

Who's Your Guru
Thesis Screenplay Summary
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Who's Your Guru is a feature-length screenplay about the self-help industry and the dark side of 'positive thinking.' *WYG* is a comedy-drama that explores what happens when you deny what ails you and how leading an inauthentic life can affect the people you love.

Forgiveness expert Claire Dupont finally gets her big break when she is interviewed for her book *Fuggive n' Fuggetaboutit* on Cable Access Live. All goes well until host Jasmine Lee brings up Claire's abusive ex and catches her in a lie when Claire tells her he is dead when he is very much alive. Unwilling to discuss her past, Claire loses her cool and storms out. Her interview goes viral on social media where she is dubbed "honest and raw but no forgiveness expert." She thinks her career is over.

But Claire's new popularity attracts the attention of Monica Proud, PR exec for guru giant Nick Nightingale, who needs a new superstar to boost sales and attract new clientele. Monica offers Claire a chance to redeem herself at *Who's Your Guru* - the biggest life coach conference of the year - with the promise that if she makes a good impression she will join the ranks of the coaching elite and Nightingale Corp will publish her book. Claire must now convince the world and Nick Nightingale that she's still the expert she claims if she wants to save her reputation and help her son's failing business. Claire soon realizes that fame has its price and the industry is not all it seems. Pretending that life has easy fixes has dire consequences on her personal relationships and breeds dissatisfaction in her life. In the end, Claire must choose between her crumbling charade or finally admit she cannot forgive her ex so she can begin her healing journey.

Who's Your Guru suggests that we cannot navigate life with blinders on without paying the consequences when old wounds resurface. Facing what ails us enables us to lead more meaningful lives because pretending we're not fragmented will never make us whole. Sometimes, the only way out, is *through*.

Scholars, researchers, and fellow filmmakers who wish to read *Who's Your Guru* can contact gradfilm@yorku.ca. Please explain your interest, and confirm that it is for personal / private research purposes only.