

# MONDAY.

A New Play

By Joe Correll

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**MONDAY.**

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**

Katrina - (30's) A sassy and bitter receptionist.

Kim - (30's- 50's) A "by the book" company woman.

Heather - (30's- 40's) The office boss who hates her job.

Lucas - (50's) The ineffectual second in command of the office.

Rachel - (40's) The angry bully of the office.

Molly - (20's) The new girl.

Steve - (30's) A hot, but incompetent misogynist douchebag.

Ben - (30's) The sweet and sexy FedEx delivery man.

\*Note: This play can and should be cast with any race, and most of the ages are very flexible.

Setting: Monday morning in an office in a mid-size American city.

MONDAY.

ACT ONE: SCENE ONE

SETTING: A HIGH END OFFICE SUITE

It is early morning and sun streams into an office on the twenty-third floor of an unremarkable office tower located in an unremarkable American city. The office is upscale, but rather sterile and dull. There is an elevator front and center that opens to a raised reception area. There is a desk where the receptionist sits and a door that leads to the bosses' office. There are four desks in the middle of the room with computers, stacks of papers, letters, and other things you would find in an office. There are no staplers. There is a small kitchen on the opposite side of the room. The centerpiece of the office is a wall of giant glass windows through which we can see a skyline that conveys that we are on the twenty third floor.

There is a "ding" of a bell, the elevator opens and Katrina enters. She is the receptionist. Katrina turns on the florescent lights and boots up her computer. She walks over to the kitchen, sets up the coffee and returns to her desk and begins working. There is another bell and the elevator doors open. Kim steps off the elevator. She's sunny and cheerful, and it's hard to tell her age because of her bland, conservative clothing.

(CONTINUED)

KIM  
(cheerfully)  
Good morning!

KATRINA  
Is it?

KIM  
How are you? Have a good weekend?

KATRINA  
It was fine. And you?

KIM  
It was nice. I went to the Opera.

KATRINA  
Fun.

KIM  
It was.

KATRINA  
(mocking)  
You're livin' on the edge.

KIM  
As long as I don't fall off of it!

Kim goes to her desk and boots up  
her computer.

KATRINA  
Did you see the news this morning?

KIM  
I did.

KATRINA  
Awful. What is this world coming to?

KIM  
A mess.

After a beat.

KIM (CONT'D)  
Is that a new purse?

KATRINA  
It's not that new!

(CONTINUED)

KIM

It looks expensive.

KATRINA

Does it? It's just a cheap knockoff.

KIM

I need a new purse. Maybe you can help me find a good deal?

KATRINA

(dismissive)

Maybe.

They continue to work. There is the sound of typing, but otherwise it is silent. Kim stops typing and speaks.

KIM

It feels so different, doesn't it?

KATRINA

What?

KIM

The cubicles. Since they've been gone it just feels different doesn't it?

KATRINA

I liked them. Some people are better if they're kept in a box.

KIM

Well, I think it's definitely a better work environment. We all know what's going on with each other.

KATRINA

(pointed)

Exactly.

They go back to work for a bit. Kim is shocked by something she sees on her screen.

KIM

Oh my God.

KATRINA

What?

(CONTINUED)

Come here. KIM

Can't you just tell me? KATRINA

Just come here. KIM

Katrina walks over to Kim's computer.

Oh my God. KATRINA

I know, right? KIM

How is that even possible? KATRINA

Katrina turns her head upside down to look at the screen.

I don't know. But there it is. KIM

Incredible. KATRINA

I know. KIM

They stare for a moment or two.

Crazy. KIM (CONT'D)

Eh. KATRINA

Katrina returns to her desk.  
After a beat.

Will you send me that? KATRINA (CONT'D)

Sure. See, I can be fun. KIM

(CONTINUED)

They both work on their computers  
for a bit. And then...

KIM (CONT'D)

Did that FedEx come in for me on Friday?

KATRINA

No, it never showed up.

KIM

Are you sure?

KATRINA  
(irritated)

Yes, I'm sure.

KIM

I wasn't questioning you.

KATRINA  
(very irritated)

I'd tell you if it came in.

KIM

I know you would. Don't get all angry. It's only Monday. We  
have all week.

The elevator bell rings and the  
doors open. A tired and exhausted  
woman emerges from deep within  
the elevator. Heather has on very  
dark sunglasses which she keeps  
on throughout the following  
scene. Heather is in charge of  
the office. She has very little  
energy and every word she speaks  
must be dragged out of her mouth.

HEATHER  
(Unenthusiastically)

Morning.

KIM & KATRINA

Morning.

HEATHER  
(Beaten down)

Did you guys take the train?

KIM & KATRINA

No.

(CONTINUED)

Heather starts to take off her jacket, but she can't get her arms out of the sleeves and she struggles with it, twisting awkwardly about. Kim and Katrina watch her with curiosity.

HEATHER

It was a mess. It took me nearly an hour.

KATRINA

Awful. Did you see the news? So scary.

HEATHER

Awful. That's why we need good guys with guns.

KATRINA

(sucking up)

Did you change your hair?

Heather's jacket is covering her head now, and she can't get it off. Finally she gets the jacket off, and stops. She looks around the office.

HEATHER

What's different in here?

KATRINA

Your hair.

KIM

The cubicles.

HEATHER

Huh?

KIM

They're gone.

HEATHER

Why?

(CONTINUED)



KIM

Remember, Mr. Williams wanted us all to experience a "spirit of camaraderie and creative freedom."

HEATHER

We make the plastic trays for cookies.

KIM

Well, it is an adjustment.

HEATHER

Every morning I walk in and I think something is wrong. It's very disorienting.

Heather looks at Kim's computer screen.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

What is that? Is that a cat?

Heather turns her head upside down at the computer screen. Then she walks over to the kitchen and fixes herself a cup of coffee. She speaks over her shoulder towards Kim.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

(to Kim)

Did you get a hold of Hannaford yesterday?

KIM

No, not yet. I'm waiting for a FedEx with all of the paperwork first.

HEATHER

That didn't come yet?

KATRINA

No, it didn't come yet. If it had come I would have let you know. I know how to do my job.

HEATHER

What's up your ass?

KATRINA

Clearly not the FedEx.

(CONTINUED)

Heather heads towards her office,  
and stops on the landing outside  
of her door.

KIM

It was supposed to come last night, but you know- If it  
doesn't show up this morning, I'm tracking it.

HEATHER

You sure love tracking things....Fuckin' FedEx

KIM

They're usually on time.

HEATHER

Meh.

Heather opens the door to her  
office and starts to go inside,  
but at the last second she turns  
back.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

(To Katrina)

Will you let me know when Lucas gets here?

KATRINA

(fake)

Sure thing! I sure love tracking things!

Heather goes into her office and  
closes the door.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

I hate her...She can see everything I'm doing on my computer  
now. No privacy. What is she doing in there all day anyway? I  
know what she's doing, she's working on that dumb book. On  
company time. She's on like the thousandth draft, you know.

KIM

It probably makes her happy.

Kim and Katrina each get back to  
work. The elevator bell rings.  
The door opens and Lucas enters.  
Lucas is the second in command of  
the office and reports to  
Heather. He is somewhere in the  
middle of his career and wears a  
nice suit;

(CONTINUED)

however it is ill- fitting and disheveled. He carries a briefcase and is nervous that he is showing up a few minutes late.

LUCAS

Morning.

KATRINA

Morning.

Lucas heads to his desk. He pulls a sack lunch from his briefcase and walks over to the kitchen and places the lunch inside the refrigerator.

LUCAS

Did you guys take the train?

KATRINA

No.

LUCAS

Something was wrong; it took forever. Did you see the news?

KATRINA

We did.

LUCAS

(Over his shoulder as he shuffles about the kitchen.)

Jesus.

KATRINA

I know.

LUCAS

(making an excuse)

The trains were running very slow.

Lucas heads over to his desk.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Is she in?

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA

She is.

LUCAS

Crap. I can't slip into my cubicle anymore.

KATRINA

She wants to see you.

LUCAS

Really? Crap. What does she want?

KATRINA

(sarcastic)

Kim, can you add mind reader to my job description?

Lucas has walked around behind  
Kim and looks over her shoulder  
at her computer screen.

LUCAS

Is that cat surfing?

Lucas turns his head upside down  
when he looks at the screen.

KIM

It is. Crazy, right?

LUCAS

How did they get it to do that?

Heather comes out of her office.  
She speaks to Lucas with almost  
no energy.

HEATHER

(Matter of fact)

You're here.

LUCAS

The trains, they were running slow. Did you see the news?

(CONTINUED)

HEATHER

(Big sigh. Rolling her eyes  
and head.)

I saw it. Uh... Can you come into my office?

LUCAS

Sure. Can I get some coffee first?

HEATHER

(Heather lets out a long and  
labored breath.)

If you need coffee, then by all means, go get it.

LUCAS

I don't need it. What's up?

HEATHER

We'll talk about it in my office.

LUCAS

Let me get some coffee.

HEATHER

Whatever. Just come in here. I want to talk to you about a  
couple of things.

Heather goes into her office.

LUCAS

Damn. What do you think she wants? Do you think this is about  
the new graphics? Because that is not my fault....Where are  
the new graphics?

KIM

FedEx hasn't delivered them yet.

LUCAS

(exasperated)

Fuck.

KIM

(typing)

Their website says, there was a bad storm in Memphis.

LUCAS

Memphis? What does Memphis have to do with anything?

(CONTINUED)

KIM

All the FedEx planes go through Memphis.

LUCAS

(irritated)

Right. Memphis. It sounds like a disease. "What's wrong with him? Oh, he has a bad case of Memphis."

Lucas laughs hysterically. No one else laughs.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

What do you think she wants to talk to me about?

KATRINA

(sarcastic)

Hold on a minute. Let me check your horoscope.

LUCAS

This sucks. It's Monday. I don't need this crap.

Lucas knocks on Heather's office door.

HEATHER

(off)

Come in.

LUCAS

(cheerfully)

Heeeyyy boss lady! Is that a new hairstyle?

Lucas enters Heather's office.  
Kim and Katrina work away.

The elevator bell rings and the door opens revealing two women who could not be more opposite. Rachel carries a coat, satchel and her purse. Her hair is wild and she is manic. Rachel is like a rattlesnake who's been cornered, ready to strike at any second. Just behind her is Molly. She is like a baby poodle. Molly is dressed conservatively for someone her age.

(CONTINUED)

She is about two steps behind Rachel. Molly carries a sack with a bagel and cream cheese. Rachel announces herself as if she were missed.

RACHEL

I'm here. I'm here. Don't give me shit!

MOLLY

Morning all!

KIM

Did you take the train? Lucas said it was very slow.

Rachel heads over to her desk, she manically dumps the contents of her purse. She starts to go through it looking for something.

RACHEL

(snapping at Kim)

Lucas is very slow. No, we carpooled. There was no traffic whatsoever. Trains are stupid.

Rachel pulls out a tube of lipstick and puts it on. She grabs a piece of gum and puts it in her mouth. She grabs everything from her purse and crams it back inside.

MOLLY

Sorry we're late. It's all my fault.

RACHEL

(snapping at Molly)

You know, you don't have to stop at every yellow light, right?!

Rachel boots up her computer.

MOLLY

I'm sorry. Can I fix you your bagel?

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

What do you think? Just a little bit of cream cheese!! And don't toast it too much!

MOLLY

Of course.

KIM

(working)

Molly is not your servant.

RACHEL

(wheeling on Kim)

Why don't you just stay out of this?!

KIM

I just don't want you to get into trouble with HR. Only trying to help.

RACHEL

(snapping at Molly)

What are you still standing around for?

MOLLY

Oh sorry!

KATRINA

(to Molly)

What the hell are you wearing? You look like an extra from "Little House on the Prairie".

MOLLY

What's that?

KATRINA

Oh brother.

Molly heads to the kitchen to prepare a bagel for Rachel. Lucas comes out of Heather's office.

LUCAS

We've got some issues with the polymeric packaging, people. Rachel, good, you're finally here. I've got a meeting with the polymeric packaging people next week. You have to come.

RACHEL

(Irritated.)

What's wrong with the polymeric packaging?

(CONTINUED)



LUCAS

I don't know. That's why we're having a meeting about it. You have to come.

RACHEL

I have nothing to do with the polymeric packaging.

Rachel grabs a couple of pieces of paper from her desk and starts looking for something. She goes through the office moving items around, looking over and under everything.

MOLLY

Can I go with you to the meeting, Lucas?

LUCAS

Do you know anything about the chemistry of the polymeric packaging?

MOLLY

Not really, but I'm very good at chemistry.

KIM

Good idea Lucas, let Molly research it. She's a quick learner. Aren't you Molly?

LUCAS

I'll send you some of the print outs with specs.... Be sure to shred them when your done. They're confidential.

MOLLY

I know. Shred everything marked confidential. I remember.

LUCAS

Great. Don't screw it up!

MOLLY

I didn't screw up what I did with the form-fill-seal machines, did I?

LUCAS

You did a nice job with that. Everybody upstairs was impressed.

MOLLY

Did you tell them it was my first major project?

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

(he hasn't)

Huh? ...Yes, of course.

KIM

Lucas, you really should make sure Molly gets credit on that one. It's only fair.

RACHEL

(Frustrated, angry. Looking  
inside a cabinet.)

Does anyone know what happened to all the staples?!?!?

KIM

They should be in the supply closet.

RACHEL

I looked in there!!

KIM

There were definitely staples in there last week.

RACHEL

Those are the wrong kind of staples!!!

MOLLY

There's more than one kind of staple?

RACHEL

What? Yes, there are literally dozens of kinds of staples!!!

MOLLY

I thought they were all the same.

RACHEL

They're not. I need the 24 slash 6 ones. All that are in the closet are 26 slash 6 and then for some God damned reason there is a box of 13 slash 8!

MOLLY

I have a box of staples in my desk, you can have those.

Rachel goes over to Molly's desk  
to get the box of staples.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

(barking at Katrina)

Katrina, order the 24 slash 6 staples! Why the hell do we have more than one type of stapler in this office? Shouldn't staplers be standard?!

Molly hands Heather a box of staples.

MOLLY

Here you go.

RACHEL

These are number 10 staples!! These are for a mini stapler. We don't even use mini staplers? Why do you have this in your desk??

Molly holds up a tiny stapler.

MOLLY

My stapler is a mini. I thought everyone had tiny staplers.... They don't work very well. They're only good for two pieces of paper.

RACHEL

What?!?? How much time do you think you've wasted trying to staple presentations with this God damned tiny stapler? No wonder we're so far behind!

Molly pulls out another small box.

MOLLY

I'm sorry. How about a paper clip?

RACHEL

A paper clip?! What are you retarded!? The reports will be all over the place, and then we're fucked.

KIM

(Without looking up,  
continuing to work.)

You can't say that word.

RACHEL

What word? Fucked? I can't say fuck? Fuck that. And fuck you.

(CONTINUED)

KIM

Ha. Ha. The R word. It's one of those words in the handbook.

RACHEL

Fuck that handbook.

KIM

(Looking up.)

Oddly, the F word is not in the handbook.

LUCAS

Molly will you run upstairs and see if they have any of the correct staplers?

MOLLY

Sure, I'll be right back!

The elevator bell rings. The doors open. Steve swaggers into the office. Steve is very handsome and confident. He dresses very well, and is wearing an expensive suit and tie. He's the kind of guy that walks into the room and women and men turn their heads and take notice. But unfortunately, he is a complete douchebag.

STEVE

(Cheerfully)

Good morning.

MOLLY

Morning Steve.

She leaves.

EVERYONE

Morning etc...

LUCAS

(Looks at his watch,  
frustrated.)

Did you take the train?

(CONTINUED)

STEVE  
(smiling)

I did.

LUCAS  
Terrible right?

STEVE  
It wasn't so bad.

LUCAS  
It took me over an hour.

STEVE  
Oh, I left early. I like to get a seat.

Steve goes over to his desk and  
boots up his computer.

LUCAS  
But you just got here?

STEVE  
No, no. I've been here.

LUCAS  
Where were you?

STEVE  
In the bathroom.

LUCAS  
All that time?

STEVE  
It wasn't that long.

LUCAS  
We've all been here for at least twenty minutes.

STEVE  
I was working.

(CONTINUED)



KATRINA

(To Steve)

And check out the news online. It's pretty bad!

KIM

And there's a hilarious video I want to show you. Hashtag surfing cat.

STEVE

It's Monday, where are the doughnuts?

KATRINA

I didn't get any. I'm putting us all on a diet. Eat a banana. You're getting fat.

STEVE

No, I'm not.

Steve feels his body to see if he is, indeed, getting fat. Molly returns.

RACHEL

Okay everyone, listen up! I put a peach yogurt in the fridge!! I don't know who took it last time, but hands off! If you want to hold on to your hands!

LUCAS

Did you find any staplers?

MOLLY

Oh, I'm sorry I forgot!

LUCAS

Just get back to work.

Katrina's phone rings and she answers it.

KATRINA

(on phone, but overly friendly and insincere)

Good morning...Hello. How are you? ...Oh, I'm sorry to hear that Mr. Williams... Yes she is in. Let me check... One moment... Heather, Doug Williams is on the line. Can I transfer him?... No problem. Hi, I am transferring you now...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

You too! I'm sorry to hear that...Hope it gets better. Absolutely. Okay, here's Heather...(A beat, then in disgust)...UGH!

Rachel returns to her desk with coffee. Everyone else begins working. Then Molly breaks the silence.

MOLLY

I like Pop-Tarts.

KIM

Me too!

MOLLY

I like to bite around all the edges first, so the fruit part is left.

KATRINA

I like the cinnamon ones. The fruit ones taste like chemicals.

STEVE

I hate Pop-Tarts. They're sweet on the inside, but dry and boring on the outside. You know. Like Kim.

KIM

Ha. Ha.

MOLLY

(offended)

They are not boring! They are delicious. How could you say something like that about a Pop-Tart?

STEVE

Sorry. Jeese.

KIM

(on her computer)

Hmmm... They've got a lot of calories.

MOLLY

There's two-hundred calories per package. That's a low cal breakfast.

(CONTINUED)



KIM

Per package? I think you mean per tart, not per package.

MOLLY

Oh no! Really? There's two tarts per package. Is it two-hundred calories for just one Pop-Tart?!!

KIM

That's what I'm thinking.

MOLLY

That can't be right. What about the unfrosted ones?

KIM

They're probably a little less.

MOLLY

What about the blueberry ones?

KIM

I'm guessing they're all pretty much the same.

MOLLY

What about the raspberry ones?

LUCAS

(looking up from his  
computer.)

Has anyone tried the Pumpkin Spice ones?

KATRINA

No.

LUCAS

I did not care for it.

KATRINA

(challenging Lucas)

How many calories did it have?

LUCAS

I don't remember. I spit it out.

(CONTINUED)

MOLLY  
You spit it out?!

KATRINA  
What did you do with the second one?

LUCAS  
What second one?

KATRINA  
There's always two.

LUCAS  
No, there was only one.

KATRINA  
(very irritated with Lucas)  
That's not possible. There are always two. Somebody ate the other one.

LUCAS  
(arguing back)  
No, it was sealed.

KATRINA  
Then you ate some mutant Pop-Tart.

LUCAS  
What the fuck are you talking about??

MOLLY  
(to Lucas)  
Why would you ever spit out a Pop-Tart?

LUCAS  
I didn't like it.

MOLLY  
Why not??

LUCAS  
(to Molly)  
Why are you still talking?? I thought you were going to get to work on the packaging. You waste more time talking about Pop-Tarts and staples than you do getting your job done! I don't even know why you were hired?! Heather must have liked something about you, but for the life of me I don't know what! I'm pretty sure you're not stupid! Are you stupid?

(CONTINUED)

MOLLY

(hurt)

I thought they liked my work on the seal machines?

LUCAS

They did, but that was nothing! That was a nothing project!

MOLLY

What did they say about me?

LUCAS

They said nothing. Nothing. Because it wasn't important and I didn't bring it up because we're a team here, and it doesn't matter who did what. You people do your jobs and I submit everything upstairs, and it doesn't matter who did what. That's what a team is, it's not about getting credit for the thirty minutes you spent on the internet researching something you should have already known. You better get it together, and stop worrying about who's getting credit for what. It's not about getting credit, it's about being proactive, taking responsibility, and getting your damned job done. Now. Can we please just get back to work and stop talking about fucking Pop-Tarts?!

STEVE

I would never fuck a Pop-Tart.

RACHEL

You're so gross!!!

STEVE

At least I'm not a bitch about every single thing I do.

RACHEL

Shut up Steve!! You're such a douchebag! Nobody likes you!

STEVE

I'd rather be a douchebag than a drug addict!

RACHEL

Fuck you Steve!

STEVE

I'd fuck a Pop-Tart before I fuck you!

LUCAS

You two, stop acting like a-holes!

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

Wait a minute! He started it!

STEVE

No, you started it when you called me a douchebag!

RACHEL

Only because you are a douchebag. You are the very definition of douchebag. You're on Wikipedia under douchebag!

STEVE

You're mean. Lucas, she's mean.

RACHEL

I'm not mean. I tell it like it is.

LUCAS

(To Rachel)

You can't go around calling your co-workers a douchebag, no matter how much truth there may be to it.

RACHEL

(pointed)

What do you do here, Lucas!? I know you take all of our work upstairs. What else do you do?

KATRINA

Yeah, what do you do all day? Because...you know...

LUCAS

(To Katrina)

I'm your supervisor. That's what I do. I don't have to do anything. See, this is why you didn't get that promotion. You're insubordinate. The way you act, you're never going to make it up to the twenty-fourth floor!

KIM

Come on guys. Let's not do this.

RACHEL

Miss "Oh I'm just happy to work here, I just do my job perfectly and never complain."

KIM

Don't drag me into this!

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

Oh, you're in it.

EVERYONE

(AD LIB FIGHTING)

They all begin to argue. Heather comes out of her office.

HEATHER

(Kind of bored and  
lackluster.)

What the hell is going on out here? Ever since they took out those divider things, all I hear is screaming and arguing. You sound like a bag of cats being crushed by a runaway carriage.

LUCAS

Like a what?

HEATHER

Look, I know I've been hard on you guys, and you're feeling the pressure. But we have deadlines to make and quotas to fill. Consumption was down fifteen percent last year. Fifteen percent. That's bad. And if we don't turn it around we're gonna be in trouble, and we're going to see even more cutbacks. It's not a threat, it's just a fact. So let's get our shit together, and we'll get through this. I know I don't say it much, but you guys are some of the best people I've worked with in this business.

A body falls past the glass window.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

And whatnot. So let's get to work.

RACHEL

Did anyone just see that?

LUCAS

See what?

RACHEL

The window- something fell.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

From way up here? That's not possible. We're on the twenty-third floor.

KIM

No, I saw something too.

STEVE

What did it look like?

KIM

Well-

RACHEL

It looked like a person.

LUCAS

What do you mean a person? Like a window washer?

RACHEL

No, they weren't washing windows.

LUCAS

What were they doing?

RACHEL

Falling. Really, really fast.

HEATHER

That can't be right. You can't just fall off of a building. Maybe it was a bird?

RACHEL

It would have to have been a very, very big bird.

MOLLY

An eagle?

RACHEL

A giant dead eagle maybe.

They all walk over to the window.

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

That's quite a crowd. What are they looking at?

RACHEL

A Taco Truck.

STEVE

I could go for a taco.

RACHEL

I think that's a dead guy on top of the Taco Truck.

KIM

Oh my!

KATRINA

So, that really was a person?

HEATHER

I missed it. What did they look like?

KATRINA

It was too fast to really see.

HEATHER

A man or a woman?

KATRINA

I couldn't see what they were wearing. Maybe a man.

STEVE

It was a man. Chicks don't jump off buildings.

Molly rummages through her desk and pulls out about ten boxes of paper clips and then fumbles them and they scatter all over the place.

MOLLY

Does anybody need paper clips? Because I have plenty.

She bends over and starts picking the paper clips up, Steve watches.

KATRINA

Everyone, I think we should say a prayer for this poor, dead soul who felt he or she had nothing to live for.

(CONTINUED)

She closes her eyes and prays for about 10 seconds. Then she opens them.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

(with excitement)

Seriously, who do you think it was?!!

STEVE

I have to go to the bathroom.

LUCAS

Again??

STEVE

Yeah, I'll be right back.

Steve leaves. Katrina's phone rings. She runs over to it.

KATRINA

(very excited and happy)

Good morning! Consolidated!... I can't talk now. Somebody just jumped off the building... I know right? It's crazy. I'll call you later. Bye.

She hangs up the phone, and rushes back to the window.

LUCAS

He or she really did a number on that Taco Truck.

KIM

Poor Carlos. I hope he had insurance.

HEATHER

Who do you think it is?

KATRINA

Someone from upstairs.

RACHEL

How do you know that?

(CONTINUED)



KATRINA

Someone from downstairs wouldn't fall past our window. Should we go down there and see what's going on?

KIM

Oh, I don't want to see that.

KATRINA

We should go find out what happened, right?

HEATHER

I've never seen a dead body before.

Heather looks down and out the window.

KATRINA

(proud)

I have. My Grandmother had a brain aneurysm. She died in like a second, right in front of my face. She looked okay.

RACHEL

But she didn't just fall twenty-four floors and explode like a watermelon on the David Letterman Show.

HEATHER

(bored)

Meh. It doesn't really look like anything. It looks like a pile of laundry that someone spilled ketchup on.

KATRINA

Do you think they'll let us go early?

HEATHER

Why?

KATRINA

Because it's traumatic. I'm not going to be able to get any work done.

LUCAS

Since when do you get any work done?

KATRINA

I don't think I'll ever get used to death. The idea of dying. ME dying. It just seems pretty far-fetched. Sometimes I think, does everything really continue to happen when I'm dead, or is the whole world just inside my head and it dies with me? Like, will there be TV series that continue on?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

Will people still go to lunch everyday? Get up? Brush their teeth? Mmmm, I kind of doubt it.

LUCAS

So the world just stops without you?

KATRINA

Pretty much, yeah. Anyhow, it's just what I think.

LUCAS

Have you known anyone who died besides your Grandmother? The world didn't stop without her.

KATRINA

My Aunt Suzanne had an aneurysm. And my Uncle Kevin... And my cousin Beverly.

HEATHER

When I was in fifth grade, my teacher died. But she kind of deserved it.

KATRINA

Your fifth grade teacher deserved to die?

Everyone stares at Heather.

HEATHER

I think so. She had given the class an assignment to read Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats...

They all look at her blankly.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

...It's the book the musical Cats is based on? Anyhow, we were to pick a cat and write a paper on our favorite cat and why. Well, I chose Skimbleshanks the Railway Cat, and I stayed up all night writing my essay. The next day Mrs. Crickard had us read our essays aloud in front of the class. I was so excited because I knew mine was the best. But when I was done she said I had completely misinterpreted the poem, and I didn't understand what Skimbleshanks role really was as the mascot for the railway train. The class laughed at me. I cried, and Mrs. Crickard sent me to the principals office for crying in class. Anyhow, cut to the next day, and a substitute comes into class and we were all so happy, because no one liked Mrs. Crickard, so we were glad she was sick. Then the principal came in and said, "Mrs. Crickard is dead. She forgot to set her parking brake, she slipped and fell on the ice, and her car ran her over." And then he just walked out. But the new teacher was really nice and would bring cupcakes on Fridays. That was fun.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

They did an oil painting of Mrs. Crickard and it hung outside her classroom. Frankly, it was creepy; one of those ones where the eyes follow you. I went back a few years ago to pick up my niece from school, and they had taken it down and it had been replaced with one of those inspirational posters. Kinda sad. At the time I didn't think it had affected me, but looking back I think it did. Your teacher crushed by a Pinto. Sad.

KATRINA

What did it say?

HEATHER

What did what say?

KATRINA

The poster.

HEATHER

Something like "If you can dream it, someone else is dreaming it better." It had butterflies or some shit.

KATRINA

Something similar happened to me when I was a kid.

HEATHER

One of your teachers died?

Steve returns from the bathroom.

KATRINA

No, no. About seven hamsters.

STEVE

What about hamsters?

KATRINA

I'm about to tell you.

STEVE

I know a guy who puts gerbils up his ass.

KATRINA

My parents gave me a habit-trail when I turned ten. And it came with a Hamster named Ollie. I loved him very much, but after two days he just keeled over and died.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

I was devastated. So, we went to the pet store and got another one, which I also called Ollie. But he died. I saw it. He was running on the hamster wheel, and he had an aneurysm and he died. It was very sad, so this happened four more times. We'd get a hamster, I'd name it Ollie, they would live for two or three days. And then they would die. They would die all alone in the yellow plastic tubes of the habit-trail. The last hamster I ever had actually escaped from his cardboard box on the way home from the pet store. I think he knew what was in store for him. He somehow got out on the ride home. I searched everywhere in the car, but I couldn't find him. Then about a week later we turned the air conditioning on in the car, and it stunk like a dead hamster. Poor Ollie. It was so bad my parents had to sell the car. But it taught me a lot about death as a child.

Rachel is at the copier taking all of her frustrations out on it. She is ripping out paper drawers, toner drums and banging it on every side.

RACHEL

(Exploding)

What is wrong with this thing!!?

KIM

The copier is down.

KATRINA

You're making copies at a time like this?

RACHEL

I'm trying to!

KATRINA

Someone is coming to fix it this morning. Maybe. Maybe tomorrow.

KIM

Have to be patient.

Rachel walks over to a supply cabinet and opens it.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL  
(snapping)  
But I need it now!! Man, I have a splitting headache.

HEATHER  
I have Advil. Or.... If you want something a little stronger?

RACHEL  
You know I can't do that. I'm not even supposed to have caffeine.

Molly comes over to Rachel with a stack of papers.

MOLLY  
I made a copy last week before I left.

RACHEL  
Finally, using your brain.

MOLLY  
Thank you.

STEVE  
The hamster had an aneurysm?

KATRINA  
Yes. It was very traumatic.

STEVE  
Well if you gotta go, it's not a bad way.

KATRINA  
Not a bad way??

STEVE  
Not the worst. I'd like to have a brain aneurysm... I mean, I wouldn't like to have one, but if I had to die, that's how I'd like to go. Or in a ski accident, that would be cool.

LUCAS  
You want to crash into a tree? Like Sonny Bono? That's how you want to die?

STEVE  
At least I'd be doing something I enjoyed.

(CONTINUED)

KIM  
(looking at her computer  
screen)

Whoa.

LUCAS

What?

KIM

I'm googling brain trauma. Did you know there is such a thing as a brain eating amoeba?

LUCAS

What?

KIM

Yes, some lady got her brain eaten. By an amoeba. She swam in some dirty water and the amoeba got in her mouth, or up inside her...whatdaycallit...her anus, or something, and then it actually ate her brain. Can you imagine?

LUCAS

No, I cannot imagine. That doesn't sound real.

KIM

(Reading.)

There have been one hundred and thirty eight known cases of primary amebic meningoencephalitis this month alone.

LUCAS

What? Where? Africa?

KIM

Mostly Florida.

HEATHER

Florida is filthy.

MOLLY

(very concerned)

Was it at Disney World? I was there last summer.

LUCAS

138 cases this month?

KIM

Yup, that's right ... No wait...sorry, that's 138 from 1962 until now.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

That's a big difference.

KIM

Then this one woman put the amoeba contaminated water into her ex-girlfriend's shampoo, for revenge.

STEVE

They were lesbians?

KIM

It doesn't say that explicitly. But they were girlfriends.

STEVE

Hot.

KIM

And then the girlfriends brain just melted and they found it leaking all over the place.

STEVE

Wow. Where did this happen?

KIM

It says Chipotle.

HEATHER

That was probably a mess to clean up.

RACHEL

It's actually an amoeba that crawls in your body and eats your brain? That's like horror movie shit.

Everyone sits in contemplative thought on the nature of their own mortality for fifteen or twenty seconds.

KATRINA

Does anyone want to order Thai for lunch? I'm thinking of it, but they'll only come if there's three orders.

Rachel goes to the window and looks down.

STEVE

I could do Thai.

(CONTINUED)

MOLLY

I've never had Thai food. What is it?

KATRINA

It's food from Thailand, Einstein.

KIM

Don't be like that Katrina. I'm sorry Molly.

MOLLY

Thank you Kim. You're very sweet.

RACHEL

There's quite a crowd down there now. Some people. So morbid.

KIM

Thai food is like a cross between Chinese and Indian.

MOLLY

Oh I see....

A beat.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

I've never had those either.

KATRINA

(irritated in disbelief)

What's wrong with you?? You've never had Chinese food?

MOLLY

No.

KATRINA

An Egg Roll?

MOLLY

What's that?

KATRINA

You don't know what an Egg Roll is?

MOLLY

Is it an egg on a roll?

(CONTINUED)



KATRINA

No, it's not an egg on a roll!!! It's cabbage and stuff and it's wrapped up in something crunchy and fried.

MOLLY

That doesn't sound very good.

KATRINA

What do you mean? They're delicious. Aren't they delicious?

EVERYONE

Yes etc....

MOLLY

OK, then I'll have an Egg Roll.

KATRINA

They don't have Egg Rolls, Egg Rolls are Chinese. I am ordering Thai.

RACHEL

I think people are actually taking selfies down there. Can you believe it?

KIM

Katrina, Molly hasn't been in the city long. Don't pick on her.

MOLLY

Thank you Kim. You're very sweet.

KIM

Thank you. You're sweet too. And they do have Thai Egg Rolls- they're called Spring Rolls.

MOLLY

What's a Spring Roll?

KATRINA

It's like a Chinese Egg Roll.

MOLLY

Okay, I'll have a Spring Roll and some Pad Thai.

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA

You don't know about egg rolls, but you know about Pad Thai?

MOLLY

I saw the menu on your desk earlier. It sounded good. Is it good?

KATRINA

Yes it's good! It's delicious... Why on earth did they give you this job!?? You're completely unqualified for it. Do you know anything about anything? Where did you grow up? In a fallout shelter?

MOLLY

In Nebraska. Then South Dakota. Then Arkansas. Then Florida. Then Michigan. Then Oklahoma. Then Tennessee.

KATRINA

What?

MOLLY

We moved around a lot... And also Arizona and Guam.

KATRINA

Then you should know about f'n Egg Rolls.

KIM

You poor thing. So hard for making friends in school.

MOLLY

I was home schooled, and I wasn't allowed to play with other children. Or mingle with adults. Or read books, or watch TV... Or do puzzles.

KATRINA

I think you act this way just so people pay attention to you, because if you didn't no one would even know that you work here.

STEVE

(to Molly)

Katrina wanted a job upstairs on twenty-four. She didn't get it, and now she's bitter, and that's why she's so mean to you. Cause you're new. And you're prettier than her.

KATRINA

I did not want that job. And I am not mean. And I'm just as pretty as she is.

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL

Do they have Yellow Curry? If they do, I'll have Yellow Curry.

KATRINA

Forget it. I don't want Thai food anymore if everyone is going to gang up on me.

Steve watches Molly walk around the office bending over to pick up paper clips.

STEVE

I'll be right back.

LUCAS

Where are you going?

STEVE

To take a piss. Why? You wanna come?

Steve leaves. A beat and then...

KIM

You know, I saw my grandfather die.

KATRINA

That's awful.

KIM

No, it really wasn't. It was actually the best day I ever spent with him.

KATRINA

The day he died?

KIM

Yes. It was my eighth birthday, and I went to stay with my Grandparents who lived a few hours away. The morning of my birthday Grandpa surprised me by taking me to the circus. This is way back before we knew how bad circuses were. Anyhow it was just him and I and we drove into the city to watch the circus. It was like nothing I had ever seen before. So many colors, and sounds, and smells. Then came the clowns, the trapeze, and then... the elephants. That's what I remember most. The elephants. They would parade by and do tricks. The ringmaster completely controlled those elephants without them even knowing it. It was just fascinating.

(CONTINUED)

Kim is lost in thought about the elephants and ringmaster. Then she snaps out of it.

KIM (CONT'D)

The clowns were funny too. Anyhow, I fell asleep on the ride back to my Grandparents house. After dinner Grandpa sat in his favorite chair and put on some music. It was Opera. Tosca. It was our favorite. He fell asleep and I just lay there listening to the music. He passed away in his sleep that evening. What I remember most is when my Grandmother came in, and realized he was gone, she didn't panic, or cry, or run to the phone to call 911. She leaned over him and kissed him on the forehead. Then she and I sat and listened to the music for awhile. I couldn't keep my eyes open. So, she took me upstairs and tucked me in and that was it. She died about a month later. I remember it as kind of beautiful and natural. And it's stayed with me all these years. Boring, I know. But that's just me.

A beat.

HEATHER

If anyone wants me I'll be in my office.

Heather goes into her office and closes the door.

KATRINA

So dying doesn't upset you?

KIM

I don't see it as a big deal. Dying happens to everyone. It's just a natural ending to life. Happens to us all eventually. Some, just sooner than others.

KATRINA

(amazed)

That's cold.

Steve returns from the bathroom.

STEVE

What'd I miss?

RACHEL

Kim's boring story, about her boring Grandfather, who died in a very boring way. It was very boring.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

Okay, that's enough talk about dying. We need to get our minds off of this. Kim and Steve, do what you can with Hannaford until FedEx shows up. Molly pick up all these paper clips, get a stapler from somewhere, and staple these reports and get them back to Heather.

Molly crawls around on her hands and knees picking up the paper clips. Steve is watching her do this intently.

STEVE

I'll be right back.

LUCAS

Again?

STEVE

Too much coffee.

LUCAS

What?... Go!

Steve leaves.

KATRINA

I can't even think of working. I want to go down there and see what's going on. Who's coming?

LUCAS

I'm kind of curious.

KATRINA

I can't concentrate until I know who it is.

KIM

Does it really matter who it is?

Heather enters from her office with a huge stack of papers.

HEATHER

Any more news?

KATRINA

We're all going downstairs to see who killed themselves.

(CONTINUED)

HEATHER  
(off-handed)

Fantastic. Molly, will you three hole punch and then staple these together by category.

She hands Molly a huge stack of papers.

MOLLY  
Sure, no problem. I just need to find a stapler.

HEATHER  
Fantastic.

They all start to head to the elevator. Kim notices Katrina's bright red spiked Louboutin's

KIM  
Katrina, I like your shoes! Are those Louboutins?

KATRINA  
(coy)  
Maybe...(then she admits it) I can't afford Louboutins on what they pay me here.

Kim  
Wow, they look real. Maybe you can show me where you get them?

A beat.

KATRINA  
Maybe.

LUCAS  
Come on! Lets go!

KATRINA  
I hope it's not someone I really liked.

LUCAS  
You don't like anyone.

They all pile onto the elevator. Except Molly. The doors close. Molly goes over to the kitchen and pours some coffee. She goes into the fridge and takes out a peach yogurt.

(CONTINUED)

Steve comes back from the  
bathroom.

STEVE

Where'd everybody go?

MOLLY

Downstairs to see who's dead.

STEVE

Without me?

MOLLY

I'm sure they didn't know how long you'd be in the bathroom.

STEVE

You look pretty dope in that dress.

MOLLY

Dope?

STEVE

Dope... Hot. Like a sexy pioneer woman.

MOLLY

Oh. Do you think so?

She models her outfit for him.

STEVE

You seem quiet, but I have a feeling underneath you're a  
little freaky. Am I right?

MOLLY

(smiling happily)

As a matter of fact, many people have called me a freak.

STEVE

I knew it!

MOLLY

(flirty)

Are you freaky Steve? I bet you are!

STEVE

You have no idea... I'll be right back.

MOLLY

Are you going to the bathroom again?

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

Yeah, I want to take a picture. I'll text it to you! You're gonna be surprised, and I think very impressed.

MOLLY

I can't wait to see it! I love surprises!

Steve leaves. Molly gets a spoon out of the drawer and goes to her desk. She opens the peach yogurt.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

(singing a little song)

Peach, peach, peach, peach. Peach, peach, peach, peach.  
Peachy, Peachy, peach, peach. It's yogurt time! Yum!

Then she pulls out a little packet of what looks like sugar and sprinkles it into the yogurt, and stirs it with the spoon. Then she closes the yogurt, goes to her desk, and sets the yogurt aside. She picks up her phone, she looks at a text. She snorts and laughs loudly. A FedEx man steps off of the elevator. His name is Ben, he's nice looking and friendly.

BEN

Good morning.

MOLLY

Good morning.

Ben notices that the office is empty.

BEN

Is it a holiday?

MOLLY

Everyone stepped out. You got here early!

BEN

Can you sign?

(CONTINUED)



MOLLY  
Sure.

BEN  
Coffee smells good.

Molly signs.

MOLLY  
Help yourself.

BEN  
Thanks.

He goes to the kitchen. Molly  
works away, humming to herself.

MOLLY  
(singing)  
Peachy, peachy, peach, peach. Peachy, peachy, peach, peach.

Ben makes himself some coffee.

BEN  
It's good, thanks.

MOLLY  
Of course.

BEN  
Is there milk?

MOLLY  
I think there's only a little left.

BEN  
That's okay. I should drink it black. Too much fat. (He pats  
his stomach)

MOLLY  
No...

(CONTINUED)

BEN

Thanks, but a couple of pounds wouldn't be a bad thing. I haven't had any coffee yet today, and I always drink at least three cups before lunch, or I get pretty cranky.

MOLLY

That's a lot of coffee!

BEN

I guess you could say I'm a coffee-a-holic.

MOLLY

(she does a small spit  
take.)

I'm sorry, that's kind of funny. What's your name?

BEN

No one's ever asked me that before. Ben.

MOLLY

I'm Molly.

BEN

You're nice Molly.

MOLLY

You're sweet.

Ben goes to make his coffee. He checks to make sure that Molly isn't watching and he puts the milk in anyway. Molly opens the FedEx.

BEN

(over his shoulder)

Must be important, it's marked confidential.

Molly takes the papers inside, she leafs through them, puts the envelope into the trash, and immediately shreds all of the documents.

BEN (CONT'D)

I haven't seen you here before?

MOLLY

I tend to blend in.

(CONTINUED)

BEN  
Me too. How long have you been here?

MOLLY  
Two months.

BEN  
Do you like it?

MOLLY  
I DO!! The people are a little crazy. But, I'm hoping to get a promotion soon.

BEN  
I wasn't going to say anything, but they are kind of mean to each other. Once that woman at the desk threw a package at that guy- the good looking one?

MOLLY  
Steve.

BEN  
I don't know his name.

MOLLY  
Well, Steve is the good looking one.

BEN  
This office IS kinda nuts. Sometimes I deliver a package late just to see how they'll react.

Molly's disposition suddenly becomes very serious.

MOLLY  
(very serious)  
That's not very nice. Being nice pays off. You should always be nice.

BEN  
You're right. It's unprofessional. I'm not a mailman, right? Hey, would you like to go get some coffee?

Molly is back to normal.

MOLLY  
What's wrong with the coffee? And it's letter carrier.

BEN  
No, no, I mean, ...coffee... and lunch sometime?

(CONTINUED)

MOLLY  
With you?

BEN  
Letter carrier?

MOLLY  
Sure, that would be great.

BEN  
Cool. It's a date. (He winks at her.) Not the sweet delicious fruit, but a meeting where we eat something.

Molly stares blankly... And then she laughs loudly.

MOLLY  
You're funny. And cute. And I knew you were really nice. And I love sweet and delicious things.

BEN  
I don't know. You should see me out of this uniform... I mean, some women like the uniform, and that's why they ...What I mean... I'll shut up now.

MOLLY  
OK.

She goes back to work while Ben drinks his coffee. Ben walks over to the window and looks down.

BEN  
What's going on down there?

MOLLY  
Oh, there was an accident.

BEN  
What kind of accident?

MOLLY  
(Casually, while she works on her computer)  
Well, do you know that red-haired girl, she's the secretary that sits in the hall outside Mr. Williams, office upstairs? (Ben nods) She's very nice. Her name is Wilma.

Ben pretends to know her.

(CONTINUED)

## MOLLY (CONT'D)

A very unusual name for someone her age. I don't know her well, but she's a very sweet person. I was delivering some papers upstairs a couple of weeks ago, and the twenty-fourth floor was having a birthday party, and the red haired girl, I'm sorry, Wilma, saw me and cut me a piece of birthday cake. So I thanked Wilma and told her that she's very sweet, and how I love sweet things, and that the cake is good but it's a little dry, and I think maybe it was an old cake. And all of a sudden she starts to cry. So poor Wilma is crying and she says that it's not the cake at all, but that Mr. Williams, oh his first name is Doug. Short for Douglas. Well, he wants to fire her. Mr. Williams is her boss. He's everybody's boss actually. And I ask her, "Why? Why is Mr. Williams firing you? You seem to be a very nice person!" Then she says, he was making her do things to keep her job. Making her do not very nice things at all. And I thought to myself, "Mr. Williams seems so nice. I can't believe he would do that." Then she showed me a picture on her phone of Mr. Williams and it was not nice at all. So I tried to put it out of my mind, because it was very upsetting as you might imagine. I don't have to tell you what it was do I? .... It was his penis. And it was very, very nasty. Anyway, "someone" found out about this whole sordid affair a month ago- and apparently "someone" went over to the Williams house that afternoon, and told his wife, Mrs. Williams, her name was Karen, what was going on with poor Wilma. And Mrs. Williams, I'm sorry Karen, was very, very angry. But she wasn't mad at her husband. She was mad at Wilma because she said that Wilma made this happen. And I thought to myself, "Wilma is a very nice person, and you are not." So anywho, later that day Karen went to Target and killed herself in one of the dressing rooms. I know Mr. Williams was very upset about Karen hanging herself with a pair of nylons, but he didn't tell anyone here about it because he didn't want anyone asking too many questions, because you can get fired or sued for something like what he did. Anyway, of course he has been very, very depressed lately. So, I'm guessing SOMEONE probably went upstairs a little while ago and said SOMETHING about all of this that just pushed him right over the edge.

She makes a whistling sound like something falling, and mimes it with her finger. Whistle, boom!

## MOLLY (CONT'D)

Literally. Sorry, that's a terrible joke. Well, I guess he was so upset by what SOMEONE said that he jumped off the roof a few minutes ago.

Long Pause. Ben is looking down, staring.

(CONTINUED)

BEN

What a mess.

Ben goes to a corner of the office where he can see the street below. He sits down and opens a satchel and takes out his lunch. A submarine sandwich, chips, cookies, and an apple. He eats his lunch and watches everyone until the next time he speaks. The elevator opens and the others step out.

HEATHER

They won't let us out of the building.

KIM

I was just talking to Mr. Williams this morning. He seemed a little down, but otherwise fine.

RACHEL

I held the elevator door for him yesterday, he smiled and said "Thanks".

KATRINA

I didn't know him well, but we used to pass each other in the hall.

KIM

You never know do you? What's really going on in people's heads.

MOLLY

(to herself)

Nope.

KATRINA

I feel bad for his wife. She's going to be devastated.

RACHEL

I talked to her for about fifteen minutes at the Christmas party three years ago. She was kind of a bitch to me.... But I was a little drunk. And a little zoned out on hydrocodone and Red Bull.

(CONTINUED)

They all rest casually around the office. Leaning on desks, getting some more coffee, sliding chairs out into the office like a rather fun social party. Except for Molly. Molly has headphones on and is busy with her work.

LUCAS

It's such a shame. Doug was a really nice guy.

HEATHER

Well... Mostly.

LUCAS

What do you mean mostly?

HEATHER

I heard some things.

LUCAS

What kind of things?

HEATHER

I don't know if I should say-

KATRINA

Say!

Katrina pulls her chair closer,  
ready for some juicy gossip.

HEATHER

(With just a bit more  
enthusiasm than is normal  
for Heather.)

Well, Blake from customer relations told me that she walked in on him in his office and he was getting very friendly with that secretary who sits on the left hand side when you come through the door- the red head.

KATRINA

What do you mean getting friendly?

HEATHER

She was going down on him.

KATRINA

Are you kidding me?

(CONTINUED)

HEATHER

That's just what she said. I don't know if it's true. You know, Blake is fairly new here.

KATRINA

Why would she lie about that?

HEATHER

We shouldn't be talking about this.

Steve returns from the bathroom.

LUCAS

What do you think made him want to jump off the top of the building?

STEVE

Well, if you've got to go that's not a bad way.

Steve mimes as if "texting" to Molly, to see if she received his photo. She smiles and gives him a big thumbs up.

LUCAS

Falling twenty-four floors is not a bad way to go??

STEVE

It's fast, probably painless, and at least you've got that view. I don't know. There's worse things.

KATRINA

I can't think of anything worse. All the way down, what if you changed your mind? You have time to think about it. What could be worse than that??

STEVE

Bears? .....They will eat you while you're still alive.

RACHEL

What are you talking about??

STEVE

Bear attacks. They knock you down, and use their claws to rip you open and then they eat you, and you can feel the whole thing.

(CONTINUED)



RACHEL

What? How do you know?

STEVE

My cousin was killed by a bear.

RACHEL

(incredulous and angry)

Your cousin was eaten by a bear. Really.

STEVE

Not completely eaten. Just the important parts.

KATRINA

(Is she gleeful?)

I wonder what's happening upstairs? I'll bet they are totally freaking out!

RACHEL

(Fairly excited.)

Any clue as to what really happened? How do you think he got the window open? Aren't they all sealed?

KATRINA

Maybe he threw a chair at it, and then jumped!!

HEATHER

No way, those windows are shatter-proof.

KATRINA

And we would have heard it, right?!

This has become the most  
interesting conversation of the  
day.

LUCAS

(Confidently)

I'll bet he went up to the roof, I'll bet he took the stairs, then went out on the roof. He probably went to the edge, thought about it for a second and stepped off the ledge.

KATRINA

(wide-eyed)

Horrible.

(CONTINUED)

HEATHER

How long do you think it would take for you to fall that far!?!

KATRINA

About four seconds. I did the math. From 3.5 to 4 seconds. Twenty-four stories and approximately ten feet per floor. That's 240 feet, and if you take into account the air resistance, I figure at the most 4 seconds.

KIM

Did you do that in your head?

MOLLY

You're very good at math aren't you?

HEATHER

(Fascinated.)

That's a lot of time to think about it. If I was gonna off myself, I'd pick something quick and fast.

A beat.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

...You all know I make important decisions quickly.

KATRINA

(Excited.)

What would you spend your last four seconds on earth thinking about?

HEATHER

Was this a good idea?

RACHEL

Is this gonna hurt?

STEVE

I can see my house from here. (laughs too loudly)

KATRINA

(Getting up, and walking  
back to her computer.)

Do we think it's on the news yet?

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

Look it up.

They both go to Katrina's  
computer. Rachel follows.

KATRINA

(Excited!)

There it is- it's down here, third. "Man jumps from downtown  
skyscraper."

LUCAS

Anything else?

KATRINA

Not really, it's Breaking News.

LUCAS

Is that a video?

KATRINA

Yeah, it's live coverage.

LUCAS

Hey, that's our building!

RACHEL

There's a copter outside, do you think they're filming us?

LUCAS

Go to the window.

RACHEL

What?

LUCAS

I'll bet we could see you on here.

Rachel goes to the window.

RACHEL

Can you see me?

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS  
Wave, move around.

RACHEL  
Hey!!

LUCAS  
Hey! I see you!! Wave again.

RACHEL  
Can you see my face? Hey! Hey! Hey!

LUCAS  
Not really, but I can see someone moving around. It's you!  
You're on the news!

RACHEL  
Really? You do it- I want to see.

KATRINA  
I want to do it!!

Rachel swaps places with Lucas.  
Lucas goes to the window, Rachel  
and Katrina go back to the  
computer.

LUCAS  
(Waving out the window)  
Hey!

RACHEL  
Yup, I see you! That's pretty cool.

KATRINA  
My turn!

Katrina runs to the window. Lucas  
and Rachel watch the computer.

KATRINA (CONT'D)  
(waving her arms)  
Do you see me?

LUCAS  
No- the copter moved. Must be on the other side of the  
building.

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA

I want to be on TV. Do you think it will come around again?

Rachel's phone rings. Katrina's phone rings a second later, she runs over to it. This is the first tender moment we've heard from Rachel.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

(On the phone.)  
Consolidated. Yes. No I can't talk now. I'm gonna be on the news. (she hangs up)

RACHEL

Hello, this is Rachel... Oh hi!... Oh no, no, I should have called, I'm fine. Yes it's crazy. .... Sure thing... No, I'm fine. I'll see you when I get home. Tell the kids I love them.... Ok... you too. Bye.

LUCAS

Does it say anything on there about why this happened? Any info at all?

KATRINA

No, it's just a headline right now. Who knows. I'm sure it will come out eventually.

LUCAS

Do you think the company is in trouble?

HEATHER

We've been in worse spots before.

LUCAS

Because I need this job. If there's cutbacks again-

HEATHER

I haven't heard anything about cutbacks.

LUCAS

Yeah, well last time there was no notice either. Jack, Marjorie- one day here; the next day gone. If I get laid off I'm screwed.

KATRINA

Did he have a lot of friends here?

(CONTINUED)

HEATHER

He was in charge, so I doubt he had a lot of friends. People in charge don't have real friends.

Silence. Heather waits to see if anyone is her friend.

STEVE

I have real friends.

HEATHER

You're not in charge of anything.

STEVE

Not yet.

Heather goes into her office.  
Molly is picking up more paper clips.

KATRINA

People! We're surrounded by death, and you don't even care do you? It's because you haven't experienced it like I have. I've seen dozens of people die right in front of my face.

STEVE

(defensive)

I've had a brush with death.

KATRINA

Really? Like what?

STEVE

Okay, well, the last place I worked, one night me and a couple of the guys decided to go out for some beers. It had been a bitch of a day, and we wanted to unwind and chill. Anyway, we had a few rounds, and then the waitress starts flirting with me, telling me I'm cute, you know, not for a tip or anything, she really wanted me. Well, I was about to ask her to go to the bathroom with me and get a toilet bowl special, but then Jim says he wants to go. And it was his car. And he had had a lot to drink. So, we didn't want him to drive alone. So we all pile into the car, and Jim is like "Everybody shut up, I have to concentrate". So he starts driving. He's doing pretty good, weaving just a little, then a stop light changes colors really fast. Like I've never seen anything like that. I swear it was green and then it was red. I didn't see any yellow at all.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

So he runs the light, and all of a sudden the car hits something and we hear this thud and a squish. You know, when you hit something, or someone, sort of soft and crunchy and it goes thud and then squish? Something pretty big? So we're silent. No one talked. Just the sound of heavy breathing because we're all so freaked out. No one is saying anything at all, right? Quiet. Cause we are scared shitless. No one said anything all the way back to my place. Complete silence. Man. That was scary.

KATRINA

What was the thud and the squish? What did you hit?

STEVE

(looking at Molly crawling  
around)

Fuck if I know. Worst night of my life. I have to go to the bathroom.

LUCAS

Again?

STEVE

Yeah. I'll be right back.

KATRINA

No, you won't.

STEVE

Yeah, I will.

KATRINA

You're always in there.

STEVE

No, I'm not.

Katrina reads from her computer  
screen.

KATRINA

Monday 9:52 until 9:58. Then 11:05 to 11:13, 12:15 to 12:22.

STEVE

You're logging how often I take a shit?

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA

Then lunch. Then 2:14-2:28, 3:30-3:35. Then you left early.  
Or you were in the bathroom the rest of the day. Tuesday....

STEVE

This is bullshit.

LUCAS

Kim did you know about this? How are you guys getting any  
work done?

KIM

(typing away)

It's none of my business how he does his business.

LUCAS

What are you doing in there all that time?

STEVE

What do you think I'm doing?

LUCAS

Do you have a medical problem?

STEVE

I eat a lot of fiber.

LUCAS

You know, I thought those were your shoes. But I wasn't sure.  
You ARE in there an awful lot.

STEVE

I need some alone time.

LUCAS

Alone time??

Long pause. Lucas's wheels are  
turning.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Molly, can you take these reports upstairs? See if they have  
a stapler we can borrow. Please? Thank you.

(CONTINUED)



Molly gets on the elevator and exits. Lucas pulls Steve aside to a corner of the office.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

(Quietly.)

Are you jerking off in there?

STEVE

(Quietly)

What? No.

LUCAS

(Quietly)

Cause I think you're jerking off in there. Yesterday I was taking a piss, and I thought to myself, someone is jerking off in here. Is it Molly? Because every time she bends over to pick up a file, or to clean the fridge- you head to the bathroom.

STEVE

(Quietly)

Okay. Yeah. I've been jerking off in there.

LUCAS

(Quietly)

Jesus.

STEVE

(Quietly)

I can't help it. She's hot.

LUCAS

(Quietly.)

She's not that hot. You don't see me running to the bathroom to jack off every ten minutes. Stop it.

STEVE

(Quietly)

I can't concentrate. Ever since they took down our cubicles, I can't get any privacy unless I'm in the stall. I can't watch porn anymore.

LUCAS

(Quietly)

You know they monitor the computers, right?

STEVE

(Quietly)

They do?

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

(Quietly)

Yes. They do...Aren't you getting married this fall?

STEVE

(Quietly)

Yeah, I invited you to the wedding.

LUCAS

(Quietly)

Doesn't your girlfriends' dad work upstairs? Didn't he get you this job?

STEVE

(Quietly)

Yeah. And he's moving me up to twenty-four soon. Big promotion. Big raise. Less work.

LUCAS

(Quietly)

You're moving up to twenty-four? But you're awful.

STEVE

(Quietly)

What's your point?

LUCAS

(Quietly)

My point is, you can't jerk off at work, thinking about a co-worker. Believe me, I know.

STEVE

(Quietly)

It's not like I'm doing anything with her.

LUCAS

(Quietly)

I don't care.

STEVE

(Quietly)

I can't work until I clear my head. You know how it is.

LUCAS

(Quietly)

Not my problem! (Loudly!!) You have to learn to concentrate without masturbating in the men's room all day!!!

RACHEL

Whoa!

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA

I knew it! Men and their penises. They can't keep their hands off of them.

KIM

Like cookies.

LUCAS

No one say anything to Molly about this. This could blow up right in our faces.

KIM

(still typing away)

A very poor choice of words.

LUCAS

(To Steve)

If this happens again, I'm sending it upstairs. Got it?

STEVE

I'll be more quiet.

LUCAS

No!! Don't be more quiet!!! Just knock it off. This isn't funny. She could sue us. She could sue you.

STEVE

Can I do it at lunch?

Molly reenters from the elevator.  
Everyone is quiet.

MOLLY

I left them with Ronnie.... She does the invoices and filing. And they don't have any spare staplers. Someone took them all.

LUCAS

Thank you, Molly.

KATRINA

(looking out the window)

There's a lot of police cars now.

MOLLY

What are they doing? They're not coming into the building are they??

KATRINA

They're just sitting there.

(CONTINUED)

Molly lifts her dress to assess her mobility. Steve notices her legs are in fish-net stockings.

STEVE

I have to go to the bathroom.

LUCAS

No, you don't.

STEVE

Yes, I do. I really do.

LUCAS

Help Kim. Go to the bathroom on your own time.

STEVE

This is against the law, you have to let me go to the bathroom when I have to go to the bathroom.

LUCAS

Not true.

STEVE

I'm gonna shit my pants.

LUCAS

Not my problem.

MOLLY

Why can't he go to the bathroom?

KATRINA

Because he's spanking the monkey every time he goes to the bathroom.

MOLLY

I love monkeys!

KIM

(pointedly)

He's masturbating. Thinking about you.

MOLLY

Ohhh...OH!!!!

KATRINA

(sarcastic)

Did they not have masturbation in Guam?

(CONTINUED)

MOLLY

Oh yes, and monkeys!

STEVE

This is not right. I could sue and own this whole place!!

LUCAS

Have at it!!

Everyone begins to argue. Heather enters.

HEATHER

What the hell is going on!? It's louder than a sword fight in a Moroccan Bazaar out here.

LUCAS

A what?

KATRINA

Steve is jerking off in the bathroom.

HEATHER

What?... I know that.

KATRINA

You do?

HEATHER

Nobody shits that much. As long as he gets his work done I don't care what he's doing in there.

Heather walks over to the window and looks down.

STEVE

Thank you Heather.

HEATHER

Whatever....Guys, something is going on down there. There's an ambulance pulling up. Or maybe it's an Ice Cream Truck. It's hard to tell from up here.

STEVE

Standby.

(CONTINUED)

Steve goes to his desk and opens the drawer.

KATRINA

What good is an ambulance going to do now? Seems pretty wasteful.

Steve returns with a pair of binoculars. He goes up to the window, and hands them to Heather.

STEVE

Here, use these.

HEATHER

Thanks.

RACHEL

Why do you have binoculars in your desk?

STEVE

Sometimes I like to look out the window with them.

RACHEL

Why?

STEVE

We have a great view from up here.

HEATHER

I think it's an Ice Cream Truck.

RACHEL

When?

STEVE

What?

RACHEL

When do you look out the window with binoculars?

STEVE

Sometimes I stay late at night, and I like to look out over the city.

RACHEL

With binoculars?

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

Yes.

RACHEL

And then I bet you go spend some time in the bathroom.

STEVE

What?

HEATHER

(Looking below)

It's doing a pretty good business. Tragedy must make people really want ice cream.

RACHEL

You're looking in peoples windows and then jerking off in the bathroom.

STEVE

I'm here by myself. I don't need to go into the bathroom.

LUCAS

Stop talking about jerking off. Stop it. Somebody is dead.

STEVE

(to Rachel)

I do it at your desk.

Rachel flies at Steve in a rage.

RACHEL

You fucking asshole!

EVERYONE

(AD LIB A FIGHT)

Rachel beats on Steve. Katrina takes the binoculars out of Steve's hand and looks out the window.

LUCAS

(pulling them apart)

Whoa! Whoa!

Lucas pulls Rachel off of Steve.

RACHEL

I'm gonna kill him. First, I'm going to report this to HR, then I'm going to kill him.

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

Do you really think I would jerk off on your desk? If I was going to jerk off on someone's desk it certainly wouldn't be yours.

LUCAS

Stop!!

HEATHER

Who's would it be?

RACHEL

You are a disgusting, gross, person!

STEVE

It's perfectly natural. All guys do it.

RACHEL

Not three times an hour!

Everyone starts to argue and  
scream at each other.

LUCAS

(yelling)

Calm down! Stop yelling! Nobody's getting any work done! Calm down! Stop yelling! Get back to work!

Suddenly a body falls past the  
glass window.

KATRINA

Look!!!!

HEATHER

What?! What is it?! What happened!

KATRINA

Another one!

HEATHER

Another one, what?!

KATRINA

Another body!

HEATHER

Really?!

(CONTINUED)



KATRINA

Yeah!

HEATHER

Shit, I missed it *again!?!!*

They gather around the window looking down. They all start to murmur and debate what could possibly be going on. It's like bumblebees around a jar of honey. Ben stands up and sips his coffee.

BEN

(sipping his coffee)

Best. Monday. Ever.

BLACKOUT.

## ACT TWO: SCENE ONE

It is a short time later.  
Everyone is gathered and looking  
out the window at the scene  
below.

KATRINA

Why is everyone just standing around down there with their  
hands in their pockets? Shouldn't they start sweeping things  
up? One suicide, okay, I get it. But two? It's suspicious.

RACHEL

Maybe it's not suicide. Maybe it's just slippery up there.

KATRINA

Well, somebody should at least be covering up that mess.

KIM

I'm sure there are rules and protocols to be followed.

HEATHER

(sighs)

You and your rules. I'm really sorry you guys. Really. But  
this is all soooo depressing. Does anybody want some weed?

She takes out a joint and a  
lighter.

RACHEL

I can't be around weed. You know that. Contact high.

HEATHER

Go sit over there.

Rachel walks to the other side of  
a room, wraps a scarf around her  
face.

KATRINA

I don't think you should be smoking marijuana. My neighbor  
used to smoke it all the time. He died of-

HEATHER

Let me guess... an aneurysm.

KATRINA

No. Lung cancer.

(CONTINUED)

BEN

(From over in the corner  
speaking up.)

My next door neighbor went swimming and got a disease from bacteria, and died like a month later. His brain sort of dissolved.

KIM

(Kind of excited.)

Was it an amoeba? Was it amebic meningoencephalitis?

HEATHER

(Just realizing, coming out  
of a haze.)

FedEx is here! You're being so quiet over there Mr. FedEx Delivery Man.... Sorry FedEx Delivery Person. Want to get high?

BEN

Deliveries were earlier than we thought. I thought I'd grab some lunch while they clean off the sidewalk.

HEATHER

Who cares. Want to get high?

BEN

I shouldn't. Technically I'm working.

Molly takes off her headphones  
and raises her hand up and waves.

MOLLY

Ben invited me to go out to coffee with him sometime.

HEATHER

God damn you're cute. Why would you want to go out to coffee with Miss Marshmallow for brains? I'd be happy to take YOU out for coffee.

Heather hands Ben the joint.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

It's the uniform. Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Yummy sound). Something about a man in a FedEx suit gets my juices flowing. Giddy up!

BEN

(to Heather, cutting her  
off)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

Thanks, that's very kind, but I thought I'd just grab a cup of coffee sometime with Molly.

Molly is staring, focused on Heather and Ben while she works.

HEATHER

Your loss. I was going to let you take a free ride on my magic carpet.

BEN

I'm good. (laughs) I think this is the second craziest thing that's ever happened on my route.

Ben smokes. He delivers this speech with great intensity, as if it were the most incredible adventure of his life.

BEN (CONT'D)

Last summer I had a package to deliver to the Patawatomi Reservation. I was running late, and it was about to get dark. And it was a long ride from the entrance of the reservation out to the main village. So, I got there, and it was dark, and some Indian dude named Clay signed for it, and he asked me if I wanted to rest a bit before my drive back. So I thought, sure, I'll hang out and maybe grab something to eat. So he takes me over to a tee pee where a bunch of folks are hanging out in a circle so I sit down and the first guy brings me a snack. I thought it was edamame, but it was dark. I ate it, and it tasted like shit, but I didn't want to be rude. Then they started some chanting and some drum beating. So, now I'm feeling really weird, and I tell the guys I think the edamame was bad, and he says it's not edamame, it's Peyote. And I don't really know what Peyote is, but I didn't want to offend them, so I ate some more to be polite. So they are chanting, and drumming and I'm kind of chanting along even though I don't know what they hell they're saying. Then just like that I'm surrounded by Ewoks.

Ben takes a long toke.

BEN (CONT'D)

...You know those furry bears from Empire Strikes Back, you know Star Wars? And the Ewoks gather around me, then one of the lady Ewoks, I guess it was a lady Ewok, who the hell knows cause you can't see their, you know...she/he starts to undo my pants and then she's fondling me and just as she's cupping my balls I leave my body. And I'm floating over Canada.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

I guess these Ewoks were Canadian or they had a settlement there, I think it was Saskatchewan. And finally I land next to this river where the grass is very soft and inviting. And this salmon swims up to me and tells me my life is being wasted, and I can do so much more than deliver packages. He tells me I should open an Indian restaurant in Winnipeg. And I think, "I don't know where that is, or even if it's a real place." But I say, "I'm confused, is it Native American, or Indian like India?" But before he can answer, he jumps into a frying pan and says "eat me". So I wait till he's cooked. I squeeze some wild lemons all over him, the salmon smiles at me, I bite his head off, I pass out, and then I wake up in my FedEx truck in Ann Arbor Michigan. I don't live anywhere near Ann Arbor Michigan. I was tied up in the back of the truck with packing tape. It took me five minutes to get loose. I was going to try and figure out what happened, but I was starving, so I went to IHOP and had some boysenberry pancakes and then I drove home and forgot about it. Funny thing, nobody noticed I was gone.

A beat.

HEATHER

(Half to herself)

What kind of FedEx are Indians getting?

RACHEL

I've never had Peyote. It's one of the few I haven't tried. Will you guys finish that shit? So I can move around?

Heather takes the last drag and puts the joint out on the floor.

STEVE

The Return of the Jedi.

BEN

Huh?

STEVE

The Ewoks are not in the Empire Strikes Back.

BEN

In this case, the Ewoks were in the Empire Strikes Back.

STEVE

Impossible.

(CONTINUED)

BEN

So is a talking salmon, but it happened.

HEATHER

Hey. Come over here and sit next to Momma.

BEN

I'm fine, thanks.

RACHEL

(to Heather)

With all due respect, Heather, why do you think a young, hot guy like this would want to have anything to do with someone like you? I mean it's ridiculous. (She laughs) You're acting like this horny asshole. (Steve) Do you need time alone in the bathroom too?

STEVE

Why are you such a bitch all the time?

KATRINA

Yeah, why are you such a bitch?

HEATHER

I wouldn't mind knowing.

LUCAS, KIM AND MOLLY

(simultaneously)

Ditto.

Heather sits down, opens a bottle of water and casually drinks it.

RACHEL

Oh, you all want to know why I'm such a bitch?

BEN

Nah. I'm good.

RACHEL

Well, I'll tell you, that is a GREAT story. Who's interested?

Steve and Katrina raise their hands. Then everyone else slowly does one by one.

(CONTINUED)

Ben reluctantly raises his hand while Rachel waits. Rachel tells this story as if she's a witness to the events, not a participant.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

It started when I was fifteen. My brother and I were very close. We were only about a year apart in age. My mother said she had wanted to "get it all over at once" so she decided to have two kids in a row. It was kind of nice having a big brother at school. I wasn't very popular. Can you imagine that? But I wasn't. I wasn't ugly, but I wouldn't say I was pretty either. But the fall of my sophomore year, I got asked to "The Harvest Dance" by Gary Fillmore. It was a dumb thing where the guys wore flannel and the girls wore gingham, and they set up lanterns in the parking lot and they had some senior kid play CD's that we could dance to. But I was still really excited to go. My Mom took me shopping for a dress, and it took us all day to find the right one. I actually think I looked pretty good for an ugly girl. Now, Gary Fillmore was not popular either, but I didn't care. He showed up with flowers he probably got at the supermarket, but I didn't care. He was sixteen so he could drive, and as we left the house I think my Dad cried a little. The dance was actually really beautiful. It was cloudy but you could still see the moon faintly. Gary was shy at first but eventually he got up the courage and asked me to dance. I know it sounds like a really cheesy movie, but it was "True", Spandau Ballet. Cliché right? But it was pretty great to me. Gary was pretty awkward at first, and so was I. Then I saw my brother across the parking lot, and he was watching us dance. Gary had his hand on my waist, but then just as Spandau Ballet was really getting into it, he reached up and grabbed my breast. I didn't know what to do. Did I push him away? Did I say something? Did I like it? It didn't matter, because a moment later a fist slammed into Gary's face and he fell to the ground and his head hit the pavement with this loud thwack, and he didn't move. My brother grabbed my arm and pulled me out of the dance as everyone just stood stunned. The last thing I really remember about the dance was True was still playing and Gary wasn't moving. My brother was furious. But at me. I was shocked. I had never seen him like this in my life. He grabbed me by the hair and threw me to the ground. I was so confused. I just froze as he stood over me, he looked right at me and said, "I knew you were a dirty cunt."

A beat. Then very casually as if talking about the weather:

RACHEL (CONT'D)

And then he raped me.

(CONTINUED)

Stunned silence for about five seconds. Then... Suddenly Heather does a spit take and blows water all over the office, laughing.

HEATHER

(trying to stop laughing)

I'm so sorry. I don't know why I'm laughing. It's just not what I expected to happen. It's not funny. It's not. It's not. Oh. Oh. I'm sorry I'm laughing. That's awful. You're story is just awful. I don't know why I'm laughing... (laughs) I'm so, so sorry. It's just not how I thought it ended. (Laughs) Really, I am so sorry.

She calms herself.

Then she laughs again uncontrollably.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry! I know it's not funny at all. (She bursts out laughing)

Katrina tries to pull it together.

KATRINA

(more amazed than upset)

I can't even imagine how that must have felt.

RACHEL

(mean)

No, you can't, can you? No one can.

Silence.

LUCAS

What happened to your brother?

RACHEL

He went to college.

LUCAS

You didn't say anything? You didn't turn him into the police?

(CONTINUED)



Molly goes to the kitchen and makes a cup of coffee.

RACHEL

He's family. So...fuck it. I never told anyone until now. It makes Christmas veeeery awkward. Oh, and Gary, he was fine. He owns a couple of car dealerships in Kentucky. We're facebook friends. So now you all know why I can't have Advil or caffeine. But, at least I did not swan dive off of the twenty-fourth floor. And that's just one of the many reasons why I'm such a bitch.

LUCAS

I was pushing my six year old daughter on a swing, I pushed her too hard, she fell off, hit her head on a rock, went into a coma, and we had to pull the plug. My wife and I watched her die.

Pause.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

That's it. That's my story.

Stunned silence.

Molly comes over to Ben with a fresh cup of coffee.

MOLLY

Ben, do you want some more coffee? I know you said you usually need three cups or you'll get cranky.

BEN

Thank you. That's sweet.

KIM

(cheerfully)

Molly's like our resident waitress.

Ben gets up to take the coffee from Molly, she fumbles it and spills it all over him.

BEN

Whoa! Shit, that's hot.

RACHEL

Nice work, genius.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

What's with you and spilling stuff today?

MOLLY

I'm so, so, sorry. I'm really clumsy sometimes.

RACHEL

Sometimes?

BEN

It's okay, it's okay.

MOLLY

Give me your shirt and I'll rinse it out.

BEN

It's fine.

KIM

Let her rinse it. It will stain if you let it set.

BEN

Really? Okay.

Ben takes off his shirt. He's muscular and built.

HEATHER

Giddy up!

MOLLY

I'll be right back.

Molly goes over to the kitchen and rinses out the shirt.

STEVE

(challenging Ben)

Dude, you are really jacked up.

BEN

Thanks.

STEVE

So, I've been wondering, how did you get out of the packing tape so fast??

BEN

What?

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

You said it took you five minutes to get free. Whoever it was must not have tied you up very tight.

BEN

No, it was very tight.

STEVE

Were your hands behind your back?

BEN

Yeah.

STEVE

I think that would be impossible to get out of.

BEN

I guess I'm good at escaping. My brothers used to tie me up when I was a kid.

STEVE

Even so. I don't believe you.

BEN

No, they did tie me up. But for fun.

STEVE

No. I mean I don't believe you could get free in five minutes.

KATRINA

If he says he got loose in five minutes, he got loose.

STEVE

That whole story sounds made up. A talking salmon? I've never heard of that.

Molly has hung Ben's shirt up to dry. She comes back over to the group.

MOLLY

I believe him. But you could do it again right? I mean if it happened again.

BEN

Of course.

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

Let's see. Let us tie you up, and see how fast you can get loose.

KATRINA

Oh Steve, that's stupid. We're not tying up the FedEx man.

BEN

No. I'll do it.

STEVE

Great. He says he'll do it. Let's tie him up.

HEATHER

Where do we keep the packing tape?

KATRINA

In the cabinet next to the staples.

EVERYONE

Tie him up! Tie him up! Tie him up!

Heather goes to the cabinet and gets out the packing tape.

MOLLY

He can do it I'll bet. Can't you Ben?

BEN

Easy Peasey.

Heather comes over with packing tape. She and Steve bind Ben's ankles first.

MOLLY

Make good knots! I learned all about making knots when I was in summer camp when I was little.

KIM

I went to summer camp too!

Heather and Steve continue to tie Ben up while Molly tells her story.

MOLLY

My parents sent me there because they wanted to go on a Carnival Cruise, and they didn't want to take me.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

But I didn't really like camp. It wasn't fun. And the kids were not nice to me at all.

Katrina and Rachel join Heather and Steve as they continue to tie up Ben. They are barely listening to Molly.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

They thought I was stupid and weird, so they stayed away from me. During the last couple of days, this terrible camp counselor made me go swimming even though I don't know how to swim. I was terrified. I was supposed to swim out to this raft, but I just couldn't do it. I thought I was going to drown, I was under the water gasping for breath. But... at the last second, the camp counselor pulled me out, and everybody was laughing at me, so I ran back to my bunk and I cried and cried and cried and cried. But everyone ignored my tears while they sat around and ate s'mores.

A beat.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

(cheerfully)

But then I got over it, my parents picked me up, and I lied and told them I had a good time. They took me home and they never made me go to camp again.

KIM

But that counselor, she should have known better. Did your parents ever talk to her about what she did?

MOLLY

Oh no, they couldn't.

KIM

They really should have. You can't let people get away with bad behavior. There are rules and laws to be followed. She probably treated a lot of kids that way.

MOLLY

Oh no, they couldn't talk to her because she was dead. While I was sick with a cold, the whole camp went to go on this hike. Something happened to the bus. The counselor was driving and something happened. She steered the bus right off the road and it caught fire. They all got burned up. A month later, we moved to Guam and started home schooling.

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA

Maybe the bus driver had an aneurysm.

STEVE

Okay. I'm setting my watch. Five minutes... And go.

Ben begins to try and loosen the tape. Molly goes back to her desk, puts her headphones on and returns to work.

LUCAS

I sometimes write letters to her.

HEATHER

To who?

LUCAS

To Jessica, my daughter who died on the swing. After she was gone, and Alison had left me, I had a lot of free time. So, I would write letters to her. Just about my day, what I had for lunch, what TV show I was watching. How I wished she was still alive rather than my other daughter, Cathy. Stuff like that. I've never mailed them. I've been writing them for nearly ten years. Just to remind me of what a careless and unforgivable thing I did.

Long awkward pause.

KATRINA

But where would you send the letters?

STEVE

To Heaven, like letters to Santa right?

Katrina heads over to her computer.

LUCAS

No. I know I'm a disgusting person for wishing Cathy was dead instead, so sometimes I think she should read the letters so that she'll know what a terrible a person her father really is. But I'd never really mail them. It would kill her.

Silence.

(CONTINUED)

KIM

Well, you didn't really mean you wished your other daughter was dead instead. That's just shock and grief.

LUCAS

Nah. I pretty much meant it.

Suddenly, Katrina jumps up from her desk.

KATRINA

Hey, there's more on the news!

RACHEL

What's it say?!

KATRINA

Second person jumps from downtown skyscraper. And it also says the first victim is "Doug Williams" now, and that he worked at Consolidated, on the twenty-fourth Floor, and he was married, but his wife had committed suicide two weeks ago. Dammit.

LUCAS

What?

KATRINA

The live coverage is gone. I told my friend she was gonna see me on the news.

KIM

I think it's just shocking that Mr. Williams jumped off the roof. If I had an office with a view like that, I'd want to enjoy it for as long as I could.

RACHEL

Well, you're never going to get an office like that with your lack of drive. You've been in the same job for years.

KIM

I didn't say it was going to happen I just said it would be nice is all.

RACHEL

I never heard anyone mention anything about his wife? I guess it was a twenty-four thing. I wonder what happened?

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA

She hung herself with a nylon stocking in the changing room at Target.

Pause.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

That's what the screen says anyway.

RACHEL

No, I mean, why did she kill herself?

KATRINA

Why does anyone?

LUCAS

There are reasons.

STEVE

Which Target was it?

RACHEL

Why? What does that matter??

STEVE

There's a lot of Targets.

KATRINA

Sometimes the lines at Target make me want to kill myself. Usually it's fine. But just sometimes.

KIM

(still thinking about the  
view)

It's such a great view from up there. I mean you can see the river and everything.

RACHEL

You think a nice office would make in difference in whether you decided to kill yourself?

KIM

It would to me. I've always wanted a nice view.

(CONTINUED)



BEN

(struggling to get free)

Wow. You guys made these tight! I think it's cutting off my circulation a little bit.

Ben has not loosened the tape at all.

STEVE

Three minutes.

Heather stands and makes a proclamation.

HEATHER

(grand)

I don't think any of you know this, but I am secretly writing a novel!

KATRINA

(Sarcastic.)

Who knew??

KIM

(Giving Katrina a "look".)

I think that's just great. What's it about?

HEATHER

I haven't told anyone about it.

STEVE

Is it about me?

HEATHER

No, no. It's a love story.

KIM

That's nice. I love a good romance novel.

HEATHER

It's not really a romance novel. It's an adventure sort of love story... sort of. I don't think there's ever been anything like it.

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA  
(skeptical)

Is it any good? Have you sent it to any publishers?

HEATHER

No, I want it to be just right. You only get one shot with the publishers, and it needs more work and a little more character development.

LUCAS

How long have you been working on it?

HEATHER

Seventeen years.

LUCAS

What's it about?

HEATHER

Should I say? OK, well here's the short version.

Heather is more excited to tell this story, than about anything else that has happened on this day. Heather stands in front of the window and the others gather around her like an audience. Ben is left struggling off to the side unnoticed.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

It takes place in 1937. And there is a beautiful young society woman named Emily Facchine, and she is on a frigate bound for London from India. She's very well to do, but her husband, who she only loved for money, recently died of typhoid... or a tiger. I haven't settled on that yet, but anyhow, she's alone and heading home to England. She meets a young handsome cabin boy, and at first she's very snooty and puts him down a lot. But he tells her what's what and puts her in her place, which she of course finds very sexy. So they have sex. And it's hot and dirty, and they do it every which way. Well yadayadayada, they have this whirlwind romance, until she finds out that he's not twenty-six like he told her originally, he's just fifteen years old. Then, the first mate of the ship, Eduardo, finds out and says he will blackmail her and turn her in for rape... Sorry Rachel... I wrote it before... anyway, he's going to turn her in for sex with a minor and conduct unbecoming a lady. But wouldn't you know it, all of a sudden a typhoon suddenly hits the ship and all but two souls are lost. Emily and a Siamese cat named Molly.... Molly.... I never put that together, it must be subliminal.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

Anyways, now Greg is dead, oh, the cabin boys name is Greg, and well, Molly and Emily are floating at sea on a dining room table, and Emily has to decide, does she eat Molly, or does she wait it out.

She pauses to see what people will say.

KATRINA

So, does she eat Molly?

HEATHER

(Heather really enjoys telling this story.)

She does not! Because right as she has decided that she WOULD eat Molly they are rescued by the Namibian navy. So now she and Molly take the train from Windhoek, Namibia all the way to London. So, once they arrive in London, Emily decides she will start a new life. And she decides to masquerade as a poor seamstress who lives with her cat near the West End. So she goes to work for a very mean woman named Mrs. Crickard who treats her very badly. But after a three days, she decides to reveal to Mrs. Crickard that she is really rich and didn't even need the job in the first place. But just as Emily is about to tell her the truth, Mrs. Crickard slips on some ice and is run over by a carriage. She is killed instantly. When Emily returns home to her flat, she discovers that Molly is missing. And she looks everywhere, but Molly is nowhere to be found. So she scours the streets of London looking for Molly. Finally when she is just about to give up, she sees Molly sitting on the steps outside St. James, and Molly is thrilled to see her... Molly didn't want to run away, but she had seen a mouse, and chased it outside. You see, Molly was very clever at opening doors and figuring things out.

RACHEL

So, not like this Molly at all?

Molly waves from her desk with her headphones on.

HEATHER

What? Don't interrupt me. So, Molly is clever but has no sense of direction. So, Molly runs towards Emily, when tragically she is hit by another carriage and dies in Emily's arms. In the carriage is a very handsome man, who tries desperately to bring Molly back to life because he feels so bad about driving recklessly, and he tries and tries, and then he DOES. And Molly is fine.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

So they all go off to his mansion, and then they have sex in the garden, and the servants catch them, and its really funny how they react. But you really have to read it to get that part. So they fall in love, and are married just days later. And they go on a honeymoon to Switzerland, and they bring Molly along because she's become such an important reminder of their relationship. And while they are in Zurich, Manuel... Her husbands name is Manuel, goes across the street to buy her some flowers she was admiring. And just as Manuel is crossing the street, a carriage comes around the corner and runs him over...

Heather waits for a reaction.  
There is none.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

So Emily and Molly run to his side, but he is already dead. But Emily isn't willing to let him go without a fight, so she tries to revive him, just like he did for Molly, and she's trying and she's trying...

A body falls past the glass  
window.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

But he's not breathing... so she keeps trying...

LUCAS

What the- what just happened?

HEATHER

Sorry, did you miss it? He was hit by a carriage.

RACHEL

Was that-?

KATRINA

Did anybody see that?

HEATHER

What? What happened?

KATRINA

Another one.

(CONTINUED)

HEATHER  
Another one what?

KATRINA  
What's going on upstairs?

HEATHER  
What is it?

LUCAS  
Another jumper. Somebody jumped.

HEATHER  
What??... Fuck me! I missed it again??!

LUCAS  
We all saw it. It happened again.

KATRINA  
That's three!

STEVE  
So does he live or die?

LUCAS  
No one could survive that.

STEVE  
No, the guy in the story. Manuel. And on the ship, how did Emily know the cat's name was Molly? If everyone else had already drowned?

LUCAS  
Did you just hear what we said?

STEVE  
No. What? I was listening to the story... You should add a part where she and Molly meet earlier in the story. That's more real.

LUCAS  
Someone else jumped.

RACHEL  
It's like lemmings up there.

Molly takes off her headphones.

MOLLY  
What's going on? Did something happen?

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA

Someone else jumped off of the building.

MOLLY

Really? So soon?

Lucas and Katrina are now looking down and out the window. Molly puts her headphones back on.

KATRINA

Uh oh, I think this one landed on the first two....and on a group of people taking selfies.

RACHEL

How can you tell?

KATRINA

There's way too much blood for one guy. Or lady.

STEVE

I told you, chicks don't jump off of buildings, that's a dude thing.

KIM

(chastising)

That's so sexist, Steve.

STEVE

You never read about it. Women are always cutting their wrists and found in a bathtub drowned in their own blood. Or they OD on pills.

RACHEL

(offended)

Fuck you. I bet lots of women jump off of buildings to kill themselves.

STEVE

There's nothing wrong with the bathtub or the pills. That's not a bad way to go. But jumping off a twenty-four story building, that's OG. It's another dude, I promise you.

KIM

How many people do you think he or she fell on?

RACHEL

It looks like.... Well... hard to tell. More than four.

(CONTINUED)

Molly takes off her headphones  
again.

MOLLY

OK, I finished all of the reports on the polymeric packaging. I had no idea how complicated they were! Did you know that polymers are composed of hydrocarbons? And sometimes oxygen, sulfur, silicon, chlorine, fluorine, phosphorous, and nitrogen? And here's something I did not know... explosives are actually becoming safer and more environmentally friendly by using ionic polymer structures. Who knew?!

LUCAS

Have you been working this whole time?

MOLLY

I didn't want to put it off. I can skip lunch. I have some yogurt in my desk.

RACHEL

(suspicious and angry!)

Is it peach??

MOLLY

Yes it is!

RACHEL

That is my yogurt! You heard me say it earlier that I had a peach yogurt in the fridge!

MOLLY

I didn't realize it was yours.

RACHEL

Are you the one who's been eating all of my yogurts? Give it to me!

MOLLY

Sure! Of course. But I added something sweet, because you know I have a sweet tooth. Do you like it extra sweet?

RACHEL

Give me that yogurt you stupid cow.

She jerks the yogurt out of  
Molly's hands and eats it.

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

Does Manuel live or die??

HEATHER

You'll have to buy the book to find out.

STEVE

I hate to read.

HEATHER

Reading is awesome!! Everyone should read, it's good to stimulate your mind! There is so much truly great literature out there that you are missing out on. Have you ever read Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban?

STEVE

No, what's that?

HEATHER

What's that? Only the greatest book ever written. Haven't you seen the movie at least?

STEVE

What movie?

HEATHER

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban.

STEVE

Never heard of it. So you're really not going to tell me?

HEATHER

No, I am not.

LUCAS

When do you think you'll submit the book?

HEATHER

Soon. Soon. I just want to take another pass to make sure it's perfect.

STEVE

Well, if he dies, then that's a really dumb ending.

(CONTINUED)



HEATHER

I'm not saying.

STEVE

Well, I don't like it. Emily will be left with that cat, and what happens when that cat dies?

HEATHER

Molly does not die.

STEVE

Not ever?

HEATHER

Not in the book.

STEVE

But Manuel does?

HEATHER

No, he doesn't.

STEVE

Ah ha! I knew it. He lives, she revives him right?

HEATHER

I'm not saying.

STEVE

You just said that he doesn't die.

HEATHER

Okay, he doesn't die from the carriage accident. But there are thirteen more chapters.

KATRINA

Thirteen more? Wouldn't it be better if he just died and Emily killed herself?

STEVE

And then we find out that the story was being told from Molly's point of view? What a twist that would be!

HEATHER

No! The story is not told from Molly's point of view. That's stupid. She's a cat. She has no sense of time or place. There's a lot more to the story. They have several children, and one of them turns out to be Greg's.

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA

The Cabin Boy? Didn't he drown years ago?

HEATHER

No, no. The whole thing was over a months time.

KATRINA

It feels like years went by.

KIM

You guys, it's on the news now- third person commits suicide at downtown office tower.

KATRINA

Does it say who it is? Is it live coverage of the building?

RACHEL

No, it just says "Unidentified". There is no footage.

KATRINA

(disappointed)

Oh... I'll bet it's Brian Mandez.

RACHEL

Really? Brian Mandez from sales?

KATRINA

Yeah. I'll bet it was him.

RACHEL

I don't think so. He just got that promotion and his wife is about to have a baby. Why do you think it's him?

KATRINA

I don't know. I don't like him. He never says hello to me. I always say, "Hi" and he never says anything back. Ever. It's really awkward and rude.

RACHEL

You do know he's deaf right?

KATRINA

He's deaf?

RACHEL

Yes.

KATRINA

Since when?

(CONTINUED)

RACHEL  
Since forever.

KATRINA  
He can't hear? Not anything?

RACHEL  
No. He's deaf.

KATRINA  
How do you know?

RACHEL  
Everyone knows. How do you not know?

KATRINA  
Well, he could see my lips move. He knew what I was saying.

RACHEL  
I think he probably just doesn't like you.

STEVE  
Maybe it's Dan?

RACHEL  
The janitor?

STEVE  
Yeah.

RACHEL  
Why would he do that?

STEVE  
Cause he's a janitor.

RACHEL  
Well who is it?

MOLLY  
Peter Werst, I'll bet.

RACHEL  
Pete Werst? I don't think so. I saw him at lunch yesterday. He told me he was planning a trip to Costa Rica this fall.

MOLLY  
He was stealing office supplies. I'll bet that's where all the staplers went. Pretty sure it's him!

(CONTINUED)

KIM

Stealing is wrong.

KATRINA

Do you think we really have to stay? Under the circumstances? One suicide... okay, I get it, we're in a time crunch. Two..they should let us go early. But three? I really think we should get the rest of the week off.

LUCAS

We should probably stay put. It's a zoo down there.

RACHEL

Well I can't concentrate. If I had a couple of Xanax maybe I could, but I can't, so I can't concentrate.

KIM

Maybe Heather should tell us the rest of her book.

KATRINA

Then we'll all kill ourselves.

HEATHER

I'm not telling the rest of it. No one is paying attention, and no one is taking me seriously.

KIM

We are, we're paying attention. Tell your story. Emily was trying to revive Manuel...

HEATHER

Okay... Emily is trying to revive Manuel, and she does, and he's fine. But as he wakes up, Emily goes into labor pains and passes out. So Manuel puts her and Molly in the carriage-

KATRINA

(interrupting)

You just said this took place over a month. How is she in labor pains?

HEATHER

You would think- Well, It turns out this baby is from her first husband. You know, the one who died from dysentery in India, or it could be Greg's, and she didn't know she was-

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

(Interrupting.)

You said typhoid or a tiger.

HEATHER

It doesn't matter, he's dead, and she's pregnant so-

LUCAS

But how does she have Greg, the Cabin Boy's baby if she was already pregnant with the guy from India?

HEATHER

It's a double pregnancy.

RACHEL

I don't think that's a thing.

HEATHER

Of course it's a thing. Twins from two different fathers.

RACHEL

But not if she was already pregnant with the guy from India's baby.

HEATHER

He wasn't from India. He was from London. They were just visiting India when he died. But she got pregnant first by him in India, and then she got pregnant again on the frigate.

RACHEL

I don't know.... You should research that. I don't think it's a thing.

KIM

Let's just assume it can happen okay? Go on Heather.

HEATHER

Ugh, okay. So Manuel scoops her up and puts her in the carriage and rushes her to the hospital, and he's in shock because he didn't know she was pregnant. And they take her into the hospital room-

KATRINA

Manuel didn't know she was pregnant? He couldn't just see that she was nine months pregnant?

HEATHER

(Adamant)

He didn't know.

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

He sounds dumb.

HEATHER

I'm not going to finish this if I'm going to keep getting interrupted.

KIM

We're sorry. Finish the story.

HEATHER

Okay.... So she has the twins and they name them Greg and Colonel Sandberg, after the two fathers who died...

RACHEL

They named the baby Colonel Sandberg?

STEVE

Like the chicken?

HEATHER

Colonel Sandberg. SandBERG, SandBERG.

KATRINA

He was Jewish?

RACHEL

Was the baby's first name Colonel?

HEATHER

Yes. And yes. I'm getting to that... So, in chapter thirteen and fourteen they are raising the boys as their own. I'll skip that part because it's really boring, but once the boys are twenty-one they all decide to take a cruise to India to visit the grave of Colonel's father, Colonel Sandberg, and they'll travel by ship so that Greg Jr. can see where his father drowned. So the three of them board the ship with Molly, and they head for India, but along the way, they make a stop in Morocco to refuel, and...

STEVE

Molly's still alive?

HEATHER

Yes, she's still alive.

STEVE

Wouldn't she be like thirty years old?

HEATHER

I don't know. Who cares how old she is?!

(CONTINUED)

STEVE

It just seems implausible. Like a talking salmon.

HEATHER

She's very old now. So while they are in port in Morocco they head to a bazaar to do some Christmas shopping, and Greg Jr. sees this gorgeous Moroccan girl. She has dark hair and dark eyes and is just stunning. So he sneaks off with her. Meanwhile the rest of them can't find him and they start to panic because the ship is leaving soon and they have a lot of packages to carry. And they don't know what to do. Meanwhile Greg Jr. and Salomé are doing it behind one of the empty stalls. She's on top... But Salome's father catches them, and pulls out his sword. Luckily Greg had taken fencing lessons back in chapter thirteen, which I skipped, so he grabs a nearby sword and they start to fight. Sadly Greg is stabbed and killed and left bleeding in the stall, Salomé is heartbroken so she grabs some poison, but just as she is about to drink it, Colonel...

A body falls past the window.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

Rushes in and stops her. Their eyes lock and-

Heather starts sobbing  
uncontrollably, forgetting all  
about her surroundings.

LUCAS

Body.

RACHEL

Another one?

LUCAS

Yep.

RACHEL

Okay, well that's really odd.

KATRINA

How many is that now? Four?

LUCAS

Nobody tell Heather she missed it again.

(CONTINUED)

KATRINA

Well something is going on up there. This isn't normal.

Meanwhile, Heather has continued her story.

HEATHER

(Stoned, near tears.)

So she grabs some poison and is just about to drink it. Colonel rushes in, they lock eyes, and he begs her to stop, because he also loves her. But it's too late and she has swallowed the entire bottle... (overcome, she cries)

KIM

I'm going to go upstairs and see what's happening.

KATRINA

Okay, let us know. Will you drop this mail in the outbox?

KIM

Of course.

KATRINA

And will you see if they have any legal pads?

KIM

No problem.

MOLLY

And maybe you can swipe a stapler from some place?

KIM

I'll see what I can do.

MOLLY

Thanks Kim! You're my best friend.

Kim goes to the elevator, and the door closes.

BEN

(struggling)

Would someone loosen these knots? I should really get going. I've got a lot more deliveries. People are gonna be pissed.

(CONTINUED)



LUCAS

There's no rush. I doubt they're letting anyone in or out.

RACHEL

Do you think a delivery could even get through?

MOLLY

Who's hungry? We have bread and peanut butter. And a few bananas.

STEVE

Banana and peanut butter sandwiches? That sounds gross.

HEATHER

It sounds amazing. Make them. Make them right now. Like, right now.

MOLLY

Oh no, they're delicious. Want one Rachel?

LUCAS

It's like Molly is your personal chef. Molly, you know you don't have to make her lunch, breakfast and snacks... right?

MOLLY

Oh, not at all. I love making all of her food. Does everyone want one?

KATRINA

Sure, I'll try it.

BEN

(struggling)

Okay, I might have made up the part about being tied up in the van. But the salmon was real.

MOLLY

So how many is that? You're excellent with numbers Katrina, right? How many?

KATRINA

What? Well, If Kim wants one, and you want one- that's (counts) seven.

(CONTINUED)

MOLLY

Thanks! I can't do numbers very well at all.

KATRINA

Math is hard. It's for smart people. Maybe you should stick to stapling.

MOLLY

I know, it's SO hard! I was going through all the books you did, trying to learn about the accounting and how much we spend on cardboard, and the trays, and the adhesives. And I got so confused because when I added it all up, it wasn't right at all. So I did it again, and still I was way off. I kept coming up like a hundred and fifty three thousand dollars and eighty-eight cents short. I couldn't find a little bit here and a little bit there, and it was so confusing. Where'd all that money disappear to? Bad math. Oh well. So I took it upstairs and gave it to Sarah- she handles that stuff for the whole company right? I'm sure she'll figure it out and tell me where I'm going wrong. I wish we had milk to go with these, but I guess it will have to be pop or water.

The elevator opens and Kim is back with a stack of letters. All of the color has drained from Katrina's face and she is white as a sheet.

KIM

It's chaos up there. No one knows who the last person was, so they're looking everywhere to see who's missing. But the building is on lock down. No one goes in or out. Except the Letter Carrier. He grabbed all the mail, gave me these, and took off saying "The mail must go on!"

Kim puts the letters on Katrina's desk.

RACHEL

I don't think that's how that saying goes.

BEN

Okay, please just untie me now.

KIM

Katrina, are you okay?

KATRINA

What? Uh, yes, I'm fine.

(CONTINUED)

KIM

You look terrible. Are you feeling okay?

KATRINA

No, I'm fine. I just... it's all getting to me.

HEATHER

Okay, well if no one cares about the end, I'm going to try and get some work done. We still have deadlines to meet. And you can all just buy the book to find out what happens. Where's my sandwich?

Molly hands Heather a sandwich.  
She takes it and goes into her  
office.

LUCAS

Can't wait to hear how it ends... Kim did you get the legal pads?

KIM

So sorry, I forgot. I'll be right back.

LUCAS

That's okay, I may have one left in my desk.

KIM

I don't mind. Be back in a flash. Oh, one thing, Steve, your father in law, I mean father in law "to be" said he wanted to see you.

STEVE

Okay, I'll go up after lunch.

KIM

No, he said he wanted to see you right now. He was really upset. I guess the day has been too much for him.

STEVE

What do you think he wanted?

KIM

Not sure- Maybe he's worried about you? Want to come with?

STEVE

No, you go... I'll be up in a minute.

(CONTINUED)

Kim goes back onto the elevator and leaves. Lucas rummages through his desk to find a legal pad. Then he panics. He starts pulling papers out of his desk.

LUCAS

Was someone in my desk?

Rachel's phone rings. And Lucas starts going crazy throwing papers everywhere.

RACHEL

Hello? This is Rachel...

Steve is looking on his cell phone.

STEVE

Whoa! I've been tagged fourteen times.

MOLLY

Cool! I never get tagged.

RACHEL

(On phone.)

But that's not possible. That's a mistake.

Steve is shocked by something he sees on his phone.

STEVE

What the fuck?

MOLLY

What's wrong? Who's tagging you?

STEVE

I don't know. Olga Vladivostok, some Russian chick that friended me. Jesus! Fuck! That's my dick. What's my dick doing on here?

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

Katrina, has anyone been in my desk??!! I can't find .....  
The ...the, the, letters- the notes I made for.... Jesus  
Christ...

Katrina does not answer. She  
stares at her computer blankly.  
Steve's cell phone rings.

RACHEL

(slowly and  
deliberately)  
I've been clean for the last  
three years. Nothing not  
even an aspirin. You must  
have mixed up the tests...  
what do you mean traces?

STEVE

What's up babe?...What?....  
I can't understand you. Slow  
down.... What are you  
talking about?

LUCAS

(sifting through papers)  
There were a stack of letters in this drawer. Where are they?  
They were here yesterday- they have to be here. Fuck. Mother  
fucking house keeping idiots! Jesus, come on, come on...

STEVE

(on phone)

What?? No, no, that's not true. Those aren't pictures of me.  
That's somebody else's dick... What?... Now you're just being  
mean. Somebody's fucking with me... Calm down, okay? I don't  
know... That is some other guy in the pics.... I don't know.  
Photoshop. No, I am not cheating on you with Christine. She's  
ugly... Stop crying okay?

Lucas starts tearing the office  
apart. Papers flying as he goes  
through all the desks and filing  
cabinets. Katrina just stares at  
her computer.

RACHEL

(business like)

Please don't do that... Please. I know you're supposed to  
report it.... Can I come down and take it again... Please.  
You don't understand. I've got kids. I have not even been  
near that stuff for almost three years.... Let me take the  
test again... Hello? Hello?

STEVE

(overlapping Rachel)

Don't do that. I'll come over and you'll see it's nothing.  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

There is no one else babe... No, don't hang up. Don't hang up... (Steve lowers his phone from his ear)

Both Rachel and Steve are in shock.

RACHEL  
(To herself)

It's not possible. I never did any drugs. There has to be a mistake.

STEVE

FUCK!!

MOLLY  
(Working away with her headphones on, humming True by Spandau Ballet)

Bah bah bah bah bah. (Takes the headphones off) Would anyone like another sandwich? Rachel, any special requests?

Lucas is tearing the office apart. He stops, exhausted. He walks over to the window. Molly takes off her headphones again.

LUCAS  
(trying to calm himself)

There was a stack of letters in the top drawer of my desk. They weren't work letters. Did somebody take them?

The bell rings. The elevator doors open and Kim returns with a large stack of yellow legal pads.

KIM

Here you go. This is the last of them. Steve, you better go up there right now. I don't know what he wants but he looks really angry. What happened here?

LUCAS

Somebody took some letters out of my desk. Why would someone do that!?

KIM

I have no idea. What kind of letters? No one writes letters anymore.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

They were... Some of them were very old.

KIM

They're probably around. Was there postage on them? They probably got mailed.

LUCAS

Yes, there was postage on them. What kind of stupid question is that?

KIM

Sorry! Well, if they're old, then they'll probably get returned for lack of postage.

LUCAS

They were Forever Stamps!

MOLLY

(taking her headphones off)

Lucas? I'm sorry- Were you looking for those letters that were in your desk drawer?

LUCAS

(relieved)

Yes! Yes! Thank you- where are they?

MOLLY

I mailed them for you. You said I had to be more proactive and be a team player, didn't you?

Molly puts her headphones back on. Heather comes out of her office.

HEATHER

What the hell is going on? It sounds like a bunch of drowning Chinamen out here. (Heather sees the mess.) What happened?

KIM

Apparently Molly mailed some important letters Lucas had in the top drawer of his desk. And now he's upset about it.

HEATHER

So what? Who cares about a bunch of old letters? Who writes letters anymore anyhow? Lucas, get this place cleaned up.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

If you don't feel like working, that's one thing, but don't destroy the entire office in the meantime.

Heather sorts through the mail on Katrina's desk.

HEATHER (CONT'D)

What is this? Why am I getting these?

KIM

What is it? Good news?

HEATHER

It's from Random House. Why?

KIM

The publisher? Oh! Did you send out your book after all? I know I hate telling people things before I'm sure they're happening.

HEATHER

I never sent anything out. I never told anyone about this book until today.

KIM

Well, you must have told someone? I mean, I knew you were working on it. Katrina told me awhile back. Honestly, I think all of us knew.

Molly takes off her headphones.

MOLLY

Heather! You'll be happy to know, I sent your book out for you. You said I had to be smarter and use my head if I was going to make you happy with my work. So I thought I'd send your book out to a whole bunch of places. Everywhere I could find. I thought that would make you really happy when you sell it? How many offers did you get?... Now, I'll bet everyone will want to buy it!

Heather opens one of the letters and reads it. She has no reaction. She opens another. No reaction. And another. Nothing. Molly puts her headphones back on. Heather opens them all. She is calm and without emotion.

(CONTINUED)



HEATHER

Okay, everyone back to work. I want the numbers on the polymeric packaging.

Heather goes into her office and closes the door. Katrina takes off her Louboutins, and puts them into her purse, and leaves them on top of her desk.

KATRINA

(standing)

I'm going up to 24. There's something- something I have to do.

STEVE

(Almost in a trance.)

I'll go with you.

KATRINA

(slowly and thoughtfully)

Yeah...yeah... We can go together.

Katrina summons the elevator. There is quiet until the doors close and Steve and Katrina head to the twenty-fourth floor. Holding hands.

Molly walks over to the window where Rachel and Lucas are standing. Rachel and Lucas are looking outside, up and down, perhaps judging the height of the building. Molly comes between them and puts her arms around them both.

MOLLY

(Cheerfully.)

Isn't it funny how this morning we were all just watching the news online, and while we were busy discussing egg rolls, staplers, and hamsters we became the news? So funny.

She puts on a funny voice.

(CONTINUED)

MOLLY (CONT'D)

"Oh that's really, really sad, your house burned down, you've got gonorrhoea, somebody shot you in the head, boo hoo hoo, blah de blah de blah blahblah... Who ordered the Tuna Salad?"

She makes a funny face at them.  
They look out at the skyline.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

You two are so serious. Oh hey, there's the copter again!  
Wave, everybody!

Molly waves out the window. Lucas and Rachel look down at the street below completely oblivious to their surroundings.

There is a series of very loud crashes coming from Heather's office. She is tearing it apart.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

Hey Kim, did you find me a stapler?!

KIM

I sure did! We literally have cases of them.

MOLLY

Thank you!

KIM

You're welcome.

More crashes from Heather's office.

KIM (CONT'D)

I forgot to ask- did those Hannaford graphics ever come in?

MOLLY

They sure did. And I shredded them just like you said to.

KIM

Good girl. Oh, and here's the staples you were looking for. And the copier is working just fine if you need to make copies. I have the code.

Kim crosses to Katrina's desk and takes the handbag with the Louboutins back to her own desk.

(CONTINUED)

More crashes from Heather's office.

MOLLY

I'm so glad we're friends. Aren't you? What a racket. I wonder how that story of hers is going to end?

A gunshot goes off in Heather's office.

KIM

(over her shoulder)

There's your answer.

Kim sits at her computer, and takes out the Louboutins.

KIM (CONT'D)

It really wasn't a very good book.

MOLLY

Yeah, it was boring.

KIM

You don't think I'm boring do you?

MOLLY

Oh, God no!

Kim puts on the Louboutins.

KIM

Good. I really, really hate it when people call me boring.

MOLLY

Do you think it worked?

Kim points over at Lucas and Rachel.

KIM

Sssssh! Yeah, you did great. We should celebrate our impending promotions.

MOLLY

All we've got are old bananas and spiked yogurt.

KIM

That's not all we got.

(CONTINUED)

She pulls out boxes of Girl Scout cookies from her desk. Molly squeals with delight, and claps.

MOLLY

Now, I want to get this right, because they each have different sized trays and packaging, we have Tag-a-longs, Samoas, Thin Mints, and Savannah Smiles?

KIM

You got it. And Do si-dos. Or sometimes they are called Peanut Butter Sandwich cookies.

MOLLY

Why do some of the cookies have two different names?

KIM

Because they use two different bakeries. But they're pretty much the same recipe.

MOLLY

It's so interesting. Each kind of cookie is a different shape and size. Each one in its own box and packaging, so they never really touch each other and break.

Molly excitedly gets up and runs to her desk.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

You know what else has good packaging? Pop-Tarts!

Molly pulls out a package of Pop-Tarts from her desk. She takes one and gives Kim the other.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

Two together, two of a kind, like you and me. And they're always delicious! See! One for each of us!

KIM

Two of a kind!

Clink. They toast with their Pop-Tarts.

MOLLY

I wonder which one of us will be the boss!?

(CONTINUED)

KIM

You'd be a really great boss, but I've been here much longer.

MOLLY

Can you imagine you working for me??

KIM

(sharply)

We'll see who gets the big office. I've been waiting for a corner office with a view for thirteen years, Molly.

MOLLY

Okay...I feel sorry for Dan.

KIM

Who's Dan?

MOLLY

The janitor. He's going to have to clean Heather's brains off the walls.

They laugh.

A body falls past the window, in the same clothes Katrina was wearing.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

Was that Katrina?

KIM

I believe it was!

They sit and take it in for a moment.

KIM (CONT'D)

And yet... life in the habit-trail goes on.

Molly and Kim laugh.

MOLLY

(laughing)

Well, you know, she always said she wanted to be on the news!

Kim and Molly laugh.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

What about Steve?

(CONTINUED)

Molly and Kim share a look.

KIM  
"Dudes don't jump off buildings..."

MOLLY  
"That's a chick thing."

KIM (CONT'D)  
"That's a chick thing."

They laugh and "High Five".

LUCAS  
We should probably go upstairs.

RACHEL  
Yeah, we should go.

They don't.

BEN  
(groaning)  
Can someone please untie me?

Molly walks over to Ben while she speaks.

MOLLY  
Your five minutes were up a long time ago, Mr. Sexy FedEx man.

Kim saunters over to Ben wearing her new Louboutins and carrying her fancy purse.

KIM  
I think you may have been exaggerating a little bit.

MOLLY  
What should we do with him?

KIM  
I don't know. What do you want to do with him?

MOLLY  
I don't know. What do you want to do with him?

KIM  
I don't know. What do you want to do with him?

(CONTINUED)

MOLLY

(smiling)  
We'll think of something.

KIM (CONT'D)

(smiles)  
We'll think of something.

Kim puts her spiked heel on Ben's bare chest and pushes him down into the chair. Molly spins Ben's chair wildly.

BEN

Help!?

THE LIGHTS FADE TO BLACK