

THE G.Y.M.

"Pilot"

Written By

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COLD OPEN

INT. CYCLING STUDIO - DAY

Feet work fast on a stationary bike. Rock hard quads bulge through super tight biking shorts with the brand: The G.Y.M.

JOHNNY (late 30s, a Temu version of Lance Armstrong) cycles on a bike at the front of an indoor cycling studio.

The *thump thump thump* of workout music PULSES as lights dance over peeling paint and scratched mirrors.

VALERIE (V.O.)

The G.Y.M. isn't just a place...

Behind Johnny, BRYAN (30s, eye candy and he knows it) copies Johnny's movements to a tee.

VALERIE (V.O.)

It's *the* place. It's a community.

CHRIS (20s, eye candy and completely oblivious) wobbles off-beat. This guy skips leg day and it shows.

VALERIE (V.O.)

A culture. A lifestyle. It's home.

KAYLA (mid 20s, just here for the 'gram) bikes at an even pace. She puffs her chest out. Her shirt reads: @KaylaKarma.

VALERIE (O.S.)

Cut! Cut cut cut.

Camera reveals a COMMERCIAL CREW packed in this tiny room.

VALERIE (mid 30s, type-A, socially awkward, and stuck in nostalgialand) glares at Kayla.

VALERIE (CONT'D)

Kayla. I told you, only our clothes for the commercial.

KAYLA

But it's my Insta.

Valerie throws a T-shirt at her. It's vomit green, and huge.

JOHNNY

Val, do we have *any* other shorts?

Johnny picks at his crotch. Chris dislodges a wedgie.

VALERIE

Guys, this is all we have in stock.
Like Tim Gunn says, "Make it work!"

BRYAN

I like 'em. Packs it all in tight.

Bryan slaps his own butt and shimmies his cheeks.

KAYLA

If I wear my handle, I can promote
us without an ad disclaimer...

Valerie concedes. Kayla tosses the giant shirt back to her.

VALERIE

Here we go! Grand re-opening
commercial, take two! Action!

Trainers reassemble on their bikes. Commercial Crew rolls.

Johnny begins the workout again. Valerie clears her throat
and puts on her sales voice.

VALERIE (CONT'D)

The G.Y.M. isn't just a place...

Johnny stands out of the saddle, leans on one handlebar, and
pulls his shorts to adjust luggage that's shifted in transit.

The handlebar CREAKS under his body weight, then SNAPS --

JOHNNY

Holy--

Johnny SLAMS into the seat, right on his BALLS. His testicles
squish and twist. He groans and COLLAPSES in pain.

VALERIE

"Another one bites the dust!"
(then)
The bicycle. He'll be fine!

END COLD OPEN

ACT I

EXT. G.Y.M. PARKING LOT - DAY

Only two buildings are left standing in this otherwise-demolished strip mall: a tech repair shop, and The G.Y.M., where two HANDYMEN are hanging a banner: "Grand RE-Opening!"

A BORED EMT and a GRUFF DRIVER load Johnny into an ambulance.

BORED EMT

This used to be that bird place,
right? They had Ostrich Yoga--

GRUFF DRIVER

And Parrot Pilates. Did you hear
what happened to 'em?

BORED EMT

Yeah, it sucks. The birds were the
only good thing about this dump...
But hey, at least we got a new gym.

The ambulance pulls away through the EMPTY parking lot...

...and passes a FULL parking lot across the street. This is
"Solstice," with a giant sign: "Grand Opening!"

Valerie sighs. Bryan, Kayla, Chris, and ALEXA (20s, not the
brightest crayon in the box) watch the ambulance drive away.

BRYAN

Torsion is no joke.

ALEXA

Is that what happened to Neil
Armstrong?

KAYLA

The trumpet player?

BRYAN

You're thinking of Neil Diamond.

VALERIE

Circle up! They said Johnny will be
out for two weeks. I guess I have
to cover his classes and clients.

KAYLA

Whoa, what about the commercial?

VALERIE

I don't know! We can't cancel on our members. But the film crew is only here today! If I reschedule it'll cost me an arm and a leg--

ALEXA

And a testicle!

VALERIE

Spirit of Alanis help me, this is the "rain on my wedding day!"

BRYAN

We can help!

(to Kayla and Chris)

If we split Johnny's work between the three of us and keep the place running...

(to Valerie)

You can focus on the commercial. And whenever we're free, we can be in it like you planned. Right guys?

CHRIS

Yeah!

KAYLA

For sure!

ALEXA

I'm happy to be on camera if you need an extra! I'm a professionally trained actress.

Kayla mouths along, "professionally trained actress," then shoots a smirk at Bryan. Valerie checks her clipboard.

VALERIE

If we're really gonna do this...
Chris, you'll teach spin class.
Kayla, you take Johnny's clients.
Bryan, that leaves you with group fitness. But first, you're with me!

Valerie leads the brigade back inside. She snaps at one Handyman struggling with the "Grand Re-Opening!" sign.

VALERIE (CONT'D)

Can we put that up any faster?!
We're losing customers!

INT. ENTRYWAY - DAY

Bryan, Kayla, and Chris split off. Alexa heads toward the mailbox, but Valerie beats her to it.

VALERIE

Don't worry, I got it.

Alexa proceeds to the front desk.

Valerie flips through mail: "Invoice." "Urgent." "Overdue."

"Notice of Default: Failure to pay will result in foreclosure." She hides the letters in her papers.

Atop her clipboard is a polaroid of YOUNG VALERIE and her MOTHER in front of The G.Y.M. Valerie smiles at the memory.

COCKY NEWSCASTER

Breaking news!

The camera zooms in on a TV above the front desk: a COCKY NEWSCASTER narrates footage of an FBI raid on The G.Y.M. A REDNECK MAN is arrested with an ostrich on a leash.

COCKY NEWSCASTER (CONT'D)

Nelson Withers, "The Flamingo King," was sentenced to five years today after a former employee testified that his business was a money laundering scheme for trading exotic pets. Withers was illegally housing and selling hundreds of birds, including a flock of penguins in the saltwater pool--

Valerie stands between the camera and the TV to obscure view.

VALERIE

Can we turn that off?!

FRONT DESK

A loud SMACK as Alexa slams into the underside of the desk. She pops up and rubs her head.

ALEXA

Got it!

Alexa turns off the TV, then crawls back under the desk with her iPhone charger. She traces wires to the power strip.

ALEXA (CONT'D)

Wifi... Computer... Printer...

She unplugs one and plugs her phone in. It lights up.

SPIN CLIENT (O.S.)

Hello?

Alexa stands and hits her head with another SMACK. SPIN CLIENT (30s, shy) grimaces. Alexa plasters on a smile.

ALEXA

Hi, ow, hello, welcome to The G.Y.M. How can I help you?

SPIN CLIENT

I'm here for spin class, I got the buy-two-get-one-free deal? I think I'm bike number five, or seven...

Alexa clicks around on her Point of Service System but only gets "Error." The system is DOWN.

ALEXA

I'm so sorry, my thingy isn't loading. Uhh. Here.

Alexa pulls out a sheet of paper.

ALEXA (CONT'D)

If you put your name down, I'll check you in when the system's back up. Any bike should be fine.

Spin Client signs and saunters off. A tall man in a pinstripe suit, REAL ESTATE VULTURE, approaches the desk with a briefcase and a shit-eating grin.

ALEXA (CONT'D)

Hi, welcome to The G.Y.M. Are you here for our spin class promotion?

From across the room, Valerie sees Real Estate Vulture lean in to talk to Alexa with a slick smile.

Valerie charges over and shoos him out like a dog.

VALERIE

This property is *not* for sale. Not last week, not today, not next week. Make like MJ and "beat it!"

Bryan sees the exchange and rushes toward the front desk.

ALEXA

Oh, Val? The Point of Service system isn't working.

BRYAN

That's why they call it a POS!

Alexa doesn't get it. Valerie breaks down.

VALERIE

I knew I should've upgraded that old thing! We're behind schedule--

BRYAN

Val. Girl, breathe. In, and out.

VALERIE

Frankie says relax, Frankie says relax, Frankie says relax...

BRYAN

You set up with the film crew, I'm right behind you. Alexa's got this.

VALERIE

Call the service agent--

BRYAN

Shh, no, no. She's got this.

Valerie paces toward the weights area. Once she's gone:

BRYAN (CONT'D)

You got this, right?

Alexa blinks at him. She does not "got this."

BRYAN (CONT'D)

...How about you just call the I.T. guys next door.

KAYLA

Why are we calling the I.T. guys?

Kayla swoops in to hear the hot goss. Chris follows behind her. He speaks in broken English with a Finnish accent.

CHRIS

"I.T.?"

ALEXA

The system is down--

Bryan pulls them into a huddle.

BRYAN

Alright fam. Johnny's out, the system is out.

(MORE)

BRYAN (CONT'D)

This place is the Titanic, we're Leo. We gotta keep Kate afloat.

ALEXA

Who are Kate and Leo?

BRYAN

We just have to support Val. The G.Y.M. needs this commercial. Kayla, it'll promote your Insta. Chris, you need this place to stay open for your visa--

ALEXA

Being in the commercial would look great on my resume!

BRYAN

...We'll see what we can do. Any issues come up, we handle them ourselves. Deal? Hands in, G.Y.M. on three!

Bryan lays his hand down. Alexa puts hers on top. Chris is confused. Kayla rolls her eyes and walks away.

BRYAN (CONT'D)

One, two, three--

VALERIE (O.S.)

Bryan!!

He rushes off. Chris leaves. Alexa is alone.

ALEXA

G.Y.M.!

CAMERAMAN SAM (20s, no-nonsense) taps Alexa on the shoulder. Alexa smiles and presents herself to the camera.

CAMERAMAN SAM

Excuse me. What does G.Y.M. stand for?

ALEXA

...It stands for something?

INT. FREE WEIGHTS AREA - DAY

Valerie watches Bryan flub push-up claps through her monitor.

VALERIE

Bryan... I'll be honest, I've only seen you land one of these drunk off your ass at a gay bar.

BRYAN

(struggling)

I got this... I did, like, four... When I interviewed for Solstice--

VALERIE

Gym-that-shall-not-be-named.

BRYAN

Oh, group fitness... Do we have a... Program written up?

VALERIE

It's in the system. Alexa called the company number, right?

BRYAN

...Yeah--

INT. FRONT DESK - DAY

WADE (30s, people-pleaser) shuffles in the door with a messenger bag and his shirt buttoned all the way to the top.

WADE

I'm from Tech Warrior next door.

ALEXA

Thank GOD. The system is down, I can't log in, nothing is loading.

She turns the screen towards him and rapidly clicks refresh.

WADE

Could be an issue with the server. Do you know where the box is?

Kayla spots Wade from across the room and hurries over.

KAYLA

I'll show you, handsome.

INT. FREE WEIGHTS AREA - DAY

Bryan cues for another push-up, but sees Kayla leading Wade into the server closet. Valerie turns to follow his gaze --

But Bryan FUMBLES a push-up. Valerie helps him up.

VALERIE

You're going to break something!

Kayla hurries Wade into the closet, Valerie none the wiser.

A TV above Bryan displays a local News Spotlight.

PEPPY NEWSCASTER

Out with the old, in with the new!
Luxury gym chain, Solstice, is
opening a brand new location--

VALERIE

Where's the remote for this thing?!

INT. FRONT DESK - DAY

WHITE TRASH SPIN DIVA (50s, thrifty-chic) struts past Alexa without stopping.

WHITE TRASH SPIN DIVA

You know me, sweetheart. Bike #1.

Chris approaches the desk.

CHRIS

Class full.

ALEXA

Huh? How? We have ten people.

CHRIS

Only nine bikes working, Johnny
broke one more this morning.

ALEXA

Shoot... Bike #1 just got here.

They share a look and RUN --

INT. CYCLING STUDIO - DAY

Chris and Alexa round the corner just as White Trash Spin Diva notices Spin Client on Bike #1.

WHITE TRASH SPIN DIVA

Who the hell do you think you are?!

INT. FREE WEIGHTS AREA - DAY

Bryan finally lands a perfect clap push-up when --

WHITE TRASH SPIN DIVA (O.S.)
I've been on Bike #1 since Richard
Simmons was sweating to the oldies!

White Trash Spin Diva chases Spin Client out the front door,
ruining Valerie's shot.

INT. FRONT DESK - DAY

Valerie confronts Alexa, Bryan hot on her heels.

VALERIE
What is going on?

Bryan grimaces and gives a "cut it out" motion.

ALEXA
She's... Just upset we didn't let
her in off the waitlist. The class
is full because of the promotion!

A bright commercial blares on the TV above the front desk:
sleek aesthetics, modern machines, sexy fitness trainers.

TELEVISION
Solstice Gym, now near you! Wanna
get fit? Your first month is free--

Valerie slaps the OFF button. (All TVs are conspicuously off
for the rest of the episode.)

END OF ACT I

ACT II

INT. FREE WEIGHTS AREA - DAY

The camera walks up to Kayla, distracted on her phone.

SAM

Do you know what G.Y.M. stands for?

KAYLA

No idea.

The camera starts to drift, but Kayla stops Cameraman Sam.

KAYLA (CONT'D)

Do I know you? You look familiar...

SAM

...Nope! Don't you have a client--?

KAYLA

He's fine.

Behind them, WEAK-ARMED CLIENT flails under a barbell.

KAYLA (CONT'D)

(mindlessly)

Crush it! Get that one rep max!

The Client chokes and turns red. Bryan runs over and LIFTS the barbell. The Client GASPS for air.

KAYLA (CONT'D)

What's your name?

Bryan pulls Kayla from the conversation. Sam disappears.

BRYAN

Earth to Kayla, your client almost *died*.

KAYLA

I think I know that camera guy--

BRYAN

Queen, focus. We need this commercial, we gotta bring in some fresh meat. I'm tired of working at the old folks gym. Capisce?

INT. SMOOTHIE AREA - DAY

The camera catches Valerie gazing at a giant bulletin board of old photos. Cameraman Sam pipes up from behind the camera.

CAMERAMAN SAM
Old employees?

VALERIE
And famous clients! This is where
Johnny Cash got his ostriches. Big
Boi from Outkast got his owls here--

Valerie points to photos. The camera zooms in on a different one: a man with a TALL COWBOY HAT, his face X'd out.

CAMERAMAN SAM (O.S.)
Who's that in the cowboy hat?

Valerie rips down the photo and glares at the camera.

VALERIE
We don't talk about Gary.

INT. TREADMILL AREA - DAY

Bryan sees Kayla taking a photo of Cameraman Sam. But if she's there, where is...?

He notices CLIENT CARLIN (80s, fit, nosy) speed-walking to Valerie. Bryan intercepts and redirects him to a treadmill.

BRYAN
How can I help you, sir?

CLIENT CARLIN
I heard Johnny is out? I wanted to
ask Valerie about group fitness.

BRYAN
I'm teaching group fitness!

CLIENT CARLIN
Is Reggie coming back?

BRYAN
...Reggie?

INT. SMOOTHIE AREA - DAY

Chris and MARY (60s-70s, spunky but jaded) watch Valerie press buttons on a high-tech blender. Nothing happens.

VALERIE

What do you mean the blender won't run without wifi?!

MARY

You're the one who bought it! All "new tech" this, "up-to-code" that.
(to Chris)
She won't even let me put cocaine in the smoothies anymore. THAT was a REAL energy drink!

VALERIE

The wifi is out, not the POS--

CHRIS

Alexa will fix. Is ok.

Mary pulls out an ancient blender and hugs it to her ample bosom like a lover.

MARY

Old Reliable, how I've missed you.

INT. SERVER ROOM - DAY

Wade crawls through a jungle of dusty cables and plugs his laptop into the server. He sees some papers jammed in the rack. They're envelopes: "Invoice." "Urgent." "Overdue."

KAYLA (O.S.)

Sexy techie. You're terminally online. Who's this?

Wade hides the envelopes in his bag. Kayla shows her phone.

WADE

No idea. But with a better photo you could reverse image search...
What's the server password?

INT. TREADMILL AREA - DAY

Bryan hovers around Client Carlin on the treadmill.

CLIENT CARLIN

The best part of group fitness is Happy Baby. Reggie loves happy baby.

BRYAN

Happy *what* now?

Kayla shows up, Wade in tow.

KAYLA
What's the server password?

BRYAN
I dunno. Check the front desk?

She ups the incline and speed on Carlin's treadmill.

KAYLA
Carlin! Good job today, this is your final push! Be right back.

CLIENT CARLIN
Wait! Can we turn on the TV?

But the group keeps walking.

INT. SMOOTHIE AREA / TREADMILL AREA - DAY

Valerie blends strawberries and MILK.

VALERIE
"My milkshake brings all the boys to the yard! And they're like, it's better than yours!"

CHRIS
I'm lactose intolerant--

But Valerie is distracted. She sees Carlin across the room, struggling to keep pace. He reaches up to turn the TV on...

Carlin STUMBLES, then SCRAMBLES --

THUMP! Bryan and Kayla and whip around to see Carlin on the floor. All three rush to him. Kayla tries to help--

CLIENT CARLIN
I'm fine! Back in my day, there were no "treadmills." If you fell outside, you got asphalt in your hands! I haven't felt that good since the war. Thanks, little lady.
(to Bryan)
I'll see you and Reggie later.

He winks at Bryan. Valerie shakes her head and backs off.

INT. FRONT DESK - MOMENTS LATER

Kayla, Bryan, and Alexa rummage through drawers. Wade waits. Suddenly, a loud GROAN and DRY HEAVING from across the room --

CHRIS (O.S.)

Oh, no--

Bryan looks up to see Chris SPRINTING, hands over his mouth. VOMIT drips through his fingers. Valerie rushes behind him --

BRYAN

Abort! Abort!

ALEXA

Who's pregnant?

Bryan ducks behind the desk. Kayla and Wade follow. Bryan PULLS Alexa down as Valerie sprints after Chris.

VALERIE (O.S.)

Not the employee bathroom! I had my first kiss in there!

CLIENT CARLIN (O.S.)

Me, too!

BRYAN

I'm gonna ask one of the old timers. Come with me.

Bryan and Wade creep around the desk, secret-agent-style.

INT. SAUNA - DAY

GEM (50s, eats, breathes, and shits crystals) sits in full lotus. Enya plays. Bryan clears his throat. No answer.

BRYAN

Wade, this is Gemini.

WADE

That's this month, happy birthday!

GEM

I'm actually a Sagittarius.

BRYAN

Gem, do you know the server password?

GEM

Nnnnoooo. But I can text the King.

BRYAN
You can text in jail?

Wade escapes the hot steam. Bryan hesitates at the door.

BRYAN (CONT'D)
Do you know what "happy baby" is?
I'm teaching group fitness--

Gem's eyes snap open.

GEM
I *created* group fitness.

INT. POOL ROOM - DAY

Kayla and the Commercial Crew follow Valerie to the pool.

VALERIE
What we're going to do here-- Where
the hell is Gem?! He has one job!

Wade shuffles into the pool room. He clears his throat.

WADE
Excuse me, ma'am--

Valerie whips around and notes his outfit. She sizes him up.

VALERIE
We are NOT selling this property.
Not for a million, not for a dime!

KAYLA
Uh, Val--

VALERIE
I don't care if your company sent
their cutest agent to flirt me up.
You may be hot and nerdy, but "My
anaconda don't want nunya real
estate funds, hun!"

Wide-eyed, Wade dashes out.

KAYLA
...He was here to fix the wifi.

Valerie turns beet red.

END OF ACT II

ACT III

INT. FRONT DESK - DAY

Alexa answers the phone.

PHONE

This is a call from Metropolitan
Correctional Center.

ALEXA

Mister King? Yes, I can write it
down. Swole... Toucan...

Valerie rushes the front desk and hangs up the phone.

VALERIE

You can't call prison on a company
line! They'll think we're still in
cahoots!

(then)

Did Uncle Nel mention me?

Tap tap tap. It's Wade, outside the glass doors. He waves.
Valerie gestures him in, then turns on Alexa:

VALERIE (CONT'D)

(whispering)

You called the IT guys next door?!
I said to call the wifi company!

ALEXA

Bryan knew you were stressed with
the commercial so he told me to--

VALERIE

BRYAN?!

INT. SECRET FITNESS ROOM - DAY

Heavenly harps sing as Gem guides Bryan into happy baby pose.

GEM

Let all your worries out on the
exhale. Like this. Mmmmmmmmy Reiki
instructor is screwing my ex wife!

BRYAN

MmmmmmmaaaaaaaaiiiiiiiI don't wanna
be Leo! I deserve to float! I want
to work at Solstice!

GEM
There we go!

INT. POOL ROOM - DAY

Chris, Kayla, and Alexa perch on a poolside bench. The Commercial Crew loiters as Valerie smashes buttons.

VALERIE
Why would they even make a wifi-
controlled pool heater?!

Out of earshot, First AC turns to Cameraman Sam.

FIRST AC
...So, who are you?

CAMERAMAN SAM
I'm part of the crew.

The Commercial Crew glances at each other. *No, you're not...*

CAMERAMAN SAM (CONT'D)
I mean, they hired me for some
additional behind-the-scenes.

First AC nods, suspicious. Back at the ranch:

VALERIE
Cold water never killed anybody. I
used to swim with *penguins*. Chris!

He points to the sign: "Persons with diarrhea shall not enter the pool." GRUMBLE. He runs to the locker room.

VALERIE (CONT'D)
Kayla--

KAYLA
Mascara.

Valerie turns to her last resort.

VALERIE
Our resident actress! It's your
"Moment of glory!"

Alexa looks at the camera and forces a smile.

INT. SECRET FITNESS ROOM - DAY

Wind chimes twinkle. Gem claps a hand on Bryan's back.

GEM
Make me proud, Brad.

BRYAN
It's Bryan.

GYM CLIENTS (50s-80s) file in. Client Carlin turns to Bryan.

CLIENT CARLIN
Aww, no Reggie?

Bryan looks for Gem, but he's disappeared in the smoke.

BRYAN
I guess Reggie didn't sign up...

INT. POOL ROOM - DAY

Commercial Crew rolls. Alexa stands on the diving board.

Kayla snaps a photo of Cameraman Sam and uploads to Google. She lifts her phone in the air for service.

KAYLA
Stupid wifi...

VALERIE
(to Alexa)
As Van Halen would say, "Jump!"

Alexa grits her teeth, jumps --

And starts to DROWN. Between mouthfuls of water:

ALEXA
I (GASP) can't (GASP) swim!

VALERIE
Give me a break!

Valerie JUMPS IN. The camera zooms in as Val rescues Alexa --

But Kayla shoves her phone's Google results into frame.

KAYLA
THAT'S how I know you! You're from
the FailFinders Youtube channel!
(to Valerie)
They make documentaries on failing
businesses from the inside out.
(to Cameraman Sam)
You're just here to get footage for
your stupid show. Give me that--

Kayla bum-rushes the camera, trying to grab it. Cameraman Sam runs. As Valerie pulls Alexa out of the water:

VALERIE

I better not see you here again or
I'm calling the police!

INT. SECRET FITNESS ROOM - DAY

Everyone rolls around in happy baby pose.

BRYAN

And on the exhale, let it all out.

Bryan hits the gong. Gym Clients groan and vent their frustrations, rolling around. Someone farts. Bryan smiles.

Behind a curtain, Gem turns to Cameraman Sam.

GEM

(teary-eyed and proud)
G.Y.M. What does it mean? It means
everything to me, man.

INT. FRONT DESK - DAY

Alexa shivers in an oversized vomit green G.Y.M. shirt.

KAYLA

I got the front desk. Go home.

Alexa waddles toward the door. Kayla grimaces at the wet spot in her chair, and pointedly pulls up another.

ALEXA

Oh w-w-wait can you grab my phone?

Kayla hands the phone over. As Alexa leaves, Wade approaches.

WADE

Where's your router? Server says
it's disconnected.

KAYLA

Under the desk.

She moves aside, conceding her flirtatious act.

Wade traces the wifi cable to the power strip... it's unplugged. In its place? Alexa's charger. He sighs.

He SMACKS his head on the desk as he comes back up. *Ouch*. He hands Kayla the charger, then refreshes the computer. Bingo.

WADE
That was it.

KAYLA
You should go tell the boss lady.

INT. FRONT DESK - MOMENTS LATER

Bryan leads Carlin and other Gym Clients to the front desk.

BRYAN
Don't forget a membership form! You can't get Group Fitness at Solstice! Happy baby, am I right!?

They cheer, a few grab forms.

BRYAN (CONT'D)
(to Kayla)
How's the commercial?

She gestures to the pool room. Through the window, Valerie slouches poolside, still fully clothed and sopping wet.

BRYAN (CONT'D)
That bad, huh?

KAYLA
You have no idea.

Bryan settles into a chair, then jumps up. *Why is it wet?!*

Kayla watches Wade approach Valerie and sit next to her.

INT. POOL ROOM - DAY

WADE
Everything is fixed, you're good.

VALERIE
I'm... So sorry.

WADE
I said you're good.

They look at each other. Wade pulls LETTERS out of his bag.

WADE (CONT'D)
I thought you might want these.

VALERIE
I wouldn't say "want." But thanks.

INT. POOL LOCKER ROOM - SAME TIME

Chris slumps next to a toilet. From the other room, Valerie's words echo through the tiled bathroom walls.

VALERIE (O.S.)
I put all my money into this place.
But honestly, I don't know how much
longer I can keep us open.

Hearing this, Chris looks sadly at his vomit.

INT. POOL ROOM - DAY

VALERIE
I feel like Radiohead. "What the
hell am I doing here? I don't
belong here."

WADE
"Everybody hurts sometimes."

VALERIE
(shocked)
...R.E.M.?

WADE
You could appeal the notice. I did
that for my mom, bought her a few
months to get the money together.
And maybe you can pay me with a
free membership?

He offers her the letters. Valerie looks up, hopeful. They smile, and hold the envelopes between them a little too long.

VALERIE
I think we can manage that.

INT. FRONT DESK - DAY

Kayla sees Cameraman Sam filming through the indoor window.

KAYLA
No you don't, you little rat--

Valerie pops out of the pool room.

VALERIE

Kayla, it's alright.

(to Cameraman Sam)

You know what? You can keep the footage. In fact, I'll *pay* you to come film. *Every. Single. Day.* The G.Y.M. is going to be the first success on that little show of yours. We are NOT going to fail.

She smiles at Wade. He nods, unsure. Kayla turns to camera.

KAYLA

You wanted to know what G.Y.M. means? Get your man.

VALERIE (V.O.)

The G.Y.M. isn't just a place. It's *the* place.

FADE TO:

INT. VARIOUS G.Y.M. LOCATIONS - DAY

Commercial montage. Alexa chats with clients at the front desk. Kayla turns up the treadmill for Client Carlin. Bryan does happy baby with Gem. Chris takes a smoothie from Mary.

VALERIE (V.O.)

It's a community. A culture. A lifestyle. It's home.

Kayla poses in her @KaylaKarma shirt. Chris drinks the smoothie, about to hurl.

VALERIE (V.O.)

It's a place to Grow Your Mind.

Bryan barely keeps up with clap push-ups.

VALERIE (V.O.)

Get Your Muscles.

Smash cuts: Chris, Kayla, Bryan.

VALERIE (V.O.)

Gains. Yoga. Mindfulness.

Alexa jumps into the pool. Johnny sits on the bike. We cut a second too late and he grimaces as he smashes his balls.

VALERIE (V.O.)
G.Y.M is personal. YOU decide what
it stands for. Growth... YOLO...
Machines...

The shots show the full scope of the run-down place.

INT. FRONT DESK - DAY

Valerie, Alexa, Kayla, Chris, and Bryan crowd around the TV
above the front desk as the commercial plays live.

VALERIE (V.O.)
The G.Y.M.: YOU know what it means.
Call us at--

The TV cuts to a different adspot. Alexa applauds. Kayla and
Bryan share a look. Valerie turns to her friends.

VALERIE
All things considered, I think it
went pretty well. You might even
say we're "Stronger than
Yesterday."

END OF ACT III

TAG

INT./EXT. CYCLING STUDIO - NIGHT

Camera watches through the window as Valerie addresses Alexa, Kayla, and Chris. Bryan tries to glue the broken handlebar.

VALERIE

From here on out, we have to be on our A-game. We can't let them see any mistakes. No more secrets. "We're all in this together."

ALEXA

G.Y.M. on three!

Alexa puts her hand in the center for another cheer.

KAYLA

How are you going to pay the camera guys? We have like zero clients.

REGGIE, a handsome Humboldt penguin in a bow tie, waddles into the room. Gem follows with a bucket full of fish.

GEM

Reggie, get back here!

BRYAN

Wait, *that's* Reggie??

VALERIE

I told you, no more penguins!

We cut to an exterior shot of The G.Y.M. from afar. The only light comes from that cycling studio window. Zoom out to --

INT. SOLSTICE OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Camera pans to reveal GARY HUGHES (50s, clever, gay, Southern silver fox) in Solstice swag and a TALL COWBOY HAT -- the man from the photo! He watches through binoculars and cackles.

GARY HUGHES

And they said y'all could come by any time? Well ain't that a peach. Guess I'll need to hire you for longer than I expected...

THE END