

Circles of Life

By Valerie Hockert

WGAW# 2265486

Drama/Family/Spiritual/Fantasy. 90 pages

LOGLINE:

Exhausted by the weight of the world's problems, a woman falls into a supernatural slumber where she must navigate a Dante-esque journey through the "circles" of human experience to earn her way back to reality.

SUMMARY:

In this compelling narrative, Morgan falls asleep and dreams that she awakens in a surreal, subconscious landscape filled with strangers sharing deeply tragic bonds. Her journey begins in the first circle of hell—a room packed with pregnant women caught in a cycle of despair, where some are facing unwanted pregnancies while others desperately crave a child belonging to someone else. Exhausted and overwhelmed by their grief, Morgan tries to escape into slumber, only to find herself trapped in the next metaphorical dream circle.

This second room is populated entirely by individuals suffering from chronic, self-inflicted illnesses. Struggling to understand why these people choose to wallow in their self-destructive conditions rather than take action to heal, Morgan's consciousness is pushed into the next spiritual circle. Her surreal dream sequence continues to evolve through these thematic layers until she finally wakes up in the real world. Having experienced a profound mindset shift and a new outlook on life, Morgan actively chooses empathy over judgment. She makes a genuine effort to build a friendship with her previously annoying pregnant neighbor, Connie, finally unlocking the key to her own personal growth and finding true happiness.

AWARDS

Reno Tahoe Fellowship
Quarter-Finalist
2025