

	Title	Description
	<p>2 Days in Morocco</p> <p>Characters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brad (American tourist) Abdul Malik (motorcycle tour guide) Heidi (German-Moroccan girl) Hakim (minivan tour guide) Lukman and Sharfaa (newly married couple from Libya on their honeymoon) Ousman (hiking trail guide) 	<p>Issue: Culture Shock for Brad in Morocco</p> <p>Lesson Learned: Be grateful for what you have and tip those who provide you a service you can't provide on your own! Be more generous in a place of beggars, and money spending people, not everything is about money</p>
	<p>Main Storyline</p> <p>American tourist visiting Europe to see his girlfriend goes to Africa for a couple of days by himself because of a special airfare promo. Little does he know that just south of the Mediterranean lies a whole other world.</p> <p>Camera is set up off to the side of Jemma-el-Fna at the cafe du Nord, facing the main square</p> <p>Brad sipping on a cup of coffee, early morning, enjoying French Moroccan newspaper, looking out at the main squares</p> <p>Abdul Malik drives up on a motorcycle and asks Brad (the only American in the café) "Hello my friend, do you have any plans this morning?" (French Arabic accent)</p> <p>Brad: "Just enjoying some breakfast but was planning to walk around Marrakech a bit later. Why do you ask?"</p> <p>Abdul Malik: "Well we have an excursion going to the Atlas mountains and Berber village and we're looking for one or two more people to join our vanpool there"</p> <p>Brad: "Oh that's really cool!"</p> <p>Abdul Malik: "Here, some photo of the place" (Shows pictures of the beautiful mountain range, creek with tables on it, village houses)</p> <p>Brad: Looks at the description, price and images, and thinks, "ok, since I didn't really make plans I think I might go."</p> <p>Abdul Malik: "Alright man, you will really enjoy this trip. You can get souvenirs there, take pictures in traditional costumes, eat Tagine, and meet some locals."</p> <p>Brad chugs the rest of his coffee, puts down the paper and gets up to leave.</p> <p>Abdul Malik: "Ok, get on" signaling to Brad to get on the back of his motorcycle with no helmet. Camera is mounted on the motorcycle facing backwards.</p> <p>As they drive away, Brad realizes how unstable being on this bike is already going so fast in a mostly pedestrian area where cars aren't supposed to really go but do anyway. As they drive away from the main square, they hear an explosion coming from the café Brad was just sitting in. BOOM (culture shock 1)</p>	<p>Other</p> <p>Man at Souks area of Marrakech gives a tour of how they make beanbag chairs and Moroccan slippers. Demands dollars afterwards with no remorse</p> <p>Taxi drivers are standing near than Mercedes at the airport chit-chatting, waiting to charge tourists a lot of money to get to the city (city is walkable from the airport actually)</p> <p>European tourists at the Riad (hostel) are smoking hookah on the terrace</p>
1)	Jemma-el-Fna Square	<p>Berber lady reading Tarot cards with a translator</p> <p>Little boy running around selling Kleenex tissues and begging</p> <p>Line at currency exchange with people begging the people in line</p> <p>Vendors offering people to sit down and eat at their tent. They feed you till you explode!</p> <p>Kids playing ring toss fishing on Coca-Cola bottles</p>
2)	Going from Cafe du Nord to outskirts of the old town	<p>Brad: "What was that?" exclaimed Brad</p> <p>Abdul Malik: "We better not go back there, sir. It must be an attack.</p> <p>Brad: "Attack"? Like terrorism? Sounded scary, are you sure this excursion to the Atlas mountains will be safe?"</p> <p>Abdul Malik: "Oh yes... very safe trying to reassure Mr. Moneybags here)"</p> <p>Brad: "By the way, how much does this excursion cost? I didn't see the price on the flyer"</p> <p>Abdul Malik: "about 40 euros with no meal, sir" (in Darija, that's a lot)</p> <p>Brad: "that seems fair," saying as a green minivan pulls up after the motorcycle took them to the perimeter of the old city</p> <p>Hakim (the driver, a heavier guy exits the van and goes out to meet Brad. Heidi, a German Moroccan girl also enters the scene and asks "Are you here for the excursion to Atlas?"</p> <p>Brad: "Yes, really excited because of all those pictures I saw about it"</p> <p>Heidi: "Nice to meet you (in a German accent) if you need any help, I happen to speak Arabic."</p> <p>Brad: "Oh yeah? I studied in France so my French is pretty useful here too"</p> <p>Camera is now in the front seat of the van like in the movie "Paparazzi" so Hakim, Brad and Heidi are now leaving the city of Marrakech to the Atlas Mountain range for the excursion</p> <p>Hakim: "Just let us know we pick up two people from hotel, ok?"</p> <p>Brad and Heidi: "Yes! I wonder who they might be"</p> <p>As they pull up to a beautiful orange Moroccan styled hotel, a couple exits the lobby and enters the van. Unfortunately they don't speak English or French.</p> <p>Lukman and Sharfaa start talking to Hakim, the driver, in Arabic and the group continues their journey.</p> <p>Brad: "So they don't speak English, huh?" (in French)</p> <p>Hakim: "No, just Arabic, no problem. They know some French"</p> <p>Brad: "How come the girl is so quiet?"</p> <p>Hakim: "Because she just lost her virginity"</p> <p>Brad: "What?! I mean I guess I understand that Sharfaa just married Lukman but it doesn't mean that she had to be a virgin beforehand" (culture shock 2)</p> <p>Brad, sitting in the front seat talking to the driver, Hakim, turns to look at Sharfaa to say "how are you", and she just smiles, very shy</p> <p>Brad: "I still don't get why this whole marriage thing makes you quiet. Anyway, sing loud a man riding a donkey sideways beating it with a stick! Poor donkey!" (culture shock 3)</p> <p>Hakim: "Very common my friend, the donkey also carries sacks of rice and is worth around \$200"</p> <p>Heidi: "Don't be so surprised by what you see, look! We're approaching the Berber village!"</p> <p>Brad: "Seems like you've been here before."</p> <p>Heidi: "Oh yes, my father is Moroccan so our family visits from Germany every now and then"</p> <p>As the green minivan pulls up next to the entrance, which is a dirt road with animals roaming around, they see another Mercedes taxi just like the old style ones posted up at the Marrakech airport when Brad flew in</p> <p>Brad: "Wow, tourists take taxis for 1 hour here? That's strange. I thought they'd at least get a bus or van to come here!" (culture shock 4)</p> <p>The 5 people get out of the van and go into a Berber family's residence</p> <p>The first thing Brad notices was that a cow was living in their house! Pots and pans were hanging on the walls and the floor was made of dirt with the cow's dung could be easily stepped on by someone visiting the home. The children were running around barefoot but were so happy beyond belief. (culture shock 5)</p> <p>Brad turns to Hakim and says: "I can't believe what I am seeing"</p> <p>After getting a tour of their home, the mother of the family offers to make mint sugar tea for the guests on their terrace. This family was so poor but so hospitable and happy that it was hard not to enjoy this visit!</p> <p>Sitting on the deck, the mother shows how she makes tea using real sugar cane and offers some bread with oil as a snack for the guests</p> <p>Hakim: (smoking a cigarette with Lukman) acts like it's no big deal and probably because he constantly takes tourists on this excursion</p> <p>Brad, being the only American tourist there, felt so grateful and so welcome, didn't even realize the fact that the view from the deck of other villages situated on top of the Atlas mountain range just so gorgeous.</p> <p>After making a video of the mother making real Moroccan tea, it was time to go to the next part of the excursion.</p> <p>Walking down to the exit, everyone was giving the family at least some Darija except for Brad. At his time in Brad's life, he wasn't very generous and felt that since he already paid for the excursion he didn't need to pay the family for their hospitality.</p> <p>Heidi, Sharfaa, Hakim, and Lukman, give the Berber mother some cash.</p> <p>As they walk out, Brad starts crying</p> <p>For the first time, Sharfaa says something to console Brad: "Always be grateful, even if you have nothing; that way you will be blessed" Heidi had to translate that into English from Arabic! (culture shock 6 because Sharfaa really spoke)</p> <p>Brad calms down and they get back in the van.</p> <p>This experience really hit Brad in the heart and for the next twenty minutes he couldn't help but think about that family and how grateful they were to have what they have.</p> <p>30 minutes after leaving the Berber village, the tourist van got closer to a more mountainous area with higher peaks as they start rolling tables and chairs set up along a creek but no tourists.</p> <p>Keep in mind, this is the low season, January and it's quite cold.</p>
3)	Meeting the tour group	<p>Brad: "That seems fair," saying as a green minivan pulls up after the motorcycle took them to the perimeter of the old city</p> <p>Hakim (the driver, a heavier guy exits the van and goes out to meet Brad. Heidi, a German Moroccan girl also enters the scene and asks "Are you here for the excursion to Atlas?"</p> <p>Brad: "Yes, really excited because of all those pictures I saw about it"</p> <p>Heidi: "Nice to meet you (in a German accent) if you need any help, I happen to speak Arabic."</p> <p>Brad: "Oh yeah? I studied in France so my French is pretty useful here too"</p> <p>Camera is now in the front seat of the van like in the movie "Paparazzi" so Hakim, Brad and Heidi are now leaving the city of Marrakech to the Atlas Mountain range for the excursion</p> <p>Hakim: "Just let us know we pick up two people from hotel, ok?"</p> <p>Brad and Heidi: "Yes! 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	<p>They meet Ousman, a shorter man with running shoes on who took the gang on a hiking trip of a lifetime.</p> <p>Brad: "I love hiking, back in California I go all the time but there are trails everywhere."</p> <p>Ousman: (only spoke Arabic so Heidi translated) "We blazed our own trails here and added some features to these boulders and rocks to make it safer to traverse."</p> <p>The winding trails had the group jumping, stretching, and lending a helping hand to get from one rock to the other. One tiny push, and a person could have fallen to their demise.</p> <p>The call to prayer was heard "Alahahaha"</p> <p>As Sharba was struggling and lagging a bit behind, Ousman made sure she was able to catch up.</p> <p>Every 100 meters, going uphill and along the windy trail, tents were set up with vendors advertising their local treat, bracelets, artifacts, and snacks.</p> <p>Hakim: "I encourage to to buy"</p> <p>Brad thought: "Well duh, I'm sure you have some sort of partnership with these people when you take tourists here"</p> <p>Lille did Brad know that the meal they were to be served for lunch was going to be paid for. (culture shock 7)</p> <p>Lukman: "I'm hungry" Heidi: "Me too, let's just take some pictures here on this hammock bridge and go eat"</p> <p>The trail ended and the tour group sat down at the white plastic tables and were served tangines, a Moroccan stewage served in a triangular clay pot consisting of couscous, meat, and an assortment of veggies.</p> <p>This was the time the group got a bit closer but still, Brad was in culture shock, never did he expect Africa to be like so. Maybe it was because he came to a touristy town of Morocco.</p> <p>Heidi gave Ousman a tip for leading the hiking trip. Men came over playing a musical instrument whom the group also tipped.</p> <p>After lunch, they visited the perfume/skin cream factory which a group of ladies ran as if it were their small business. But the prices for hand cream were off the wall even by American standards.</p> <p>Even before leaving to Marrakech from Brussels, Brad thought, "Here's something I gotta see for sure when I'm there. This garden where everything is painted blue"</p> <p>The famous Jardin Majorelle were an expensive sight in the main city area. So Hakim offered to take the group to a nearby place just like for free.</p> <p>Heidi: "That's genius"</p> <p>Brad: "Yeah thanks Hakim"</p> <p>It really was quite a sight blue clay pots, with a beautiful garden and exquisite, castle type of Moroccan building.</p> <p>Heidi: "Konda reminds me of Santorini, Greece. Doesn't it?"</p> <p>Brad: "Never been there but sure"</p> <p>Newlywed couple: (thought) We are exhausted from today, but let's not push the American to leave)</p> <p>To their surprise, Brad was all cultured out now that he thought it was time to go back to Marrakech</p>
6) Performace and the Jardins Majorelles	
7) Returning back to Marrakech	<p>The sun was setting</p> <p>Brad looked over at the gas gauge of the van and saw the light come on.</p> <p>They were about half way to Marrakech when they stopped for gas.</p> <p>Brad sees Hakim reaching for all the cash he had in his wallet to fill up the van to get back. (culture shock 8) Brad thought, "really, this guy spent all his money just on this excursion. What kind of profit can he make from this?"</p> <p>As they were driving, Brad and Hakim certainly had their disagreements on the way to live like as Brad was doing his best basking in French.</p> <p>After all they had been through that day, Hakim dropped off Lukman, Sharba, and Heidi. Only Brad was left in the van.</p> <p>When they arrived at the hotel, Brad gets out of the van and tips Hakim \$10 USD, realizing how much it pays in the heart to give for something meaningful like a day he will never forget. Hakim says "thank you" with a sigh as if finally this tourist will at least tip someone, with Brad not realizing that the \$10 he gave Hakim could have been the only profit he made that day. The whole time, Hakim tipped the barter mother, Ousman the hiking guide, the musician, the person serving lunch surprising the group that the meal was free, the gas station on the way back, the perfume/skin cream ladies, and the blue garden people.</p> <p>THE END - or is it? Did Brad get on his plane back to Brussels? He's lucky to have survived 2 days in Morocco</p>
8) The moral	