

National Nonbinary
(Nenby): PILOT EPISODE

Written by

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Revision: 3 July 2021

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NOTE: Text in italics is in Korean.

FADE IN:

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

SUPER:

"Content warnings: Dysphoria, cursing, drug use, anxiety, police, cursing, and discussions about race, gender, adoption"

JEANETTE, MX. LEE, BRADA, and DANIELLE explore the church.

Jeanette (they/them), 50s, a half-Latinx afab, has a long gray hair in a French braid with bobby pins, lipstick, a long beard, bra, skirt, and long painted nails. They have a fanny pack with junk food with empty calories and a disposable camera.

Mx. Lee (e/e's), 30s, an afab Vietnamese adoptee, has hair in a Skrillex-style and wears a GC2B binder and boxers under a t-shirt dress over Tripp NYC pants to cover e's hairy legs. E has a passport, smartphone, snack, and at least one tissue pack in e's purse.

Brada (she/dad), 30s, a Norwegian afab is wearing a bra and off-shoulder dress. She has a passport, cigarettes, a lighter, a mini bottle of alcohol, LSD (lookalike) pills, and a mini flashlight in her purse and leather jacket.

Danielle (she/her), 50s, a tall dark-skinned Black transwoman is wearing a wig, a bra, a skirt, and flat shoes. She has a passport and Spironolactone and Truvada (lookalike placebo) pills or red (placebo) pills in her purse.

EXT. BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF KOREA - DAY

TITLE CARD: South Korea

CUE MONTAGE:

NARRATOR (V.O.)

"Carlos Castaneda once told me bathrooms are dangerous places. If one gets 'silent' enough on the bowl, a crack in the world opens up."—Bruce Wagner

A nonbinary support club, with guests, is on a 4 1/2-hour bus tour in Korea heading toward Jeju Island when they get trapped inside a Busan restroom where they face their fears together. This Korean restroom is very foreign to them and is hiding dark secrets, or maybe just the secrets

of their minds. During the bus trip, friends become closer, jealousy rears its ugly head, they have new experiences together, and philosophical conflicts emerge."

After they get on the elevator, the elevator breaks down midway.

BRADA

Fuck. Press the button!

DANIELLE

(pressing elevator phone button)

Oh, I can just see how this day is going to play out now.

KOREAN JANITOR

Yes?

MX. LEE

The elevator's broken.

KOREAN JANITOR

I'll be right there.

DANIELLE

How come you know Korean?

MX. LEE

I have a passion for Asian languages.

JEANETTE

I hope this day gets better. I have a ton of places I want to see and they ain't gonna see themselves. Are you drunk?

BRADA

No, just a little tipsy, but I do need to pee. And I'd kill for a hotdog right about now. I've got the munchies.

JEANETTE

Are you high too?

BRADA

Maybe...

MX. LEE
They actually do have corndogs in Korea.

BRADA
Excellent!

MX. LEE
However, Korean corndogs are covered in cheese.

BRADA
Not a bad idea.

MX. LEE
And they're made from fish instead of beef.

DANIELLE
Ew, that's gross.

The KOREAN JANITOR frees them but realizes what they are and stalks them creepily as they head back to the restroom with the others, texting KOREAN JANITOR'S DAUGHTER.

SUPER:

National Nonbinary (Nenby)

ROLL OPENING CREDITS:

END OF TEASER/COLD OPEN

INT. BUJEON CHURCH MALE RESTROOM (OR ALTERNATIVE) - DAY

ZOOM IN:

An unmasked elderly man coughs into the hand dryer. Everyone has grossed out faces and moves away while staying inside. Everyone now includes PENNY and RAFAEL.

Penny/Matthew (she/he), 50s, a tall white amab has a farmer's tan and wears a size D bra with fake boobs, a rainbow-colored bodysuit, stockings, and tall stiletto heels. She has a passport, tablet, thermos, and a change of male clothing (a professional suit) in her messenger bag.

Rafael (them/them), 30s, a dark-skinned Columbian afab wears a wide mohawk or bowlcut, a sports bra, a t-shirt, and jeggings to cover their legs. They have a passport and smartphone in a travel undergarment waist pouch.

MX. LEE

It really is a big bad world out here full of germs.

DANIELLE
I'm surprised I'm still alive after that pandemic.

RAFAEL
Me too. I have Grave's disease.

DANIELLE
What's that?

RAFAEL
It's a hyperthyroid disease.

ZOOM OUT:

MEAN KOREAN JANITOR'S DAUGHTER pulls down Danielle's skirt to confirm surgery. The MEAN KOREAN JANITOR locks all of them in the restroom after the guy with a cough leaves.

Danielle grabs the door too late, but it's locked.

DANIELLE
Shit!

BRADA
Looks like your plan fucking backfired.

(Brada lights a cigarette. Penny opens a window to let the smoke out.)

Have you ever heard the term combat and operational stress reactions, or COSRs?

PENNY
Yes, I think it's what the whole world was experiencing during the pandemic.

EXT. BEIRUT, LEBANON -- 1983 (FLASHBACK)

TITLE CARD: 1983

Matthew is drunk and took someone else's military vehicle for a joy ride, destroying the vehicle in the process. An officer finds out and court martials him while his troop is in a warzone.

MATTHEW'S HIGHER UP

I have bad news. Your entire unit was killed.
You're lucky that you were court martialed.

INT. BUJEON CHURCH MALE RESTROOM (OR ALTERNATIVE) - DAY

DANIELLE

I was in the military but wasn't in combat.

BRADA

That's why it also mentions operational stress reactions. You still had to be separate from your family for a significant amount of time, right? Did you work long hours under dangerous work conditions?

DANIELLE

Yeah.

BRADA

COSRs are like the mildest form of PTSD.

DANIELLE

Kinda like race-based traumatic stress injury from microaggressions.

BRADA

Yeah, like that kinda. It doesn't affect you in the moment, but later it can affect you a lot. During the pandemic, trauma can resemble COSRs, due to the witnessing of death and dangerous working conditions. It can result in anxiety, isolation, hypervigilance, fatigue, insomnia, and decreased attention.

MX. LEE

You're kinda talking about triggers, right?

BRADA

You could say that.

MX. LEE

I had a triggering experience the other day, but not in the way you'd expect.

BRADA

What happened?

MX. LEE

So, my spouse and I went clothing shopping for the first time together..

DANIELLE
Oh, clothing shopping.

MX. LEE
But not in the way you'd expect because it was during the pandemic when this happened so even cis people couldn't go into changing rooms. Anyways, I have to say it's the weirdest thing, not because Penny is an amab shopping for women's clothes, but because she shops for clothes the way one shops for groceries.

PENNY
I don't know what that means but we've had a lot of grocery arguments.

Penny talks to Jeanette, Mx. Lee, and Rafael but the audience can't hear any words.

PENNY
Changing topics, when we get out of here, I recommend a gender bending party for all instead of the usual D&D. Jeanette, Mx. Lee, and Rafael are down.

DANIELLE
Gender bending? I don't understand.

PENNY
Maybe a couple's party. Switching places.

DANIELLE
You lost me.

PENNY
I thought you understood. Apologies.

DANIELLE
Nope.

PENNY
It was just an idea.

DANIELLE

But what did you mean by switching places?

RAFAEL

Gender bending is when the couple role reverse genders for a period of time.

DANIELLE

You mean I would be male? I don't think so.

PENNY

Mx. Lee and I have fun with it.

DANIELLE

That's great, but I have no desire to pretend I am male. Major potential for dysphoria there.

PENNY

Okay, sorry I brought it up.

DANIELLE

It's okay. I think since you both cross-dress that it is easy to go back and forth. Most trans people would not enjoy that. I lived 52 years male and have no desire to cross-dress as male.

PENNY

Yeah, I can understand.

DANIELLE

I take no offense. It was probably just something you didn't understand about me.

PENNY

I wasn't thinking.

DANIELLE

It's okay. No hard feelings. But Jeanette, you were okay with it? Knowing me?

JEANETTE

I barely said anything!

DANIELLE

Exactly.

JO

Hey, I think you forgot I'm the only one here not coupled up.

JEANETTE
Maybe we could fix that.

DANIELLE
Sounds like you have no problem saying plenty.

INT. ON THE OTHER SIDE - NIGHT

MX. LEE
Danielle, would you be interested in being my maid of honor?

DANIELLE
(freshens her makeup)
You know me; I'd just be late. Looks to me like you've been spending more time with Rafael. Why don't you ask Rafael?

MX. LEE
Rafael, would you be interested in being my maid of honor?

RAFAEL
I thought you were already married.

PENNY
We are, but we want to have our first ceremony at Burning Man. I already have the Pinterest board with the top dresses I want to wear.

RAFAEL
I don't think I have that kind of cash.

JO and XRYSTALLA are talking.

Jo (it/its), mid-20s, a short dark-skinned Blasian adoptee transman wears a box fade cut with a dread rattail, a sports bra for its size C boobs, boyshorts, a packer, a bowtie, an oversized t-shirt, jean jacket, jeans, and skater shoes. It has a passport, Finasteride (lookalike placebo) pills, *My Hero Academia*, and a DVD player in its backpack.

Xrysilla (we/fae), early 40s, a dark-skinned Latinx amab wears a bra and a jacket over a Goth ensemble. Fae has LinkFlow's

FITT360 camcorder around faer neck and a passport and iPhone in faer jacket.

JO

What is your family like?

XRYSILLA

Well, my mom died, and my dad remarried, and I have two stepsisters.

JO

Do you guys get along?

XRYSILLA

Not one bit. They all kicked me out when I came out as nonbinary. Actually, it gets worse. My stepmom was so physically abusive that day that it put me into a coma. She refused to pay for that entire stay, so I'm still paying for it.

JO

How'd you afford to come on this trip?

XRYSILLA

Oh, I make plenty of money, just not enough to pay for it all in one lump sum. It's broken up enough that I can pay a decent amount per month. I also inherited my dad's wealth when he died, which could possibly be why my stepfamily hates me.

INT. THANKSGIVING DAY -- NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

XRYSILLA'S STEPMOTHER

(wiping the top of a surface with his finger)

This is filthy. Why haven't you dusted it yet?

XRYSILLA

I didn't know it was my job.

XRYSILLA'S STEPMOTHER

Well, now it is. Be quick because we have company coming over.

XRYSILLA

Why don't you ask someone else to do it.

XRYSILLA'S STEPMOTHER
Because they're my kids, and you're not.
(spits on the surface)
Clean that too.

INT. BUJEON CHURCH MALE RESTROOM (OR ALTERNATIVE) - DAY

JO
So where are you living?

XRYSILLA
Brada took me in, and that was fun for a while,
but it's very awkward being that he's already
married. At least it's awkward for me. When I get
back to the States, I think I have enough money
saved up to get my own place.

JO
I thought you said you have plenty of money. I
hate to say it, but this reminds me of when Pence
was homeless. I mean, come on, I'm sure the
former VP had enough money to buy a home.

XRYSILLA
I do have enough money. I just kinda liked
feeling like Brada's live-in partner for a while,
but I'll never be able to marry Brada unless she
got divorced. And, also, it's not that I'm rich;
it's just that I have enough to pay for all that
I need to and have enough left over for wants,
but what I really want is Brada, so I'd been
holding out for a while in the hopes that Brada
would change her mind.

JO
Sounds complicated.

XRYSILLA
It is. That's why we have "It's complicated" as
our Facebook status. I wouldn't recommend our
arrangement.

JO
You're just confirming for me why I'm aro and ace.

XRYSILLA

I'm not really clear on those terms. I'm definitely not an ace.

JO

Well, first off, there's no right way or wrong way to be an aro or ace. Some aros are aces and some aces are aros, but not all. Aro and ace covers more than how much someone is not into romance and sex than which way they lean. Ace is somewhat easier to understand than aro as it relates to how much or how little one wants sex. Some aces are celibate, and some will still masturbate. The best way to explain aro is someone who values friendship more than romance. The opposite of aro is alloromantic. There is also the term queerplatonic, which refers to a relationship that is somewhere in the middle.

XRYSILLA

Interesting.

JO

Some believe aro and ace are on a spectrum, and some believe things like gray aces belong in their own category.

XRYSILLA

What type are you?

JO

I'd rather not say. That's personal, and we don't know each other that well.

Xrysilla leans against the wall, crossing faer arms in silence.

INT. KENTUCKY DERBY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Xrysilla, Brada, and Rafael are watching the Kentucky Derby. Rafael is taking care of a girl and a GNC boy. Xrysilla looks at Rafael with jealousy.

INT. ON THE SIDE BY THE WINDOW - NIGHT

Brada takes out a mini bottle of alcohol and offers it to Xrysilla. Xrysilla declines. Misgendering is intentional.

NEW CONFIGURATION/LAYOUT:

(stalls)

Hair dryer side:
MX.LEE

RAFAEL

Window side:
BRADA

PENNY
JO

JEANETTE
DANIELLE

XRISILLLA

(mirrors)

XRYSILLA

I don't want you to see her anymore.

BRADA

Are you fucking crazy? Rafael is my spouse.

XRYSILLA

Get divorced.

BRADA

But I'm not unhappy with my marriage.

XRYSILLA

But you're with me. Of course, you must be at least subconsciously. You even told me that you love me. Is that not true?

BRADA

That's not how polyamory works. I love, can love, have the right to love both of you. Heck, I could love a third, fourth, or fifth person for that matter. That doesn't mean I'm going to abandon the kids.

RAFAEL

Uh, you know I can hear you, right? What about abandoning me?

BRADA

That too.

RAFAEL

We all have to share this room together. I'd really appreciate it if we can knock off the drama and the misgendering. Unless you want me to knock it off for you.

(rolls up sleeves)

XRYSILLA

I know you prefer natural pussy.

BRADA

Is that what this is about? You know I love your pussy too.

XRYSILLA

It will never be the same. I can't compete.

BRADA

You don't have to compete. There's no competition going on. I love you for you, and that includes your pussy.

XRYSILLA

But you have so many kids. I could never give that to you.

BRADA

I don't need any more kids.

XRYSILLA

And you're okay with your husband dating me? You don't see it as cheating?

RAFAEL

No, why should I? We've talked about it. We're clear on expectations. I don't own her, and she doesn't own me.

XRYSILLA

Then why were you all threatening? Or do you just not like me?

RAFAEL

No, you're a lot better than the last person Brada brought home, but I do take issue with our kids missing a parent, lack of income, and losing a best friend. I don't like drama. I like peace and quiet. I only have so many spoons, and I can't parent well when I've run out of them. Sometimes I need medication to get through, but right now I'm in a foreign country.

XRYSILLA

(talking to self in the mirror)

No drama. Keep it cool.

INT. BUJEON CHURCH MALE RESTROOM (OR ALTERNATIVE) - NIGHT

Danielle gets Spirolactone out of her purse, which she hung on the stall purse hook, the one for the Western toilet.

JO

Oh, it's time for me to take Finasteride.

Jo excitedly bumps Danielle, and both lose their last pill in the clogged toilet. It's clogged because, in Korea, toilet paper goes in the trashcan, not the toilet. Danielle hits the toilet so hard that there's blood that splashes off to the side.

DANIELLE

Fuck! That was my last one. What am I going to do?

JO

Mine too. I haven't even set up a time to get more.

MX. LEE

I'm glad I'm a planner.

DANIELLE

Do you have something?

MX. LEE

No, I'm just saying I'm a planner.

DANIELLE

That's useless. Why do you need T if you don't even have dysphoria?

JEANETTE

I feel like one can still desire to be less cis without having to be intemperate.

RAFAEL

Also, isn't dysphoria consistent with buying into the binary?

JO

Not necessarily. A person can feel dysphoric when the only options given are within the binary.

XRYSILLA

I'm kinda with Danielle here. I don't get it.

(touches the Spirolactone in faer purse
and feels guilty about not offering it)
But, on a happier topic, did you know that bats
tend to be one of the gayest species? Thirty-five
percent of matings of a brown bat are homosexual.
That's why I want to get a rat, which is like a
bat without wings.

BRADA

Xrysilla, you have the most money here. You could
even get a white tiger if you wanted. Why limit
yourself?

XRYSILLA

I've actually looked into it. Did you know they
cost \$5,000!

RAFAEL

Wow! That's more than a third of my annual
salary!

MX. LEE

How were you able to afford this trip? The plane
flight alone is about \$3,000.

BRADA

It helps to have a rich girlfriend.

XRYSILLA

I'm not rich. I'm just middle class.

RAFAEL

To me you're rich.

XRYSILLA

Help me out here.

MX. LEE

Well, we're not in poverty, but we just have
enough assets to hold us through periods of
unemployment.

PENNY

With the pandemic, we had two back-to-back. First
Mx. Lee then me.

XRYSILLA

Ugh, that's rough.

MX. LEE

It's also our industry and location. A lot of companies in our industry are going toward contracting. So, finding benefits is really rare. I was lucky to get health insurance.

PENNY

When I was between jobs, we had one less thing to worry about.

RAFAEL

To me, y'all are rich. If you can get through two periods of unemployment, keep your apartment, and have health insurance that's not Medicaid, y'all are rich.

XRYSILLA

I guess comparatively.

PENNY

I don't know about you all, but I'm ready to go to bed.

Mx. Lee goes over to Penny and is the big spoon. Penny sleeps on Mx. Lee's purse. Brada and Jeanette don't know what to do.

MX. LEE

I'm the big spoon.

PENNY

Okay.

MX. LEE

I wonder why this is called spooning. Why isn't it called forking or chopsticking?

PENNY

If we were chopsticking, we'd have to both be straight, and we're not straight.

MX. LEE

True.

Brada uses a sink to hang her jacket. Xrysilla puts fae's jacket over it.

XRYSILLA

I'll be the big spoon.

BRADA

I was actually gonna...

XRYSILLA

Don't worry, I just meant the jackets. I'd rather fork anyways.

DANIELLE

Actually, could I use your jacket as a blanket?

XRYSILLA

Sure.

BRADA

Actually, that's not a bad idea.

Rafael goes over to Brada and is the big spoon. Brada sleeps on her purse and covers both of them with her jacket. Jeanette sleeps on Danielle's feet with a good view of Jo. Danielle sleeps on her purse. Xrysilla sits Indian style against the wall. Everyone goes to sleep except for Jeanette who stares at Jo while she's sleeping and wants to touch Jo.

INT.-NEXT DAY-DAY

They get up when light filters in the window.

JO

Good morning, J.

JO

Good morning, J.

XRYSILLA

I have an idea.

JO

What's that?

XRYSILLA

I brought a camcorder. We could record this situation.

JO

Why would we want to do that? I don't wish to remember this.

MX. LEE

I like the idea. Take a bad situation and turn it into something positive, like a documentary or art project.

RAFAEL

Or even just as evidence. We could send it to the janitor's manager.

XRYSILLA

I could interview people on the experience in the corner.

Xrysilla pulls out the camcorder and starts pulling people aside to record them in the corner.

Jo gets distracted watching a cockroach.

BRADA

(holding LSD pills)

Well, I'm officially bored, so I think it's time for some of these.

JO

How did you get those here?

BRADA

(winks)

I know someone.

POV:

Everyone takes one. Danielle, Xrysilla, and Jeanette hallucinate about a hall of mirrors facing their crotch area.

XRYSILLA

(feeling depressed)

This isn't as fun as I thought it would be. I think I'm gonna throw up.

DANIELLE

(also feeling depressed)

Same here. This is not what I signed up for. I should never have signed up for this trip.

MX. LEE

Take a deep breath, you two.

RAFAEL

(looking at the camcorder)

Turn it off.

Xrysilla turns it off.

RAFAEL

Now this is evidence of drug use.

JO

Penny, why are you not part of a support group?

PENNY

I'm a lone wolf. I've never been much of a joiner for anything. I spent most of my life alone before I got married.

JO

Penny, I think being part of a support group would do you a world of good.

JO

It doesn't have to be nonbinary. It could be transfeminine. Also, Jeanette, why are you not part of an adoptive parent support group?

JEANETTE

There aren't any in my area.

JO

I think what we've learned from the pandemic is that you can go outside your area.

JEANETTE

No, they're exclusive.

RAFAEL

There aren't any nonbinary groups in my area, and between the kids, my condition, and the lack of a job, we can't afford to both take the time and expense. It's not high on my list of survival needs.

INT. O'HARE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Jeanette is waiting in the airport when a plane lands. A woman gets off holding an Asian baby and places the baby in their arms. Jeanette looks at the baby lovingly.

INT. BUJEON CHURCH MALE RESTROOM (OR ALTERNATIVE) - DAY

MX. LEE

What is your opinion of Harry Styles? He's worn a dress on Vogue and everyone's going ga ga over his pants. The idea behind it is that it's nonbinary-friendly.

DANIELLE

I hate him. Sorry, but I don't think there's anything revolutionary about a cishet man wearing a dress, especially when actual queer Black men have been doing this much longer and don't get the recognition they deserve. Jaden Smith got dogged when he wore skirts and things, but now it's cute.

RAFAEL

We need to be better at accepting feminine and androgynous men regardless of their agab, ethnicity, or sexuality.

DANIELLE

As if the most targeted GNC persons weren't trans women. Um no, I don't have to play along with the excitement of a cishet white man doing whatever he wants when actual GNC/non-binary BIPOC are ridiculed and put on the back of the media hype.

POV:

They hallucinate that they're seeing Matrix-like slow-moving bullets, as a nod to the Wachowski sisters.

PENNY

I desperately hope it becomes more acceptable for a man to wear a skirt publicly.

DANIELLE

Men get the most violence for being GNC? Fuck this entire take to fucking hell. What is this? Some sort of oppressor bootlicking? Transwomen get the most violence of all, transwomen are the most oppressed people in terms of gender oppression. Are you saying transwomen are men? Fuck this.

RAFAEL

As a fellow nonbinary, I just wanna say that some of us don't quite feel like trans is a correct label for us, therefore we don't use it. Some may label themselves cis.

XRYSILLA

Some nonbinary people don't choose to label themselves as trans for a variety of reasons and that's valid and fair, but being cis is completely aligning with one's agab, which is a total antithesis of what it means to be nonbinary.

DANIELLE

A lot of these replies just stench of fucking white middle class liberal bullshit. Like I said, a rich white cis straight man wearing a fucking skirt isn't some sort of revolutionary act, especially when queer Black men get violence for it. Young Thug did this three years ago, Andre 3000 15 years ago. Where are their magazine covers and praise? Fuck all of this. This is whitewashing and pink capitalism at its most obvious and y'all are swallowing it whole.

BRADA

You CANNOT convince me that there are NO people who look at trans women and see men. Transphobia exists, y'know.

The audience hears the sound of a snarling animal.

DANIELLE

(beat)

Are you seriously saying that to a fucking trans woman of color right now? Also, it's transmisogyny, not transphobia that we're talking about. And no, transwomen are not perceived as men, but as transwomen. Hence why we are the most oppressed people of all in terms of gender oppression. You're putting our oppression in the same realm as men who are oppressors. Also, the "transphobia exists, y'know" condescending shit you're saying to an actual transwoman is super gross.

MX. LEE

I think you mean transmissia.

RAFAEL

The article about him was standing up for trans women.

DANIELLE

They were standing up for trans women by calling us men? WTF? By comparing our oppression to men? If they were trying to include transwomen in that, then that's disgusting and transmisogynistic, full stop.

RAFAEL

While I'm technically fine with Harry Styles, I do side eye the timing that this kinda thing is suddenly coming up a lot as it is also a TERF tactic to point out that transwomen are just men in dresses.

DANIELLE

And can we talk about how Harry Styles mocked Candace Owens by showing a pic with a banana in his mouth, therefore mocking all Black people? It seems very racist to me.

MX. LEE

How are bananas connected to Black people? I only hear them in the context of Asian people.

DANIELLE

If you educated yourself, you would know. Bananas indicate behavior of monkeys and Black people historically have been called monkeys and put in zoos.

MX. LEE

Oh, I see.

DANIELLE

This is whitewashing and pink capitalism at its most fucking obvious and some of you are actually swallowing it. Harry Styles is as privileged as Caitlyn Jenner, who made her fame and name as a man well before coming out and clearly thinking that some of her previous white male privilege would follow her in ways it hasn't.

RAFAEL

Why are you even here with nonbinaries if you're so transfeminine that it makes you angry toward all of us? Nonbinary is the most inclusive part of the trans community, and we didn't choose to come on this trip just so we could be excluded among the safest people around.

DANIELLE

Don't you see? I don't fit either side of the binary either. And, by the way, if it's so inclusive then why is it not inclusive of me?

JO

I actually prefer the term trans to nonbinary because some people take nonbinary to mean "man-lite" or "woman-lite".

PENNY

So, can I butt in? I really like Harry Styles speaking out about the shit men get for being feminine—apparently not the rest of the community though. I know it sucks that he isn't a queer person, and I totally get that frustration, or he isn't Black, but it's a start. If it takes a cishet white man to normalize men wearing feminine clothes for queer and Black people to also wear them, then I think we gotta take the time to at least appreciate that?

DANIELLE

Fucking white cis. No one understands me. I'm all alone.

RAFAEL

Everyone thinks that they're misunderstood and alone. Don't you see? We're all your friends.

DANIELLE

No! Don't talk to me like a child. You really don't understand. See, as a Black transwoman I live everyday afraid for my life. Everyday I think, wouldn't it be easier if I just detransition? But then what was it all for? I deal with transmisogynoir every fucking day.

JO

It's true you're at the intersection of dealing with racism, sexism, and transphobia, not to

mention your sexuality, but you can't necessarily say that transmisogynoir makes you the most afraid for your life. I'm a Blasian but the world sees me as Black, and presenting as male is also the scariest thing, particularly when there are po po present. I don't care if they're white, Asian, or Black. They're all po po, and they're all racist as shit. About a third of all transpeople experience three times more police violence and half of all Black transgender people have been incarcerated at some point, sometimes for "disorderly conduct." Just because we look different.

DANIELLE

I wouldn't worry about it so much because, no offense, you don't even pass. Black transwomen get arrested for being involved in sex work even if we're not associated with that industry. I'm not allowed to have safe HIV-free sex because I'm not allowed to carry a condom. This applies both before and after incarceration. People tell me all the time that it's just a choice. God, if it's just a choice, then why would I fucking choose it if choosing it can kill and get me to collect all these unpleasant experiences? By the way, Jo, it's great that you're aiming for solidarity with me as you're the one who's closest to understanding me, but you must also remember that your heritage is of someone without a long history of American slavery, so you still can't really understand what it's like to have that in your DNA.

JO

There was still slavery on the islands. It's actually a myth that slavery in Trinidad was more "benevolent" than elsewhere in the Caribbean. However, there was a smaller percentage of Black people who were enslaved, none of the plantations were large sugar plantations, and slavery only lasted for 50 years.

DANIELLE

I made my point.

PENNY

Yes, and you're right. I am privileged, not only because I'm white, but because I'm a crossdresser.

And because I'm a crossdresser, I know that the stats for staying married are higher because I was upfront with my spouse about who I am from the get-go. I understand that you would have been too, but were concerned not just with self-preservation, but with survival, and I understand that, but you can't lump me in with someone who's rich and can wear dresses on Vogue but doesn't dress that way all the time. And if, God forbid, anything were to happen to my marriage, I'd continue to do it because guess what. That's who I am. But on the flip side, I realize that I have a lot more emotional support that you do, and I want you to realize that we can be your emotional support if you'd let us. Are you okay? This isn't like you.

DANIELLE

I just haven't been feeling good during this whole trip. Sorry. I'm just out of sorts.

(pointing to a rat)

Omigod! What's that?

The rat looks distorted, larger, and scarier due to LSD. Jo runs on top of a toilet seat. The toilet seat breaks under the weight and Jo's foot falls through.

INT. BUJEON CHURCH MALE RESTROOM (OR ALTERNATIVE)- DAY
The CLOCK says 7AM. Jo is using the hand dryer to dry off.

RAFAEL

Everyone's so serious right now. Anyone wanna hear a joke? Maybe it'll make Danielle feel better.

BRADA

How do you scare a nonbinary person? 01100010

PENNY

That wouldn't work for Python or a quantum computer. I hate binary. Every single bit of it.

RAFAEL

Why was the nonbinary feminist president assassinated? Xenu too much.

BRADA

Everyone welcomes the new transfer student. An evergreen says, "Hello my pronouns are tree/trim."

RAFAEL

What do you call a nonbinary person at a beauty pageant? Miss Ellaneous.

DANIELLE

Okay, I've got one. I'm a trans lesbian, so if I dated Jeanette, who's bi, does that make us a BLT?

BRADA

Orchiectomy really takes balls.

JO

Haha! Their their, I'm glad you got that off your chest, m'theydy.

(laughs)

Oops! I think my dick just fell off.

MX. LEE

Mm..yummy dick.

PENNY

Eep!

Mx. Lee starts chasing Penny around.

BRADA

Get a room y'all.

MX. LEE

(after laughter has run out)

Okay, but if we're going the joke route, wanna hear a riddle?

BRADA

Why not?

MX. LEE

There's a guy in a room with no windows or doors and just a mirror and a table. How does he escape?

Everyone shrugs or blinks.

MX. LEE

He looks at the mirror. He saw what he saw. He takes the saw and cuts the table in half. A half and a half makes a whole, and he jumps through the hole.

BRADA

What?

MX. LEE

So, Jeanette, I was wondering why you keep the beard.

JEANETTE

I like the way it looks, and I'm kinda more into the Alok V. Menon aesthetic anyways.

MX. LEE

But don't you worry about being misgendered? Aren't you taking hormones that will increase your breasts?

JEANETTE

I'm used to being misgendered at this point. I get excluded a lot in my female-dominated workplace. Why do you feel like you have to ask? And, yes, I'm taking hormones.

MX. LEE

I was just thinking about how nonbinary folx mix and match or pick and choose rather than going whole hog when they transition. Like how someone could decide to have a beard and boobs or both gendered sexual parts.

JEANETTE

Granted, even binary trans folx can pick and choose too.

JO

I'm just going to get a breast reduction and that's it.

INT. AWAY FROM THE DOOR- DAY
The CLOCK says 8AM.

PENNY

I have a weird question that's sexual in nature.

XRYSILLA

Shoot. I'm the sex expert here.

PENNY

So even though I'm happily married, I'm questioning and wondered how I could know for sure. Mx. Lee said e's okay with whatever I do.

XRYSILLA

I can tell you from experience that love triangles are no fun for the unmarried third wheel.

PENNY

Oh, I don't want a relationship; I just want sex.

XRYSILLA

Well, in that case... ever heard of a munch?

PENNY

No, what's that.

XRYSILLA

It's kinda like a meet and greet, but more BDSM.

PENNY

Oh, I don't like BDSM. My dad physically abused me.

XRYSILLA

Oh, BDSM is just the umbrella. Not everything is painful. There's puppy play, rope work, tickling. There's a munch for everything and anything.

PENNY

What's puppy play?

XRYSILLA

That's where people, mostly amabs but not always, pretend to be dogs. There's a whole subculture and flag. But when is there not a flag, amirite?

PENNY

Puppy play is not for me, but I do like tickling.

XRYSILLA

There's one coming up next month. I could text the deets.

PENNY

Sure.

Penny grows a tent on his bottom half and gets embarrassed. Mx. Lee laughs.

INT. NEAR THE DOOR- DAY

The CLOCK says 9AM. Jeanette and Brada silently work on picking the lock with a bobby pin or credit card.

JEANETTE

It's been a while since I picked a lock. Last time I did it, I was a kid.

Brada hovers over Jeanette.

JEANETTE

Nope.

BRADA

How about the fucking vent?

JEANETTE

Who here is the smallest?

The smallest actor/actress stands on the largest actor/actress to try to get out of the vent. The vent is too small and the smallest actor/actress loses balance.

BRADA

How about the fucking window?

JEANETTE

No one's small enough to go out the window.

BRADA

How about using something like a hanger?

JEANETTE

No one has a hanger here.

BRADA

Good alliteration.

JEANETTE

Thanks, but I'm curious. What do you think we could use that's long enough?

BRADA

We could tie bras together.

JEANETTE

We could try it.

BRADA

Hey everyone, can we borrow your bras?

DANIELLE

Like I don't have enough dysphoria...

JO

Yeah, that's how I feel. At least Brada's not asking for my boyshorts. It's shark week.

XRYSILLA

And under the daystar.

BRADA

Short-term pain for long-term gain.

JO

(winces)

Please don't say that.

BRADA

What? Once we get free, you'll have euphoria.

JO

I'm asking for an exemption or waiver.

BRADA

(gestures for the bra)

Don't you want to be a team player?

JO

Okay, fine! But put mine at the end closest to you so I get mine back first.

Everyone who hands over a bra covers their chest area except for Penny and Jeanette. Even Brada and Jo try to cover up by wearing their jackets backwards. Jeanette and Brada tie bras

together with Jeanette's bra saying "HELP!" in Jeanette's lipstick, and they put it out through the window.

JEANETTE

Well, we can get the bras out, but there's no one who can see it.

Jeanette and Brada lean their backs against the door in defeat.

JO

(hyperventilating from claustrophobia)
Omigod omigod omigod!

DANIELLE

(hyperventilating by proxy)
What if we never escape?

JO

(crying)
This feels just like being back in the orphanage. Why did my parents abandon me? Why did they leave me with those people?

Jo reaches out for the bra "rope" because it is feeling suicidal. Jeanette stops it.

JEANETTE

Shh! Calm down. Take four deep breaths. You too.

Danielle takes deep breaths. Jeanette and Brada untie all the bras and return them.

JO

(trying to take deep breaths)
I have so many restrictions on how I can live my life. I can't live near schools or parks. It's hard for me to get a job. I keep being evicted. I have to report where I am even if I'm homeless.

JEANETTE

Wait. Are you on the offender registry?

JO

Yes, I'm on there for indecent exposure because I'm a boy, but I have these lumps, and people take it the wrong way. Can I ask you a question? Am I a bad person?

JEANETTE

No, you're not a bad person.

JO

I feel like I'm a bad person.

JEANETTE

No, you're not.

JO

My parents could never accept me. They couldn't accept me then, and I doubt they could accept me now.

JEANETTE

Blood doesn't mean much. You're much better off with a created family.

JO

I don't deserve love.

JEANETTE

That's not true. You're definitely worthy of love. I love you. And I will protect you.

INT. DANIELLE'S APARTMENT - DAY

SUPER:

PREVIOUSLY

Danielle is having fun being flamboyant with a feather boa while spinning in circles. Jeanette and Jo are on Zoom.

JEANETTE

How's everything with Brada?

XRYSILLA (ON ZOOM)

I don't know. Ask her spouse.

JEANETTE

(looking at Jo)

Sounds complicated, but maybe that will change.

DANIELLE

Hear ye! Hear ye! Welcome to the official planning meeting for National Nonbinary, or Nenby

for short, where we are planning a deliciously
delightful, exciting and eccentric trip to..
(looks at her notes)
Korea!

We see a TEXT MESSAGE typing onscreen from JO:
"Is Danielle alright?"

Jeanette texts:
"Just Danielle being Danielle."

XRYSILLA (ON ZOOM)
You're frozen on my end. Where are we going
again?

DANIELLE
(mimicking the Verizon
commercial)
Can you hear me now? Can you hear me now?

XRYSILLA
You're back now.

DANIELLE
(spreading her arms)
Get ready for it. We're going to South Korea!

Danielle's hands knock a bottle of water onto the floor.

DANIELLE
Eh, it's just water.

XRYSILLA
Cool, I'll let my peeps know. And when I mean
peeps, I mean Brada who will probably bring
Rafael. And I have to pay for the whole thing.

DANIELLE
(not listening)
Get ready to get the cutest socks known to man!

JEANETTE
That's Okinawa. Maybe you mean Hello Kitty?

DANIELLE
Yeah, sure.

INT. KOBUS EXPRESS BUS DEPARTING FROM GYEONGBU BUS TERMINAL,
FALL OR SPRING - DAY, TRAVELING

A nonbinary support group is on their last bus tour to Busan.

KOBUS LAYOUT:

(front of bus)

BRADA	MATTHEW/PENNY	EMPTY
XRYSILLA	EMPTY	EMPTY
JO	JEANETTE	DANIELLE
MX. LEE	RAFAEL	EMPTY

(back of bus)

ALTERNATE MINIBUS LAYOUT WITH 8 SEATS:

(front of bus)

BRADA	MATTHEW/PENNY
XRYSILLA	JEANETTE
JO	DANIELLE
MX. LEE	RAFAEL

(back of bus)

INT. KOREAN TOUR BUS MID-WAY BETWEEN SEOUL AND BUSAN - DAY,
TRAVELING

Camera moves up to the front of the bus. Penny's sitting
across from Brada who's driving.

BRADA

(on the bus speaker system)

Okay, everyone! We are halfway between Seoul and
Busan. Despite the fact that we all came here
through an organized Korean-American queer trip
to Korea, and even though they suggested we go to
Itaewon, of course we have a couple of rebels on
board, namely me, and we all decided to brave cis
country, because I'm the bus driver.

KOREAN EXTRAS driving cars all stare at Brada creepily. Then
they all point at Brada because her shoulders are exposed.

KOREAN EXTRAS (VARIOUS/OPTIONAL)

(gasping)

look at that!/shocking!/oh my goodness!

MX. LEE

Brada, I think they're pointing at your shoulders. Koreans don't expose their shoulders; it's like exposing your ankles in the early 1900s.

BRADA

How would you know? You're Vietnamese.

MX. LEE

I'm in an adoptee support group with Korean adoptees and someone told me before we went on this trip not to pack anything that doesn't cover the shoulders.

BRADA

(deliberately exposes more shoulders but puts on a jacket at an appropriate stop)
Whatever. Hey, Penny.

PENNY

(looks up from a game on a tablet)
What?

BRADA

(to Penny)
Since you still present as your agab at times, would you mind filling up the gas and tires?

MX. LEE

If you're gonna ask her, then we'll be here until next year, and I can't afford that.

PENNY

(rolls eyes)

JO

If good things come to those who wait, then procrastination is a virtue. There are no limits to what you can accomplish when you are supposed to be doing something else.

MX. LEE

Klingons do not procrastinate. It's a tactical delay.

JO

(high fives Penny)
Procrastinators rule!

MX. LEE
Oh no! We have another one.

BRADA
Eh, you can change here; no one really cares. You can call me Brada. It's like Jada with a Brr!

Penny changes into a suit.

XRYSILLA
Oh, give us a strip show.

MATTHEW
(laughs)

XRYSILLA
Nice pouch panties! Rawr!

MATTHEW
(laughs)
Thanks.

Brada stops the bus and everyone gets off.

CUT TO:

Penny fills up the gas and the tires and parks it.

MATTHEW
I filled it up and re-parked it.

BRADA
Cool. You can be the backup driver.

Brada has an urge for a smoke, but she accidentally drops a lit cigarette on the ground where there's some gasoline.

BRADA
Shit! Run!

They all run from the explosion. They will have to move to the subway system because the bus is damaged. Korean police sirens are heard.

KOREAN POLICE (TO DANIELLE)
Stop thief! Hands up!

DANIELLE

Oh god oh god oh god!

KOREAN POLICE (TO DANIELLE)
Get down!

DANIELLE
(crying)
I don't speak Korean!

MX. LEE
She doesn't speak Korean.

MATTHEW
Officers, is there a problem?

MX. LEE
He's a lawyer.

The Korean police talk to each other and point at Penny. They decide to leave.

DANIELLE
I knew I'd probably die at the hands of police,
but I thought it would at least be in America.
You just go around with a change of clothes?

MATTHEW
I came prepared. You never know when you'll need
it.

DANIELLE
What did you say back there?

MX. LEE
I said he's a lawyer.

EXT. AWAY FROM THE GAS STATION - DAY, WALKING

MATTHEW
Pst...you're going the wrong way.

BRADA
Dammit! Do you know how hard it is to navigate
around here?

MATTHEW
Wait. I gotta change.

Matthew starts changing behind a bush but loses balance.
Matthew struggles to change because there's a snake in the bush.

EXT. AWAY FROM THE GAS STATION - DAY, STANDING

Everyone is waiting.

MATTHEW
(disheveled)
I'm back.

EXT. KOREAN SUBWAY BETWEEN SEOUL AND BUSAN - DAY

MX. LEE
(whispering)
So, what's everyone's sign?

RAFAEL
(joking)
Here's your sign.

MX. LEE
(whispering and ignoring Rafael)
I'm a Libra according to Kabbalah astrology.

RAFAEL
Oo, fancy. Why are you whispering?

MX. LEE
(whispering)
It's rude to talk on the subway in Korea.

JO
I'm Pisces, and BTW it's gonna take a while to get to our destination, and I'll get bored if we can't talk that whole way.

MX. LEE
Uh, okay. I heard Pisces never let people go if they're romantically interested in them. I have a Piscean ex who's a harmless stalker and still emails me once a year to this day. Trumper too. Maybe I should just tell him I'm nonbinary, so he loses interest.

JO
I wouldn't know. I'm aromantic.

MX. LEE
Pisces are also known as martyrs.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY (FLASHBACK)

TITLE CARD: 2020

JO
Wear your mask.

JO's MOTHER
What good did it do for your dad?

JO
Dad had underlying conditions.

JO's MOTHER
I have underlying conditions too. I wish I could just be with your father.

JO
Don't say that. It's an awful way to die.

JO's MOTHER
Short-term pain for long-term gain.

INT. KOREAN SUBWAY BETWEEN SEOUL AND BUSAN - DAY, TRAVELING

XRYSILLA
I'm ruled by the moon because I'm a Cancer.

RAFAEL
I don't believe in astrology.

MX. LEE
Why not? When's your birthday?

RAFAEL
I don't have one.

MX. LEE
What do you mean you don't have one? Everyone has one.

RAFAEL

I don't have my real one. My adoption agency made a date up. I don't even know how old I really am.

MX. LEE

Oh, I get you, and I'm sorry. I could have done birth time rectification, meaning I could have helped you identify your birth time, but I still would have needed your birth date.

RAFAEL

You're adopted too. How did you find out your birth time?

MX. LEE

Someone told me and was absolutely convinced, so I looked it up, and it checked out. The thing about ascendant is that it's related to appearance and how you present yourself, so people who are trained to see it can see it easily, but there's more involved to get to a precise time. Astrologers see round numbers as circumspect. I love astrology. I just want to ask my birthfamily for their birthdates so I can know what they're like, feel connected, and not need to upend their life.

PENNY

Getting back to the topic, I'm Aquarius.

BRADA

Hey, me too! I'd expect a nonbinary group to have at least a couple. I mean, come on, we're the fucking weirdos of the zodiac, amirite?

PENNY

We're chaos.

RAFAEL

What? Are you guys Discordian? Do you pray to Eris?

INT. KOREAN SUBWAY (CONT'D) - DAY, TRAVELING

JO

I love this place so much I'm thinking that maybe I should move here.

MX. LEE

You'll need a job.

JO

Great idea! Is anyone here hiring?

TIMERA

My name is Timera, and I moved here to be with my husband. I'm looking for a receptionist for a nail salon that caters to Americans. I can interview you right here. Right now.

JO

Wonder...

TIMERA

Hm, do you have any dresses?

JO

No, I'm a man.

TIMERA

Excuse me?

JO

And my pronouns are it/its.

TIMERA

I don't understand. I'm asking you if you can be presentable, but I'm getting that you can't deal with customers.

JO

I am presentable and I've been in customer service!

RAFAEL

(grabbing Jo by its shoulders)

Changing topics, I have an interesting job. I was studying for cosmetology.

DANIELLE

That sounds more like a transwoman occupation.

RAFAEL

Well, I buck expectations. Actually, I met Mx. Lee when we were both commercial models.

MX. LEE
I quit when I got asymmetrical eyelids, and now I don't have to shave anymore.

XRYSILLA
Modeling is common in the Goth community.

DANIELLE
Interesting.

EXT. FIELD -- DAY (FLASHBACK)

Rafael and Mx. Lee are at a modeling shoot. Both are female presenting. Rafael has a cosmetology kit.

PHOTOGRAPHER
Break! Drink some water. Go to the restroom. Freshen up. We'll start up in 15 minutes.

MX. LEE
Whatcha reading?

RAFAEL
One of Us: The Story of a Massacre in Norway - And Its Aftermath.

MX. LEE
Uh...

RAFAEL
Kinda creepy? Yeah, I'm weird like that. What's your name?

MX. LEE
(handshake)
I'm Leah.

RAFAEL
I'm Rafaela.

INT. KOREAN TOUR BUS MID-WAY BETWEEN SEOUL AND BUSAN - DAY,
TRAVELING

PENNY
(after a lull in conversation)
Jo, do you like my rainbow ensemble?

JO
It's rainbow? I thought it was just striped.

PENNY
(looks down)
What? No, it's clearly rainbow.

JO
I can't tell. I'm colorblind.

PENNY
Oh. I'm dyslexic. We both have issues with how our brain processes input from our eyes.

DANIELLE
My son has a challenge with how he processes everything. He's autistic. Everyone in my family is a little different. My sister has OCPD with scrupulosity.

MX. LEE
What?

DANIELLE
OCPD stands for obsessive compulsive personality disorder. It's different from OCD in that OCD is more "what if?" and "OCPD" is more about "should's."

MX. LEE
I've never heard of that.

DANIELLE
It's relatively new. Like late 80s, early 90s.

RAFAEL
And what's scrup-you...

DANIELLE
Scrupulosity is like super, super religious. It concerns itself with sins.

RAFAEL
Ugh.

DANIELLE

I know. The ironic thing is that in the 19th century, some in the church believed that scrupulosity in itself was a sin.

RAFAEL

Sounds like karma.

DANIELLE

But anyways, I also have panic disorder.

RAFAEL

No wonder. You're probably panicking about burning in hell because of your sister.

INT. SUNDAY SERVICE AT A BAPTIST CHURCH - DAY (FLASHBACK)

The church service has already started. DANIELLE'S SISTER and Danielle whisper back and forth.

DANIELLE'S SISTER

Late again, sis?

DANIELLE

You're the cis.

DANIELLE'S SISTER

That's right; I'm your older sis, and that's why I have to look out for you.

DANIELLE

I never asked you to.

DANIELLE'S SISTER

It's my duty as your older sister. You'd think that being in the Air Force would have made you more punctual.

DANIELLE

It's because I'm not in the Air Force that I don't have to be anymore. I don't have to be perfect.

DANIELLE'S SISTER

Being late is like breaking an unspoken promise that you'll be on time, which affects my day and everyone else's. It's disrespectful.

DANIELLE

I think it's disrespectful that you're all up in my business or that you're talking during the service.

DANIELLE'S SISTER

No, it's about integrity and accountability. We should always strive to be the best we can be. Anyways, I'm done here.

DANIELLE

Then I'll be the best procrastinator.

DANIELLE'S SISTER

(rolls eyes)

That doesn't serve you any good whatsoever.

DANIELLE

Maybe it does, and you just don't see it because of your tunnel vision.

INT. KOREAN TOUR BUS MID-WAY BETWEEN SEOUL AND BUSAN - DAY,
TRAVELING

We see a TEXT MESSAGE typing onscreen from DANIELLE'S SISTER:
"When are you coming home?"

DANIELLE

Speak of the devil. It's my sister.

RAFAEL

Or more like the devil who thinks she's an angel.

Danielle texts:

"Anything wrong?"

Danielle's sister texts:

"Your son is feeling anxious..."

Danielle texts:

"Stay calm. Reduce noise. Give him his teddy bear. Don't try to hug him."

RAFAEL

What about the rest of your family?

DANIELLE

My ex-wife is Hmong. I met her in Minnesota. However, she had an anger management issue, and I

just wanted to run away from it. My daughter doesn't have any mental issues or anything, but she's embarrassed of me. Says that my coming out was abusive or something.

RAFAEL

Ugh. Would you like to borrow my family for a day? I could send them over for a weekend.

MX. LEE

That seems kinda insensitive to adoptees.

RAFAEL

I can say it because I am one. My parents were Indian, but I'm not. I just have darker skin than porcelain. Brada and I also have a son and a daughter, like you, Danielle. Our son is GNC.

DANIELLE

That's cool.

BRADA

Would that make you guys *Transparent*?

RAFAEL

Huh?

BRADA

Get it? You're both trans parents?

RAFAEL

Well, GNC is not actually trans, but our son uses ze/zir pronouns.

BRADA

I just wanted to tell the joke.

RAFAEL

What about your family, Jo?

JO

Oh, my dad died of COVID right after I had my first talk with him about race.

DANIELLE

Seriously? You waited that long?

MX. LEE

It's actually not that uncommon among adoptees,
since most of our parents are white.

Danielle shudders.

MX. LEE

It's not even that uncommon for biracial or
mixed-race kids when they're raised by their
white parent.

DANIELLE

Kinda makes me think differently about Obama.

JO

Well, I'm taking care of my mom now.

RAFAEL

Just make sure to take care of yourself.

MX. LEE

I second that. A lot of adoptees tend to be
raised to be codependent because we're always
having to take care of our parents' feelings.

JO

Yeah, it sucks. It's part of why I'm not
interested in a romantic relationship.

EXT. BETWEEN THE BUS AND BUJEON CHURCH ON A SUNDAY MORNING -
DAY

CUE MONTAGE:

BRADA

You do know that Jo is asexual, right?

JEANETTE

There are gray aces too. Jo could be a gray ace.

The tour bus stops so they can all take a restroom break
before sightseeing.

BRADA

Okay, y'all. This is the last bathroom break
we'll have before we sightsee. Make good use of
it.

INT. BUJEON CHURCH (OR ALTERNATE) - DAY

The female bathroom is out of order. They wait at the end of a long line of Korean extras for about an hour.

BATHROOM LINE ORDER:

KOREAN EXTRAS

DANIELLE

BRADA

XRYSILLA

JEANETTE

JO

PENNY

MX. LEE

RAFAEL

JEANETTE

So, what do you know about your adoption?

MX. LEE

I have three half-siblings, five aunts, and an uncle on my birthmother's side but I don't know any of their names.

JO

I found out that my birthdad divorced my birthmom because he was angry that she did better in her career and made more money. That's why she was single when I was born.

MX. LEE

I was a product of an affair, so my birthmom's husband divorced her when she had me.

JEANETTE

You were raised in an American orphanage, so that means you had citizenship, right?

JO

Actually, no, but they were good at keeping my secret.

JEANETTE

But you got it later, right?

JO

No because my adoptive parents were under the impression that I already had it.

JEANETTE

How were you able to get a passport?

MX. LEE

I know someone.

INT. LATER - DAY

JEANETTE

Why did you choose your pronoun?

JO

I have a minor in Russian, and in Russian it makes more sense for common nonbinary usage than they/them because they/them is an honorific.

MX. LEE

I've already been writing that way since I was a teenager, so I know it can be done and is easy to do. Because it sounds like my last name if you correctly pronounced it in Korean. It's also like she/he without the "sh" and "h" sounds. Also, I'm a fan of e.e. cummings.

BRADA

My daughter was telling an intake worker, "Daddy goes by she/her pronouns and my brother goes by ze/zir pronouns and my cousin goes by xe/xir pronouns and then I'm cis so I go by she."

XRYSILLA

I never related to they/them. Whenever I thought of the term I thought of my niece and nephew. Even though I don't know them well, my niece and nephew are they because there are two of them. Or I would think of us vs. them. I picked fae/faer because it was a common alternative.

JEANETTE

Have you come out yet?

MX. LEE

I haven't.

JO

My degree of outness is find me a bigot to fight.

MX. LEE

Let's talk about sex.

JO

What about it?

MX. LEE

Well, like isn't it difficult navigating sexuality? Like someone who's transfeminine can relate as hetero or lesbian and still date women.

JEANETTE

The issue is that sexuality is tied to gender identity.

MX. LEE

Even the term transbian is tied to lesbianism. Would the other gender equivalent be tray?

RAFAEL

No, never heard that term.

MX. LEE

I might be a hesbian - a him/her lesbian.

RAFAEL

But you use a neopronoun, you're married to an amab, and you dated a lot of men.

JEANETTE

Are you GNC?

MX. LEE

Maybe. I don't know. I relate to the idea of a hesbian but I know it's controversial and don't want to minimize anyone's experiences. I have a friend who says that some people are thinking of butches as trans-lite.

INT. BUJEON CHURCH MALE RESTROOM (OR ALTERNATIVE) - DAY

The audience sees a Korean Christian male bathroom with two squat toilets in the ground, one with no door and the other with a transparent stall and sign in Korean; one regular Western toilet with symbols; no toilet paper; and crosses on

the wall. It has a tiny window but not big enough for a human. Every inch of the restroom is filthy, which contrasts with the clean exterior of the building.

DANIELLE

What is with this restroom? How are we supposed to use the toilet?

BRADA

What are you talking about? Oh, hell no! You've got to be fucking kidding me.

XRYSILLA

What does this say?

JEANETTE

Where are the doors?

MX. LEE

Ew! Grody.

JO

Where's the TP? Are we still in a pandemic?

MX. LEE

Fortunately, I have packs of tissues.

DANIELLE

(grabs two tissues)

Thank Goddess!

MX. LEE

Not too much! We need to ration.

Everyone prefers using the regular Western toilet.

JEANETTE

(looks out the tiny window)

Uh oh, looks like we're having an eclipse.

MX. LEE

Uh oh!

RAFAEL

What's so bad? Eclipses are pretty!

XRYSILLA

I like full moons, but what a doozy!

DANIELLE

(first one to leave a stall)

I'm gonna stay in the room. Can you all stay when you're done? Y'know, look out for each other?

Brada takes her mini flashlight out of her purse and uses it to illuminate her chin.

BRADA

Sure, it's a big bad world out there.
(everyone nods)

INT. BUJEON CHURCH MALE RESTROOM (OR ALTERNATIVE)-DAY

SUPER:

10AM

RAFAEL

My stomach hurts.

DANIELLE

Mine too.

MX. LEE

It's like we ate something bad, but there's nothing on my stomach.

Brada opens up a paper map of Korea. All three puke at the same time before they can get to a stall, and some gets on the map. Brada holds up the map by a corner looking disgusted and starts to clean up the mess, trying not to puke herself.

MX. LEE

It probably doesn't help that this place reeks.

PENNY

I got kinda used to the smell, being in here for so long.

MX. LEE

Not me.

RAFAEL

Me either.

Jo sits in the corner hallucinating that she sees Trump and swatting at the air.

JO

Ugh, I feel like my pussy is trying to kill me. And the drugs don't make the pain go away.

JEANETTE

Do you have an appointment to see a doctor?

JO

(moans in pain)

I have an appointment for a hysterectomy when I get back to the states, but it can't come soon enough.

JEANETTE

Do you need anything?

JO

Do you have any pain killers?

JEANETTE

No, unfortunately.

JO

(looks down)

It just makes it worse that I still have these lumps. I keep saving for surgery, but something always seems to come up.

Rafael throws up once. Danielle and Mx. Lee alternate throwing up in the squat toilets and having diarrhea. Mx. Lee throws up five times and has diarrhea three times. Danielle throws up three times and has diarrhea once. Jeanette has constipation three times. Jeanette makes constipation noises, and Penny hands her his thermos.

PENNY

Once you're finished with the coffee, you can fill it up at the sink with tap water. Sorry, it's cold. If it's any consolation, you remind me of the Jenny McCarthy ad where she was sitting on the toilet.

MX. LEE

Do you trust the tap water?

JEANETTE

Do I have a choice?

PENNY

Looking on the bright side, with constipation, you don't even need to worry about which hole in the ground you'll use since nothing's coming out.

MX. LEE

How can you be talking with all this stench?

PENNY

You are.

MX. LEE

(holding nose)

If we don't get out of here soon, I'm afraid that someone could be in serious trouble. Does anyone have a first aid kit?

BRADA

What do you expect to find in a first aid kit that will help with this?

MX. LEE

I don't know, but I have to do something.

JO

I have a first aid kit.

The only thing in the first aid kit is a bunch of band-aids. Brada has an "I told you so" look on her face.

INT. BUJEON CHURCH (OR ALTERNATE) ON A MONDAY AT 11AM - DAY

Someone who has a key hears all the groans and unlocks the door. Seeing their condition, he dials 119 (Korean equivalent to 911).

CUE MONTAGE:

EXT.-AMBULANCE-DAY

Rafael, Danielle, and Mx. Lee are taken to Seoul National University Hospital by Hyehwa Station (Line 4, exit 3) or Inje University Haeundae Paik Hospital. Brada gets into the ambulance with Rafael. Penny gets into the ambulance with Mx.

Lee. Jo and Jeanette get into the ambulance with Danielle.
Jeanette is reluctant to go because they don't have insurance.

CUE MONTAGE:

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

The CLOCK says 2PM. Nurse comes in with all their
identification cards in front of her on the counter. No one in
Korean hospitals wear gloves.

NURSE

Please fill these forms out. I will come to
collect them later.

Everyone fills in the box for female except for Jo who
scratches out the question.

NURSE

Rafaela, well, dear, it looks like you're
pregnant. As for you, Leah, you had dehydration.
Eugenio, your situation will go away with an
improved diet. Danielle, I think you were having
side effects from Spironolactone. I hope this
doesn't ruin everyone's vacation to Korea. Please
do come back.

DANIELLE

I don't want to come back to a hospital.

NURSE

I meant to Korea.

RAFAEL

I really should get my tubes tied after this.
It's ironic that I end up in a hospital because
my name means "God has healed." But I'm an
atheist, so maybe this is my punishment.

NURSE

It's not a punishment; it's a pregnancy!

MX. LEE

I'm pretty bad about drinking water, and I don't
drink much because I try to avoid using public
restrooms.

DANIELLE

I know someone who's in medical school, but she's experienced a lot of classism.

NURSE

(walking out the door)

Yeah, that does happen unfortunately.

MX. LEE

Hey, how come the nurse didn't use your deadname?

DANIELLE

I'm legal. I changed my name recently to Danielle Prathyusha Ngozi.

MX. LEE

Why an African last name? You weren't born in Africa.

DANIELLE

I used African Ancestry to analyze my DNA and estimate what part of Africa I'm from. My DNA comes from Nigeria. And Chimamanda is my favorite Nigerian author.

MX. LEE

Prathyusha sounds Indian.

DANIELLE

(shrugs)

I like the name.

MX. LEE

You do you, boo. Man, I can't wait to get home. I don't have a ton of money left for this trip.

RAFAEL

Speaking of, I have Medicaid. Can you use it overseas?

NURSE

I'm sure we can find a way!

INT. JO'S APARTMENT IN AMERICA -DAY

Jo opens an envelope and expresses shock.

JO (INTO PHONE)

Jeanette, you'll never believe it. My birthfather found me. I have his letter in my hands.

JEANETTE (INTO PHONE)
Wow! That's big!

JO (INTO PHONE)
Yeah, but I don't know how I feel about it. I'm afraid he won't accept me.

FADE OUT:

END CREDITS:

CUT TO BLACK

