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THE TOUR

The area is fiction, the story is real.

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EXT. IN FRONT OF THE TOUR OFFICE - DAY

Participants gather outside. One of the Liaison straps a PA system on his shoulder, and begins amplifying computer generated voice of Andrew. Andrew welcomes everyone.

ANDREW

First of all I want to give a big welcome to our dear guests who have traveled from far away to be with us today. You, are what make this city great! I want to also welcome our locals who have come for another perspective on the community they enjoy. We are so glad you joined us today. So again welcome to Phoenix's first non-food related walking tour! My name is Andrew, and I'll be taking you through a mix of historical, current, and future glimpses of this nice city! We'll have a look at the wonderful features the city of Phoenix has implemented with the community's incredible compliance. Before we begin I want to share with you a few rules and safety procedures: please follow the guides at all times. Please have respect for the locations we visit, remember we are invited, so let's be respectful. No littering. Stay cool. Stay hydrated. Stay alive. We'd like to also ask you to please refrain from smokin' or cell phone use during the tour. Please save your questions for the end, so our guides can share and answer them with the group. Photos are more than welcome, just make sure I

look good in them! Haha. We hope to return safely in about forty-five minutes to our 'Tour Office,' where we will have time to talk about our experiences on the walk. I will answer your questions then, if i can. Alright, let's make this happen!

'Tiny Bouncing Objects' by Jason Ward fades in during the listing of rules and safety procedures. The song plays loud as the participants are guided by the liaisons to the next location.

Just before crossing the street, the music changes to a looped remix of 'How Deep Is Your Love' by the Bee Gees.

EXT. ENTERING THE EMPTY LOT - DAY

The music fades out, as the group enters a lot covered in gravel.

Andrew tells the story of Jack Swilling, Phoenix's founding father.

ANDREW

Let's start from the beginning. The year is 1882, and there is nothing. The scene is that of a vast void of red earth, tumbleweed and the salt river. Jack Swilling, first Lieutenant, shell-shocked from the Civil War, came here, to the desert, far away from his past and any point of reference. He realized that the system was broken. The traumatic experiences left him with a great sense of being and gave birth to his ideas of the nice. It was in 1877 when Jack decried:

The liaison with the PA speaker stops in the middle of the plot. The other liaisons position themselves on either side.

JACK

If only the people could come together to be on their own, and offer a smile, not criticism, a handshake, not cynicism, and an unconditional niceness, not badness. Then maybe, just maybe, we could truly realize our collective dream of individuality, and prosperity.

ANDREW

Phoenix rose up from nothingness. And Jack set out to create systemic change, a new and utopian society. A society to rewrite the wrongs of others, a new center for business and innovation: a little slice of heaven. On February 14th, 1878, Swilling crystallized his thoughts in his famous "Southern Address" outlining the main tenets of his visionary city:

JACK

I dream of a city, absolute with appreciation and thankfulness for all; neither to question oneself, nor the other; a city that does away with confrontational dissent; a city in which a free market reigns for ideas and for oneself. One order agreed, a simple smile.

ANDREW

It was after this inspiring speech, that Jack Swilling would forever be celebrated as the founding father of our great city.

The group moves continues toward the next location. The 'How Deep Is Your Love' loop resumes en route to the next location.

EXT. THE HOUSE OF D. H. LAWRENCE - DAY

The group stops beside an old and run-down house. The liaisons wave their arms while presenting the house. An actor plays the role of a homeless person in a sleeping bag on the porch, accompanied by intermittent movements in response to the amplified voice.

ANDREW

This traditional town house you see in front of you, is the birthplace of the acclaimed Phoenician poet D. H. Lawrence. Are any of you familiar with his work? I'd like to take this moment to recite one of my favorite poems of his. It speaks like no other lyrical piece to the struggles and destiny of the people of this city.

The liaisons distribute copies of D.H. Lawrence's poem, and play a recording of him reciting his poem.

D.H. LAWRENCE

It is the nice that makes life where there was none. It is the nice that exchanged the mesquite for the palm. It is the nice that serves our sweet tea so fine.

It is the nice that composed
the opus of work and
leisurely time.
It is the nice that fills our
heart while filling our
pockets deeply.
It is the nice that provides
the cool air on sweltering
summer days cheaply.
It is the nice that holds us
back from where our filthy
minds run.
It is the nice that gave us a
second chance under this
beautiful sun.

ANDREW

As you can see, today many
local businessmen and women
use DH's shaded porch for a
nice and comfy rest on a busy
day. OK, how about we
continue on?

The group continues to the next location, meanwhile a looped
remix of 'These Boots Are Made For Walking' by Nancy Sinatra
plays.

EXT. THE DUMPING GROUND - DAY

The music fades out. The group stops at an empty lot. The
liaisons peer deep into the lot as Andrew explains it's history
and significance.

ANDREW

Here we are! Anyone know why
we've stopped here? This
entire block used to be a
dumping ground: it was one
big hole where people had the
habit of throwing their

trash. The city had declared it a bio-hazardous zone, filled the holes with earth, and leveled it. Now it looks like any other empty lot, waiting to be developed. But the nature of the ground still puts it in question: whether it is infrastructurally stable for a building to stand there or not. It is one of the only places in this neighborhood where we stand in continuity with the community of yesterday. It is interesting that the site has managed to stay standing over the decades, against the harsh climate of the desert and the sprawl of the urban core.

EXT. THE WALK TO MILTON'S GARDEN - DUSK

'These Boots Are Made For Walking' resumes as the group makes its way to the next site. While walking, the music fades and Andrew expands on city's history.

ANDREW

Let's take this moment to dive a little deeper into the history of Phoenix. Today, we have city founder Jack Swilling to thank for instilling Phoenix with its core values of success. In the years following Jack's death, his legacy continued to strike a chord in the town's early populace. Men and women eagerly welcomed

his pioneering ideas of The Nice. John Speerberg's 1907 best selling book "Nice Conduct" is the most prominent account of this success story. It lays out the key elements of Niceness and prescribes many of the values and principles that a nice person ought to have. The text famously remarks, that to be nice is to strive for one's self sovereignty and to use the benefits provided by others. That it is productive to keep others at a nice distance with a smile. It also highlights that the acquisition of commodities is a safe bet. However self-evident Speerberg's claims still are today, it has never been one voice that determined the destiny that Nice has played in the valley of the sun. In fact, it is a whole range of daily doings and influences that form an agglomerated presentation of how Niceness has shaped each and everyone.

The music loop 'These Boots Are Made For Walking' fades in again.

The group arrives at what Andrew describes as 'Milton's Garden,' a public garden behind a boutique.

EXT. MILTON'S GARDEN - DUSK

Upon the arrival at Milton's Garden, liaisons invite participants sit down for the duration of Andrew's story.

ANDREW

Welcome to Milton's Garden.
Feel free to take a seat!
This garden tells, like no
other place, the story of
John Milton. He is a
self-taught guerilla gardener
and passionate anarchist. He
started gardens along the
streets, on vacant property
lots, wherever he could, he
would. The fruits of the
garden were always for the
community, meant to be
shared. When he was young and
growing up on a farm,
gardening was not considered
cool. But if you view the
food industry with critical
eyes, gardening becomes a
form of resistance. It means
taking things into one's own
hands.

Not many people know that
John Milton had a brother who
lost his eyesight after an
accident. Him and John were
making a european style
schnapps out of home grown
apples. Not having previous
experience with brewing hard
liquors, one sip of the drink
made his brother blind.

In this specific garden where
we are gathered, upon digging
up the whole backyard, he
found an extremely rare set
of Hohokam jewelry. In fact,
it is the only known piece of
Hohokam jewelry with an
actual diamond. After selling

it to a private collector,
John has since bought a nice
house and is enjoying a real
nice life in Sun City.
Alright, let's move forward!

'These Boots Are Made For Walking' fades in.

EXT. WALKING TO THE DRAIN - DUSK

Andrew continues on with some background history concerning "The Nice".

ANDREW

How about a little more
history, shall we? Following
the region's success in
copper and cotton, the
industrial revolution further
accelerated the young city's
economic prosperity, allowing
for a new degree of comfort
and the atmosphere that
follows to spread in ways
that had never been
anticipated. It was this that
made way for an expansion in
parks and gardens - like the
ones you can see just on the
right of you -

The liaisons point in direction of the empty lot that is now
across the street.

ANDREW

...But extended on to new and
welcomed amenities such as
entertainment venues, malls
and other cultural

institutions, a vibrant and booming fashion industry, and the acquisition of major hometown sports teams. All of this not only spurred the local economy, but reinforced the tested benefits of the nice conduct. Nice was on the rise.

EXT. DRAIN - DUSK

The liaison with the PA speaker stops in the middle of the street, while the other two liaisons crouch down to reveal the storm drain along the sidewalk. Andrew explains the city's water supply system. The liaisons keep the participants safe by moving to the group's periphery and directing the traffic around them.

ANDREW

Okay, so for those of you not from drought prone regions, you're probably wondering how the heck do we ensure a water supply fit for our ever-growing city. Well that's all taken care of thanks to the city of Phoenix water services department. They oversee and provide drinking water to more than 1.5 million people within our 540 square-mile service area. May sound like it, but it's not rocket science, it's a story that dates back to 1938 as part of FDR's new deal to completely overhaul the then inefficient and limited reaching water treatment facilities, they were in

return replaced with the latest advancements in technology, including the five tank and sixteen quad pipe filtration process, supported as well by the latest discoveries in chemical engineering. The system has remained almost unchanged for the past 75+ years, which makes it the most sustainable water system since this land was settled.

'Ukulele-loop 1' fades in, incrementally increasing volume, until the audio distorts.

...The city has been committed to providing the highest quality drinking water. Now with that said, taste and odor are not regulated under drinking water health standards. However, these are harmless, aesthetic aspects that some consumers may notice. The result is similar to removing a boo-kay of fresh flowers from a room. Even though the flowers are gone, the aroma remains. Partnering with Safe-Tech, a Santa Barbara based chemical management firm, they have successfully provided clear water, fortified with beneficial additives such as calcium, fluoride, and Serotonin inhibitors, or commonly known as 'mood stabilizers'. Ever since the water has hit the

taps it's received data-driven support from the Arizona Dental Association which reports a massive decrease in tooth decay and conversely a spike in bone density. Besides better teeth, Phoenician mental health experts have seen a major drop in cases of depression. But for those with still sensitive palettes you can also reduce taste and odor in tap water by simply chilling the water in the refrigerator prior to consumption. Another easy method is to add a slice of lemon to the water.

The group is guided to the next location. 'Ukulele-loop 1' plays until then.

EXT. "CITRUS" TREE - DUSK

The group arrives at a small parking lot. As 'Ukulele-loop 1' fades out the liaisons draw the attention of a tree. As Andrew begins talking about citrus fruit, the liaisons simultaneously pass around shriveled oranges.

ANDREW

I. Love. Citrus fruit. Especially the oranges. It is sad news, that this is the last citrus season in Phoenix. From this year on, the oranges will go from the young green phase, straight to dried and old. The ripe stage of the fruit will be

skipped, totally. From too
green, to too old.

The liaisons collect the dried oranges from the audience, and
move to the adjacent side of the parking lot.

EXT. MURAL - DUSK

In admiration, the liaisons frame themselves on the left and the
right of a mural plainly depicting a woman's face. Andrew shares
a story about mural and graffiti culture in Phoenix.

ANDREW

When you see the house, right
here, what do you notice? The
Mural, right? That's correct.
But there's more than meets
the eye, something Nice is
happening here. When the Arts
District was still young,
there was a movement by mural
artists to combat the
vitriolic nature of graffiti
culture. It was in those days
when the saying "Knowledge
Breaks Down Barriers Created
by Ignorance" was first used,
allowing art to become more
integrated into our way of
life. We are proud of our
Murals, because they've been
redesigned and painted
sometimes even with the youth
from central Phoenix
neighborhoods to portray the
core values of our society
such as family, education and
social justice. In fact each
year the city grants one
muralist an opportunity to
collaborate pro-bono on civic

projects downtown. This is just another example of the incredible opportunities and commitment the city provides its artists.

The group continues down the connecting alleyway, and 'Ukulele-loop 2' begins to play. Walking the other direction towards the group, the homeless person reappears in winter clothing, with a hat, and bags, and unflinchingly cuts through the group in hurry.

EXT. ALLEY - DUSK

The group passes dumpsters distributed throughout the alley that are painted black and white as to resemble cowhide.

'Ukulele-loop 2' fades out.

ANDREW

Let me guess, you're probably wondering, "What are those cows doing in the middle of the alley?" Well that is no herd, but rather, the collaborative artwork of a group of social practice students from Germany. They spent two months working in the community which resulted in the beautification and reinventing of the often unnoticed back alleys. They made taking out the trash, a real pleasure.

'Ukulele-loop 2' fades in.

The group exits the alley, and crosses the street towards the previously visited empty lot, but this time approaching from another angle.

EXT. THE GRID/THE EMPTY LOT - DUSK

The liaisons approach the lot just as before, each standing with one foot on the lot and one on the sidewalk. 'Ukulele-loop 2' turns off.

ANDREW

So maybe you've noticed that our city blocks are organized with a flat, geometric grid. Just have a look around, or check out a map! Their shape follows a pattern of construction estimated to be around 2000 years old. We know very little information about the pre-nice community who originally formed these rectangular shapes that we are standing on today. Archaeologists responsible for surveying the area have reported that the pre-nice community was based on the real. The rectangular shape is thought to have been the basis for their communication,

The landscape is once again highlighted with sweeping arm gestures.

...a sort of knowledge transmitting device that also offered itself as a residential plot. Furthermore, from a bird's eye view the large shapes serve as a visual scare tactic, intimidating other living beings from nearing.

The sky is dark, and the liaisons look up to the stars in fear and wonder.

...Some interpret this zone as a reversed bermuda triangle, simply in another shape. Local folklore highlights the struggles of our early settlers task trying to locate the area, but once found, it becomes easily navigable and even more simple to leave. Over the past few decades a scientific think tank has begun to study and integrate themselves into the lives of the original residents of the neighborhood. With the intention of creating a new experimental community, based on the lifestyle of the pre-nice community and the values that guide today's dominatingly nice culture. Already within the last 15 years, we are proud to announce that where there was nothing, there are now one-hundred businesses prospering, with more to follow. This is only the beginning of this city's success. Nice is on the rise, and risen it has.

'Ukulele-loop 2' fades in as the group crosses the street once again.

EXT. THE LAST REMAINING CRACK HOUSE - DUSK

The music fades out as the group approaches abandoned house covered in graffiti. The liaisons caresse the house looking longingly at it.

ANDREW

Let's stop here for a moment. This location is full of history, but even more filled with stories that they somehow seem to have all occurred at the same time, or maybe: in no time. A local legend describes this house as having been one of the only semi-public wholesome locations for shade. Out here, people used to wander in the burning warmth. The sun had dried out their very words. In the silence of this house, sounds and people came to life again. Moving and smiling around, they got attracted to each other. Voices raised in the shade. A new way to meet and begin a respectable and civilized relation towards each other was born again.

The group continues walking while 'Tiny Bouncing Objects' plays again.

EXT. ROOSEVELT POINT, PARKING LOT - SUNSET

Following the liaison with the PA speaker, the group climbs four flights of stairs, until reaching the roof the parking lot attached to a modern apartment complex. The previous music fades out and Andrew offers some more historical background. The remaining two liaisons take the elevator and wait to intercept the group from above.

ANDREW

From the beginning, Phoenix was a utopian enterprise, bringing life to the lifeless desert. Back in the days of early history, the people of Phoenix described the city with the Five N.C's: Nice Climate, Nice Capital, Nice Consumption, Nice Cohesion, and real Nice Capital.

Thomas A. Manning's 'Magnum Opus' of 1923, Nice and Real, claims that there must have been traces of Real in this City. Manning argues that every Nice is a little bit Real. But in stark contrasts to the Purists of the Phoenician doctrine, it is now a consensus amongst Sociologists, Historians, Geo- Psychologist and Landscape Archaeologists that it is only the kindness, the politeness and the overall Niceness that is constantly shaping the lively urban environment of Phoenix.

As the group arrives on the 4th Floor, 'Conquest of Paradise' by Vangelis plays loudly echoing of the neighboring apartment buildings. The liaisons stoically march up to the edge of the terrace. They present the city with their arms held high while slowly orbiting in the sunset. The music is cut.

ANDREW

Certain groups of artists of the 80's used to live in warehouses North of the rail tracks.

Liaisons point towards the North of Downtown.

Eventually they had to move out and relocate, in order to make way for the baseball stadium.

After the artists had resettled just by the downtown in the area around Roosevelt Row...

Liaisons indicate the Roosevelt Row neighborhood below.

...some years after, there came another threat of building a stadium. This time the artists formed a coalition, and some bought property. Few of them had direct connections and good relations to the City Hall, the government and the university. After a certain period, the stadium building plans got relocated, and the artist coalition kept the area. This made it clear that the artists could politically match big developers, and so earned themselves a respected place among the government and the state institutions. In the early 2000s, the state university founded a committee, mainly out of Roosevelt Row artists. This committee was in charge of plans for future developments and research programs for the whole university. For the first time the tables turned

and the artists got behind
 the wheels of urban
 development, through the
 vehicle of a state
 university.
 It is on this rooftop,

The liaisons gesture the surrounding parking lot.

...on a lazy evening, where
 Kevin Brancamp, one of the
 founders of the Roosevelt Row
 and a member of the
 university committee, asked
 himself, "How can a chicken
 run so well after its head is
 cut off?

A chicken doesn't think about
 running, it just knows it.
 And this knowledge is not
 stored in its head obviously.
 Isn't the spinal cord the
 second biggest storage of
 information after the brain?
 It must be that all
 knowledge, before it gets the
 form of a thought, lays in
 the spinal cord."

The liaisons point along their spines.

...So Kevin asked himself,
 "Does this apply to humans
 too?" Ambitious and
 systematic in nature, Kevin
 decided to propose to the
 university to build a new
 research facility which would
 deal with this matter.
 In order to do that, the
 university ground had to
 expand. They could not expand

at the expense of Roosevelt
Row, that was clear.
So if you look, before us
lays the historical building
of Westward Ho,...

The liaisons point out the prominent landmark, Westward
Ho.

...the same way it had been before Kevin, as he
was standing on this rooftop with these thoughts
in mind.

There was no other way. It
had to be Westward Ho. So
far, 44 million dollars have
been invested by the
university into the building
of Westward Ho.

The liaisons point out the ground level of the Westward
Ho.

...The Behavioral Science
Research Facility is being
constructed on the ground
floor, while in the rest of
the building the elderly are
still carelessly enjoying
their retirement.

The liaisons perform a synchronized reference to disco dancing
as the 'How Deep Is Your Love' loop plays. The group walks down
the stairs, this time passing the homeless person sleeping a
level lower.

EXT. EMPTY LOT NEXT TO COMBINE STUDIOS - EVENING

Entering an alley, the liaisons carefully pull back a thorny
flowering branch creating a narrow entrance in between the
thorny bush and a dumpster. This leads to yet another empty lot.

The liaisons run to their positions spread out on the wide open field. Then with their arms out they begin spinning in circles. With a modern apartment complex towering in the background Andrew concludes the tour. The music fades out.

ANDREW

So you've gotten a taste for
this historic city.
We learned about the
beginning when Phoenix was
new and young, still growing
into this beloved, beautiful,
nice lady. People from all
corners of the country come
here to enjoy the sunny
weather, The Nice people and
a community for each and
every individual interest. A
city that cares for people's
jobs. A city that never gets
tired of inventing ever new
ways to align with The Nice
philosophy that was
established by its great
founding father. It is the
fast-moving, ever-changing,
healthy and wealthy way of
life, which embraces us and
makes us feel that we are
welcome and this can be home
forever more.
In the beginning, things
happened so fast that
yesterday was old two days
later.

Taking off the PA System from his shoulder, the liaison lowers it down to the ground, and walks off into the distance, out of sight. The other two liaisons stay standing, with their hands clasped, legs spread wide open, and their gaze shifted downward in contemplation.

Andrew's voice still emerges from the lone standing PA speaker.

ANDREW

...Supposedly, it all began when, suddenly, we found ourselves hooked on what for us has turned out to be a romance with the city. A dream marriage of technology and ambition. People still look for the history, but, as every romance ends up with a rupture, the versions of stories are multiple and diverse. With a mouth wide open, all may enter this city, this digestive tract of asphalt and glass that so successfully draws out the nutrients of the people and resources that draw near to it. The end product is not always pretty, nor consistent in shape or size, but it is the health of the grand organism that stands tall as a proud reminder of the enduring Niceness for its contributing public to look up to. A beautiful city.

So, I hope that I've been able to be of some help. I would like to thank our crew, which put great efforts to guide us safely through what I hope has been an incredible journey.

The liaisons acknowledge one another.

ANDREW

...This concludes our walk for today, so let's head back to the office, now. If ever you've got any questions, we will be pleased to try to answer them now!

The liaisons pick up the PA system, 'How Deep Is Your Love' loop plays. Participants are invited into the 'Tour Office' for a discussion. The liaisons offer a glass of water with a slice of lemon.

THE END