

FADE IN:

1 INT/EXT. OUTSIDE AMIL'S HOME - NIGHT**1**

AMIL SEED is a unfulfilled young man, whos hope of becoming a great writer is seeming further and further away. He lives alone in the house his parents left to him before their fatal car crash.

The camera looks through the glass in the door of his home, then enters the home, moves up the stairs, and focuses on Amil as he lays in bed reading The Myth of Sisyphus. As the camera moves, phrases from different people in Amil's life can be heard as overlaid dialogue (Dark Side of the Moon). As this occurs, Debussy's 'Reverie' is playing, with the first climactic point (1:20 in the song) occurring at the same time as the voice-overlap climax.

AMIL (V.O.)

Do you ever wonder what makes a person who they are? I mean, what kind of events shaped them. How they came to be the way they are now. And do you ever wonder if people will change? If one event could make them a different person?

AMIL'S MOTHER (V.O.)

Amil. Clean all this up. I'm tired of these damn papers laying all over the place! When you live in your own house, you can make your own mess. But in the meantime, clean all this up!

AMIL'S FATHER (V.O.)

(condescendingly)

A writer? Son, most writers were drunks for a reason. You can't support a family, and you can't find fulfillment in a life of writing. Plus, who's to say anyone will read what you write anyway?

AMIL'S EX-GIRLFRIEND (V.O.)

(angrily)

Why is that so hard for you to understand? Can you not hear what I'm saying to you? Can you think about what I'm saying? This is ridiculous Amil. Get your life together!

These dialogues overlap, building up to the line "get your life together", at which point a loud knock is heard (the tucker zone), ending the manic voices.

Amil gets up slowly, walks downstairs, and opens the door. A man is standing there smiling wearing a dress shirt and tie.

MR. SAHIL is an employee of the Ministry of Mind and Soul. He works in PEPs (Personal Enlightenment Projects) and is currently tasked with helping Amil Seed become who he is meant to be.

MR. SAHIL

Hello. Amil, right? Pleasure to meet you. I'm Mr. Sahil. I am under the impression you need some guidance?

Mr. Sahil extends his hand which Amil reluctantly shakes.

AMIL

(uncertainly)

Yeah. I thought this would be an 'online advice' kind of thing.

MR. SAHIL

It can be. But, in some cases we feel it is important to have in-person guidance. I personally have seen total success from in-person sessions.

AMIL

You've done this before?

MR. SAHIL

(chuckling)

Countless times, yes.

Amil becomes progressively more comfortable with Mr. Sahil. When Sahil reveals his experience, Amil becomes much less hesitant.

AMIL

Alright. Come on in then. Do I need anything in particular.

MR. SAHIL

Only a jacket. There is no better teacher than experience. We'll leave now if you don't mind.

AMIL

(shocked)

Oh. Okay.

Amil grabs his jacket off of the banister/chair nearby. He put on shoes that were beside the door as Mr. Sahil waits patiently.

MR. SAHIL

Before we go, a donation to our cause would be greatly appreciated

Amil checks his pockets.

AMIL

I only have coins. Can you even accept that?

MR. SAHIL

(winking)

It's never to late for change.

Amil smiles, steps out of the home, and closes the door behind him. The camera pans to follow the two as they walk away.

FADE OUT

2 EXT. STREETS OF AMIL'S TOWN - NIGHT

2

Amil and Mr. Sahil walk along the streetlight-lit streets. They walk at the same pace beside one another. As the two speak to each other, they mostly keep looking forwards.

MR. SAHIL

So, Amil, what is it that you find most troublesome in your life?

AMIL

(curiously)

Well, how much do you already know about me.

MR. SAHIL

We're given a small file, but nothing much. I do know about the passing of your parents. I'm very sorry.

AMIL

Yeah... I guess that's what's 'troubling me most'. I feel so lost without them. It's just... I don't... I don't know what to do with myself.

MR. SAHIL

I understand Amil. A person of your age isn't meant to be in such a situation.

AMIL

Yeah... Mr. Sahil, you're meant to provide guidance and answers, right?

MR. SAHIL

As best as I can, yes.

AMIL

Well... What do I do about my parents? I mean, how can I get myself back together? How can I get over this?

MR. SAHIL

Amil, this is not something you'll get over, but it is something you'll get through. But there are no easy answers to hard questions, and I have no answer to this question. Each person will have their own answer to that question Amil, and you will find your answer soon. The best teacher is always experience.

AMIL

So I'm just supposed to trust you?

MR. SAHIL

(slyly)
That's the idea yes.

Amil and Mr. Sahil walk by a park. Mr. Sahil sees a young couple and stops Amil, pointing the pair out to him. The couple are clearly in love. Amil and Mr. Sahil stop to watch them.

MR. SAHIL

You know, your parents were like that too. All couples are at one point. So young and in love that it radiates off of them.

Amil rolls his eyes

MR. SAHIL (CONT)

And maybe one day this young couple will be parents. Maybe one day this young couple will raise a son like you.

AMIL

(rudely)

And maybe one day they'll be dead.

MR. SAHIL

Well, of course. But so will you and me, that's guaranteed. But it's also guaranteed that we will be alive, so why would you disregard all of the potential life holds just because you'll be dead at some point? Your parents didn't disregard it. They lived and loved as much as they could

AMIL

Yeah, and now they're gone because they were too busy yelling at each other to pay attention to the road. People in love all hate each other eventually. Something full of so much disagreement can't be good.

MR. SAHIL

Do you truly believe that, Amil? Do you hate the ocean because one fish kills another? Do you curse the forest because it is home to animals like bears and wolves? Or do you appreciate the beauty of land that's full of life, and water that connects people with its vastness? Amil, you forget that you were not born because of hatred and turmoil, but love and unity. You only saw the arguments because they were easier to see; what you did not see was the soft smiles, the brushes of the hands, and the chaste kisses.

Amil is stunned. He stares wide-eyed at the couple. Mr. Sahil continues.

MR. SAHIL (CONT'D)

You dream of becoming a writer, yes? Perhaps you should try writing a romance novel. It might change your outlook, for the better.

Amil scoffs, turns away and begins walking once more. Mr. Sahil follows.

AMIL

Yeah, right. As if I know anything about that.

As they continue walking, the park fades into the background. The young couple on the bench stands and begins walking home together, hand in hand.

4 EXT. JUST PAST THE PARK - NIGHT

4

Amil and Mr. Sahil continue walking and talking to one another.

AMIL

(disgruntled but
lighthearted)

I don't think I can write anything good anyways, let alone something about love.

Amil looks into the distance, a distant expression on his face while avoiding eye contact with Mr. Sahil.

AMIL
 (with angst)
 Maybe this was never the path for
 me. Maybe I've been shooting too
 high Mr. Sahil.

Mr. Sahil huffs a polite laugh, a small smile adorning his
 face

MR. SAHIL
 Amil, my boy, you are no failure.
 You have big dreams, and that's a
 good thing.

AMIL
 Mr. Sahil-

MR. SAHIL
 Shh, just pause for a moment Amil.
 Breathe.

Mr. Sahil stops, and Amil slows to a stop beside him and
 takes a deep breath.

MR. SAHIL
 What do you hear. Right now, at
 this very moment.

Amil pauses, and then answers hesitantly

AMIL
 ..Bats, bugs, frogs I think, in the
 distance.

MR. SAHIL
 Good, very good. Now, what is it
 you see around you.

AMIL
 Mr. Sahil I don't think-

MR. SAHIL
 Indulge me a little longer Amil,
 trust in me, just for a while.

AMIL
 (slightly frustrated)
 Streetlights, trees, the sky...
 you.

Silence for a moment, Amil breathes deeply again, as if to
 calm himself.

MR. SAHIL

Now, how do you feel, be honest with me please.

AMIL

(frustrated)

I feel annoyed. What's the point of all this?

Amil begins to walk briskly away from Mr. Sahil.

AMIL

(still frustrated but sadder)

I'm a failure! I couldn't be the son my parents wanted or the partner my ex wanted! So, what's the point of any of this? I can't

A brief pause, Amil breathes heavily.

MR. SAHIL

What you do doesn't have to be perfect, Amil, all you have to do is something meaningful. Besides, you can't always get what you want.

Amil stumbles mid-step, freezing next to Mr. Sahil. Amil's breath catches in his throat, as he turns to look at Mr. Sahil, a sliver of hope in his eye.

AMIL

(breathless)

That something my father used to say

MR. SAHIL

(smiling softly)

Oh, Amil, did you really believe that just because your father has passed, he had truly left?

AMIL

(reluctantly)

Well, yeah. You're not gonna tell me he's somehow still alive, are you?

MR. SAHIL laughs, and motions for Amil to continue walking with him.

MR. SAHIL

In a way, he is. His memory and personality are still strong withing you. If the things that he thought and said still exist, there is more of him that still exists than that which doesn't.

AMIL

I guess you're right. But according to that, does anything ever stop existing?

MR. SAHIL

Now you're getting it. Speaking of omni-presence, we've nearly reached the place I wanted to show you.

5 EXT. WATERFRONT - NIGHT

5

Amil and Mr. Sahil are just outside the reach of the light from the streetlights. The sounds of water and some wildlife can be heard.

They both stop walking, Mr. Sahil takes a seat just next to a lake. Amil stands next to him in silence. Mr. Sahil gestures to sit. Amil takes a seat reluctantly a moment later.

AMIL

Mr. Sahil, what are we doing here?

The two sit in silence, Amil gets impatient and looks over at Mr Sahil. He has his eyes closed and a small smile on his face.

Amil looks at him puzzled and goes to make sure his guide is still awake, reaching for his arm. Just before Amil's arm reaches Mr. Sahil, he finally speaks.

MR. SAHIL

(eyes closed)

You seek success, yes?

AMIL

(duh)

Well, yeah.

MR. SAHIL

You've probably heard that most people often struggle to find success because they don't try, instead they mope about-

Amil cuts off Mr. Sahil mid sentence.

AMIL
I DO try though.

They sit in silence for a moment, the sounds of the water and crickets are heard.

AMIL
Sorry

MR. SAHIL
It's alright. You see, the truth is, most people don't find success because of how much they try. The important thing is being open to experiences, and not searching for anything. When we search, we focus on what we're searching for and disregard what we find along the way.

Amil takes a moment to ponder what Mr. Sahil has said.

AMIL
...So why are we here?

MR. SAHIL
To be open to experiences, one must be able to find beauty in all things. Out here, in nature, is where you will find the music of life. Close your eyes and try to find it.

Amil closes his eyes and tries to hear the music. Amil darts around from sound to sound trying to listen to one sound at a time, and not finding anything.

Amil sighs and opens his eyes, He looks over at Mr. Sahil, who is meditating in silence. Amil closes his eyes and tries again. This time he finds one sound, the sound of the water. Next, he tries to focus on more than one sound, more and more sounds from nature slowly fade in slowly, a quiet rhythm can be heard. Amil is able to hear the music of life.

Amil opens his eyes again, Amil can still hear the music. Amil looks over at Mr. Sahil who is now looking at Amil with a smile on his face.

AMIL
I found it.

MR. SAHIL

I knew you had found it. You see Amil, sometimes the things that seem most insignificant are the things that illuminate the darkness. Let's get you back home. I believe you're finished here

The two stand up and begin to walk back to Amil's house. Amil is in a much happier mood, as the two leave the Waterfront the music of life begins to fade away.

AMIL

So, is this, like, your job? You just walk in the woods with random people?

Mr. Sahil laughs and responds to Amil

MR. SAHIL

They're called "Personal Enlightenment Projects", or PEPs. But yes, I do spend a lot of time walking through nature with strangers.

DIP TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

6 EXT. FIELD NEAR AMIL'S HOME - NIGHT

6

Amil and Mr. Sahil have been walking for an unknown amount of time. Amil is still asking Mr. Sahil about his job.

AMIL

Does it always work though? I mean, does the person always have some kind of breakthrough or change?

MR. SAHIL

Not always, no. Sometimes it takes several experiences, sometimes it's just the online advice you mentioned earlier. Everyone is different.

Mr. Sahil becomes almost cautious in his speech

MR. SAHIL (CONT'D)

If I may ask, Amil, why the sudden interest in my profession?

Amil responds in an uncertain manner, looking at the ground as he walks. The camera begins to show only Amil.

AMIL

I'm not sure. It's interesting to me I guess. There isn't really any job that I think would be so fulfilling. To be changing someone's life everyday would be incredible. That's part of the reason why I want to write, Mr. Sahil. It feels like something important. Something worth doing. I think too many people...

Amil brings his eyes up from the ground and realizes that Mr. Sahil has left him. He has been alone for an unknown amount of time. He begins to panic, first calling out Mr. Sahil's name calmly, then escalating.

AMIL

Mr. Sahil? Mr. Sahil? Hello? What's going on? Mr. Sahil?

Amil begins to yell his name.

AMIL

(frantically)
Mr. Sahil? Goddamn it! How could he just walk away?

7 EXT. FIELD - NIGHT - ACT 3

7

Mr. Sahil has vanished. Amil is terrified.

AMIL

(Screaming)
MR SAHIL?

Amil's heartrate and breathing become louder and quicker. Amil desperately searches for Mr. Sahil. He begins to run. Amil's not paying attention as he runs around looking for Mr. Sahil. Amil trips and falls face first. After a few seconds, Amil looks up, the camera dollies backwards to reveal a calla lily flower lit up by a streetlight. Amil stares at it as he lays on the ground, seemingly transfixed by its beauty.

Amil thinks back to what Mr. Sahil said to him about openness to beauty, the exact words replay in his head.

MR. SAHIL

(in Amil's head)
We must be open to experiences, and
not searching for anything, because
when we search, we focus on what
we're searching for and disregard
what we find along the way.

Amil stands up and picks up the flower. Amil cups the
flower in his hands. Amil looks up into the sky. The sun is
now rising. Amil recognizes his surroundings and begins to
walk back home.

CUT TO:

INT. AMIL'S HOUSE - DAWN

Amil enters his house holding the flower in one hand. He
finds a pot on a shelf containing soil but no plant. Amil
puts the calla lily in it and walks out of the frame after
setting the plant on the table. We hear water running,
presumably Amil getting water for the plant.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

The calla lily sitting on a table morphs into a drawing of
the same calla lily. The camera begins pulling out
revealing that this is a book with the title *Overcoming* by
Amil Seed. The book is grabbed, opened, stamped, and handed
to another character.

LIBRAIRIAN
Here you are.

She passes the book across the desk.

LIBRAIRIAN
(reminiscently)
I remember the first time I read
that book. It's absolutely
phenomenal. That man is a great
writer.