HEALTH NUTS

written by

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FADE IN:

## EXT. OAXACA, MEXICO - EARLY EVENING - 1996

Establishing shot. A village with yellow quarry buildings, steep cobbled streets, and huge green hills in the horizon.

## EXT. GREEN HILLS - MOMENTS LATER

The scene is quiet. The grass is tall. A crouching MEXICAN BOY, age 7, concentrates his eyes on something in the grass.

He dives hands-forward toward that something. He catches it.

CHIRP. He carefully unclenches his hand. A GRASSHOPPER.

The happy Mexican Boy drops the grasshopper into a mason jar that already contains at least five other grasshoppers.

## EXT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

GRANDMA stands outside relishing the night sky.

The Mexican Boy runs toward Grandma and envelops her with the biggest hug a 7-year old can possibly give. She playfully groans and then gently kisses his forehead.

He proudly hands her the jar. She acts very impressed.

A PAUSE. She admires the grasshoppers in the jar.

Then she vigorously SHAKES the jar and kills them all.

## INT. GRANDMA'S KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

She uses a MORTAR AND PESTLE to crush the grasshoppers.

She scoops spoonfuls of tea ingredients, including COCOA NIBS, from various hand-labeled jars. She drops the ingredients into an old fashioned tea bag.

She steeps the tea bag into a mug.

#### INT. GRANDMA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Grandma and Mexican Boy enjoy a cup of grasshopper tea.

END OF TEASER

## EXT./INT. TOMAS AND LUIS'S APARTMENT - MORNING

SUBTITLE FADES IN: AUSTIN, TEXAS - 2019

Establishing. Modern young professional apartment.

LUIS SALAZAR (mid 20s, Mexican-American, handsome, charismatic) enters the apartment door.

It's dark. The windows are covered by cardboard boxes.

Luis follows the only light source from across the room.

TOMAS SALAZAR'S voice radiates through the apartment.

TOMAS (O.S.)

Grasshoppers are the closest thing to a perfect protein source this planet has ever seen. Grasshoppers produce 1% of the greenhouse gases that cows produce. If our society switches to eating grasshoppers we may actually beat climate change!

Luis' path is covered by towering columns of boxes threatening to fall on him at any moment. He squirms and hops over boxes like an obstacle course.

TOMAS (O.S.) (CONT'D)
I'm determined to help all of you
realize the magic of grasshoppers!
You need to ask yourself what magic
are you trying to discover?

Luis creaks the door open and enters.

# INT. TOMAS'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Luis is immediately blinded by the light.

Tomas (mid 20s, Mexican-American, baby face) sits at his professional VLOG setup.

TOMAS

Lots of blood, sweat, and tears goes into this, but I promise you it's worth --

LUIS

Lots of blood, sweat and tears. Hijole! Cry me a river, Justin Timberlake.

Tomas swivels his chair to look at Luis.

TOMAS

Luis, I'm building the brand. It's for the followers.

LUIS

Yeah, we got a whole 73 views on the last video, and I'm pretty sure 25 of them came from mama.

TOMAS

Go ahead. Kick me when I'm down.

LUIS

(under his breath)

Ah fuck me.

LUIS (CONT'D)

Tomas, I love you, but this isn't moving fast enough. I can't keep paying your rent.

TOMAS

What? But you said I could be fulltime so --

LUIS

<u>SO</u> that I could eventually join you full-time.

TOMAS

And you will. These things just take time. We're close I promise!

LUIS

Bro, mama y papa would flip if they knew I've been supporting you for the past 6 months.

TOMAS

I don't see why you're making this a big deal. You're a programmer. Rent is just a drop in the bucket for you.

Luis grabs Tomas and gets face to face with him.

LUIS

Eres un pendejo! This strategy isn't working. Your videos get no views, your online ads don't drive sales.

(MORE)

LUIS (CONT'D)

AND we're not even close to selling through our first production!

Luis turns around, and extends his arm to the stacked boxes.

LUIS (CONT'D)

Look at all these boxes!

(kicks a box)

And who paid for all this shit?!

(points at himself)

This burro right here!

TOMAS

(meekly)

It's fine, I'll call mama y papa.

LUIS

And do what? Ask THEM for money? No way bro!

TOMAS

So you're giving up on us.

LUIS

How many teas have you sold this month?

TOMAS

I promise you this will work. White people will do anything if you tell them it will make their life better. White people believe in astrology now!

LUIS

Tomas, how many have you sold?

TOMAS

I don't want to have this conversation.

LUIS

I'm your *pinche* partner. I demand to know these things.

TOMAS

(talks quickly)

Once I figure out our online ads, it'll be a domino effect. Our videos will drive sales, we'll be on Amazon, and in every major store in America and be a \$50 million company. And --

LUIS

(interrupts)

Okay okay calm down, mister coked out Tony Robbins! We're gonna do things my way now. Your only focus is PHYSICALLY selling us into stores. No more VLOGGING, no more podcasts, no more social media. Straight up old school hustle. You have one month. If you fail, then I'm out.

Luis grabs Tomas's shoulders, their faces are uncomfortably close to each other.

LUIS (CONT'D)

Tell me you're ready, papi.

TOMAS

I'm ready, papi.

LUIS

Tell me you're ready, papissimo.

TOMAS

I'm ready, papissimo.

Luis looks at him suggestively. They release a MARIACHI YELL.

LUIS AND TOMAS (CONT'D)

Ah-ha-ha-hai!

## EXT. MOONGRASS GROCERY STORE LOT - EARLY MORNING

A dirty 2000s Honda Civic pulls into an empty parking lot.

Tomas steps out wearing high-end athleisure clothes.

He carefully peels off the DUCK-TAPE sealing his car trunk.

Inside of the trunk is a 1 gallon water bottle, a shoulder bag, and a Pelican case.

Neatly organized inside the Pelican case is a camp-fire burner, kettle, and a lighter.

He pours water into the kettle, lights the burner, and puts the kettle on top to boil.

The kettle's external thermometer slowly rises to 175 degrees. It hits 175. Perfect.

He pours the kettle water into a thermos.

He re-applies the duck-tape to secure the trunk.

# INT. MOONGRASS GROCERY STORE - MOMENTS LATER

Only the sounds of the just awaking grocery store. A few carts stroll past.

The only customers are Gym Rats and Old People getting their 10,000 steps in.

Tomas walks past a STOCKER sitting on the aisle floor wearing air pods - playing music so loudly that you can make out the song lyrics.

He walks to the back and reaches a transparent strip-door curtain. He pauses, takes a deep breath, and enters.

### INT. MOONGRASS STOCKING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

EMPLOYEES grab items from the stocking shelves and load them into shopping carts.

Tomas finds the manager, LAURA (mid-30s, person of color, hippie vegan), sitting at her desk watching a video tutorial: How to Turn Awkwardness to Charisma.

The video is loud.

VIDEO VOICE (O.S.)

YOU are not awkward. Let me repeat YOU are not awkward! You just need to learn how to use your voice.

Tomas knocks on the open door.

VIDEO VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Use your entire vocal apparatus. Down through your diaphragm to --

Laura, frazzled, shuts the video off.

TOMAS

Hey! I'm awkward too. It's not so
bad.

LAURA

Shut up. Sorry. How can I help you?

TOMAS

I'm Tomas Salazar.

They share an awkward handshake.

LAURA

Laura.

(then)

Why are you here --

(yawns)

so early? Excuse me. I haven't had my coffee yet.

He immediately jumps into a nervous used car sales pitch.

TOMAS

Well, you're in luck then because I've got just the fix. I've created a completely revolutionary new product: ANTEANNA. It's a --

LAURA

You have one minute.

Tomas gestures to his bag. Laura nods.

His trembling hands open the bag. He takes out the tea box, one tea bag from the box, and a metal stirrer.

He steeps the tea bag into the thermos.

He carefully stirs the tea while pitching. He overly pronounces the Spanish words in his pitch.

TOMAS

ANTEANNA mixes grasshoppers homegrown from volcanic soil in my native country of Mexico with Oaxacan cocoa nibs. It tastes just like regular tea but with grasshoppers, America's next great protein!

(hands thermos)

And it's gonna help fight climate change!

LAURA

Is this your thermos?

TOMAS

Yes, but it's clean! I didn't drink from it. I mean I have drank from it. Drunk or drank? I have not drunk/drank from it since I washed it.

LAURA

Ok weirdo.

She sips and remains stoic.

TOMAS

What do you think?

She grabs the tea box.

LAURA

The labels are mis-aligned.

TOMAS

That's because I apply the labels by hand. It's hand-craftsmanship.

He releases an awkward laugh.

LAURA

(intense eye contact)
More like hand-CRAPSmanship.

TOMAS

Yeah, totally... And what do you think about the taste?

She doesn't respond and returns to inspecting the box.

He fidgets with the stirrer and looks around the drab office.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

I like what you've done with the place. The color of those walls... It's nice. Real nice.

It's not nice. There's nothing nice about this office.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

Oh! Give the tea another minute to steep, then it will taste better.

He wags the stirrer declaratively.

LAURA

What's your distributor pricing?

TOMAS

No need for a middle-man. I distribute myself!

He wags the stirrer and points it at his chest.

LAURA

Yeah... no, you need a distributor.

TOMAS

Right, right. Yep. Ok. I can do that. Nooo problem.

He takes out a small notepad and scribbles on the page.

LAURA

Okay. Well thanks for coming in.

TOMAS

Wait! If I fix those things, then would you stock our tea?

She glances once again at the box and reads the label "Made in Mexico" in the top right corner.

LAURA

Is this tea really from Mexico?

TOMAS

Yes, mi abuela, excuse me, my grandma, would make me this tea.

LAURA

I'm from the Dominican Republic. On my thirteenth birthday, mi abuela made me an herbal drink called mamajuana. It's made from cured tree barks soaked in rum, red wine, and honey. I loved it. But on second thought she shouldn't have given me that drink at thirteen. Then again she got married at fifteen... Times were --

TOMAS

Different.

LAURA

Different.

They share a smile.

## INT. NATURAL FOODS GROCERY STORE FLOOR - LATER

Tomas and Laura stand near the aisles.

LAURA

Real talk. Your tea is delicious. I can't even taste the grasshoppers.

TOMAS

Oh, thank God.

LAURA

But if you're not in tip-top shape the certification mafia will get you. Look.

She points at FIT GUY talking to an Employee.

FIT GUY

Is this a milk protein isolate? Or is it whey? Whey gives me the worst protein toots.

She points in the other direction to an OLD LADY with reading glasses closely scanning an item's label.

LAURA (O.S.)

This lady reads every single ingredient for every single item. And believe me she lets us know if something is not up to snuff.

Tomas takes notes.

LAURA (CONT'D)

One mistake and your item's gone. And once you're gone, you'll never get your product back into a MoonGrass space again.

Tomas reads from his notepad.

TOMAS

So I'll get a distributor and get certified. No biggie. Then will you stock my tea?

LAURA

(shakes head)

That's just the beginning. Then the product needs to actually sell.

TOMAS

(confidently)

Oh, believe me. Ít's gonna sell.

She drags him like a toddler past the strip-door curtains, past the stockers, to the WAY BACK of the store.

# INT. WAY BACK OF STORE - CONTINUOUS

It's DARK and SCARY. There are several shopping carts full of unsold items covered in cobwebs.

A few RATS crawl past.

TOMAS

(pitiful shout)

Ah! --

Tomas covers his mouth. Laura remains unfazed.

LAURA

All these founders said their product would sell too.

She grabs a box of Puppy Snax.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Puppy Snax - gluten free dog food. They had an ingredient recall. Dogs turned violent after eating. Dog Twitter, #swallowedsnax in one bite. Never heard from them again.

Tomas is horrified. She grabs another box - Miracle Strawz.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Miracle Strawz spent \$100,000 on marketing. They flopped after teenagers started making Youtube videos sticking them up their nose.

She grabs another box - Bug-A-Boo.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Bug-A-Boo secured \$4 million in venture funding.

TOMAS

Wow.

LAURA

The founder jumped off a bridge. Couldn't handle the pressure I quess.

# EXT./INT. MOONGRASS HEADQUARTERS, FOLEY'S OFFICE - LATER

Establishing. Modern glass skyscraper.

There are large photos on the wall and they are all of WILLIAM FOLEY (early 50s, white, brash, All-American).

- William breaking ground on the first MoonGrass in Asia.
- William shaking hands with coffee bean farmers.

- William with sick kids at the hospital.

WE WIDEN to see William at a standing desk, STOPPING and REWINDING a video on a projector against the office wall. He's dressed business casual, but in cowboy boots. He ALWAYS wears cowboy boots.

WILLIAM

Junior Barnes! Chop chop!

ALLIE JACOBS (mid 20s, intelligent, overachiever), AKA 'Junior Barnes', nicknamed by William for reasons unknown - William gives everyone nicknames - enters through the door.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Watch this.

#### COMMERCIAL --

INSPIRATIONAL INDIE FOLK MUSIC

- RAINFOREST BANANA TREES - Joyous Farmers chop bananas down.

WILLIAM (V.O.)

Connection.

- SOUTH AMERICAN WINE COUNTRY - Winemakers laugh together as they crush and press grapes.

WILLIAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Contentment.

- COFFEE COUNTRY ROADS - A bright red Jeep drives through carrying large beige bags of coffee beans, coffee beans spill out in slow motion as it goes over bumps.

WILLIAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Commitment.

- STREAM - William dips a steel cup into the stream. He turns and talks directly to the camera.

WILLIAM

These are the values that MoonGrass was built on. Your food should connect you to the natural world. We want you to taste what Father Earth is supposed to taste like.

He sips from the cup and looks out into the horizon.

- EXT. AMERICAN MOONGRASS LOCATION - MoonGrass trucks arrive at a suburban MoonGrass store.

Happy Truck Drivers step out to meet an ethnically diverse cast of overly excited MoonGrass Employees ready to unload the truck. They hug the truck drivers and perform an elaborate handshake.

WILLIAM (V.O.)

I'm proud to say that we now have 1000 MoonGrass spaces globally. We've accomplished that through our commitment to excellence, and unwavering support of our farmers, employees, and customers.

- INT. AMERICAN MOONGRASS LOCATION -

Asian Hipster with a septum piercing grabs bananas.

White Bearded Guy in flannel grinds coffee beans.

Attractive Interracial Couple flirt and grab a wine bottle.

- EXT. AMERICAN MOONGRASS LOCATION - William smiles with one arm around a South American Farmer, and the other around a MoonGrass Employee.

WILLIAM

Hi, I'm William Foley, CEO and founder of MoonGrass. And we're here to tell you that it's not a community, until it's got a MoonGrass.

A group of farmers, winemakers, employees, and customers enter from both sides of the frame.

FADE TO BLACK.

OVER BLACK;

FADE IN: MOONGRASS LOGO

## **BACK TO SCENE**

William arches his eyebrows and stares at Allie.

ALLIE

Sir, I don't think it's the ad per
se. The problem --

WILLIAM

See! I knew it was brilliant. The Chief's still got it.

ALLIE

The problem is that social media finds the ad disingenous.

WILLIAM

Disingenous? How?! We followed that PR report to a tee. It had a diversified demographic ratio, everyone was given fair and equal screentime. This could not have been more inclusive! For fuck sake, it's got an Asian hipster with a septum piercing, truck drivers, and real Colombian farmers in it!

ALLIE

(speaks quickly)

Sir, Buzzfeed exposed how MoonGrass was the least diverse Fortune 100 company. We ranked dead last, 100 out of 100. Buzzfeed also uncovered that MoonGrass has zero people of color and only one woman on the executive board. And that report just riled up the internet. Leading Buzzfeed to launch another investigation, which then exposed how MoonGrass doesn't pay farmers fair wages. And then they revealed how MoonGrass actively lobbies against its own charity arm --

WILLIAM

Bejeezus! I get it JB... Roll out the whiteboard.

## INT. WILLIAM FOLEY'S OFFICE - LATER

The whiteboard is filled with notes. Allie and William each hold reports.

ALLIE

To recap: We're officially changing this year's innovation accelerator to the diversity accelerator. We'll recruit the best consumer product companies founded by women and people of color.

WILLIAM

Spearheaded by you, Junior Barnes!

Allie smiles and nods.

ALLIE

We're also internally promoting one woman and one person of color to the executive team and board. I'll provide a short list of candidates.

WILLIAM

Presto! And let's announce them on stage. That'll be good PR.
Oh, and I want a black guy!
Preferably one with a buzzcut. No actually, can we do dreadlocks?

William orders from the report likes its an Applebees menu.

Allie cringes. She forces a close-mouthed smile and nods.

ALLIE

Did you plan to make an apology at the event?

WILLIAM

Junior Barnes. The Chief doesn't apologize. The Chief doesn't back down. The Chief doubles down. This announcement will make everyone forget what happened.

William points at his chest every time he says "The Chief."

ALLIE

Actually sir, we've also been getting complaints about you calling yourself The Chief.

## INT. LAURA'S MOONGRASS OFFICE - LATER

Laura drinks ANTEANNA and reads an email announcing the MoonGrass Diversity Showcase.

"Contact Allie Jacobs for potential company leads. Referral Bonus contingent upon company's acceptance into accelerator."

## A VIDEO'S FEED --

OVER BLACK;

TITLE CARD: MIKAEL'S MORNING ROUTINE

#### - INT. MIKAEL'S ROOM - MORNING

## A RINGING SUBMARINE EVACUATION ALARM

In complete darkness, MIKAEL AHRENS (mid 30s, Finnish, handsome) rustles against furniture trying to turn off the alarm.

The alarm shuts off and a lamp turns on.

Mikael lies in bed rested against the headboard.

His minimalist alarm clock reads --

MIKAEL (O.S.)

It's uhh, 0600 military time.

He shifts to an upright seated position on the bed. He stares directly at us.

MIKAEL (CONT'D)

A lot of you guys have been asking about my morning routine so that's what this video is going to cover.

Mikael looks up to gather his thoughts.

MIKAEL (CONT'D)

Now, a good morning starts with the right alarm.

He points the camera to his phone resting on the side table.

MIKAEL (CONT'D)

See this sound.

He PLAYS "SLOW RISE"

MIKAEL (CONT'D)

It's awful. You can't win the day with a soft cutesy sound like that.

He PLAYS "SUBMARINE EVACUATION"

# VIDEO ANNOTATION: WHERE TO BUY MY SUBMARINE RINGTONE

MIKAEL (CONT'D)

You see. You must defeat the sleep. Every day is a war between the bed and the outside. And the outside must always win!

Mikael stares directly at us.

MIKAEL (V.O.)

One should not expend time and energy wondering what to do in the morning.

He points the camera at his forearm. He has 7 symbols tattooed: BED, FLEXED BICEP, SHOWER-HEAD, CUP OF WATER + BANANA, BRAIN, NATURE'S BLANKETS LOGO.

## VIDEO ANNOTATION: WHY YOU SHOULD TATTOO YOUR MORNING ROUTINE

MIKAEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

First I make the bed military style. Keep the corners squared. Pull the covers tight and center the pillow under the headboard.

TIMELAPSE of Mikael making the bed.

MIKAEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Then I do a 7-minute HIIT, highintensity interval training workout to get the heart rate going.

TIMELAPSE of Mikael's workout. It's funny and over the top.

## VIDEO ANNOTATION: LEARN MY FULL HIIT PROGRAM

## - INT. MIKAEL'S SHOWER -

MIKAEL (V.O.)

Then I take a cold shower. It's super effective for happiness, weight loss and reducing muscle inflammation.

The water bursts from the shower head.

MIKAEL

Ahh!

(pause)

Hahaha! Yes! Woo!

# VIDEO ANNOTATION: WHERE TO BUY THE PERFECT SHOWER-HEAD

## - INT. MIKAEL'S DINING ROOM -

He sits at a Scandinavian wooden dining table set.

MIKAEL (V.O.)

Then I drink one full liter of ice cold water and eat an orange and banana. The ice cold water boosts your metabolism. The fruit primes your body to the proper eating state. You then must wait 30 minutes before your body is ready to absorb the breakfast nutrients.

TIMELAPSE of Mikael drinking one liter of iced water and eating fruit. He dramatically closes his eyes while chewing.

## - INT. MIKAEL'S ROOM -

GONG AGAINST MEDITATION BELL SOUND

Mikael sits on the floor meditating.

MIKAEL (V.O.)

To make the 30 minutes of waiting productive. I perform a type of visualization meditation, but with a Mikael twist. I call it actualization. I act out my future.

## VIDEO ANNOTATION: LEARN MY EXCLUSIVE ACTUALIZATION ROUTINE

MIKAEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

It could be simple, like acting out your future soccer goal celebration.

Mikael with closed eyes pumps his fists up and down.

MIKAEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Or envisioning a sexy make out with your crush.

Mikael makes out with the air. It's very awkward.

MIKAEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Or dream big! I envisioned shaking hands with Oprah everyday for 11 years. And it finally happened once I sold Fun Guys Mushroom Coffee to MoonGrass.

Mikael acts out a hand-shake.

# VIDEO ANNOTATION: WHY I NEVER SHOULD HAVE SOLD TO MOONGRASS

GONG AGAINST MEDITATION BELL SOUND

Mikael opens his eyes and shares a blissful smile.

# - INT. MIKAEL'S CLOSET -

He opens the double-doors of his walk-in closet. Inside is a monochrome wardrobe: white, grey, and black.

MIKAEL (V.O.)

I keep my wardrobe simple. Clothes should only serve a functional purpose. My entire wardrobe happens to be from Nature's Blankets. Quick disclaimer: I am hash-tag sponsored by Nature's Blankets, but I'd tell you this for free. I love how I feel when I wear it. And when you feel better, you perform better.

# VIDEO ANNOTATION: BUY MY COMPLETE NATURE'S BLANKETS WARDROBE

## - INT. MIKAEL'S SAUNA -

Mikael sweats heavily in a sauna.

MIKAEL

Thanks for watching. That's my --

JASMINA (O.S.)

Mikael.

Mikael ignores Jasmina and restarts.

MIKAEL

Thanks for watching --

JASMINA (O.S.)

Mikael.

VIDEO SHUTS OFF --

JASMINA (early 30s, European, attractive, direct), Mikael's Chief of Staff stands outside the sauna door.

MIKAEL

(angry)

I'm recording a VLOG, Jasmina!

**JASMINA** 

Negative energy.

MIKAEL

(feigned sincerity)
My deepest apologies for disrupting
your aura. What is it?

JASMINA

MoonGrass is launching an accelerator.

An exasperated Mikael exhales loudly.

## A VIDEO'S FEED --

OVER BLACK;

TITLE CARD: MIKAEL'S HUGE ANNOUNCEMENT

## - EXT. MIKAEL'S HOUSE - MORNING

Mikael walks and talks to the camera, Casey Neistat style.

MIKAEL

Guys, I have a huge announcement!
 (pauses)
I'm officially launching the
Passion Perpetuator!
 (pauses)
But Mikael, what's that?

CUT TO:

## - EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - LATER

Now, Mikael bikes and talks to the camera.

MIKAEL

It's an accelerator to help brands grow and follow their purpose, like I did with Fun-Guys Mushroom Coffee. I will teach you how to have your freedom and not make the mistake I made by selling to MoonGrass.

## VIDEO ANNOTATION: DO NOT JOIN THE MOONGRASS ACCELERATOR

CUT TO:

#### - INT. MIKAEL'S SAUNA - LATER

Mikael sweats heavily.

#### MIKAEL

I'm holding sauna interviews to see if you have what it takes. Click on the link at the end of the video to apply. Namaste.

# VIDEO ANNOTATION: APPLY TO THE PASSION PERPETUATOR

-- VIDEO SHUTS OFF

## EXT./INT. CLARISSA AND EFREN'S HOUSE - MORNING

Establishing. Modest home in lower middle class neighborhood.

#### LATIN AMERICAN FOLKLORE MUSIC

The house is filled with modest adornments: Virgen de Guadalupe candles, photos of the Salazar family, and an entire wall adorned with crosses from different countries.

## - INT. CLARISSA AND EFREN'S KITCHEN - LATER

CLARISSA (early 50s, Mexican, caretaker) and Tomas serenely knead corn masa for tamales in a big bowl.

She sticks her palms into the masa, it doesn't stick. The masa is ready.

He grabs tamale husks from a water-filled sink.

She trims the husks to the size of a meatloaf.

He takes an ice cream scoop of masa and spreads it onto the tamale husk.

She takes a tea spoon of pork filling and spreads it on top of the tamale husk with masa.

They both fold many husks, completely enveloping each tamale.

The entire process is soothing and relaxing. You can tell they both care deeply about food.

## - INT. CLARISSA AND EFREN'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

EFREN (mid 50s, Mexican, silly, conservative) lies on an exercise ball, belly exposed, struggling to finish a crunch.

EFREN

Hey hey stop!

Luis plays with his belly.

LUIS

I'm proud of you, papa.

**EFREN** 

I'm not doing this for fun. Tu mama threatened to leave me if I don't lose weight!

LUIS

Good! You need the motivation.

Clarissa and Tomas enter from the kitchen.

CLARISSA

The tamales are ready!

**EFREN** 

Mijos, just know that it's mama's fault that I'm gordo. She kept feeding me tamales y tacos y flan!

CLARISSA

Mentiroso!

EFREN

Get over here!

Efren puckers his lips. Clarissa playfully pushes him away.

## - INT. EFREN AND CLARISSA'S DINING ROOM - LATER

The family eats at the dining table.

**EFREN** 

Clarissa, these tamales are delicious!

CLARISSA

It was Tomas' recipe!

**EFREN** 

Miralo! Compliments to the chef. You have a real gift, Tomas.

CLARISSA

I'm still amazed at how you made abuela's tea taste like tea and not like grasshoppers.

Tomas smiles.

EFREN (TO TOMAS)

So are you finally making money?

TOMAS

One step at a time, papa.

Tomas' smile fades.

CLARISSA

Mijos, I saw your video today. It already has a whole 55 views! That's incredible you guys!

Mom is sincere, yet these words pierce Tomas.

TOMAS

(meekly)

Gracias ma.

CLARISSA

Tomas, your sister was telling me about her friend Victoria's younger sister. Look she's really pretty!

Clarissa pulls out her phone.

TOMAS

Gracias ma, but I don't have time to date. I need to focus on the business.

CLARISSA

Too late, I told her you're free next Thursday.

TOMAS

Mama!

LUIS

I'll go out with her.

EFREN

Callate! You don't need help.

CLARISSA (TO TOMAS)

You call her if you want to cancel. But don't wear this on the date. In fact, you need to throw this away.

She fidgets with the hole in Tomas's Nature's Blankets shirt.

TOMAS

Don't worry  $m\alpha$ . I own lots of these shirts, I wear them for decision fatigue to conserve my mental energy for important decisions.

EFREN

Pues maybe some extra money would conserve your mental energy too. My school is hiring substitute teachers.

TOMAS

Dad, I'm fine.

**EFREN** 

So you ARE fine on money?

LUIS

I think dad's right. You should look into it.

Tomas stares coldly at Luis.

EFREN

Tomas, tell me how are the sales?

TOMAS

(defensively)

I don't want to talk about it!

LUIS

Tomas is just mad because he went to MoonGrass and it didn't go well.

TOMAS

It didn't NOT go well.

LUIS

Really? Because you've been silent this whole week. You're not even drinking your meal replacements.

TOMAS

Fine! You really want to know? The Moongrass manager, Laura, and I went toe to toe. It was like an intense boxing match. It was some Mike Tyson, Evander Holyfield shit.

LUIS

You bit her ear!?

TOMAS

Okay, wrong example. It was more Ali/Frazier. MSG rematch when --

CLARISSA

(interrupts)

Okay okay honey we get it. What happened?

TOMAS

OK fine! Luis was right. Ya vali madre. Laura took me to the way back of the store where all the failed products are. And while I was there I'm pretty sure a RAT looked me dead in the eyes and told me I should quit.

**EFREN** 

Okay... pero I don't think you should define your life decisions by a rat's gaze.

LUIS

I don't know pa. Maybe the rat was right and it's time for Tomas to face reality.

Tomas storms off.

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

Ah! Come on Tomas. Don't leave!

# EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - LATER

Tomas walks through the neighborhood, breathing heavily.

TOMAS (TO HIMSELF)

(frantically)

Just having a thought. It gives me angry feelings, but it's just a thought like any other.

(then)

Thoughts, thoughts, thoughts. Thoughts, thoughts, thoughts,

He laughs maniacally. He finds a bench to sit at.

## EXT. BENCH - CONTINUOUS

TOMAS (TO HIMSELF)

I'm fine, I'm fine. I'm fuego.

He puts on a meditation app and inserts headphones.

MEDITATION VOICE (V.O.)

You are a diamond forming within the earth.

He closes his eyes and breathes.

MEDITATION VOICE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Place your right pinky on the outside of your left nostril.

He follows the instructions.

MEDITATION VOICE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Your breath is a river of knowledge flowing through the brook of your body.

He stands up and takes his headphones off.

TOMAS (TO HIMSELF)

The rat is NOT right. I'm a goddamn grasshopper!

## INT. MOONGRASS GROCERY STORE - LATER

Laura drinks ANTEANNA and watches a video.

VIDEO VOICE (O.S.)

Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson does 5 things really well that make him charismatic.

Tomas knocks on the open door.

VIDEO VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

And you can apply these 5 habits to your life. You too can be like "The Rock" --

A frazzled Laura shuts off the video.

TOMAS

I love The Rock! He's an American hero.

LAURA

Shut up.

TOMAS

No. YOU shut up!

Laura is shocked.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

Sorry.

(then)

Wait. Are you drinking ANTEANNA?

LAURA

What? No. I ran out of tea. And --

TOMAS

You love it!

Tomas shakes the ANTEANNA box, it's empty. He smiles widely.

LAURA

No.

TOMAS

You do! Thank God. Now listen to me. ANTEANNA will sell. It's gonna sell a lot. Moongrass is gonna be filled with dead grasshoppers! So umm...

(points finger)
YOU need to order up!

LAURA

I got you accepted to the MoonGrass Diversity Showcase.

TOMAS

Listen, I'm a God damn grasshopper
and I won't take no for an answer!
 (then)
Wait what?

LAURA

Moongrass loves that your brown and they see huge potential in the tea and your fight against climate change and all that shit. The showcase is just a tryout. You still need to prove yourself. But if you're in. You won't just be in this space. You can be in all 1000 Moongrass spaces.

## INT. TOMAS'S BATHROOM - LATER

MONTAGE

Tomas rehearses in front of the mirror.

TOMAS

Mr. Foley, it's great to finally
meet you!
 (then)
that's garbage.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

Mr. Foley. Oh? Call you William? Sure. William, it's an absolute honor and blessing to meet you.

Tomas makes a power pose: spreads his feet wide, extends his arms high at a 30 degree angle.

He looks at his watch after five seconds.

TOMAS (CONT'D)

This shit can't actually work...

Tomas's phone RINGS with the SUBMARINE EVACUATION SOUND.

TEXT NOTIFICATION: HUGE FUN-SCRIBERS ANNOUNCEMENT + MY MORNING ROUTINE!

#### EXT. TEXAS HILL COUNTRY - NEXT DAY - AFTERNOON

Allie, dressed in business casual, reads from her notes.

ALLIE

Albert Marks has been at MoonGrass for fifteen years, VP of Marketing. He's from Houston and --

WILLIAM

Fire!

A mechanical flywheel launches a clay pigeon into the sky.

William wears hunting gear and rattlesnake skin cowboy boots. He aims his shotgun and shoots the clay pigeon.

He turns to look at Allie.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

What part of Houston?

ALLIE

(looks at report)
He's from... Bellaire.

William puts his gun down.

WILLIAM

Junior Barnes, you ever been to Bellaire?

She shakes her head.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)
Remember that the whole point of
this diversity board is because of
the Buzzsaw investigation. Our
candidates need to be airtight.
This guy, Big Al, is black. That's
good. But Bellaire is expensive. He
comes from money, honey.

William gets into shooting position.

ALLIE

How is that a problem?

WILLIAM

Because it means that Big Al is no sheep. The Chief already knows what MoonGrass needs. Big Al might one day try to sink the ship because he doesn't like what I'm doing. Again, I don't want another Buzzsaw story. (then)

Fire!

Allie hates his logic.

William shoots another clay pigeon.

ALLIE

So, I think you'll like our next candidate, Sophie Harris. Single mom, grew up poor, ten years at MoonGrass. Started out as a barista, now VP of Operations, an absolute hustler. She definitely represents the MoonGrass way.

William holds the gun over his shoulder, looks up and thinks.

WILLIAM

Single moms are tough, yet practical. They've already ruined their lives by sacrificing everything for their children... It could work! I need to meet with her and make sure she is someone who will just be grateful to be on the board. Excellent work, JB!

Allie nods and forces a smile.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Fire!

### EXT. MIKAEL'S PASSION PERPETUATOR - MORNING

Mikael's Passion Perpetuator is in an old 1950s home. A long line of people - all wearing swimsuits - stand outside.

Jasmina opens the door to greet Tomas and Luis who are at the front of the line.

**JASMINA** 

Leave your product outside.

LUIS

But it's delicious!

JASMINA

Mikael decides when something is worth trying.

# INT./EXT. MIKAEL'S PASSION PERPETUATOR - MOMENTS LATER

The inside of the home has a large open space with lots of sunlight. There are tables at each corner of the space. The floors are wooden and creaky.

They walk behind Jasmina.

LUIS

This is cool. Can we get a tour?

JASMINA

You only get a tour if accepted.

TOMAS (TO LUIS)

(whispers)

Dude. Stop. I know how Mikael thinks. Just follow my lead.

Jasmina opens the door to the outside.

They pass a communal garden. They walk along a winding sidewalk and arrive to a wooden barrel sauna (Google Image: "Wooden Barrel Sauna").

**JASMINA** 

Enter.

#### INT. MIKAEL'S SAUNA - CONTINUOUS

Mikael wears skin tight 4-inch length cyan swimtrunks.

Tomas bows like a sensei. Mikael reciprocates the gesture. Luis bows a moment after - he thinks this is all ridiculous.

They sit. Mikael just stares at them for a few seconds.

MIKAEL

Do you trust me?

LUIS TOMAS

No? Yes.

LUIS (CONT'D)

I mean we just met.

TOMAS

Yes, yes we do.

Tomas stares coldly at Luis and then smiles at Mikael.

MIKAEL

Take a look at your gut.

Mikael slaps his six-pack.

MIKAEL (CONT'D)

The gut that you have, the gut that I have. The results we show are from the efforts we put in every single day. I have nothing to hide. What you see is what you get. I can help you get my gut, but you have to trust my gut to get my gut.

Tomas is drinking the "Kool-Aid." Luis is uncomfortable.

TOMAS

My gut just wants to make the world a better place. That's why I started ANTEANNA because it's about doing the right thing for your body, your taste buds, and your world by drinking nutritionally rich tea. And inspiring others to live their best life.

A LONG PAUSE.

MIKAEL

That's the most beautiful thing I've ever heard.

## EXT./INT. MOONGRASS DIVERSITY SHOWCASE - MORNING

Establishing.

A live band of White Hipsters with Beards play INDIE FOLK.

The showcase is filled with brands at booths.

Tomas and Luis walk around. Tomas wears the same high-end athleisure outfit. Luis rocks business casual.

LUIS

Hey bro, I'm sorry for the past couple weeks. I didn't mean to be so hard. It's just that... I can't believe I'm saying this, but I just want you to actually live the life all your pinche podcasters preach.

TOMAS

No dude. You were right. I needed a good kick in the ass.

LUIS

Good. Now, no pressure, but all our eggs are in this basket.

HIPSTER EGG GUY (O.S.)

Are they organic eggs?

Luis turns around. HIPSTER EGG GUY is behind them.

LUIS (TO HIPSTER EGG GUY)

What? No! Go away!

TOMAS

I mean, I can still call mama. White people always get their parents to bail them out.

LUIS

Tomas, we're not white people. We are vaccinated! Our parents have already done so much for us. This is gonna be bootstrapped  $\alpha$  huevo!

HIPSTER EGG GUY

Are they organic huevos?

LUIS

Why are you still here?!

#### - INT. GERONIMO JUICES STAND - CONTINUOUS

Allie stands in line. She carries a notepad.

The top menu reads "Your Juice's Purpose." Below the menu are the different purposes: Sadness, Spirituality, Strength.

The side menu reads: "Meet your Ingredient" - information on each ingredient's origin, spiritual benefit, and ways of consumption.

JUICETENDER #1 BANGS on a gong. It's LOUD. Allie winces.

JUICETENDER #1

Order up for Dan!

DAN (mid 30s, hefty, bald, big beard) approaches the counter.

DAN

Buddha almighty, infinite creator in the highest heaven, the supreme architect of all consciousness and reality. Allow love, light, and grace to fill my body and allow every meal I ingest today to be filled with your healing power. Amen.

NAVAL, another Juicetender, takes Allie's order.

NAVAL

Hi! My name is Naval, and I'll be your wellness specialist for today. Have you been here before?

ALLIE

No.

NAVAL

Welcome! So each of our juices has a purpose. If you're exhausted from a workout then you should try our Recovery Punch. Perhaps you're struggling from a broken heart? Our Berry Godmother will lift you right up! If you're --

ALLIE

Berry Godmother.

NAVAL

BIPPITY BOPPITY BOOP!

GONG SOUND

Somehow the gong sound is still obnoxiously loud even though Allie moved away. She winces again and writes in her notepad.

The juice arrives in the back counter.

NAVAL (CONT'D)

(hands juice)

May it lift your spirits right up!

## - INT. MOONGRASS CORNER - LATER

William and Allie interview founders from a stanchion closed off area with Bodyquards standing at the entrance.

TRENT (early 40s, handsome man) - Founder of Roots Soda.

TRENT

At Roots Soda. We bring natural flavors and real ingredients from our farm to soda fountains. We call it farm-to-fountain. We're saving the environment by not bottling.

#### - INT. MOONGRASS CORNER - MOMENTS LATER

WILLIAM

Gluten free?

HAMZA (handsome, mid 20s) founder of Happy Healthy Protein.

HAMZA

Yep!

WILLIAM

Organic?

HAMZA

You betcha!

ALLIE

What's the protein source?

HAMZA

You're basically poisoning yourself if it's not from 100% grass-fed happy cows in New Zealand.

William and Allie smile in delight. Allie samples it.

ALLIE

(winces)

Ugh you use stevia!

HAMZA

Yes, it's a natural sweetener!

ALLIE

And it's naturally terrible.

HAMZA

You must be one of the 5% of people that are sensitive to stevia. But 95% of people don't mind!

WILLIAM

And I 100% don't want this.

William calls for the bodyguards to lead Hamza out.

# INT. MOONGRASS CORNER - MOMENTS LATER

WILLIAM (TO ALLIE)

Absolutely atrocious energy from these companies.

ALLIE

Yeah... Well you'll really like the next company, ANTEANNA.

WILLIAM

ANTEANNA?

ALLIE

The grasshopper tea with the climate change mission.

WILLIAM

The brown founders right!?

ALLIE

(winces)

Yes, they are Mexican-Americans.

WILLIAM

It can be rebranded as a Moongrass-hopper tea line!

William looks at Allie smitten with the realization.

#### INT. MOONGRASS DIVERSITY SHOWCASE - MOMENTS LATER

Mikael and Jasmina walk around the party. Mikael and Tomas are dressed the same.

MIKAEL

Classic William. This party is so tacky and over the top.

**JASMINA** 

Negative energy.

MIKAEL

Shut the fuck up, Jasmina! I don't have time for your aura shit today.

**JASMINA** 

My aura does not appreciate that.

They continue walking, Jasmina notices Tomas and Luis.

JASMINA (CONT'D)

Look it's your twin.

Jasmina points to Tomas and Luis at the MoonGrass Corner.

MIKAEL

I need them for the Passion Perpetuator.

**JASMINA** 

Yeah, but Tomas was adamant about wanting to hear both offers.

MIKAEL

You don't understand. I see myself in him.

JASMINA

Yeah, because he dresses like you.

MIKAEL

**NEGATIVE ENERGY!** 

**JASMINA** 

You haven't even tried his tea.

Mikael nervously watches as Tomas and Luis shake hands with William and Allie - big smiles all around.

## - INT. ANTEANNA BOOTH - MOMENTS LATER

Mikael drinks the tea.

MIKAEL

Jasmina, when I was in Peru, I took AYA-WHO-ASCA.

(MORE)

MIKAEL (CONT'D)

After the trip, they gave us a tea made from grasshoppers. It was a top 5 magical experience of 2016. Do you remember my VLOG?

Jasmina nods.

MIKAEL (CONT'D)

Well, this is even better! I can't even taste the grasshoppers. It's the MOST magical.

GLASS CLINK AMPLIFIED BY MICROPHONE

## INT. MOONGRASS DIVERSITY SHOWCASE STAGE - CONTINUOUS

William wears a gray three-piece Italian suit and polished black cowboy boots. He holds a glass and microphone.

WILLIAM

Hello! Welcome! Could everyone please close their eyes for a second?

The crowd enthusiastically close their eyes.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

I want you to try to remember a time when life was simpler. When life was pure. When you didn't have to worry about whether the water you were drinking was safe. When the air you breathed wasn't full of toxins. When you didn't have to worry about whether the eggs you ate were cage-free, free-range, or even safe to eat!

WITH HIPSTER EGG GUY:

HIPSTER EGG GUY

WOOP! YEAH EGGS!

William deeply inhales and exhales into the microphone.

WILLIAM

Take this moment in. Be present. Be mindful. Now open your eyes.

(pause)

You talked and we listened. Here at MoonGrass we own up to our mistakes.

(MORE)

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

There's been a lot of talk about how MoonGrass isn't diverse enough. We're changing that. That's why we are excited to introduce you all to our two newest board members. Please give a huge round of applause for Sophie Harris and Brent Jackson!

The Crowd applauds. SOPHIE and BRENT enter the stage. William hugs them.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Look at thoes dreadlocks everybody!

Crowd is silent.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Alright, say it with me now. It's not a community until...

CROWD

It's got a a Moongrass!

WILLIAM

And it's not a diversified community, until it's got the MoonGrass Diversity Accelerator!

Crowd erupts.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

Thank you. Now this accelerator is dedicated to helping entrepreneurs of color and women to grow their companies and also grow as people. We have some fantastic brands here today. So please walk around and get to know them. Now let's have some fun!

Enthusiastic applause around the room.

William steps off stage and meets Allie at the side-stage who is talking to BUZZFEED BRIAN.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

(points at himself)

Junior Barnes! The Chief's still got it, bay-bee! Take that Buzzsaw!

ALLIE

Hey William! This is Brian, a reporter for Buzzfeed.

BUZZFEED BRIAN

What's buzzsaw?

WILLIAM

Buzzsaw. Yep! We like to buzzsaw --

ALLIE

It's an inside joke between myself and William about how we like to buzzsaw the competition through... progressive action!

WILLIAM

Bravo! Absolutely articulate JB!

BUZZFEED BRIAN

Got it, I guess? Congrats on the accelerator! I think it's a great step forward for your company. Do you have any standout stories?

Allie mouths "no" to William.

WILLIAM

Yeah! You bet your ass we do! There's --

ALLIE

Actually, we are currently reviewing candidates. We'll release information when the time is right.

BUZZFEED BRIAN

Aww. Come on! Just one story.

WILLIAM

JB it's fine. There's this one company that's gonna be THE FACE of the accelerator, ANTEANNA. It's a grasshopper tea with an amazing climate change mission and Mexican founders, they are awesome.

# - INT. MOONGRASS DIVERSITY SHOWCASE - LATER

Allie chases William as he barrels through the crowd.

ALLIE

Sir, but they haven't said yes.

WILLIAM

Relax, JB. They need us. We'll negotiate our way to a yes.

ALLIE

Well, we need to soon because they are at the ice cream booth with Mikael.

William pans LEFT to Almond Milk Ice Cream booth. No Mikael.

He pans RIGHT to Coconut Milk Ice Cream booth. No Mikael.

He pans FAR LEFT to Plant Ice Cream booth. Mikael!

WILLIAM

Bejeezus! Utterly shambolic management, JB! GO! PRESTO!

Allie rushes in anger.

TRAVIS (mid 20s, hipster with a Jared Leto hat and well-groomed beard) stops Allie in her tracks.

TRAVIS

Hey! Allie right?

ALLIE

Yes.

She tries to move past him. He stays in front.

TRAVIS

I founded ATX Whiskey.

ALLIE

Sorry I can't talk right now.

TRAVIS

Just give me one minute please.

Allie angrily concedes. She can see Tomas and Luis laughing.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

(hands cocktail)

ATX whiskey transports customers back to the way things used to be. Back when things were handcrafted. This is an old fashioned cocktail made the old fashion way the way dear old grand-dad used to.

ALLIE

Oh yeah? The way your slave-owning racist grand-dad used to make drinks? Who made the drinks? His slaves or grand-dad? Is that the time you want to go back to?

Allie gulps the whiskey and throws the cup on the ground.

Allie continues walking and passes Geronimo Juices. GONG!

ALLIE (CONT'D)

JESUS CHRIST!

Dan stands next to the gong holding a hammer.

DAN

These juices are spiritual, man.

ALLIE

Guess what! You're the berry godmother now.

Allie walks away.

DAN (TO HIMSELF)

I'm the berry godmother now?

## - INT. PLANT ICE CREAM BOOTH - MOMENTS LATER

MIKAEL

Tomas, I really think you're a perfect fit --

ALLIE

Hi! Sorry to interrupt. But William is ready to meet with ANTEANNA.

TOMAS

Wait what? Again?

ALLIE

Yep. He's got a new exciting offer!

MIKAEL

Allie, can you give us another --

ALLIE

(interrupts)

No Mikael I can't. It's good to see you though!

She grabs Tomas. Mikael tugs back. They both tug on him for a few seconds. Mikael eventually relents and shares an insincere smile with Allie.

Allie, Tomas and Luis walk away.

MIKAEL

(shouts)

Tomas! Remember.

Tomas turns around. Mikael lifts his shirt and slaps his gut.

MIKAEL (CONT'D)

Trust.

Mikael and Jasmina wait until they've walked far enough away.

MIKAEL (CONT'D)

Jasmina, I KNOW you felt his aura. We NEED him! I have a feeling about him the same way I had a feeling about you when we first met. Do you remember? When you were an Instagram influencer lacking direction on what product to influence. You were simply stardust and I transformed you into a star. He can be our stardust!

# INT. MOONGRASS CORNER - MOMENTS LATER

ALLIE

Now, Tomas and Luis. William likes this so much that he wants to make y'all THE FACE of the accelerator.

LUIS

The face?

WILLIAM

I am prepared to put the full weight of MoonGrass on your beautiful brown faces. By the end of this program --

A LOUD GONG SOUND INTERRUPTS

They turn to look in the direction of the sound...

## - INT. GERONIMO JUICES STAND - CONTINUOUS

Dan repeatedly BANGS on the gong.

DAN

THIS JUICE REALLY LIFTED MY
SPIRITS! GUESS WHAT?! I'M THE BERRY
GODMOTHER NOW! WHO WANTS THEIR
SPIRITS LIFTED? BIPPITY BOPPITY!
(MORE)

DAN (CONT'D)
BIPPITY BOPPITY! BIBITTY BOBBITY
BOOP GODMOTHER FUCKERS! WOO!

Bodyguards brutally taser Dan to the ground.

### - INT. MOONGRASS CORNER - CONTINUOUS

Everyone watches Dan scream in agonizing pain.

BUZZFEED BRIAN takes photos of the event.

Allie is embarrassed. William is aggravated

WILLIAM

(composing himself)
Luckily, y'all don't have to worry
about crossing my bad side.

William awkwardly laughs. Everyone else joins in.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

After the program, ANTEANNA is GUARANTEED to be in all 1000 of our Moongrass spaces nationwide AND with the opportunity to develop additional product lines. I love your climate change mission, your brown faces, and your tasty tea. ALSO Buzzsaw will never mess with us again!

Tomas and Luis look at each other in confusion.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

So are ya'll ready to be THE FACE?

MIKAEL (O.S.)

Tomas! I beg you. Don't work with William. Selling Fun Guys to Moongrass is the biggest mistake of my life.

WILLIAM

(fake enthusiasm)

Mickey D! It's good to see you!
 (stern)

But this is a private meeting. So leave.

MIKAEL

Tomas, let me help you build ANTEANNA the way I wish I had built Fun Guys. I see myself in you. (MORE) MIKAEL (CONT'D)

Join me and you'll always have your freedom.

Tomas is touched by that comment.

WILLIAM

Mickey, you're more clueless than George Dubya. I gave you your freedoms.

TOMAS

Here's a thought. What if I did both?

WILLIAM AND MIKAEL

NO!

Tomas, panic-stricken, turns to Luis.

LUIS

Please, excuse us for a moment.

Luis and Tomas walk 20 feet away.

WITH MIKAEL, WILLIAM, ALLIE, AND JASMINA:

They all intently watch Tomas and Luis.

MIKAEL

They have such a beautiful aura.

William hates Mikael's comment.

WILLIAM

Quit turtling around, Tommy! Peak that head out and make a decision!

# INT. TOMAS'S ROOM - LATER

Tomas records a VLOG. He stares directly at us.

TOMAS

My fellow grasshoppers, you can control your narrative. Take charge of your life. Look what happened to me. This is why you take the risk. You can't ask for permission to do the thing you want to do. Nobody is going to save you.