

OAHS

Synopsis

Brody, an American expat in Thailand, bursts open the rear door of the taxi. He finds his Thai wife **Hannah** and her Japanese boyfriend **Jun** making out in the backseat. The scandalous scene first pops up in his mind as **Jun** looks back on his years in Thailand amidst the pandemic.

Jun arrives in Thailand from India – he leaves India, thinking, ‘All is lost.’ He finds a job at a language school in Prachinburi. He moves to the nondescript province. He meets a charming Afrikaner woman **Lilanie** but life in Prachinburi does not work out in the end.

He becomes a high school teacher, teaching Japanese at Pathum Kallayanee, an open prison-esque secondary school in Pathum Thani in Greater Bangkok. Amidst this, he finds romance with a beautiful Thai woman **Hannah** but that romance is marked by scandals: sex in a semi-public place, ménage à quatre, etc. The inevitable end ensues.

Jun leaves Pathum Kallayanee. He then starts teaching at ‘Speak-in-Style’, a language school where most of the teachers’ objective in life is summed up as ‘easy sex, cheap alcohol and a modest amount of drugs’. In search of the meaning of life, he starts practicing yoga, which transforms into Hand Balancing, but he wonders if he is just like his colleagues after all.

As a result of an unhealthy lifestyle, coupled with being much older than **Jun**, who is already approaching his mid-40s, Speak-in-Style teachers become sick or worse, die prematurely. The death and decay start feeling like signs from God, the higher power or divine energy and indeed **Jun** is soon to be ushered into the biennium of Covid-19, but amidst this, the quintessential movement of Hand Balancing (yoga-like exercise), i.e., **One Arm HandStand**, i.e., **OAHS** becomes a symbol of hanging onto life itself vs. succumbing to the temptation to quit it.