Dear Diary,

Damn. I am feeling fucking on top of the world. Despite the fact that I’m running on 3 hours of sleep (and 4 hours from the night before), I feel like I can accomplish anything.

My Koh Phangan confidence has returned with force, I think I’m feeling even more confident than I did on the island. When I am in the hostel, I walk around like I’ve lived there for years. I introduce myself to everyone, I ask everyone about their stories, I have been making conversations frequently and I’ve been talking about interesting things! I have a group of friends at the hostel (though many of them will be leaving within the next few days), but with some of them I feel so comfortable it’s almost like I’ve known them for ages.

I have been kissing guys on the dancing floor, I’ve been befriending guys, I have a semi-fling type of thing going on with Yoni, and it’s great because he isn’t pushing for anything to happen. I have been including people in groups, getting included in groups, I have been putting myself out there and feeling so amazing in every situation.

I have a weed connect here now so I’ll even have my own supply after today. I have the ability to smoke whenever / wherever I want in Cali (unless I’m working obviously). I have the ability to take free workout salsa classes every day that I LOVE, with other people that make me smile and make me happy. I have free breakfast every day, free coffee. I am surrounded by coworkers who are SO **nice** and welcoming and warm. Everyone I meet has said nothing but great things to me wherever I go.

People *appreciate* me here. I feel like I am a wanted commodity. I love the people of Cali.

I have been going on meetings with people, getting lunch with people I just met, discussing life, travel, and also business. I’ve been networking with new people, networking in English and in Spanish, trying to give back to the community, meeting people who work for the government, meeting Mayoral candidates for Cali, getting free food/coffee in the process.

I’ve been putting myself out there in my career as well. I pitched myself as an intern to John and told him that I would stay here for a month to work on a big project and that I can act as the ‘evangelist’ (John’s words) for data science in Cali when I go back to the United States.

I feel like I’m in a consistent acid trip when I’m here. Everything comes together at the perfect time. Whether that means walking into Ivan smoking up at 2:30 am on the patio when I was going to smoke up, or whether that means getting in on Ivan’s connect for weed when I need a connect for weed and when he needs to share weed with someone, or whether that means coming on the perfect day to Cali where the crowd that I met was exactly who I’d want to meet, or whether all of the men in the hostel are so nice and welcoming and attractive and seemingly attracted to me and my confidence, or whether I come into the office on a perfect first day and then have the office to myself the rest of the week, okay I’m rambling now because of sleep deprivation. The point is that I feel that the timing of everything in my life is coming together perfectly here. Cali is the culmination of all of the experiences that I have had so far on this 2019 journey. It is the perfect preparation for my PhD and to start my career. I am so grateful to be here. I am so happy. I am **SO FUCKING PROUD OF MYSELF**.

I am capable of anything.