

Punk-Ass Pookie

written by

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FADE IN:

INT. LONDON AIRPORT - DAY

The airport is busy. At the entrance to the security check POOKIE (16), Indian heritage, black hair, a buldge in her pants, wearing a t-shirt that reads "FCK LOVE", says goodbye to her MOM (40s) and DAD (40s).

POOKIE (V.O)

Here I am. Pookie Punyamurthula.
Just a young girl that dreamt of
true love, only to be crushed by
its non-existence.

(beat)

And now I'm being shipped off to
the U.S. of A. Why you ask? Well,
it all started the day I was
born...

INT. APARTMENT IN INDIA - DAY

YOUNG MOM is pregnant and opening a box with a Winnie the Pooh plush toy. YOUNG DAD is trying to get out of the Apartment.

YOUNG DAD

Where are my keys?

(beat)

Have you seen my keys?

(beat)

Keys!

(beat)

I need my keys.

Young Dad looks underneath the sofa, next to the toilet seat. He moves to the kitchen and looks in a cookie jar. No keys but he takes a cookie.

POOKIE (V.O.)

Easy to say. Keys were the most
important possession to my dad.

(beat)

He claims his keychain holds the
key to my mothers heart. That old
romantic. I must have gotten my
desire for passionate fairytale
love from him.

(beat)

My mother on the other hand loved
Winnie the Pooh. Probably more than
my dad.

Her mother cuddles with the plush Winnie the Pooh. Behind her a shelf with Winnie the Pooh figurines.

POOKIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Since Winnie isn't an acceptable
name for a girl, according to my
dad, Pooh was the only other
option.
(beat)
Because that's better.

INT. INDIAN HOSPITAL - DAY

YOUNG MOM is giving birth. YOUNG DAD is holding her hand. The baby arrives and Dad holds it up proudly.

POOKIE (V.O.)
You guessed it. He didn't ever want
to lose me or his keys and to make
it easier for him to remember that,
I evolved from Pooh to Pookie.

YOUNG MOM
I did all the work. I get to hold
her.

YOUNG DAD
But--

YOUNG MOM
No-No-No. No butts...you go fill
out the forms. Do something useful.
I already did my part.

YOUNG DAD hands the baby to YOUNG MOM.

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX LONDON - DAY

YOUNG MOM and YOUNG DAD stand in front of the apartment complex with moving boxes behind them. YOUNG MOM is holding Pookie in her arms. YOUNG DAD is carrying a box. A "Love Actually" DVD lays on top of it.

POOKIE (V.O.)
Shortly after my birth my parents
decided to move us to the UK.
(beats)
According to my dad, they occupied
India, so now it's time for us to
return the favor.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY - LATER

The apartment is furnished. YOUNG MOM and YOUNG DAD are happy. Pookie and SANDEEP are sitting on the floor playing with blocks.

POOKIE (V.O.)

That's Sandeep. He is my husband.
Well at least that's what my
parents had planed for us at that
time.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Sandeep and Pookie are now teenagers standing at an alter.

SANDEEP

I can't do this.

POOKIE

What?

SANDEEP

I'm gay.

POOKIE (V.O.)

Turns out that was a lie.

INT. SCHOOL - CLOSET - LATER

JANITOR opens the closet door. Inside is Sandeep making out with two girls.

EXT. SCHOOL YARD - LATER

Sandeep stands on top of a playscape in front of large crowd of students.

SANDEEP

I, the great Sandeep Shanker,--

A BOY shouts from the audience.

BOY

That rhymes with--

Sandeep ignores it arrogantly and continues.

SANDEEP

I have decided to tour the world
and spread my seed.

A lot of the girls in the crowd look sad. Pookie sees their sad looks and is confused.

SANDEEP (CONT'D)
Worry not Ladies as I will return
when the time is right. You shall
all have this...

Sandeep presents his body with his hands.

SANDEEP (CONT'D)
Again!

POOKIE
(to the audience)
I'm glad I dodged that bullet.

EXT. INDIA - GANGES RIVER - LATER

Sandeep is bathing in the Ganges.

POOKIE (V.O.)
During his travel he decided to
take a purification bath in the
Ganges River.

Sandeep starts to scream.

POOKIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Turns out something bit his penis
off. Probably the karma crocodile.
You know what they say about
karma...she's one of us girls.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER - DAY

Pookie is laying on a bed naked. Candles and red roses are
decorating the room. Romantic music is playing in the
background.

POOKIE
(to audience)
By that time I already had a new
boyfriend. It was a fairytale
relationship.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Pookie, wearing a dress, and JAMES, in a Polo shirt with
Khakis, are walking hand in hand. They picnic at the lake.
They feed the ducks.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

POOKIE
(to audience)
And I was ready to let him take my
virginity.

JAMES, prince charming looks, glances over Pookies body. He
takes of his pants.

JAMES
I can't wait to fuck your feet.

POOKIE
Say what?

JAMES
Your feet are...oh my god...they
are so perfect.

POOKIE
What the fuck?

Pookie stares at James in disbelief and anger.

POOKIE (CONT'D)
I'm laying here ...NAKED! Ready to
let you take my virginity and the
only body part of mine you care
about are my feet?

JAMES
Oh yeah!

POOKIE
Get the fuck out!

JAMES
What?

Pookie pulls a blanket over herself.

POOKIE
Get the fuck out!

JAMES
But this is my room?

POOKIE
(points at the door)
Get OUT!!!

James leaves the room with his pants still down and closes
the door behind him.

JAMES (O.S.)

Oh. Hi Mom.

POOKIE (V.O.)

It is safe to assume that the
relationship ended at that point.
Also if you ever go to a Podiatrist
and his name is James. Look out.

INT. SCHOOL - DAY - LATER

Pookie, wearing a skirt and a girly shirt, is walking through school. She can see people whispering to each other while she walks by.

POOKIE

(to audience)

So my charming ex-boyfriend decided
to spread rumors and everyone
ostracized me. Even the Janitor.

She passes the Janitor who looks at her in disgust.

POOKIE (CONT'D)

I am out 2 out of 2 when it comes
to love. I can't do this princess
waiting for prince charming shit
anymore.

A LITTLE PRINCESS POOKIE appears on her right shoulder like an angel. Pookie flicks her off.

LITTLE PRINCESS POOKIE

(fading away)

Noooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

POOKIE

(to audience)

Gone was Princess Pookie. Make room
for Punk-Ass Pookie.

A rebellious version of Pookie, LITTLE PUNK POOKIE, appears on her left shoulder.

INT. SCHOOL - DAY - LATER

Pookie, now wearing ripped jeans, a torn shirt and heavy dark makeup, walks through school with JACQUE, wearing a mohawk, earrings, a nose-ring and torn clothes.

POOKIE
(to audience)
That's Jacque. He got me into the
mess that put the nails in my
coffin. Not ready to talk about it
yet.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY - LATER

POOKIE (V.O.)
Which brings us to today.

Pookie starts to walk away from her parents and through
security.

POOKIE
(to audience)
My parents got the recommendation
from my principal that a year
abroad would be good for me.
(beat)
I don't wanna leave.
(beat)
I just want to be loved.
(beat)
Not in a needy way though.
(beat)
Why is love so complicated?
(beat)
Who needs love anyway?

INT. PLANE - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Pookie is putting up her backpack in the overhead storage. An
OLD CREEPY GUY stares at her. Sexualizing her. She steps in
front of the row so he can see her whole body.

POOKIE
(to audience)
And if you were wondering about my
bulge-- it keeps some predators
away.

The old creepy guy sees the bulge and is immediately turned
off. Pookie takes her seat, pulls a Banana out of her crotch
and offers it to the woman sitting next to her who looks at
her disgusted.

POOKIE (CONT'D)
Suit yourself.

Pookie starts to eat the Banana.

SUPER: PUNK-ASS POOKIE

POOKIE (CONT'D)
(to audience)
This is going to be a long and
boring flight so lets skip ahead a
little.

INT. RESTROOM - DAY

The restroom has three stalls, all with their doors locked.
OLDER POOKIE is sitting in one of them. She speaks so loud
that everyone in the small room can hear her.

OLDER POOKIE
Back in ancient Rome there were no
walls.

Pookie knocks at the stall walls.

OLDER POOKIE (CONT'D)
They used to poop in groups of
twenty plus discussing politics and
all. What ever happened to that?

A MAN leaves the stall next to Pookie and looks weirded out
while he goes to the sink to wash his hands.

OLDER POOKIE (CONT'D)
I think we got weak. We are soft.
You know how much mental strength
it takes to look someone in the
eyes while taking a shit?

A SECOND MAN leaves a stall and exchanges confused looks with
the other man.

OLDER POOKIE (CONT'D)
Mr. President, tear down the walls!

Pookie knocks against both walls at the same time.

INT. PLANE - DAY

POOKIE
(to audience)
Upsy-Daisy...That was a little too
far ahead. Still getting used to
this power.

The woman next to Pookie, looks at her as if Pookie was
crazy.

POOKIE (CONT'D)
(to woman)
What? I'm talking to my friends
here. Can I get some privacy
please?

The woman turns away from her.

POOKIE (CONT'D)
(to audience)
So where were we?
(beat)
Ah! Boring flight. Let me just tell
you where I will end up.

INT. JUH HOUSE - DAY

POOKIE is entering the house through the front door and heads to the kitchen. In the kitchen is FREDDY (mid 30s).

POOKIE
This is Freddy. He's learning how
to cook and according to him he met
Hugh Grant once. Highlight of his
life.

Freddy is making Beef Wellington. He cuts it open. A VOICE comes out of his IPAD.

VOICE
It's Rawwwwwwwww!

FREDDY
Fuuuuuuck.
(beat)
I'm sorry master. I won't
disappoint you next time.

POOKIE
He is the head of my exchange
family. He likes long walks at the
beach and works at a Zoo.
(beat)
Animals and animal prints get him
all excited.

Pookie leaves the kitchen and enters the STUDY where PEPE (30s) is sitting in front of a computer.

POOKIE (CONT'D)
 Pepe. Second head of the family.
 House husband and crypto lover.
 Therefor lots of mood swings.

Pepe stares at the computer screen that displays a moving graph. The graph goes up.

PEPE
 We're rich!

The graph goes down rapidly.

PEPE (CONT'D)
 We've to sell the house!

The graph skyrockets.

PEPE (CONT'D)
 Vacation home!

The graph skydives.

PEPE (CONT'D)
 (angry)
 Fuck you, Elon!

POOKIE
 Last but not least--

Pookie moves to the living room where CASSIOPEIA (16) is watching a home video of an american football game.

POOKIE (CONT'D)
 That's Cassy. Adopted.
 (beat)
 Her favorite sport is baseball and
 we'll go to the same school.
 (beat)
 So this is it. My exchange family.
 The Juh's. Bunch of weirdos.
 (beat)
 Time to arrive.

INT. JUH HOUSE - HALLWAY - EVENING

Freddy and Pepe are carrying luggage. Pookie and Cassiopeia walk behind them.

FREDDY
 Your room's right here next to
 Cassy's.

The door to Cassy's room is open and Pookie takes a peak and looks impressed. They enter Pookie's room.

INT. JUH HOUSE - POOKIE'S ROOM - EVENING

PEPE

Here we are.

They set down the luggage.

FREDDY

We hope you like it.

The room has a queen bed with flower covers, a nice table with a laptop and a mobile phone on top of it and is all in all well decorated.

POOKIE

It's ... great.

CASSIOPEIA

I helped with the decoration. If it was up to these two you would have lived in a pink wonderland.

POOKIE

Thank you for that.

CASSIOPEIA

You're welcome.

PEPE

Pink is a nice color.

FREDDY

The best places in the world are pink.

Pookie coughs.

PEPE

Like the Hawa Mahal in India.

FREDDY

We've never been but we heard that it's out of this world.

PEPE

Have you been?

Cassiopeia is a little embarrassed.

CASSIOPEIA

Just because she is Indian, doesn't mean she has been there.

POOKIE

It's fine. I haven't been either. My parents moved to Britain when I was still a baby and we never returned.

FREDDY

We should go together some time.

PEPE

What a great idea!

CASSIOPEIA

I think we should let her settle in. Let her call her parents and unpack.

PEPE

You're absolutely right.

FREDDY

Sorry. We are just so excited to have you here.

PEPE

We'll leave you to it.

POOKIE

Thanks.

FREDDY

Oh today is family movie night. We're going to start with an episode of Project Runway...

PEPE

Followed by a Mission Impossible Marathon.

FREDDY

We'll have Ice Cream, Popcorn, Chips --

PEPE

And some Eye-Candy. I love me some Tom Cruise.

Freddy slaps Pepe's arm.

FREDDY

Behave.

(beat)

Anyway. Feel free to join. We know you must be tired but if you feel up for it, we would love to have you.

Pepe and Freddy leave the room.

CASSIOPEIA

I know they might seem weird at the moment but they don't have a mean bone in their body.

POOKIE

It's nice to be here. Just a little overwhelming.

Pookie's eyes glance at Cassiopeia's left hand where all her fingers are curled, making it look like a claw.

CASSIOPEIA

Claw hand.

POOKIE

What?

CASSIOPEIA

It's called ulnar claw. It's a genetic thing. Not contagious.

POOKIE

Oh...I didn't--

CASSIOPEIA

It's actually the perfect shape for handjobs but because I sometimes twitch and can't control it, it's also very dangerous.

Pookie laughs.

POOKIE

Do you have a boyfriend?

CASSIOPEIA

No. Who needs boys anyway?

POOKIE

Exactly.

They both smile at each other.

CASSIOPEIA
I'll let unpack. If you need
anything just let me know.

POOKIE
Thanks.

Cassiopeia leaves the room.

INT. JUH HOUSE - POOKIE'S ROOM - LATER

Pookie sits on the bed. Open suitcases are on the ground
being partially unpacked.

POOKIE
Mom...Mom...I'm fine. The flight
was fine.
(beat)
Yes, I have food.
(beat)
No, it's not as good your Samosas.
(beat)
No, I won't tell the Americans your
secret ingredient.
(beat)
Ok.
(beat)
Hi Dad.
(beat)
Yes, I know that there are
homosexual practices mention in the
Kama Sutra.
(beat)
I'm not going to mention that to
them.
(beat)
Because it's weird.
(beat)
I'm pretty sure they know what
they're doing.
(beat)
No, you don't have to send a
copy...
(beat)
Dad?
(beat)
Dad?
(beat)
Hi mom.
(beat)
Yes, I'm fine...I'm going to hang
up now.
(beat)
(MORE)

POOKIE (CONT'D)

No...I love you but they're having
a movie night that I should attend.

(beat)

We're not watching Love Actually

(beat)

I know it's my favorite movie.

(beat)

I gotta go. Tell Dad not to send
anything here.

(beat)

Love you, too.

Pookie hangs up the phone and leaves the room. She heads to
the staircase.

INT. JUH HOUSE - STAIRCASE

Pookie is halfway down the stairs and looks into the living
room. Freddy, Pepe and Cassiopeia are sitting on the sofa
with popcorn, watching Project Runway and having fun. Pookie
watches them for a few seconds.

PEPE

That dress is hid-dee-ous!

Pookie smiles but the smile slowly fades.

POOKIE

(to audience)

What? I've the right to be a little
sad and homesick.

(beat)

Maybe in the future I'll rewind to
this moment and make a different
decision but right now I don't
wanna interfere with their joy.

Pookie heads back up the stairs and goes to bed.

EXT. SCHOOL - MORNING

Cassiopeia and Pookie exit the SUV.

POOKIE

(to audience)

First day of school. How exciting.

Pookie looks at the building and the buses.

POOKIE (CONT'D)
They use the same buses for kids
and prisoners. Circle of life I
guess.

CASSIOPEIA
Who are you talking to?

Pookie and Cassiopeia enter the school.

INT. SCHOOL - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

They are standing in front of their lockers when JAKE, dark
clothes, goth make-up, approaches them.

JAKE
Hey there!

CASSIOPEIA
Hey Jake.

JAKE
(to Pookie)
Hey. I'm Jake.

POOKIE
I got that. I'm Pookie.

JAKE
Right. Right.

CASSIOPEIA
Anything fun planned today?

JAKE
The usual. Just hanging out with
the guys.

CASSIOPEIA
You should join me at baseball
practice.

POOKIE
You play baseball?

CASSIOPEIA
I just like to watch.

JAKE
That's today? I don't know if I can
make it.

The bell rings.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Gotta go. Catch you later.

Jake leaves.

CASSIOPEIA
Do you want to join us? The more
the merrier.

POOKIE
Sure...but he just said that he
wasn't sure if he could make it.

CASSIOPEIA
He always says that but he always
pulls through.

POOKIE
Must be nice.

CASSIOPEIA
It is. We have been best friends
since Kindergarden.

POOKIE
Damn. I don't remember anyone from
Pre-School...or Primary School...or
Grammar School.

CASSIOPEIA
You didn't have a lot of friends
huh?

POOKIE
Now that I think about it--

CASSIOPEIA
We should get to class.

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - LATER

Cassiopeia, Pookie and Jake are sitting on the bleachers
watching the baseball practice.

POOKIE
So they've never won a game?

JAKE
Never.

POOKIE
Wow. It's probably because of the
name.

JAKE
The vibrant vikings.

POOKIE
Who would name a team like that?

CASSIOPEIA
That's a long story.

POOKIE
(to Cassiopeia)
Did you ever try out for the team?

JAKE
She wanted to but the coach
wouldn't let her try out.

POOKIE
Seriously?

JAKE
Yep.

CASSIOPEIA
It's fine. I don't need to play to
enjoy it.
(beat)
But it would've been fun to be part
of a team.

Pookie stands up and starts to yell.

POOKIE
Coach! You incompetent sack of
uselessness. How dare you not let
my friend play baseball.

COACH hears her and gives her an angry look. He summons
Pookie with a stare and by pointing his finger in front of
him.

POOKIE (CONT'D)
(mumbles)
Oh Oh.

JAKE
You can try to make a run for it.

POOKIE
You really don't want to see me
run. I ran once and it wasn't
pretty.

Pookie slowly walks down the bleachers until she reaches the field. She stands before coach.

COACH

You little Ms. Know-It-All think
you know what's best for the team
do you?

POOKIE

I know it can't be worse than it
already is.

Coach is lost for words for a moment.

COACH

Since you know so much about
baseball--

Coach puts a helmet on Pookie and hands her a bat.

COACH (CONT'D)

Why don't you show me what you are
made off and put some action behind
those big words of yours.

POOKIE

I'd love to but I'm athletically
challenged.

COACH

Nice try.

POOKIE

Fine. Just for that I'm going to
hit your balls all accross the
field.

COACH

Prove it!

Coach picks up 3 balls and steps on the Pitcher's mound.

He throws the first ball. Pookie swings the bat but misses.

COACH (CONT'D)

All bark and no bite.

Pookie notices that all eyes are on her and she adjusts her
stance.

Coach throws the second ball. Pookie swings and hits a foul
ball.

Pookie adjusts again.

Coach throws the third ball. Pookie swings and the ball flies accross the field over the fence.

Coach looks after the ball and is stunned.

POOKIE
(to audience)
My dad taught me two things.
Romance and Cricket. Who knew one
of them would come in handy.

Coach approaches Pookie.

COACH
That's it you're on the team.

POOKIE
Uhm...no.

COACH
The team needs you.

POOKIE
Okay...but still no.

COACH
If you join the team and we win the
championship I'll let your little
friend up there join.

He points at Cassy. Pookie looks at Cassy and squints her eyes.

POOKIE
I'll think about it.

COACH
Training is at five.

Pookie heads back to Cassy and Jake.

JAKE
What was that about?

POOKIE
Ah nothing.

CASSIOPEIA
C'mon tell us.

POOKIE
He wants me to join the team.

JAKE
That's great!

POOKIE
I don't know.

CASSIOPEIA
It'll be fun to watch you play.
I'll be your number one fan.

Pookie slightly smiles.

JAKE
I'm getting hungry. How about we
get a bite to eat.

EXT. PARK - LATER

Pookie, Jake and Cassiopeia walk through the park with Hot
Dogs in hand.

POOKIE
What's with Americans and all the
cheese?

CASSIOPEIA
It's sooo good. You should really
try it.

JAKE
It's our national dish.

POOKIE
I take your word for it.

CASSIOPEIA
I mean it. Cheese is awesome. Once
you start eating it, you want to
hook it directly to your veins.
While you bathe in it.

POOKIE
That good huh?

CASSIOPEIA
Definitely. I will tell Dad that we
should go to a Mexican restaurant
sometime.

POOKIE
I never had Mexican.

CASSIOPEIA
You'll love it.

The group ends up at the bottom of giant victorian stairs with long stretching flower fields.

CASSIOPEIA (CONT'D)
Look at the flowers. They are magnificent.
(beat)
Jake. Come take a picture of me and the flowers.
(beat)
Pookie. Join me?

POOKIE
I'm good. I'll just wait over here.

Pookie stays close to the stairs.

CASSIOPEIA
We'll be right back.

Cassiopeia and Jake head over to the flower fields. Pookie waits and waits and waits.

Suddenly JESUS (17), Mexican, hurries down the stairs. He slips on one of the bottom steps, tumbles and lands on one knee in front of Pookie as if he was proposing.

The sounds of the park quiet down.

The sun shines at Pookie at a perfect angle.

The only sounds are from birds singing.

For a moment the earth stands still.

Pookie's eyes light up.

Jesus grabs her left hand --

Cassiopeia and Jake see the scene unfold and start to take pictures of Pookie.

Everything resumes to normal speed.

Jesus uses her left hand to get back up.

JESUS
I'm sorry. Thank you for helping me up.

Pookie is thrown off guard.

POOKIE
Oh...no...no problem. Anytime.

Jesus hastily walks off.

CASSIOPEIA
What was that all about? Almost
looked like he was proposing to
you.

POOKIE
Haha. Yeah. Right.

CASSIOPEIA
I managed to take a picture of it.
I'll send it to you as a memory.

INT. JUH HOUSE - POOKIE'S ROOM - LATER

Pookie is laying on her bed. A suitcase still has some
clothes in it.

PEPE (O.S.)
We're going to pick up some dinner.
We'll be back in a little bit.

POOKIE
(loudly)
Ok! Thank you!

Pookie hears the front door close.

POOKIE (CONT'D)
Now I've the house all to myself.

Pookie stares at the ceiling.

She gets up and starts to put away the rest slowly.

After a while she looks at the picture of Jesus on her phone.

Pookie starts to daydream when suddenly LITTLE PRINCESS
POOKIE reappears on her right shoulder.

LITTLE PRINCESS POOKIE
I'm back!

POOKIE
Oh no!

LITTLE PRINCESS POOKIE
Oh yes!

Little Punk Pookie decides to also appear on Pookies left shoulder.

LITTLE PUNK POOKIE
Hey. Long time no see. How have you been?

LITTLE PRINCESS POOKIE
Heeeey! Good, and you?

LITTLE PUNK POOKIE
Good to see you again. I'll let you guys catch up.

Little Punk Pookie disappears. Little Princess Pookie switches looks between the picture of Jesus and Pookie.

LITTLE PRINCESS POOKIE
You know what you have to do.

POOKIE
Never!

LITTLE PRINCESS POOKIE
(deep echoing voice)
You must!

Pookie walks against her own will to the computer and starts music on the highest volume. She starts to dance like Hugh Grant in Love Actually.

Pookie dances down the stairs and is dancing in front of the front door when suddenly --

Pepe, Cassiopeia and Freddy enter.

FREDDY
We're...

They all awkwardly stare at each other while the music keeps playing. Pepe puts the food down and starts to join the dance. Then joins Cassy. Followed by Freddy.

Pookie looks at them dance to the living room. She shrugs her shoulders and walks after them.