

DOUG

(changing the subject)

I heard Don Burton and his wife won the Super 7!

CLAUDE

You don't say.

DWIGHT

Lucky shit.

DOUG

4.6 million.

THEY all whistle. JANICE enters.

JANICE

Excuse me, I'm looking for the Mayor.

EVERYONE points at CLAUDE.

JANICE

Mister Mayor—I'm Janice Mosher with Rogers TV. I'm new. To town—and new to reporting. It's my first day.

CLAUDE

Where you longs to, Janice?

JANICE

Port Aux Basque. So if you see me running red lights or anything, just forgive me because we don't have stop lights over there.

CLAUDE

Well welcome to Gander, Janice.

DWIGHT

Janice.

GARTH

Janice.

DOUG

Janice.

CRYSTAL

Janice.

CLAUDE

If you're looking for news, you should talk to that man running in here. That's our constable, Oz Fudge. He's full of stories.

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 41

#14a – Epilogue

CLAUDE

When the bank finally converted all the currency from around the world – people had donated over sixty thousand dollars.

EVERYONE whistles.

ANNETTE

Every day for months, passengers sent back chocolates, flowers...

BEULAH

Donations of all kinds.

CLAUDE

Postcards and letters came in from everywhere.

BEULAH opens a letter as ALI reads.

ALI

Dear Miss Beulah. When my daughter asks about what happened to me over those five days, I tell her about your kindness. Thank you again. Sincerely, Ali. P.S., please send me the recipe for the fish and the cheese.

BONNIE and DOUG step forward.

BONNIE

Ralph, the cocker spaniel, went on to become a champion show dog!

DOUG

And Unga the rare Bonobo chimpanzee arrived safely at the Columbus Zoo.

BONNIE

And soon after, she had a baby – which they named Gander.

JANICE steps forward.

JANICE

Tom Brokaw phones me. Tom Brokaw. He's doing a documentary – and since I was the only reporter in town – I'm the only one with any footage.

Tom. Brokaw.

It was a big break – but I didn't really like shoving microphones into people's faces when they were going through so much. So, I stayed here in Gander – and I'm still here today – on the tenth anniversary.

REPORTERS from around the world overlap.

REPORTER 9

I'm reporting live from Newfoundland for BBC.

REPORTER 8

CBC.

REPORTER 7

CTV.

REPORTER 5

Al Jazeera.

JANICE

For Rogers TV, I'm Janice Mosher — on September 11th.

ALL

Two thousand eleven.

JANICE

The town is again filled with Come From Aways. On the tenth anniversary, from all around the world, we welcome back the Plane People.

#15 – Finale

CLAUDE

One! Two!

ALL

One two three four!

CLAUDE

WELCOME TO THE FRIENDS WHO HAVE COME FROM AWAY
WELCOME TO THE LOCALS WHO HAVE ALWAYS SAID THEY'D STAY
IF YOU'RE COMING FROM TOLEDO OR YOU'RE COMING FROM TAIPEI
BECAUSE WE COME FROM EVERYWHERE

ALL

WE ALL COME FROM AWAY

MEN

WELCOME TO THE ROCK

ALL

I'M AN ISLANDER, I AM AN ISLANDER
I'M AN ISLANDER, I AM AN ISLANDER
I'M AN ISLANDER, I AM AN ISLANDER

AND THEN ANOTHER
AND THEN
THIRTEEN PLANES THEN ANOTHER
AND THEN ANOTHER
AND THEN ANOTHER
AND THEN
NINETEEN PLANES THEN ANOTHER
AND THEN ANOTHER

JANICE

Is this on? Sorry. I'm new. This is Rogers TV Channel 9. My name is Janice Mosher and I'm reporting live from Gander Airport where the 19th plane has just touched down. I'm here with...

#4 – Blankets and Bedding

JANICE

11:53 am.

ALL

Tuesday.

JANICE

(on camera)

September 11th, 2001. Any available community buildings will be converted into shelters. With thousands of passengers arriving at any minute, the town is asking for help with—well, anything you can do...

JANICE

The Baptist Church needs a hand moving their pews... Doctor O'Brien down at the pharmacy is ready to fill any prescriptions. Oh, and the Lion's Club is looking for some toilet paper, if you have any extra.

The WOMEN begin packing and stacking boxes.

DWIGHT

200 gym mats! Is that enough?

BEULAH

You tell me and we'll both know.

MEN

WHAT DO WE NEED?

JANICE

For the love of God, stop bringing toilet paper to the Lion's Club!

Scene 19

JANICE

By the middle of the day on Wednesday, I'm coordinating menus for 7,000 people.

(starts reporting)

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Rotary Club is looking for some fish dishes. And we have a bunch of German passengers down at the Moose Club who'd like to try elk... No, sorry. That's the Elk's Club that's looking for moose. Sorry, I'm new.

ARE—WE ARE—WE ARE—WE ARE ON THE EDGE!

JANICE

I interview a woman from Queens—a mother. Her son is a firefighter and they still can't account for him. She starts crying and I start crying too. And I can't stop shaking. I don't know if I can do this anymore