

Acroyoga is the playful combination of acrobatics and yoga. It is a connective art of movement, full of challenges and lightness. As a base you will feel grounded and supportive, as a flyer you will feel light and fluent. Trust, communication and consciousness play important roles and will be trained in this dancelike art of bodywork.

The Acronyc introduces the fundamental principles of Acroyoga and illustrates the compositions and architecture of a huge variety of tricks and moves. In it you will find:

> 40 Asanas 185 Transitions & 108 Washing Machines

On more than 200 pages you can either start your journey into the arts of Acroyoga or deepen your knowledge. From first steps for beginners to flows for intermediate Acoyogis or adcanced tricks like pops and icarians, all is combined in this book. Detailled descriptions and step-by-step pictures will lead you along into the colourful world of Acroyoga and invite you to get creative with your own combinations.

Enjoy!



A C R O N Y C



Marcus Baierlein

ACRONYC

40 ASANAS 185 TRANSITIONS 108 WASHING MACHINES

ACRONYC



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Guideline

THE ARCHITECTURE OF ACRONYC

The ACRONYC describes 40 Asanas, 185 Transitions and 108 Washing Machines.

ASANAS

The book starts off with 40 Asanas. These are the basic positions and figures which characterize Acroyoga.

Also included in the Asanas

- 1. Descriptions how to enter the figures.
- 2. Transitions, a way of transitioning from an Asana into another figure.
- З. An overview of certain transitions that can be found in certain Washing Machines.

In the Acronyc, all asanas in which the flyer looks to the head side of the base are defined as the normal basic position. This is opposed to all asanas in which the flyer looks to the foot side of the base. These are called reverses. Some positions, for example, Foot to Hand contrasts to other systems. So you can get from Foot to Foot with two steps forward into Foot to Hand. This was important to describe a unified system for all asanas.

TRANSITIONS

In general, there are three different kinds of movements: Steps, Whips and Pops/Icarians.

Steps

Steps are the easiest and most controllable way of transitioning from one figure to another. Here the Base offers new contact points with either his feet or hands for the Flyer who uses these to transfer her weight in a controlled manner.

Whips

In Acroyoga Whips are seen as lashing or swinging movements. Hereby gravity is used, and the Flyer often transitions to the next figure through rolling contact points or rotary axis.

Pops/Icarians

When doing Pops/Icarians, the Flyer is thrown up in the air by the Base. When doing Pops, one contact point remains between Base and Flyer. While doing Icarians, there are no more contact points between Base and Flyer. The Flyer experiences actual flying time, to say "airtime". In general, Icarians are possible between nearly all figures.

WASHING MACHINES

Apart from the Asanas, 108 Washing Machines can be found in the Acronyc. Washing Machines are flows that start and end in the same position.

Thus, Washing Machines can be seen as complex movement series and combinations that consist of Steps, Whips or Icarians/Pops, Here, the Flver uses rolling, gliding, or jumping points of contact or combinations to fly from one to another figure.

In addition, all Washing Machines and Transitions can be done backwards if they do not require gravity. If you want to create a new flow, you can do so by joining multiple Transitions from the Asanas.

The Washing Machine itself can be done on different level. Hereby the principles of movement stay identical while the contact points between Flyer and Base increasingly are reduced. This is exemplified with the Washing Machines Nunchuk, London Spin and Flying Crescent.

The origin as well as the history of Transitions and Washing Machines will be examined deeper in the future. Those artists inspiring me to write this book, can be found on www.acronyc/history.

All Transitions and Washing Machines are categorized into three level - beginner, intermediate and advanced. Each category can be seen as an interplay of difficulty and danger.



PHILOSOPHY CATEGORIES

ACROYOGA / ACROBATIC

The terms Acroyoga and Acrobatic merge into each other. Acroyoga comes along with its multifaceted diversity: From delicate and aesthetic transitions to athletic movement flows to relaxing positions. Acroyoga can be characterized with its mostly flowy, precise, and playful style through movement, the interplay and unit of coordination and precision.

KNOWLEDGE

Flyer, Base and, where appropriate, Spotter should be aware about their intentions. They should know what they want to do and be prepared to do so. The Spotter's job is to offer the Flyer safety when accidental movements occur. It is clearly defined how the Spotter should intervene if necessary. Knowing on the one hand means knowing what is supposed to happen and on the other hand knowing what could happen. Concentration & communication are the keys to great Spotting.

THE MAGIC OF FLYING

As soon as the first basic steps have been learned, the first basic elements of Acroyoga, Flyer and Base can dive right into the free and creative game of movements to discover new movement opportunities.

The more able Flyer and Base are on the technical side of things, the more movement options both will experience. Now they can engage with each other in a playful way. Through this, intimate trust is build and something new and unique is created.

This deep connection is the key to experiencing Acroyoga's magic.

I wish you lots of fun when flying!



BEGINNER





INTERMEDIATE





ADVANCED



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Bird



AMOUNT



The Base places his feet on the hipbones of the Flyer. of gravity over his legs, he extends his legs [3], so that The Flyer then leans forward with a straight body [2] the Flyer can float into Bird. The legs of the Base are and gives the Base her hands. The Bases fingers point extended and perpendicular, the Bases and Flyers outward. As soon as the Base feels the Flyers center arms form a straight line from shoulder to shoulder.

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🍥 FOOT TO SHIN



her hands and on the Bases right foot [2]. She may foot on the right shin of the Base [3]. The Flyer stands now place her left foot on the Bases left shin. The Bases shinbone lie between the big toe and the index

🎯 THRONE



Starting from Bird, Flyer and Base give each other their [3], such as to hook her right leg around the left leg of hands. The Flyer shifts her weight on both her hands the Base [4]. The Base then bends his knees, so that and on the Bases left foot. Now she can hook her left the Flyer can straigthen her body. To complete the leg around the Bases right leg [2]. Therefore, she shifts Throne, the Base extends his legs. her weight on both her hands and on her left leg



Starting from Bird, Flyer and Base give each other their can place his left foot on the side of the Flyers rib cage, hands. The Flyer shifts her weight on both her hands and her right hip [2]. The Base places his right leg under the Flyers upper inner thigh [3]. The Flyer shifts her weight on the Bases right foot so that the Base

Starting from Bird, the Flyer shifts her weight on both toe. In the same manner the Flyer now places her left up and comes into Foot to Shin.

just below her armpit. The Flyer grabs the Bases left leg with her right hand and extends her left arm upwards, ending in Vishnu's Couch.

REVERSE THRONE



hands. The Flyer shifts her weight on both her hands and left arm at the same time [3], allowing the Base to place left thigh [2].

Starting from Bird, Flyer and Base give each other their The Flyer turns clockwise and pushes herself up with her her left hip. The Base places his left foot under the Flyers his right foot under her right thigh in a Reverse Throne.

SIDDHI SIDESTAR



Starting from Bird, the Base bends and rotates his Flyer grabs the Bases right leg with her left hand [3] right leg inwards while pointing his right foot. [2]. The and, using her left hip, rotates into a Siddhi Sidestar.

GANESHA SIDESTAR



[2]. The Base places his right foot under the Flyers Ganesha Sidestar using her right hip.

Starting from Bird, Flyer and Base give each other their right hip and points the foot [3]. The Flyer grabs the hands. The Base crosses his right foot over his left leg Bases right leg with her right hand and rotates into a

BUDDHA



their hands diagonally. The Flyer shifts her weight on Flyer now tilts into a Buddha sideways using her left both hands and on her left hip. The Bases left foot is

THRONE ON HANDS



Flyer and Base start from Bird. The Base rotates his place his hands under her thighs to land in a Throne heels outwards so that the Flyer can grab his feet [2]. on Hands. Finally, the Flyer hooks her legs from the The Flyer pushes herself towards the Bases head by outside around the Bases arms. doing a small tuck [4]. Therefore, allowing the Base to



and the Base grabs her left foot with his right hand. blished the Flyer straigthens her body. To complete The Base then passes over the Flyers left foot to his the Reverse Throne, the Base places his right foot left hand [3] and places his right foot under her right under the Flyers right thigh.

Flyer and Base start from a Bird and give each other free now and placed on the Flyers left hip [3]. The hip and both her arms.

Starting from Bird, the Flyer rotates into a Bird Sidestar thigh [4]. As soon as this contact point has been esta-

Throne 8



AMOUNT



Starting in Bird, Flyer and Base connect hands and shift left thigh and now is able to also wrap her right leg to wrap her left leg around the Bases right foot [2]. helping the Flyer to come up into Throne. The Flyer shifts her weight onto both hands and her

the weight onto the Bases left leg. This allows the Flyer around the Bases left leg [4]. The Base bends his legs,

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BIRD



Starting in Throne, the Base bends his legs allowing right hip on the Bases right foot [4]. The Flyer now the Flyer connect hands, who offers her fingers poin- shifts her weight on both hands and on her right hip. ting forward [2]. The Flyer then shifts her weight on Now the Flyers left leg is free and can be placed on both hands and on her left leg. The Flyer places her the Bases right foot to complete Bird.

REVERSE BACKBIRD



Starting in Throne, the Flyer shifts her weight onto the sacrum in Reverse Backbird [3]. The Flyer shifts her Bases hands and left foot [2]. The Bases right foot is weight on the Bases right foot. This allows the Base to free now. The Base now places his right toes under-place his free left foot parallel to his right foot [4]. The neath the Flyers left thigh, to receive the Flyer on her Flyer leans backwards into Reverse Backbird.

FLYING WHALE



between the Flyers shoulder blades [3]. The Base head, to complete Flying Whale.

Starting in Throne, the Flyer shifts her weight onto the now places his right foot parallel to the left one while Bases hands and his right foot [2]. The Flyer leans the Flyer opens her hips [4]. Finally, the Flyer extends back while the Base places his left foot diagonally her legs completely and stretches her arms behind her

S VISHNU'S COUCH



Starting in Throne, the Flyer gives the base both hands on the side of the Flyer's rib cage, just below her and shifts her weight on the Base's right foot [2].Now armpit. Finally the Flyer grabs the Base's left leg with the Base's point his right foot to slide on Flyer's left her right hand and extends her left arm upwards, thigh. At the same time the Base can place his left foot ending in Vishnu's Couch.



Bases right leg and places her right foot on the Bases between her shoulder blades with his left foot. right hand [2].

Starting in Throne, the Flyer shifts her weight on the The Flyer leans back while the Base catches the Flyer



Bases left foot and hands [1]. The Base can now Bases right foot [4], the Base can release his hands to release his right foot and place it under the Flyers complete Inner Peace.

Starting in Throne, the Flyer shifts her weight on the sacrum [3]. Once the Flyer has leaned back on the

LOW FOOT TO HAND



the front. The Flyer shifts her center of gravity towards perpendicular and placed below the Flyers center of the Bases head, while the Base places his gravity, who stands up to Low Foot to Hand.

SHIN ON HANDS



the Bases head. At the same time, the Base bends his he straightens his arms to balance the Flyer in legs to receive the Flyers chins with his hands.

SHIN TO FOOT

Starting in Throne, the Flyer gives the Base both her Now the Flyer places her right shin onto the Bases

chins by placing her feet there.

Starting in Throne, the Base grabs the Flyers feet from upper arms on the floor [3]. The Bases arms are

Starting in Throne, the Flyer shifts her weight towards As soon as the Base feels the Flyers center of gravity, Shin on Hands.



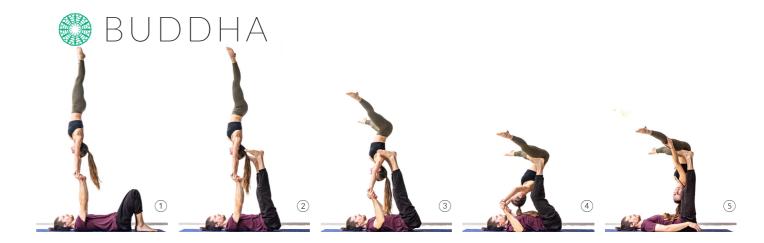
hands. Then she shifts her weight onto the Bases right foot to straighten her upper body for Shin to Foot.

37 | Hand to Hand





Starting in Star, the Base draws an outward half circle to bring the Flyer in one line with his arms. Once the with the Flyers extended arms, to open the Flyers Bases arms are below the Flyers center of gravity, the shoulders [2]. At the same time the Base uses his feet Base extends his arms, to lift the Flyer to Hand to Hand.



feet for the Flyers hips [2]. The Flyer then starts releases her hands to completes Buddha. straddling her legs and the Base bends his arms [3].



Starting in Hand to Hand, the Base starts rotating the then smoothly leans towards the Bases feet [3]. The Flyer counter clockwise with his arms [2]. The Flyer Base cushions the landing and receives the Flyers hips keeps her center of gravity between the Bases hands with his feet to land in Bird .



Starting in Hand to Hand, both Base and Flyer start and Flyer is created [3]. Once these contact points are bringing their feet towards the partner's feet [2]. It is established, the Base extends his legs and the Flyer important to maintain the line between the Bases and stands up to Reverse Foot to Foot. Flyers shoulders until the foot contact between Base

Starting in Hand to Hand, the Base reaches with his Once her weight is on the Bases feet, the Flyer

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BOOM BAREBACK 🌑 Star > Bird Sidestar > Bird Sidestar > Star

Beginning in Star (1), the Base lowers the Flyer evenly Then the Base and Flyer rearrange the grip of their left by balancing her weight on three points of contact - hands, so that the Flyer is able to reach over her head both arms and the left foot - to receive her weight with her right hand to connect with the Bases right with his right foot at her hip (2). The Flyer then opens hand (4). During this movement, the Flyer applies her body to her left and releases her right arm, to constant pressure towards the Bases shoulder. Next, come to the Bird Sidestar on the Bases right foot (3). the Base crosses his left foot in front of his right foot





Beginning in Star (1), the Base lowers the Flyer evenly her body to her right (3) and releases her left arm, to by balancing her weight on three points of contact - come to the Bird Sidestar on the Bases left foot (4). both arms and the right foot – to receive her weight Then the Base and Flyer rotate the grip of their right with his left foot at her hip (2). The Flyer then opens hands (5) as the Base rotates the Flyer so her head is



ACRONYC

Beginning in Buddha (1), the Base bends his left leg, so Flyers weight. The Flyer supports her weight on her left hand (2) and stabilises it to be able to support the body to get into Throne (5).

the Flyer can rotate into Ninja Sidestar vertically by extended right arm and left leg to swing her right leg swinging her right leg over her body. The Base releases onto the Bases left foot (3). The Flyer then hooks her his left hand grip and takes the Flyers left foot in his right leg around the Bases left leg (4) and rotates her



toes (5) facing inwards, so that the Flyer is able to leg, while the Flyer allows her weight to lower behind turn the grip of their right hands and then connect Star using the support of both arms (10). their left hands again behind the Bases



(7); at the same time, the Base brings his right foot points of contact – both arms and the right foot.



and continues her rotation to her left; when she order to support the Flyers weight with two points of releases her right leg, the Base takes her right foot contact – hand to hand and hand to foot (8). The Flyer with his right hand (6). Then, the Flyer lowers her then rotates her body around her hip on the Bases torso to connect her left hand with the Bases left right foot, to move through a Ninja Sidestar (9) back hand (7).

6

rotate along her axis (6-7) into the Bird Sidestar on the the Bases leg (9). Finally, the Base places his right foot Bases left foot (8), releasing the left hands. They then under the Flyers right shoulder to bring her back to

nearly over his (6). The Flyer shifts her center of under the Flyers right shoulder. Finally, the Base balance diagonally to her back and offers her left hand transfers the Flyers weight from his left foot to his over her head, which the Base takes with his left hand right foot to lift her back up into Star using three

From there, the Flyer shifts her weight to her left leg The Base stabilises his right arm on the ground in into Buddha (10).

108 WASHING MACHINES



Reverse Throne > Bird Sidestar > Innner Peace > Ninja Sidestar > Reverse Throne



Base connect their right hands (2). Then, the Flyer a Bird Sidestar on the Bases right foot (9). shifts her weight onto her left leg and swings her right

Beginning in Reverse Throne (1), the Flyer and the leg to generate momentum, to rotate to her right into



Reverse Shoulderstand (3). The Base then puts his Biceps Stand (5). feet on the Flyers upper arms, hooked in at her elbow



During this motion, the Flyer maintains pressure on From the Bird Sidestar, the Base places his left foot the Base through their connection from her elbow under the Flyers sacrum, with his toes touching (10). through his right arm to the floor.



From there, the Flyer rolls her body down between the Bases feet (8) and pulls herself up rotating around the Bases legs (6) and into an L position (7); during this her elbows (9), to tuck above his feet (10) and lower movement, the Base collects the Flyer underneath her herself between his legs (11-12) into a Bird thighs. The Flyer then grips the Bases heels with her on Hands (13). hands, such that her forearms lie fully on the soles of



ACRONYC

This allows the Flyer to transition smoothly through Finally, the Flyer lowers her left leg, hooks it into the

the Inner Peace (11) onto the Bases left foot (12) and Bases left leg (14) and shifts her center of gravity onto then into a Ninja Sidestar on the Bases right foot (13). her left leg, to come back into the Reverse Throne (15).



Finally, the Base shifts his hands to the outside by legs to bring the Flyer back into Bird (15). bringing his feet between them (14) and extends his

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Beginning in Bird (1), the Flyer maintains a straight line and the Flyer grips the Bases lower legs (4). Next, the while the Base tilts her forward (2) to land in the Base extends his legs again, to bring the Flyer into a



Buddha > Ninja Sidestar > Reverse Shoulderstand > Ninja Sidestar > Buddha

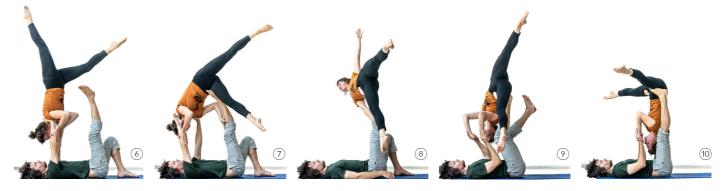


leg is fully extended again (2).

Beginning in the Buddha, the Base bends his left leg The Flyer then tilts her upper body forward and the and at the same time the Flyer picks up momentum Base takes her shoulders in his hands with his arms with her right leg and right arm. The Base then starts outstretched (3). At the same time, the Flyer grips to extend his left leg again, so that the Flyer arrives in each of his lower arms and begins to tip her body the Ninja Sidestar at the moment when the Base's left forwards (4) to arrive in the Reverse Shoulderstand (5).



Buddha > Ninja Sidestar > Reverse Bird > Ninja Sidestar > Buddha



between his hands, he starts to turn the Flyer clockwise (6). hands (9) so that the Flyer can tilt back down into the The Flyer rotates her hips and uses her right leg to swing Buddha. into the Ninja Sidestar on the Base's right foot (8).



Beginning in the Buddha, the Base bends his right leg the Ninja Sidestar at the moment when the Base's extend his right leg again, so that the Flyer arrives in his right leg (5), to rotate with both arms stretched via

and at the same time the Flyer picks up momentum right leg is fully extended again (4). The Flyer then with her left leg and left arm. The Base then starts to takes the Bases right hand with her right hand behind



left foot (8). There, the Flyer and Base connect their the Flyer can tilt into the Buddha.



through the Bases legs to the Base's right hand. As the Flyer clockwise into the Reverse Backbird (6). she does so, the Flyer rotates into Bird Sidestar on the

Beginning in the Bird, the Flyer passes her left hand Base's right foot . The Base then continues to rotate



there, the Flyer rotates smoothly into the Bird Sidestar onto the Base's left foot (7).

As soon as the Base feels the Flyers center of gravity is Finally, the Base bends his right leg and Base and Flyer join

a Reverse Bird (6) into the Ninja Sidestar on the Bases left hands and the Base bends his left leg (9) so that

In this position, the Base points his toes together. From The Flyer then releases her right hand and later her left hand while the Base rotates her back into the Bird. Beginning in the Bird with the arms connected diago-



down and catches her softly in the Buddha (3).

Beginning in the Star, Flyer and Base connect both The Flyer then reaches her arms behind her back for hands, right to right. The Base then pops the Flyer the Base to take (4), so that the Base can push the Flyer up into the Reverse Throne (6).



There, the Flyer and Base connect their hands position, while keeping her weight over the Base's between the Flyers legs (7); the Base needs to main- stable hand connection. As soon as the Flyers shoultain a stable connection from his shoulders, through ders touch the Bases feet (9), the Flyer opens her hips his hands all the way up to the Flyers shoulders. Next, and extends her legs again to return to the Star. the Flyer tilts forward from her elbows in a tight tuck

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Reverse Bird > Ninja Sidestar > Inner Peace > Ganesha Sidestar > Reverse Bird > Ganesha Sidestar > Ninja Sidestar > Reverse Bird



through a Ninja Sidestar on the Base's left foot (2) rolls her left hip, counter to her previous rotation, into onto the Base's right foot for the Inner Peace (3). During this transition, the Bases heels point together.

Beginning in the Reverse Bird, the Flyer rotates The Base then offers his left foot, on which the Flyer the Ganesha Sidestar (5).



Sidestar (7). Finally, the Base walks the Flyer back- Reverse Bird (10).





Beginning in the Throne, the Flyer turns to her right transfers the Flyer's left foot to his left hand (3). The brings his right foot under the Flyer's right armpit and Base takes with his right hand (6).

while she unhooks her left leg and extends it, which Flyer then turns to bring her left armpit onto the the Base takes with his right hand (2). The Base then Base's left foot (5) and extends her right leg, which the



armpit and right leg, in order to bring her left leg up into the Throne. through and hook it into the Bases now free

From there, the Flyer continues her new rotation via a wards around her own axis into the Ninja Sidestar on Reverse Bird (6) onto the Base's right foot in a Ganesha his left foot (9) and then to her left back into the

Next, the Flyer takes her weight through her left right leg (8). Finally, the Base presses the Flyer back



Bird > Bird Sidestar > Mono Goofy Throne > Reverse Throne > Bird Sidestar > Bird



The Flyer then rotates up into a Mono Goofy Throne on leg into his left leg for the Reverse Throne (5). the Bases left leg while the Base transfers the Flyers

Beginning in the Bird, the Flyer rotates into the Bird outstretched left leg from his right hand to his left hand (3). Sidestar on the Base's right foot (2). There, the Base grips From there, the Flyer straddles her legs, to bring her right the Flyer's left foot with his right hand. At the same time, leg to the Bases right leg, and hooks her right leg into it (4); the Base places his left foot under the Flyer's left thigh. by then shifting her weight onto it, she can hook her left



The Flyer again shifts her weight so she can unhook The Base keeps the Flyer balanced with these two her right leg and extend it again (6). The Base then points of contact. Finally, the Base transfers the Flyer's grabs the Flyer's right foot with his right hand, placing foot to his left hand (8), allowing the Flyer to rotate via his right foot turned to the outside under the Flyer's a Bird Sidestar on the Base's left foot to return right thigh (7). to the Bird.





then evenly lowers her using these three points of and Base rotate their hand connection 360°.

Beginning in the Reverse Star, the Flyer shifts her contact while she twists her left hip down onto the weight to her left shoulder and both hands. The Base Bases left foot for a Ninja Sidestar (5). There, the Flyer



facing away from the Bases head (7) while passing her rates momentum with her left leg to rotate while the right hand behind her to connect with the Base's left Base brings his left foot to her right shoulder get hand. Concurrently, the Base brings his right foot to return to the Reverse Star.



Reverse Bird > Backbird > Reverse Low Foot to Hand > Reverse Bird



Beginning in the Reverse Bird, the Flyer passes her his left foot diagonally under her sacrum (4), to land in around this pivot point (3) whereupon the Base brings maintain stability.

right hand between the Base's legs to connect with the Backbird (6). During this movement, the Flyer's the Base's right hand. The Base then turns his right left leg remains extended, such that her foot traces heel outwards (2), so the Flyer can roll forwards the largest possible arc around the Base; this helps



by pointing his toes and the Flyer brings her feet back- center of balance. Finally, the Base brings his forearms wards into the Bases waiting hands (7) to transition to the side of his head to slowly lower the Flyer back into the Reverse Low Foot to Hand (8). During this into the Reverse Bird on his feet. movement, the Base needs to continuously adjust the

The Flyer then twists her upper body downwards, the Flyers left shoulder (8). Finally, the Flyer gene-

From the Backbird, the Base helps the Flyer to sit up angles of his forearms to match the Flyers shifting