to go to that Pilates studio in the morning and introduce ourselves.

**John:** Sure, I'll be here with bells on

*AT THE RUSTY MULE BAR:*

**Vince:** Well, fellas. Carlos and I have to skidaddle before our wives figure out that yoga class doesn't last 3 hours.

**John:** Ok. Thanks, guys.

**Student #1:** C'mon, just one more round.

**John:** You go ahead, I'm fine.

**Student #1:** Barkeep, another round of Local Yokel Lagers. Made right down the road in Hunters' Glen, ya know.

**Student #2:** That's where that Pilates studio should have opened up., instead of trying to take all our business.

**Student #1:** What we ought to do, we ought to go over there and tell em to go somewhere else. This is our turf.

**Student #2:** Yeah, this is Yoga turf, and Pilates people like you aren't welcome in this town.

**Student #1:** Yeah. Be cool. Be cool. (Snapping fingers)

**John:** C'mon guys, this isn't "West Side Story".

**Student #1:** You know you want to go over there and throw a rock through there window, rip up their fancy apparatuses,

**Student #2:** That's what they deserve for trying to put you out of business.

**John:** Sure, we'll just march over there right now, break the windows, go in and wreck the whole place. They'd never suspect us.

**Student #1:** Dismantle all that equipment. Let's see you try to teach Pilates with just a mat.

**John:** We'll mess them up really good. But first, I'm getting you two an Uber.

**Student #2:** Yeah, Uber driver, straight to the Pilates studio.

**Student #1:** Ya hear that, we're burning that Pilates studio to the ground. Who's with us? You with us, Johnny?

**Student #2:** You with us Johnny?



**John:** Sure, whatever you want. First, let's get you that ride. Thanks, (tips bartender)

*Mr. Pilton and Benson overhear the conversation.*

**Pilton:** Did you hear that, Benson? They sure sound intent on destroying my building.

**Benson:** Yeah, if they were crazy enough to actually do it, they'd be in a whole lot of trouble.

**Pilton:** Yes, they would... Grab your jacket, I'm paying the tab.

**Benson:** But I'm not through with my drink.

**Pilton:** Well, hurry up. We've got business to attend to...

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*NEXT MORNING. PILATES STUDIO:*

*McKenzie is standing next to a police officer.*

**McKenzie:** I found the place like this last night. Everything is in shambles. I don't know when we'll be able to open back up.

*John & Julia show up.*

**Julia:** Oh no, what happened?

**Cop:** Someone busted the windows last night, came in and sacked as much as they could.

**Julia:** That's terrible. Did they take anything?

**Cop:** No. Just vandals. Doesn't look like they touched the drawer.

**McKenzie:** John?

**John:** McKenzie...You're the Pilates instructor?

**McKenzie:** Maybe not for much longer.

**John:** I'm so sorry.

**Cop:** You mind coming into the station with me?

**John:** What for, officer?

**Cop:** Some folks at the Rusty Mule overheard you talking about vandalizing this place last night.

**John:** That was just me and some friends letting off a little steam.

**Cop:** Well, it would sure help clear some things up.

**McKenzie:** John, did you really?

**John:** I didn't know it was you...

**McKenzie:** How could you...

**Julia:** You didn't, did you?

**John:** A couple of the students were drinking. It was just talk. It was just supposed to be talk.

**Cop:** Maybe it's a good idea if you go with me. We can clear all this up.

**John:** I'm so sorry this happened.

**Julia:** We just came over to introduce ourselves. This is so embarrassing. I don't know what to say.

**McKenzie:** Please, just leave me alone now.

**Julia:** I'm so sorry.

**McKenzie:** Please just go.

*Everyone leaves but McKenzie, who starts cleaning up*

.....

*BACK AT THE RUSTY MULE BAR:*

*Mr. Pilton and Benson are sitting at the bar with some locals.*

**TF#1:** I heard about what happened to your store front last night.

**Pilton:** Yes, terrible shame.

**TF #1:** It just seems like crime keeps getting worse and worse..

**MULE BAR RAMBLE** music starts:

**TF #3:** I blame the parents.

**TFR #2:** And the schools.

**TF #3:** Absolutely the schools. They don't even teach civics anymore.

**TF#1:** And the music. Have you heard the music young people listen to?

**TF #3:** A travesty. And all that junk food. All them chemicals just rotting their brain cells.

**TF #1:** And the water.

**TF #2:** And all the shrinks. Diagnosing all the kids with ADHD, PTSD,

**TF#3:** phd! KLTV!

**Pilton:** I'm pretty sure that last one is a television station.

**TF#3:** *With their LOL's and their snapchat.*

*They got no attention span!*

**TF#1:** *Giving cell phones to rugrats.*

*And there's no parental guidance.*

**TF#2:** *And all those violent video games.*

**TF 1:** *That's surely to blame!*

**TF #2:** *It really is a shame!*

**TF #3:** *It wasn't video or TV. See that's where I disagree.*

*All those violent video games*

*Actually let out their aggression*

*What makes one hold on to aggression is*

*Is all that yoga, and meditation*

**TF#2:** *And don't forget the chanting*

*The pshyco-babble ranting*

*Can only lead to one thing*

*Pure Devastation*

**TF#3:** *Why some people overheard them in here just last night bragging about how they were gonna vandalize that Pilates studio. Not even trying to hide it!*

**TF #2:** *All that talk about finding inner peace...*

**TF#3:** *It turns out they're a powder keg...waiting to explode.*

**TF#1:** We should have seen it coming...

**Benson:** (to Pilton) Boy, the town is really talking now.

**Pilton:** Yes, I guess if this keeps up, any day now those new age dopes at the yoga studio will have to pack it all in for good.

**Benson:** Yeah, don't you feel at least a little bad?

**Pilton:** Bad? It was only a matter of time anyway before the yoga studio went out of business. We're only keeping them from delaying their inevitable failure, prolonging the slow, painful dissolution. They'll open up in another town, perhaps, somewhere where their business model is still new, and exciting. They'll be fine.

**Benson:** I just hope no one finds out what we did.

**Pilton:** Well, they won't find out. Just as long as no one says anything to anyone.

*Mr. Pilton and Benson get up from the bar and sing to themselves*

### **OUR SCHEME IS COMING TRUE**

*Our scheme is coming true*

*Just like I explained it to you*

*You will see*

*When it's through*

*It's all going good*

*Just like I said that it would*

*You can still knock on wood*

*But the plan is going very, very good*

*It's all going so well*

*Everyone is under our spell*

*We took the wheel*

*And now no one can tell*

*And if they don't like it*

*They can all go*

*And cry like babies*

*Our plan*

*Is so strong*

*I tell you Benson*

*We can do no wrong*

*We've got them all right where we want them*

**Benson:** *Just remember not to taunt them*

.....

PILATES STUDIO

**McKenzie:** Oh Princess. I should have known. it was all too perfect. My dream job in this perfect little town. These things never happen in real life. It's all just wishful thinking. I guess hope blinds us until we can't see what's right in front of us.

Don't worry, Princess. I will always take care of you. I may not be able to count on anyone, but you can always count on me.

I guess it was wrong to come here and try to fit in. I just caused trouble. All I did was bring out the worst in these nice people. I couldn't see it then, but it's obvious now I don't belong here.

YOGA STUDIO:

**John:** Hi, Julia

**Julia:** John.

**John:** I'm just here to grab a couple things and say goodbye.

**Julia:** You don't have to say goodbye.

**John:** You know I do. I can't be associated with this place anymore; it would ruin you. If there's a way for you to rebuild your reputation in this town, it's without me.

**Julia:** But you didn't really do it. You couldn't have done it.

**John:** It doesn't matter. I've lost the town's trust. I'll always do what's best for you. And right now, it's best that I leave.

**Julia:** I can't continue without you.

**John:** I'll be very upset with you if you don't.

**Julia:** Upset?



**John:** And disappointed.

**Julia:** Why did you have to say disappointed?

**John:** Keep this place going. Do it for the town.

**Julia:** You'll always have me as a friend, no matter what.

**John:** I know.

### **HOW CAN I GO ON WITHOUT YOU?**

**Julia:**

*How can I go on without you*

*You've given me so much*

*You've given me stability*

*You've given me assurance*

*Someone I could count on*

*And now I see*

*I've only used it*

*as a crutch*

**John:**

*I'm so very sorry that I hurt you*

*It all turned out so very wrong*

*But I've always seen you as a mountain*

*And now's your chance to stand up and be strong*

**Julia:** *How can I go on without you?*

**John:** *I'm so very sorry that I hurt you*

**Julia:** *It's going to be so lonely here without you*

**John:** *I would never truly desert you.*

**Julia:**

*I know you'd never truly desert me*

*But I can hardly look you in the eye*

*It's so very hard to say goodbye*

*I can't believe the other students could betray me*

**John:** *People make mistakes*

**Julia:**

*I know they do*

*They hurt themselves more than me*

*I thought that we were family*

**John:** *But family sometimes make mistakes too*

**Julia:** *But how can I go on without you?*

**John:**

*I'm glad that I was here*

*To help you get your start*

*But now you have to stand up and be smart*

*I'll know you'll do what you have to do*

**Julia:**

*But Lindsey is so nice*

*And we let her down*

*Maybe it's her time*

*To make a difference in this town*

*Maybe it's a sign that I should step aside*

**John:** *There's room in this town for both of you*

**Cheryl:** *Says the man who just decided to run and hide*

**John:** *That's not fair!*

**Julia:**

*It's not fair to assume that this town is on our side*

*It was nice of you to say*

*But it's over either way*

*We had a great run*

*We made a difference*

**John:** *We had fun*

**Julia:** *It was.*

*But we just can't stay.*

**John:** I hope you change your mind.

.....

MR PILTON'S OFFICE:

**Pilton:** I guess it's just a matter of time now before the yoga studio closes up. I imagine the building will be up for sale soon.

**Benson:** I suppose you'll be the first to make an offer on it.

**Pilton:** Not just any offer. The best offer. A fair offer! Why, she'll be set up for months after that, maybe even years, provided she spreads out her investment portfolio reasonably; you know, so many people don't... She can have a fresh start anywhere she wants.

**Benson:** Anywhere except here.

**Pilton:** Well of course not here. Maybe up the road in Hunter's Glen. They've got that Jr. College.

**Benson:** And a nice Theatre downtown.

**Pilton:** Yes, there's a town full of people just itching for more culture. A cultural void just waiting to be filled. And no competition! Why, we may just be giving that woman the push she needs.

**Benson:** Yeah, we're a couple of regular heroes.

**Pilton:** Why yes. If only just for one day. I wonder what we'll put in that space, after it's mine. Perhaps a restaurant? Well, as long as they pay for the kitchen upgrade, of course. And we could give them a little break on rent for the first few months, with the understanding we get to keep the kitchen after they leave, it's the decent thing to do, I think.

**Benson:** How about one of those axe throwing places?

**Pilton:** No, no, no. Too much liability. And all that damage to the walls. Barbaric, really.

Maybe a cellular phone store?

**Benson:** Just turn it into a call center.

**Pilton:** Oh, don't even kid like that, Benson, I'm not a monster.

Maybe a candy store that sells bric-a-brac. No, too unpredictable of a business model.

**Benson:** Yeah, with the economy being like it is. Hey, a vape shop. That seems to be a growing market!

**Pilton:** Me, pushing drugs? Goodness no, I have an image to uphold. Well, maybe if we squeezed enough rent out of them.

**Benson:** Hey, a Halloween store!

**Pilton:** But how will they pay their rent in July?

**Benson:** They can turn it into a 4th of July store.

**Pilton:** A store for all seasons. This is why I keep you around....

Or a Lawyer's office. Ah yes. Oh, they'll pay a good amount of rent. And there's always a need for more lawyers.

**Benson:** Especially with people like us around.

**Pilton:** Yes, what would this world be like without people like us around?

.....

#### PILATES STUDIO

**McKenzie:** Well, Princess, we're closing up for good. We'll take the insurance money and use that to move somewhere else. Maybe there's a studio back in the city that needs a part time instructor. I can wait tables, maybe save up and one day we'll have our own studio again.

We'll make it work. And in the meantime, this town can get back to normal. I'll tell all our clients to enroll in the yoga studio, and then soon maybe they'll be doing better than ever. See Princess, maybe we did some good in this town after all... Hey, wait, what is this? (Picks up white glove)

Wait a second. Princess. I think it's time to make some inquiries.

.....

#### AT THE CLUB

(In line, club music in the background)

**Yoga Student #1:** Julia, this is exactly what you need right now.

**Julia:** I don't know, I haven't been to a club in so long.

**Yoga Student #1:** You need to relax and forget about everything right now. Life still goes on.

**Yoga Student #2:** Yeah, some R and R is exactly what you need.

**Yoga Student #1:** Yeah, don't be a stick in the mud. You need to dance. Just enjoy yourself

**Yoga Student #2:** Yeah, it's girls' night out!

(Dance music playing)

*People have to shout to talk over the music...*

**Student #1:** Get out there and dance!

**Julia:** (shouting) What about Ted Danson?

**Student #1:** No, the dance floor.

**Student #2:** Your hand is sore?

**Student #1:** Dance!

**Student 1 and McKenzie:** Oh, right

*McKenzie and some Pilates students walk by*

**Student #2:** Oh great, the Pilates crew. (points)

**Julia:** A piñata? Where, is it someone's birthday?

**Student #2:** No, Pilates! (Points)

**Student #1:** Don't worry. Just ignore them. We're here to have a good time.

**Student #2:** I'm not even thinking about them.

**Julia:** of who?

**Student #2:** Exactly.

*Pilates students notice the yoga students*

**Pilates #1:** There's that yoga instructor.

**McKenzie:** Where's the drug store?

**Pilates #1 and #2:** Yoga instructor! (pointing)

**McKenzie:** Oh. Right.

*The Pilates students walk towards the Yoga students:*

**Yoga #1:** I see all that Pilates doesn't help your dance moves.

**Pilates #1:** Oh really. And what's that pose called, the undulating orangutan?

**Pilates #2:** Downward Doofus?



**Yoga #2:** Yeah, well it looks like you should have focused on something besides your core.

**Yoga #1:** You might want to go back and get your apparatuses.

**Pilates #1:** We'll see about that!

### **YOGA GIRLS ON PARADE**

**Yoga Students:** *We're yoga girls on parade*

*And we're about to throw some shade*

**Yoga Student #1:** *Lookin hella goody in my*

*Light duty hoody*

**Yoga Student #2:** *You're all talk and you don't have moves*

*You probably thought you had us*

*But you can't throw anything at us*

*Without your apparatus*

**Yoga Student #1:** *Yeah, where's your apparatuses?*

**Pilates #1:** *Your moves are lame, so talk to the hand*

*Just go back home to your ashram*

**Pilates #2:** *There's nothing sweet in your milkshake*

*Just attitude, and even that's fake*

**Yoga Student #1:** Well, that's just downright rude!

**Pilates #1:** *All you brought is antioxidants*

*In a wheat grass shot*

*That nobody wants*

**Yoga Student #1:** It's got antioxidants!

At least its healthy

**Pilates #1:** Ok, well we'll give you that one

**Yoga #1:** *Unless you brought some more,*

*You'd better get off this dance floor*

*Our moves are too red hot*

*Let's show em what we got!*

**Pilates #2:** *You wanna step up, but you better step back*

*Your moves are good, and you talk a little smack*

*But it's nothing like the moves we've got in store*

*Check out these solid cores*

*Ladies...*

**Yoga Student #1:** *I know you're good, yeah we can see*

*But, girl, you can't compete with me*

*I respect what you got*

*But I am too red hot*

**Pilates #1:** *You think you are, but maybe you're not*

*I know you're good, yeah I can see*

*But girl, you don't have moves like me*

**Yoga Student #1:** *I like what you brought*

*But we're red hot*

*So just step out of our way*

*We're yoga girls on parade*

.....

*McKenzie walks over to Julia:*

**McKenzie:** It's nice to see them getting along.

**Julia:** I'm so sorry about what happened to you

**McKenzie:** It's ok.

**Julia:** It should have never happened.

**McKenzie:** Everything is ok.

**Julia:** Wow, you are forgiving. You look fantastic. Maybe I could come by and get some pointers, learn a little more about Pilates.

**McKenzie:** YOU look fantastic. Maybe I could learn a few things from you.

**Julia:** Well, you don't have much time, I'm closing the studio.

**McKenzie:** You're what?

**Julia:** I'm closing the studio.

**McKenzie:** No. No, you're not!

**Julia:** No, I am. I've already made up my mind

**McKenzie:** Not before you hear what I have to say.

(McKenzie cups her hands and whispers into Julia's ear)

.....

YOGA STUDIO NEXT MORNING

(Julia and McKenzie are hanging out. John comes in.)

**John:** hey Julia, I'm here. What did you want to talk about?

**McKenzie:** Hi John.

**John:** McKenzie?

**Julia:** Oh, look at the time. Well, I'll just leave you two alone

**John:** McKenzie, look. I'm sorry. I know I ruined everything.

**McKenzie:** You did?

**John:** Those students were intent on vandalizing your studio and I helped make it happen. I'm just as culpable as anyone.

**McKenzie:** You had nothing to do with any of this.

**John:** I was resentful, and that kept me from setting a good example. Then my students went and wrecked your place, and I feel like it was all my fault. I should have talked them out of it... And knowing it was you I hurt just makes me sick. McKenzie, you are so amazing. You deserve so much better.

I already told Julia I quit, and I just want to tell you personally. I'll move away, and you'll never have to see me again.

**McKenzie:** Just shut up, John.

**John:** And I'm gonna do everything I can to make sure that you succeed in this town.

**McKenzie:** Johnny, be quiet. I know you didn't do anything, and I know you are only leaving to protect Julia. And your students had nothing to do with it either.

**John:** How do you know that?

**McKenzie:** Well, for one thing, we tracked down their Uber driver, who clearly remembers them being nearly passed out in the back of the car. He had to help bring them inside.

**John:** But I still could have done it.

**McKenzie:** Well, there's the barista who clearly remembers you drinking almond mochas at the Java Jive until they closed at 11. And the Pilates studio alarm went off at 10:35, so you're either an incredibly good criminal or you're innocent.

**John:** Oh. I see.

**McKenzie:** And there's also a little something I found at the scene of the crime (holds up white glove)

**John:** That is peculiar.

**McKenzie:** Just shut up. Shut up and kiss me.

MR. PILTON'S OFFICE

**Pilton:** Benson, what pattern of carpet says "Law Office" to you? I found a nice runner for the stairs.

**Benson:** Some wood panel wainscoting in the front foyer would be nice.

**Pilton:** Oh yes, that would be nice.

(Pilates and Yoga crew enter, with sons townsfolk)

**Pilton:** Ah, what brings you nice folks in today?

**Pilates #1:** look, Pilton, we know the yoga students didn't sabotage our studio. You did.

**Pilton:** That's preposterous. Why would I sabotage my own building?

**McKenzie:** So the town would blame us, we'd lose most of our business, and I'd have no choice but to sell.

**Pilton:** That's an outlandish statement.

**McKenzie:** I found this at the scene. (Holds up glove)

**Pilton:** That doesn't prove anything.

**Benson:** Yeah, if it doesn't fit, you must quit.

**Pilton:** Benson, be quiet.

**McKenzie:** Well, this recording from a camera outside the business next door showing you two walking towards the Pilates studio at just before 10:35 sure helps.

**Julia:** See there, the rock in Benson's hand doesn't look good.

**Pilton:** Why Benson, I'm shocked. How could you?

**Benson:** Don't try to blame this on me. It was all your idea.

**Pilton:** Benson, you spineless worm.

**Benson:** I had the white glove out of habit. He always uses one at one of his properties. Only, this time, instead of being spotless, the place had to be a wreck, so he didn't need it. I guess in my haste, I left it there. I'm so sorry. I feel just horrible.

**Pilton:** Benson! He's delirious. Don't listen to him.

**Benson:** I didn't want to do it. Please forgive me!

**Julia:** Guess what, Pilton, my yoga studio isn't going anywhere.

**McKenzie:** Yeah, and the yoga studio and Pilates studio are officially joining forces.

**Pilton:** Does that mean you'll be selling the yoga space then, because I can make you a great deal...

**Everyone:** No!

**Julia:** The yoga studio is staying right where it is, and you're gonna pay for every bit of damage to McKenzie's studio. And you'll honor her contract with you for at least another year.

**Pilton:** And what if I decide otherwise?

**Julia:** Well, we can discuss it with the authorities.

**Pilton:** I suppose I can get a lease together for another year.

One question, though. How are a yoga studio and a Pilates studio both going to survive so close each other in a town like this?



**McKenzie:** Easy, each new prospective student at either studio will fill out a short questionnaire addressing their own personal needs, goals, and expectations.

**Julia:** Based on that, we'll work with them to help them choose the path that is best for them.

**McKenzie:** Or if they want, they can attend a complimentary class at each studio. By working together, we'll be helping each other succeed. Pretty soon, we'll have this whole town in better shape.

**Benson:** And you can sell t-shirts, and trinkets!

**Carlos:** And popcorn!

**Vince:** Why would a yoga studio sell popcorn?

**Carlos:** Well, I had a pretty good appetite after our yoga session. You'd make a killing.

**Julia:** Hmm, I'll consider it.

**John:** McKenzie, it looks like you're going to make it in this town after all.

**McKenzie:** It looks like you are too.

**John:** We should go somewhere and celebrate.

**McKenzie:** I know this place with really great almond mochas.

**John:** Lead the way.

## REPRISE

*There's a place where we belong*

*And you can be in my song*

*And I'll sing along*

*Because our dreams, finally*

*Really did come true...*

.....

*Final Scene: Mr. Pilton and Benson are walking through town:*

**Pilton:** Well, Benson. You can't win them all.

**Benson:** I think you really upset people this time.

**Pilton:** Yeah, maybe we'd better get out of town for a while. I hear there's good opportunities in Hunter's Glen. A ripe, fertile market just waiting for someone like me to swoop in and grab it.

**Benson:** That sounds fine, but can we get an Uber or something? It's an awful long walk.

**Pilton:** Yes, of course. We'll take my car.

**Benson:** Well, here's to new beginnings. So long, Pineywoodsville!

**Pilton:** Yes, so long you sad, saturated market. Ah, what would the world be without people like us?

**Benson:** Indeed, Mr. Pilton. Indeed.

**THE END**

