

GARTH

Behind me, this big man comes up to me and he says in this low voice...

MUHUMUZA

Wewe watuchukuwa wapi?

GARTH

What?

At the Academy, BEULAH and ANNETTE address everyone.

BEULAH

Ladies and gentlemen, we need some help translating. If anyone speaks Mandarin, can you come to the library? And if anyone speaks Hindi, could you please come to the cafeteria? And if anyone speaks Newfoundlander, well lard tunder'n jaysus god bless ya, b'y.

ANNETTE

We've got passengers from all over the world coming off these busses, all speaking different languages. We can't even say "hello."

BEULAH

And if anyone knows — we think it's...

ANNETTE

Moldovan.

BEULAH

Moldovan — that would also be helpful.

ANNETTE

Other passengers help us translate. Mrs. Noonan, our French teacher, turns out to know a little Russian. And Mr. Michaels, our gym teacher, apparently he speaks Spanish.

#6a — Mr. Michaels

MR. MICHAELS stands, holding a shaker and dressed as a fantasy Latin lover. HE moves to Annette.

MR. MICHAELS (ACTOR 7)

Si, hablo. Español es la lengua del amor. No sólo soy un profesor de gimnasia, soy un profesor de pasión.

HE exits with a flourish.

ANNETTE

I'm sorry, what was I saying?

MALE TOWNSPERSON

The wife's got the kettle on, if you want a cuppa.

BOB

I get offered a cup a tea in every single backyard – and most of them offer to help me steal their own barbecues. We bring them all over to the community center – no names on them. I don't know how they ever get 'em back. But that's how we have a big cookout – completely free. After that I stop worrying so much about my wallet.

JANICE

8:45 am.

ALL

Thursday.

JANICE

September 13th. We've got a... situation down at Gander Academy.

At the Academy, BEULAH and ANNETTE address everyone.

BEULAH

Ladies and Gentlemen. We have an indelicate request. We need volunteers to help clean the bathrooms. As you can imagine, with 700 adults in a primary school... Health Canada needs us to clean them every hour and a half and we just don't have the people. So, we're asking for your help.

A pause as EVERYONE looks away.

ANNETTE

But no one volunteers.

BEULAH

No one comes. And we're run off our feet with everything else. And then—

#7e – Cardiologists

ANNETTE

Sweet Jesus in the garden.

This line of men comes walking down the hall.

Six men in doctor coats walk towards her in a slow motion burlesque. ANNETTE's jaw drops.

The top six cardiologists from all over the world. On their way to a conference. Highly qualified cardiologists.

And they know about the importance of cleanliness.

Scene 21**BEVERLEY**

I don't leave the hotel. I wait by the phone. Wait for someone to tell me we can fly again. Planes aren't made to just sit on the tarmac—planes are made to be in constant motion. They arrive, you switch crew, you switch passengers, you empty the honey buckets, and then the plane keeps going. When they sit still for too long, well, it's not good for 'em. They start to break down.

#7b – *It's Sure a Nice View*

DIANE

Our pilot says we're not leaving anytime soon, and Nick says...

NICK

I might get a picture or two before we go.

KEVIN T

I finally convince Kevin to go for a walk.

KEVIN J

There's four of us to begin with. This Texan woman and this English guy with a disposable camera and a huge stick up his ass.

KEVIN T

They're nice enough...

(pointing at KEVIN)

Kevin and I are a little wary of telling people we're together.

KEVIN J

I mean you just don't know how redneck people can be.

DIANE

(happily)

This nice gay couple come along with us.

NICK

We kind of make small talk. They ask me what I do.

KEVIN J

He works for this oil company in England and she was there visiting with her son.

NICK

Wait... You've got a son?

BOB

We get down to the airport—and it's chaos. Passengers dropped off from multiple flights. Every bag has to be emptied.

OZ

No scissors. No nail clippers. If any bags are unidentified, they'll be blown up.

BOB

Then, someone says there's issues with security.

BEVERLEY steps forward.

BEVERLEY

One of my flight attendants comes to find me. She says...

The FLIGHT ATTENDANT steps forward.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

There's a Muslim man on our flight—

ALI steps forward.

I saw him praying—and he's been acting... suspicious. He doesn't have a carry-on... and...

I'm not getting back on that plane with him.

ALI

I arrive at the airport and am pulled out of line.

BEVERLEY

I am responsible for the safety of my passengers and my crew. And security tells me any perceived threats must be taken extremely seriously.

They bring me to a private room and he is brought in for questioning.

ALI

At first I do not understand what the police are asking. And then I do.

In my culture, there is a word — "awrah" — the area between your stomach and your knees. It is forbidden in my religion for anyone to see this but my wife. To have a woman in the room, watching this. Watching me. You can't understand.

BEVERLEY

It is the most thorough body search I've ever witnessed. And when it's over, I find him and I tell him—I am so very sorry that happened.

ALI

(barely looking at her)

Am I free to go now?

Scene 35

BEVERLEY addresses her passengers.

BEVERLEY

Good morning. We are one of the first flights to leave...

The CROWD responds, relieved.

...which makes us one of the lucky ones as some planes may still be here for quite some time. Now, I have no control over this. You've paid for a flight from Paris to Dallas. If I get clearance, I will take you to Dallas. But if I am not cleared for Dallas, I have to take y'all back to France.

The CROWD starts murmuring.

But we will make arrangements as quickly as we can to get y'all back to the United States where you need to be.

CROWD 5

I can't go back. I just adopted my daughter—we could lose her if we go back to Europe...

CROWD 5	CROWD 10	KEVIN J	KEVIN T	CROWD 12	CROWD 11
I could lose	America is at				
my daughter.	war! I'm not	We've been			
You have to	going back	here four			
take us	to France.	days! How	Hey. Calm		
home!	You said	long are we	down. I'm		
	yourself—	going to be	sure they're		
	we paid for	there? We	doing the best	America just	
	a ticket to	were trapped	they can. If	got attacked—	
	Dallas—	on our plane	she says	what is wrong	
	that's where	forever and	they're going	with you?	There's over
	we should	then we've	to get us	What is wrong	200 of us—
	be taken.	been here for	home, then	with you? This	they'll take us
		days with no	they're going	is an	where the
		information	to get us	International	majority of us
		and now	home.	tragedy!	wants to go.
		you-	Let's not make		I'm serious—
			things any		Hey. Hey!
			harder.		

CROWD 11

Hey! Hey! We can vote on this. We can make them go where we want to go.

CROWD 5

Well, who's for Dallas?

CROWD 11

Fuck that! Who's for Switzerland?!

BEVERLEY

This is not a democracy! I am the captain and this is coming from American Airlines and the FAA. You are not voting on our destination. Now, if we have any situation that needs to be dealt with, we will be pulled out of line and we will be the last flight to leave.

The CROWD is quiet

Thank you for your cooperation.

HANNAH

After hours of waiting, they tell us we're not leaving yet after all.

JANICE

4:18pm. There's a 747 with a flat tire blocking the runway.

The PASSENGERS react to the news, groaning.

All planes are stopped. No one's taking off.

#11b – Dover Fault

All of the LOCALS jump up, still exhausted and surprised.

LOCAL 1

Hello!

LOCAL 2

Welcome back.

BEULAH

I'll get your room ready.

LOCAL 5

I'll put the kettle on.

LOCAL 6

Welcome back.
Get in here!

LOCAL 8

Come on in!

LOCAL 9

Did you forget
something?

LOCAL 10

You've missed us.
Come on in!

LOCAL 11

Hello!

LOCAL 2

hello! That was
fast.

OZ

You must've missed us. Come on in!