

(Promotion Time)

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INT. OFFICE ENTRANCE - MORNING

Camera pans around the office as a Secretary faintly talks to someone from HR. Camera centers on two office workers, one sitting at her desk and the other standing in front of it.

ANGIE

Hi Patty. Here are the evaluations Greg wanted for the Sales Manager position.

PATTY

Oh, thanks so much. Apparently he needed these yesterday and he's been bugging me all day.
(imitating the boss)
You know, the old, "Nothing ever gets done on time here."

ANGIE

(laughing)
Hey, don't blame me: I've been waiting on Ron to finish the one for CURTIS for like a week. Even the Seattle guys got there's in before him.

PATTY

(scoffs)
Wait, CURTIS is up for this? That's going to sound real good

PATTY gestures a headline in the air

PATTY (CONT'D)

"Boss promotes brother-in-l.."

ANGIE

(interrupts, matter-of-factly)
No, actually, he got an above-average performance review, so...

PATTY

(skeptical)
Well, still.

Angie begins to exit as PATTY stands up

ANGIE

Yeah, who knows... Okay, I've got to get back... I'm basically doing Ron's job these days.

PATTY
Alright, thanks for finally gettin'
'em.

INT. OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

PATTY heads to GREG's office door and knocks. GREG is wide eyed, almost panicked. He sees the folders in PATTY's hand.

GREG
I thought I heard Angie. Those are
the...
(eyes the folders,
panicked)
What took so long?

PATTY sits down and leafs through the folders she received from Angie.

PATTY
(distracted)
I don't know, something about
Ron... Looks like there's four
candidates.

GREG
It took him this long and Ron
couldn't have narrowed it down any
more? How am I supposed to choose
between *FOUR* people in half a day?

PATTY
Well, it looks like everything you
need's here, but yeah, you're gonna
be rushed.

GREG
(passively frustrated)
All right, let's do this quick. Who
do we have?

PATTY randomly pulls a file from the stack of folders.

PATTY
How 'bout...Samantha?

GREG
(interested and clearly
intrigued)
Samantha?

PATTY
(all business)
Yes, Samantha. Looks like Ron gave her a satisfactory evaluation; plus, she's been here for five years.

GREG
(runs fingers through hair)
Hmmm.

PATTY
Next is Jill. She's...

GREG
Jill who? I've never even heard of Jill.

PATTY
Don't you remember, she's the one who's been at our Seattle branch for the last two years. Her manager says she's an excellent employee.

GREG
That would be a little strange having somebody new here, especially in a management role.

PATTY
(rolling her eyes)
Then we have CURTIS, who you no doubt know has been here for three and a half years. Ron says he's above average, but it might seem a little suspicious if...

GREG
If what? Just because he's family doesn't mean that he's not qualified.

PATTY
Right... And finally is Carlos.

GREG
Oh. I always feel so bad for him.
(confused)
Marla...His wife had so many surgeries.

PATTY
 (correcting)
 "Maria", and I think it was three.

GREG
 Yeah, Maria. Good news is he told me she's 100% cancer free now. So that's great, but they're in debt *big time*. I bet his family could really use the extra money.

PATTY
 Either way, he's been here for 3 years and has satisfactory performance. That's everybody.

GREG
 Oh. This is tough.

PATTY
 I'll leave you to it.

PATTY leaves and GREG is left alone in the office. He looks over the files. After thinking for a while, he pulls out his cell phone and hits someone's speed-dial.

GREG
 Curt!... Oh I'm doing fine; little stressed. So I hear you're in the running for sales manager?...Why didn't you tell me?...
 (scoffing)
 Brother-in-laws are people too. Why should that make you any different?

GREG (CONT'D)
 Well, you do got some tough competition though... Oh...Carlos, and somebody named Jill from Seattle, and *Samantha*.

GREG (CONT'D)
 (excited)
 Yeah *that* Samantha... I know! Don't tell my sister though. I'm sure she's rooting for you...

Office phone rings.

GREG (CONT'D)
 Oops, got to go. Other phone... See ya.

GREG (CONT'D)

This is Greg.

(worried)

Mr. Fox, sir. How can I help you?...But I just got them today...Well, yes...Can't payroll wait?...Right now?!

GREG leans back in chair and puts his free hand behind his head. Camera shows wide frontal shot of desk with Greg centered.

OPTIONS APPEAR (Samantha, Jill, Curtis, Carlos, "Have someone else choose")

FADE OUT.

WRONG CHOICE (SAMANTHA, CARLOS, CURTIS)

INT. OFFICE - DAY

GREG is on phone again. He is standing up, tie loose, shirt unbuttoned, hand on forehead, clearly stressed.

GREG

And remember I need that sales forecast ready by Wednesday.

PATTY knocks on the open door and GREG rudely holds up a pointer finger telling her to wait.

GREG (CONT'D)

(talking with his free hand)

This is our last chance with them, you know that right? We're lucky these guys have even stayed around this long. They're our second biggest client. You've really got to shape up

(hysterically)

this is 50 thousand dollars!

(nervous chuckle)

Okay?... Right, thanks

Name of Choice.

GREG starts to put down the phone, but brings it back up quickly.

GREG (CONT'D)

And don't blow it.

GREG slams down the phone and looks over to PATTY.

GREG (CONT'D)
WHAT?! Sorry. What is it?

PATTY
(nervous)
Greg... Mr. Fox is here to see
you...

FADE TO BLACK.

RIGHT CHOICE (JILL OR "MAKE SOMEONE ELSE CHOOSE")

INT. OFFICE - DAY

GREG is on phone again. He is sitting back, relaxed.

GREG
(excited)
Right! This is going to be our
biggest one ever. Their contract is
50 thousand dollars. How'd you get
them to sign on so quickly? Oop,
hold on.
(to Patty)
Hey, come in.

PATTY knocks on the office door. Greg motions for PATTY to
come in and have a seat.

GREG (CONT'D)
Ya still there, Jill? Just remember
I need that sales forecast ready by
Wednesday...
(laughs)
Right. Like I'd doubt you for a
second. Alright, bye.

GREG (CONT'D)
(to PATTY, friendly)
And what can I do for you?

PATTY
Well, I just wanted to say
"congrats." Mr. Fox is outside
waiting to talk to you.

FADE TO BLACK.