

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

NOTE - I HAVE AVANI SPEAKING IN BROKEN ENGLISH HERE AND THERE SO THOSE ARE DONE ON PURPOSE.

INT. FLASHBACK - CLASSROOM - DAY

Young ALISHA (8) recites a poem to the audience. Classmates, parents, and others sit in the room.

ALISHA

When I'm sad, she wipes my tears,
And tells me stories from her years.
Her voice is soft and full of love,
Like an angel from above.

She tucked me in, and held my hand,
When I was scared, she took her
stand.
A second mom, in every way,
Her love and care, a constant ray.

AVANI (71) is tearing up in the audience. Alisha gives Avani the piece of paper she wrote in.

INT. PRESENT DAY - AVANI'S ROOM

The poem is pinned onto the wall of AVANI's (81) room.

The alarm is set to 5 AM. Avani is reading a newspaper and turns the alarm off right as it beeps.

MONTAGE

INT. SHAH LIVING ROOM - DAY

1. Avani folds 6 piles of laundry.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

2. Avani walks the dog, Oreo, around. Loses him, then finds him again.

INT. SHAH KITCHEN - DAY

3. Avani cooks in the kitchen, tastes, and smells her various creations.

INT. ALISHA'S BEDROOM - DAY

The clock reads 12 PM. ALISHA (18) is still awake and laying in bed.

Alisha fake cries and coughs into her phone.

ALISHA

And then I fell so sick. And as Vic's best friend, I know you can help me out...

INT. KEVIN'S ROOM - DAY

Kevin paces around the robot structure in his room, talking to Alisha on the phone.

KEVIN

I mean, I have to finalize our robot's code and check the PH values of the botany specimen but.. I think I should be able to do it.

ALISHA

Thank you! You're the best.

The call ends and Kevin falls into his bed, clutching his phone whispering 'you're the best' to himself.

INT. ALISHA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Alisha smiles and checks off 'Science lab' off of her whiteboard checklist. Also on the whiteboard is 'Fashion Competition' circled in red.

Alisha then sits on her desk and peruses various sketches of dresses.

INT. OFFICE ROOM/LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - DAY

AVANI (81) is praying to a tiny makeshift temple set in a the office.

ALISHA (18) comes thundering down the stairs and sits on the couch. She turns on the TV.

Avani is jolted from her prayers but begins to chant louder.

Alisha raises the TV volume.

Avani starts ringing a bell to accompany her chants.

Alisha raises the TV volume even more.

Avani finishes her prayers, goes to the kitchen, and begins putting food in the blender.

Alisha thinks the fight is over and relaxes into the couch.

Avani starts blending a smoothie on the max volume.

ALISHA

Really?!

AVANI

Protein. Good for you.

ALISHA

I'm not hungry.

Alisha goes to the pantry. She pulls out some chips and puts a coffee pod into the Keurig. VIC (18) enters the kitchen.

VIC

Good morning everyone.

AVANI

Protein shake for breakfast much better than chips and coffee.

VIC

Well, that really depends on what the ingredients are.

Vic grabs the chip bag and reads the ingredients.

VIC (cont'd)

Yikes. Even I cant pronounce some of these words.

Vic grabs some seasoned cashews and snacking on them.

VIC (cont'd)

Now this, this is more my vibe.
Snacks straight from the homeland.

Alisha eats a chip and sips on coffee.

ALISHA

Mmmm. This hits the spot.

AVANI

Don't blame me when you gonna get loose motion.

ALISHA

Ew. That's disgusting. Can you not talk about bowels while I'm eating.

AVANI

Why disgusting? It's the human body. And you need to take care of your's more.

ALISHA

Chips and coffee help with my mental health.

AVANI

Mental health! Wow. That's grand. And, I'm assuming sleeping at 5 AM and getting up at noon is also for your '*mental health*'.

ALISHA

You were spying on me?!

Mind you, Vic is happily snacking on his seasoned cashews while watching the argument get heated (similar to popcorn at a movie theater).

AVANI

I wasn't spying. I CAN HEAR your chitter chatter, TV, nonsense waste of time.

ALISHA

LEAVE ME AND MY SHIT ALONE. Back off!

AVANI

Is this how you talk to your elders?!

ALISHA

I talk to anybody how I want.

AVANI

Why even bother going to school then? What do they teach you there?

ALISHA

At least I go to school! It's better than you.

AVANI

I was going to be a doctor but parents could only afford to send one sibling to school! Do you know how that feels? That kind of sacrifice?

ALISHA

OH WOW, this story again. I am sorry
your life was SO hard!

AVANI

You should be sorry. You have no
shame. All the things I did helped
you be so LAZY today. I should have
stayed in India, maybe then you would
learn some values.

ALISHA

HOW am I lazy? I go to school, do my
work, and take care of myself!

AVANI

And what of the future? Do you
actually think you can get by making
dresses for the rest of your life?

ALISHA

It's NOT JUST DRESSES, IT'S FASHION!

AVANI

Let's see if fashion can pay the
bills when you're on your own in the
real world.

JANANI (40) appears in the kitchen doorway - pajamas,
bedhead, and an angry face.

JANANI

ENOUGH! ENOUGH. Saturday. Saturday is
all I ask for. To sleep in and not be
bothered. Both of you, SHUT IT!

VIC

Good morning, auntie.

AVANI

You want a protein shake?

INT. OFFICE ROOM IN SHAH HOUSE - NIGHT

Alisha sits on the house computer and plays an interactive
game.

VIC

Not this again.

ALISHA

Sorry not everyone wants to watch World War documentaries in their free time.

VIC

Fine. Enlighten me on this...this game.

ALISHA

So this is my avatar. I play games, collect money and then can buy her things. I can plan out her whole life. Look at the wardrobe I've managed to get my girl.

Alisha shows Vic how it works as she explains.

VIC

(sarcastically)
Ah, what a brilliant use of technology.

ALISHA

See! And this is my favorite part. The wishing well, if you get enough points in a day you can make one wish -

AVANI

Everyone. Scooch. It's time for me to change the prasad.

(In Hinduism, food is offered to a deity. This food is called prasad). Avani leans over Alisha and disrupts their little discussion to collect that day's prasad and replace it with a new set of sweets.

ALISHA

Move, please.

AVANI

Alisha! Stop. This is way more important than this nonsense, garbage game you're always playing. Now, eat this.

Avani shoves a sweet into Alisha and Vic's mouths before leaving.

ALISHA

Jesus why even offer anything to the Gods? Its pointless - we always eat it anyways.

A hurtful glance shot from Avani as she hears this comment while walking away.

ALISHA (cont'd)
Finally. Back to this.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL ART CLASSROOM - DAY

Alisha sits in an art classroom working on a toilet paper dress.

Vic marches in with Kevin.

VIC
How dare you go behind my back and enlist one of my best 'robotoneers' to do your dirty work. A chemistry lab Alisha, seriously? Kevin shouldn't be caught dead doing work this simple.

ALISHA
Excuse me? He offered. And I need the help with my portfolio deadline coming up.

VIC
And we have our robotics competition coming up! We need Kevin for more important things than toilet paper dresses!

Vic grabs the papers Kevin is holding and throws it onto the table.

VIC
This is the LAST time.

Alisha mocks Vic.

ALISHA
(mockingly)
This is the last time.
Good luck with your nerd contest.

Kevin goes to say something but is dragged away by Vic.

ALISHA (cont'd)
Oh, and thanks Kevin!

INT. SHAH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - DAY

Janani is taking calls in the living room.

JANANI

Yes, sir! Our pharmacy sells the very best FDA approved medications.

AVANI

(whispering)

Do you want tea?

JANANI

What?

AVANI

Do you want TEA, TEA!?

JANANI

What?

Avani gives up on talking and motions tea. Janani nods yes.

Avani makes tea.

JANANI (cont'd)

5 orders of Viagra. I will put you down right away, thank you so much for your business. Alright now... bye bye.

INT. SCHOOL BATHROOM - DAY

Alisha washes her hands when she overhears RHONDA (17) and JOY (18) talk between the stalls. The two are changing back into their uniforms after gym class. Their uniforms hang on the stall doors.

RHONDA

Did you see Vic today?

JOY

That weirdo? Hell yes. And their robot parts are littered all across Hallway B, like why..?

RHONDA

Alisha was enough to deal with, why'd she have to bring her family to this school too.

ALISHA

You BITCHES!

Alisha angrily snatches their uniforms, stuffs them into the sink, leaves the water turned on, and storms off.

RHONDA, JOY
HEY! WHOAH!

INT. SHAH KITCHEN - DAY

Janani is sipping her tea and talking to a customer on the phone.

JANANI
That's just horrible! Did you dump him?

Janani notices the stove is on and runs to turn it off.

INT. AVANI'S ROOM - DAY

JANANI
Mom! You left the stove on. Maybe you need to stay away from the kitchen. This is dangerous -

AVANI
- Oh really? And you think I did that on accident. That was on purpose. To get your attention.

JANANI
Oh, really..?

AVANI
Of course, you've forgotten about your mother. I've just become an annoying old lady in the house.

JANANI
Mom - really? You are stooping to guilt tripping now? I am genuinely concerned about -

AVANI
- I am fine! Stop hounding me.

JANANI
I just think you shouldn't spend too much time in the kitchen anymore.

AVANI
I shouldn't! But I have to. I have to help out. Without me, where would you be, huh? You can't hold your weight. And I am alas, stuck. Stuck as the tea-making old lady burden!

Janani's face is red in shock and anger.

AVANI (cont'd)
Please, just go. Go sell your pills.

INT. ENGLISH CLASS - DAY

English class commences. Alisha and Vic sit far away from one another. MR. WILLIAMS (55) is taking attendance.

MR. WILLIAMS
Vic?

VIC
Here.

MR. WILLIAMS
Alisha?

ALISHA
Here.

MR. WILLIAMS
Rhonda?

Crickets.

MR. WILLIAMS (cont'd)
No Rhonda? Lets see... Joy?

More crickets.

MR. WILLIAMS (cont'd)
Alright, lets begin. Starting from
our last week's reading ...

Vic is being himself - chatting with any 'robotoneers' he can find, snacking from his pre-packed cashew container, and working on the homework he was just assigned.

Alisha stares daggers at Vic.

INT. SHAH KITCHEN - DAY

Janani is on the phone with her boss, RACHEL (45).

RACHEL
Your sales have been increasingly stellar. You are in line to being promoted to manager - how does that sound?

JANANI

Wow! That sounds amazing.

RACHEL

We'd have to ensure your commitment, though, as this role requires the utmost of focus and diligence.

JANANI

Of course.

RACHEL

Do you think you can handle this?

JANANI

100%. I would love to be manager -

- Suddenly, the alarm goes off.

JANANI (cont'd)

One moment - please.

RACHEL

Oh, all right - is everything okay?

Janani goes to check the alarm to find Avani struggling to punch in the code.

AVANI

Sorry, I forgot the code - what is it again? Damn.

JANANI

It's literally 1234. Here let me do it.

Janani turns off the alarm.

AVANI

Really? 1234. We should change that - it's too easy.

JANANI

Still too hard for you to remember.

Janani goes to talk to Rachel again.

JANANI (cont'd)

Hello? Hello? Rachel?

Rachel has left.

INT. ENGLISH CLASS - DAY

MR. WILLIAMS

And what do we think of this particular quote from Hamlet? - "Give every man thy ear, but few thy voice."

The class is silent.

VIC

I think it means we can all work being better and more adept listeners.

MR. WILLIAMS

Insightful thought Vic. Anyone else?

ALISHA

Oh yeah? Well I think it means not everyone should have a voice. *Cough, cough* Vic!

The class hears the cough-veiled 'Vic' and laughs.

MR. WILLIAMS

Dig deeper Alisha!

ALISHA

To be or not to be? Some people should just 'not be.' *cough Vic*

MR. WILLIAMS

Interesting perspective.

VIC

Screw you! At least I don't need to cheat to pass school.

The class ooo's. Alisha is stunned.

EXT. SHAH HOUSE - DAY

Janani goes through the mail. She opens a particular letter.

JANANI

Oxford Gym Liability Notice? 'We are not responsible for members above the age of 70 utilizing gym equipment not suitable for their stature.'...

JANANI (cont'd)

MOM! What is this? You've been going to the gym?

AVANI

What? I just wanted to finish out Vic's membership so it doesn't go to waste.

JANANI

Vic had a gym membership? What? Whatever - When have you even been going?

AVANI

Oh I go every time I take Oreo for a walk.

JANANI

What?! With Oreo - how does that work?

AVANI

I know the owner of the Great Clips, she's a friend. I just leave him there, do my workout, then pick him up.

JANANI

WHAT?! YOU WHAT?! Where is he now?

AVANI

Right behind me -no? Oreo!

The two call out for Oreo.

JANANI

Oreo?

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Mr. Williams is doing conflict resolution in the hallway.

MR. WILLIAMS

Alright, you two need to find some common ground. You are cousins for Pete sakes - be KIND to one another. Now, apologize to one another and we can go back to class. Or you two can explain to the principal why I had to leave the class to attend to your antics!

VIC

No please! Not the principal. Listen, Alisha, I'm sorry.

MR. WILLIAMS

Good. Alisha?

ALISHA

I would apologize Mr. Williams but you always encourage us to be honest about our perspectives and to be honest, I don't think I said anything wrong.. or dishonest.

MR. WILLIAMS

Alisha! What is going on? You are a great student and this is very off base. Stop with your attitude or -

Rhonda and Joy come around the corner, clothes dripping everywhere. PRINCIPAL WEATHERS (57) is next to them tapping her foot.

PRINCIPAL WEATHERS

Care to explain this?

EXT. HAIR SALON - DAY

Janani peers into the hair salon window. RAMA (61) opens the door.

RAMA

Avani's daughter? You have the same face.

Rama squeezes Janani's cheeks. Oreo comes running out from behind.

JANANI

Oreo! Buddy, hi. Thank you so much...

RAMA

Rama.

JANANI

Well, nice to meet you Rama. I'm so sorry my mom forgot to pick him up-

Oreo starts sneezing and coughing wildly. Janani spots some wrappers on the floor and walks over to them.

JANANI
DID HE EAT THESE?!

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

ALISHA
Let me tell you Principal; Rhonda and Joy were talking smack from the start -

PRINCIPAL WEATHERS
-Alisha-

ALISHA
It would've been fine if they were talking about me but they were talking about Vic!-

PRINCIPAL WEATHERS
-Alisha-

ALISHA
As an international student, he struggles so much to acclimate already. I just don't like it when people kick someone when they're already down-

PRINCIPAL WEATHERS
-ALISHA! Enough. Mr. Williams told me your stint with Vic. Disrupting class - really? And spraying your peers' uniforms? What is that?

ALISHA
Vic started it. Rhonda and Joy have it out for me. They have for a while.

PRINCIPAL WEATHERS
Whatever the case may be.. Use. Your. Words. This sink stint makes me think a regular detention won't cut it.

ALISHA
What do you mean?

PRINCIPAL WEATHERS
You've graduated from petty crimes to serious offenses. You're going to have to do 48 hours of community service on top of our required amount for our upperclassmen.

Weathers slides a paper over to Alisha detailing the punishment.

ALISHA

I can do that. No problem. Thank you so much Principal. And again, sorry for the trouble-

Alisha takes the punishment paper and goes to leave when...

PRINCIPAL WEATHERS

In the next month. You'll have to do this by the end of April.

ALISHA

The NEXT MONTH?! I have the MSFC deadline this month. Can I please just have a little more time.

PRINCIPAL WEATHERS

MSFC? That's the art competition?

ALISHA

The Michigan Student Fashion Competition. It's a big deal.

PRINCIPAL WEATHERS

Ah- well. You better get crackin'.

EXT. SHAH HOUSE DRIVEWAY - AFTERNOON

Janani speeds the car home. It's barely neutral by the time Janani is sprinting through the door, Oreo in hand.

INT. SHAH KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Janani places Oreo onto the table and digs through the cabinet. Avani comes strolling around the corner.

AVANI

What you looking for? Anything I can help with?

JANANI

The Hydrogen peroxide 3-percent solution. Oreo ate chocolate at Rana's! I can't believe you've been leaving him at a strangers.

A ruckus. Chaos of things being thrown out of the cabinet.

AVANI

Rama is NOT a stranger. I rearranged the cabinet today let me help you find it, what does it look like?

JANANI

You rearranged the cabine- JESUS! Stop helping - you've done enough.

AVANI

Janani please!

More panicked ruffling through the cabinet.

INT. ART ROOM - AFTERNOON

Alisha organizes and clips a bunch of designs onto an easel. She takes down four designs and clips them each onto a matching dress in the room, admiring her creations.

ALISHA

4 done. Two to go.

She stares at two bare sewing mannequin busts.

ALISHA

Last two. Gotta be something fresh.

TEACHER PASSING BY

Alisha! Isn't there a class you need to be at right now.

Alisha scurries out.

EXT. SHAH HOUSE DRIVEWAY - AFTERNOON

Janani and Oreo are in the car about to head out. Avani comes waddling over at the last second.

AVANI

WAIT! WAIT. Here, take some water.

Two water bottles are thrown into the car.

JANANI

Mom, it's going to be fine. Don't stress. The medicine made him throw up.

(MORE)

JANANI (cont'd)

I squeezed in an appointment with Dr. Horch right now so we really got to go.

AVANI

Okay, okay. Janani.. I'm sorry..

JANANI

It's okay, Ma, it was an accident -

AVANI

..for rearranging the cabinet. It was just so messy that I had to take action-

Janani immediately starts to drive off. Then.. brakes suddenly!

JANANI

The KIDS!

INT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON

Avani enters the school with a pep in her step, mumbling to herself.

AVANI

After-school supervision care costs 20 an hour. After-school supervision care costs 20 an hour...

INT. SCHOOL ENTRANCE/CLASSROOM AREAS - AFTERNOON

She spots Vic! He is eating popcorn nearby a microwave.

AVANI

Vic! Ah - found one. Where's the other one.

AVANI (cont'd)

Where's Alisha?

VIC

Nice surprise to see you Nani. And, don't ask me about her. I won't call her my cousin from this day onward. Matter of fact - I won't even talk to her. She is a total villain in my story.

AVANI

Huh, interesting. Get her here now.
We have to go!

VIC

Jeez! Alright - I'll text her.

Vic messages Alisha.

INT. 'COOL KIDS' HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Alisha is walking down the hallway when she gets bombarded by SIRI (18) and NEHA (17).

SIRI

Alishaaaa. Whoah where you going? Slow your roll. We heard you hosed down Rhonda ... and JOY?

NEHA

Is it true?

ALISHA

Well I - not really. It was more of a - yeah, hell yeah I hosed those bitches down.

Alisha sees the text from Vic. The girls begin to walk and talk.

NEHA

YEAH! Lets go! Rhonda is the epitome of basic.

ALISHA

Yeah, totally!

INT. SCHOOL ENTRANCE/CLASSROOM AREAS - AFTERNOON

VIC

She said she's on her way.

AVANI

Good. What are you eating?

VIC

Popcorn! I've never tried American popcorn before.

AVANI

American popcorn? There's no difference between Indian popcorn and American popcorn. Popcorn is popcorn.

VIC

There's definitely a difference. This is blander than oatmeal.

Avani laughs and takes the bag from Vic.

AVANI

Now you've started this, you have to finish it. There's some un-popped kernels in here. Let's put it in for longer and it'll taste better.

VIC

(muttering under
breath)

Well I put it in for how long it said. I guess following directions doesn't hold value these days.

INT. VET OFFICE - AFTERNOON

DR. HORCH (46) and Janani are petting Oreo.

DR. HORCH

You did good with the medicine. This little good boy will be totally fine. Aren't you a good boy? C'mere!

JANANI

Thank you Doc. Really gave us a scare.

Janani checks her phone to see a text from Avani: "i got kidz. dont worry JSK"

JANANI (cont'd)

(murmuring to
herself)

Is she saying she's kidding? Is she picking them up or not?

DR. HORCH

Ooopsie daisy! I don't mean to be a snoopers but I saw your phone. I think that means 'Jai Shri Krishna.'

('Jai Shri Krishna' is akin to saying 'Praise the Lord').

JANANI

Right.

DR. HORCH

My husband is Indian so I've been learning some new things as a result.

JANANI

Right.

DR. HORCH

We named our shitzu Krishna so we'd be saying God's name every time we called her. Oreo is a lovely name too, though.

JANANI

Righhht.

Insert an air of awkwardness!

INT. HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

SIRI

So you should sit with us at lunch sometimes.

NEHA

Yeah! And bring your cousin too, why not.

INT. SCHOOL ENTRANCE/CLASSROOM AREAS - AFTERNOON

While waiting on Alisha, Vic is conversing with Kevin. Avani's dupatta (an Indian scarf) gets stuck under a student's rolling backpack and she deals with that fuss.

Both...forget...about.. THE POPCORN!

There's a vicious pop and the microwave begins to smoke.

VIC

NANI!

AVANI

Oii. GOD! What is this.

Avani gingerly opens the microwave door and grabs the popcorn with her dupatta, waving the bag around. There is a mini fire that grows larger, traveling from the bag to Avani's scarf. The bag and scarf land on the floor.

Alisha, Neha, and Siri turn the corner, eyes widening at the sight.

ALISHA
Oh my god! What are you doing?

SIRI
FIRE!

Kerplunk.....PSSSSSHHHHH - the sprinkler system is activated and extinguishes the fire.

Avani picks up her burnt, wet duppata.

AVANI
Eh, I can fashion this into a handkerchief.

STUDENT 1
Aw dang it, my backpack!

STUDENT 2
Ayo, cover my phone, cover my phone.

Alisha's face harbors a look of realization and she starts running... to the art room. Vic and Avani follow.

VIC
Can we go home already? Where are you going?

INT. ART ROOM - AFTERNOON

Alisha is distressed when she realizes ALL of her dresses are doused with water. A dress clumps up at the skirt and falls off of the mannequins into a wet mess.

ALISHA
NO! NOOOOO. WHAT THE FUCK. YOU. You.
This is all your fault!

Fingers pointed at Avani.

AVANI
Don't use profane language when you speak. It was an accident Alisha.
Now, you're going to get a cold if you don't dry off. Lets go, Alisha.

ALISHA
No, IT'S YOU. YOU'RE RUINING MY LIFE!
I. Hate. You.

Kids have gathered outside the art room and are staring/
talking.

AVANI

Well you're not an angel yourself.
Vic is a better grandchild than you
any day.

Soft smile from Vic.

AVANI (cont'd)

You couldn't survive a day in my
shoes!

ALISHA

Oh yeah? TRY ME -

MRS. TULIP

LADIES! Can you please take this
conversation outside? We have some
cleaning up to do.

Mrs. Tulip and students awkwardly walk into the art room,
trying to clean up the mess and salvage what art is left.

Alisha tries putting back one of her fashion pieces and it
crumbles in front of her.

INT. AVANI'S ROOM - NIGHT

A distressed Avani rips up the poem young Alisha wrote for
her.

INT. ALISHA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alisha scrolls through social media and finds a video of the
earlier incident in the art room. She sees some hurtful
comments on the post. Alisha huffs and hurls her phone
across the room.

INT. SHAH DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Doors slam upstairs. We see Janani and Vic sit alone eating.

VIC

Well I guess it's just you and me
auntie.

Janani puts her dish in the sink angrily.

JANANI

Some family!

Janani stomps off. Vic looks at Oreo and gives him a piece of his naan.

VIC

Now it's just you and me buddy
sigh.

INT. OFFICE ROOM IN SHAH HOUSE - DAY

Vic is taking his cashews upstairs to snack on when the office room's computer catches his eye. The game Alisha was playing before illuminates the dark room.

Vic sits down, and places his cashews under the deity. Oreo trails closely behind.

VIC

Hmmmm. What do we have here.

Vic messes around with Alisha's avatar here and there before landing on the wishing well.

VIC (cont'd)

Haha! Wishing well. What a rudimentary notion. What should we wish for Oreo?

Vic types: I wish Naani and Alisha would understand each other better.

Whoooooosh. The wish is sent and the online game eats it up. The computer goes dead.

VIC (cont'd)

Yikes. That's not good.

Vic gets up to leave, but he notices his cashews are missing.

He stares at the deity in disbelief but then shrugs it off. Off he goes to the kitchen to restock on cashews!

INT. ALISHA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alisha twists and turns in her bed.

INT. AVANI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Avani twists and turns in her bed.

INT. SHAH HOUSE - NIGHT

An air of magic takes over the house and enters Avani and Alisha's room. They have SWITCHED!

Alisha has entered Avani's body and Avani has entered Alisha's body. I will refer to the new Alisha as Alisha' and the new Avani as Avani'

INT. ALISHA'S ROOM - DAY

Avani' wakes up. Not groggy? Bones don't hurt? It doesn't take a minimum of two minutes to sit up? What is happening?

AVANI'
Alisha's room? Did I pass out? I don't even remember..

She walks to the bathroom, tripping over clothes on the floor.

AVANI' (cont'd)
She is so dirty. I mean, what is this.

Avani' goes to pick up the clothes when she notices her... young hands? She looks up into the mirror and sees Alisha?!

AVANI' (cont'd)
AHHHHHHHHHHH!!!

INT. AVANI'S ROOM - DAY

Avani' marches into Avani's room where Alisha' is passed out, sleeping.

AVANI'
WAKE UP!

Avani' pulls the covers off of Alisha'

AVANI' (cont'd)
Jesus. So many more wrinkles than I thought. ALISHA! GET UP!

ALISHA'

What the hell man?! It's too early for this.

AVANI'

Don't swear. Now get up.

ALISHA'

I'm frickin' trying. Did I get into an accident or something?

Alisha' tries. She tries again. And.. again. Finally, Avani' pulls her up.

ALISHA' (cont'd)

Whoah... everything is.. so blurry. What the shit.

AVANI'

STOP swearing. Here.

Avani' puts thick, and I mean super thick, glasses onto Alisha'. Vision become clearer and Alisha' sees Avani' AKA herself.

ALISHA'

AHHHHHHHHHHHH! AHHHHHHHHHH! Wait - Did I finally try shrooms?!

Avani' panics upon seeing her own full body in front of her.

AVANI'

JANANI?! JANANI?!

INT. THERAPIST ROOM - DAY

Alisha' and a therapist (50) sit across from each other.

THERAPIST

All right Avani, I am just going to go ahead and ask you some questions to try and get to know you better.

ALISHA'

More like to try to see if I'm ape-shit crazy or not.

THERAPIST

Whoah - that word!

ALISHA'

Oh - shit? Sorry. Fuck. Shit... I did it again.

THERAPIST

No no no - crazy.
Crazy is a term us mental health
professionals do not like to use. It
has a negative connotation.

ALISHA'

Listen- this whole thing is a
mistake. It's not what you think. My
grandma and I - my granddaughter and
I like to play pranks! Funny jokes.
We are very, very open with one
another.

THERAPIST

That's not what it sounded like to
your daughter...

ALISHA'

If everyone was judged by their inner
thoughts, the whole world would be
considered crazy.

THERAPIST

Ah-ah-ah, again with that word! In my
office, lets consider that a no-no
word. Alright, back to the questions.
Answer however you like.

ALISHA'

Got it. No more crazy.

Therapist looks down at clipboard and begins reading off.

THERAPIST

Have you experienced a week or longer
of low interest in activities that
you usually enjoy?

ALISHA'

Hmmm.. I don't know..

THERAPIST

Come on, things you like doing -
hobbies, spending time with loved
ones...

ALISHA'

Come to think of it..., and this is
actually crazy - I haven't looked at
porn in over a week.

The therapist is taken aback.

OLD LADY

Oops, I said crazy again didn't I?
Sorry!!

INT. THERAPIST OFFICE LOBBY

Alisha' finds Avani' sitting in the lobby.

ALISHA'

You ready to go?

AVANI'

What was this nonsense? This was an hour and half of my life I'll never get back.

ALISHA'

Well clearly you have many, many more years to come so I should be the bothered one.

AVANI'

I can't believe this is the first thing Janani thinks to do. Throw money at the problem. 300\$ down the gutter and look - nothing is fixed!

Keep your voice down. This whole thing just shows us we can't tell anybody the truth about what's going on. We have to figure this out on our own.

EXT. CAR IN PARKING LOT - DAY

JANANI

So! How'd it go?

AVANI'

Great! I really think it helped. The price little steep for only one hour. But, all in all nice conversation. I like fireplace in -

JANANI

-Since when do you take a note of our finances? Mom, how about you?-

ALISHA'

It rocked!

JANANI
Right. Anything else?

ALISHA'
Nah.

INT. SHAH LIVING ROOM/OFFICE/KITCHEN - DAY

AVANI'
So what do we do? How do we figure this out?

ALISHA'
I don't know. All I know is I need a nap *yawn* I am so tired all the time, ugh.

Avani' presses the elevation button on the couch and moves Alisha's' head to the side.

ALISHA'
Mmmmm, that hits the spot. So good.

AVANI'
While you sleep - I am going to figure this out.

Avani' does what helps her clear her head. Clean.

Vic sees this and is bewildered! Alisha - cleaning?!

VIC
Hey - you okay? You and Naani really had me worried.

AVANI'
I'm totally fine! You want some tea?

VIC
...sure?

Vic is even more shaken when the tea Alisha makes is ... good!

AVANI'
Let me get some prasad for you too. PRASAD- That's it! I need to pray!

VIC
You? Pray?

Vic snickers.

ALISHA'
SHUT UP. I am trying to NAP!

AVANI'
Faith is not funny, Vic. Faith can
move mountains. Faith can fix things.

VIC
Listen - about the stuff you and Nani
were talking about today..

Avani' walks to the temple in the office, and reached for
the prasad.

VIC (cont'd)
Wait! Stop.

Vic runs in front of Avani' and stands in front of the
deity.

AVANI'
What are you doing? Move out of the
way.

VIC
Don't mess with this stuff Alisha.
It's not funny.

AVANI'
What are you saying? I am not being
funny here. Move and let me pray.

VIC
Wait. Wait. Wait. Okay. This Krishna
is.. dirty. Let me clean him and then
you can pray or whatever..

AVANI'
Dirty?! Do you think I - do you think
SHE (pointing to a sleeping Avani/
Alisha) would ever let them be dirty?
Let me see my Krishna!

Avani' and Vic get into a push-and-pull tiny fight over the
deity. In the chaos, the deity falls to the floor and
cracks.

ALISHA'
Jeez. Will you idiots ever let me
sleep man?

Vic notices his Nani's vocabulary has become more...refined.

AVANI'

Nooooo! Someone get the broom.

AVANI' (cont'd)

Why would you do this Vic? Now he's broken.

VIC

Well, maybe that's a good thing.

AVANI'

In what world is this ever a good thing?

ALISHA'

Yeah, I'm not going to lie. That was cold, Vic.

AVANI'

What's going on mister?

VIC

I don't know! All I know is the wishing well thing happened, the cashews are gone, and now you guys are acting weird. I just DON'T KNOW. For the first time in my life, I don't know anything about anything.

ALISHA'

Wishing well? Cashews? Explain.

INT. AVANI'S' ROOM - NIGHT

VIC

There's no way this is possible. Wait - so does this mean god is real?

ALISHA'

You dumb ass. It doesn't matter. The God that did this..you broke him. We're screwed.

VIC

I'm so not used to you swearing.

AVANI'

Yeah, stop that. I don't like them coming out of your mouth much less mine.

ALISHA'
DID you NOT HEAR ME? WE. Are.
Screwed.

AVANI'
You give up so easily. I'm sure we
can figure something out.

Janani's voice comes booming from downstairs.

JANANI
ALISHA! COME DOWN HERE NOW.

Alisha' goes to get up.

AVANI'
No, it's me -

JANANI
ALISHA!

VIC
She sounds mad.

AVANI'
God - What did you do Alisha?

INT. SHAH HOUSE - DOWNSTAIRS - NIGHT

JANANI
Explain this to me.

Janani shows Avani' her phone.

AVANI'
Wait, show me again. It takes me a
while to read thing in English-

JANANI
Oh STOP the act. "Alisha violated her
peers by SPRAYING water onto their
uniforms, therefore, she will have
to -

AVANI'
- SHE WHAT?!

INT. AVANI'S ROOM - NIGHT

ALISHA'
Vic we have to fix this statue up. Go
get the gorilla glue from mom's room.

INT. JANANI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Vic rummages through the vanity for the glue. He stumbles upon a document. It says:

"Meadow Elderly Care Facility"