

MAGGIE

Dan'll train you. You can shadow some of the others, too.

Maggie hurries Brad away as Dan mouths the word "nice" to her, then turns back to his work.

MAGGIE

Dan's the best assistant manager on the planet, don't know what I'd do without him.

BRAD

You'd probably have to do less apologizing for him, from the looks of it.

MAGGIE

Oh, he's okay, that old machine is a pain in the ass, breaks down a lot.

BARRY SHAW — 40's tall, thin, well-dressed effeminate man -- walks from the back tying his apron.

BARRY

Maggie, those invites for the Peterson's came back last night.

MAGGIE

They didn't like them.

BARRY

Sure didn't. Ugly color she picked out. They changed to the burgundy, like I suggested.

MAGGIE

You know your stuff, Barry. Barry Shaw, this is Brad Mann, he is starting on...

Barry extends his hand, very lady-like to Brad.

BARRY

Brad MAN. Mmm-mm. You certainly are.

MAGGIE

Barry is our special orders consultant.

BARRY

Any special orders you'd like to give me, Brad Mann?

MAGGIE

Down, Barry.

BARRY

Sorry, honey. I'm just messing with you.

Brad just stares, jaw nearly open.

BARRY

It's alright. I'm the Queen of Moxie's.
It ain't no secret. Come on down to the
Maxxim on Friday and check out my show.

Barry winks at Brad, who flinches.

BRAD

Okay.

MAGGIE

Barry is a female impersonator.

BARRY

Good to meet you, Bradley.

Barry scoots over to his desk and sits.

BRAD

He's a little out-going.

MAGGIE

Yeah. Like a train wreck.

Brad notices Mike working on the folding machine.

BRAD

Who's that?

MAGGIE

That's Mike. Let's go get you a locker.

BRAD

Shouldn't I meet him?

MAGGIE

No.

She ushers him around, stopping to show him various machines.
As Brad follows her we catch a glimpse of Mike from behind.
He isn't wearing any pants.

INT. MAGGIE'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Maggie and Dan sit at the desk.

DAN

What's with pretty boy?

MAGGIE
You mean Brad?

DAN
No, I mean Mike. Of course I mean Brad.
Does he even know what a copy is?

MAGGIE
I told you. He's off the farm. He's
trying to earn his degree.

DAN
A: Five bucks says that weenie never
worked a day in his life. And B: if he
ever did, it sure as hell wasn't on any
farm.

MAGGIE
Come on Dan, you said I had to hire a
worker today, I did it.

Dan holds up a hand, it is stained, with many cuts and
scratches.

DAN
I'm a writer. I sit on my ass ten hours
a day tapping keys and my hands look like
this.

MAGGIE
You work here another nine hours.

DAN
Yeah. You ever work on a farm? It's
more than eight or ten hours. That kid
hasn't got a single callous, wrinkle or .
. .

MAGGIE
For someone who can't even say hello, you
sure looked at him a hell of a lot.

DAN
Not as much as you.

MAGGIE
Excuse me?

DAN
You were talking to me but kept ogling
him.

MAGGIE
Oh, he's cute, but he isn't my type.

DAN
What is your type?

MAGGIE
I'll let you know when it's any of your
damn business.

She gets up and leaves. Dan sulks and breathes out.

DAN
Let me guess, it ain't me.

He gets up, leaves the office, clocks-out and exits through
the back door.

INT. PRODUCTION ROOM - NIGHT

Maggie sees a man and woman, STEVE - 50's and BRENDA - 30's
at the counter with three huge boxes of papers.

KEVIN a second shift worker, is helping them.

TROY, another second-shifter, is frazzled as he works on the
laminator.

MAGGIE
What's the problem, Troy?

TROY
This woman left us a bunch of photos of
her kids to copy at different sizes and
then laminate, and our new guy does this.

He holds up a long sheet of plastic with all the original
photos laminated with note tags still covering them.

MAGGIE
And?

TROY
Jesus. That guy; Maggie, we need a new
new guy. Last night he erased some
woman's PhotoShop artwork from her disk,
and Tuesday when third shift came in he
was on the internet while we still . . .

MAGGIE
Alright, alright. I'll see what I can
do. Roll this up, I'll call her.

KEVIN
Maggie, you got a minute?

MAGGIE

Yes, but I was going to use it to eat dinner, read a book and get some sleep.

KEVIN

These folks are from Wortner and Girten, Accountants. They have three boxes of receipts and documents that they need two copies of by Sunday or early Monday.

Maggie looks the boxes over.

MAGGIE

Single sided, all black and white? Any small receipts, staples or paper clips?

STEVE

Yeah, all black and white. Maybe some staples and a few paper clips. A lot of receipts.

MAGGIE

Kevin told you it's extra to unstaple and clip things back together?

BRENDA

Yes. We were also worried, because of the nature of these files.

SARAH, a graveyard worker – 20's, an air of extreme confidence -- enters and talks with Pip in the BG.

MAGGIE

I understand. Don't worry, we're all professionals here. No one will read any of this material or be careless in any way.

She motions toward Sarah and Pip

In fact Sarah and Pip here are our overnight crew. They'll be handling it.

BRENDA

I didn't mean to imply anything. It's just very important that they take extra care.

MAGGIE

It's in the best of hands. They're very discreet.

INT. PRODUCTION ROOM - NIGHT

Sarah and Pip sit on the counter reading pages from the accountants' boxes. Wine cooler bottles and snack wrappers litter the area.

They laugh hysterically.

SARAH

Check this out, man. She's paying this guy a grand a month to "clean the pool."

PIP

Wonder what else he's cleaning. Holy crap! Look how much he paid for a house in Bastrop!

SARAH

Damn. Hey, call your roommate and read him that contract on page 125, he'll die.

Pip reaches for the phone and spills a cooler on a stack of papers.

SARAH

Oh man, that can't be good.

They just stare for a beat or two.

SARAH

Throw it away, they'll never read half this shit.

Pip wads it up and shoots across the room into a trash can.

PIP

Two points!

Two YOUNG WOMEN - sorority girls -- enter and go to the counter in front of Sarah.

DKP ONE

Hi, we're from the Delta Kappa Phi Little Sisters. We need to make some flyers. How much are the really bright papers?

Sarah looks up and stares.

DKP TWO

Hello? We need flyers. And we're on a budget. We were told we could get a really good deal here at night.

SARAH
Says who?

DKP ONE
Our friend. Alice.

SARAH
Pip! Come here.

PIP
Yeah?

SARAH
Delta Kappa Phi Little Sisters. Say
Alice sent them.

Pip looks them up and down.

PIP
What do you need?

DKP TWO
We need as many of these posters as we
can get on either "Greengo Star" or
"OrangeGutan" paper. For what we have.

PIP
What do you have?

The two girls look around. One takes out something and sets
it on the counter. It is a BAG of POT, tied with a pink
ribbon.

Sarah and Pip look down, then at each other.

INT. PRODUCTION ROOM - NIGHT

Pip helps the two girls wheel a dolly outside with four cases
of bright orange flyers.

SARAH
Later, tell your friends!

DKP ONE
Thank you, we will.

Sarah turns and walks into the back break room.

SARAH
Yeah, baby.

INT. DAN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Dan sits at his typewriter. A clock on his desk reads one thirty am. He tears out the page, wads it up and throws it.

DAN

Brad Mann. What a fuckin' phony name.

He picks up a piece of paper and reads it. The logo for a publisher is across the top, and the first line reads "We regret that your work is not what we are looking for at this time."

DAN

Farm my ass.

He gets up and turns out the light.

INT. MAGGIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Maggie sits at her table drinking tea and reading a book. Her wall clock reads one forty five. She sets her cup down.

MAGGIE

So what if I stared at him? Who cares what he thinks?

She notices the book is upside down. She straightens it up, reads a line or two. Then drops it.

MAGGIE

Arrogant bastard.

She rises, takes the cup to the sink and leaves the room. The light goes off.

EXT. 7-11 PARKING LOT - DAY

Brad is talking on a payphone across the street from UT.

BRAD

I'm on my way right now. (pause) Yeah, Mr. Customer Service Man. I'll talk to you more later. Just wanted to let you know. Bye.

He hangs up, checks his watch, then hurries across the parking lot and into a building.

Signs on the building advertise the businesses inside. A big Neon sign reads "Moxie's open 24 hrs."

INT. BREAK ROOM - DAY

Brad enters, he almost runs into Finny.

BRAD

Hey Finny.

FINNY

Who are you?

BRAD

Brad. I start today. Maggie hired me last Friday.

FINNY

Right. Go see Barry for your paperwork. Grab an apron from the rack, punch in, and I'll see you on the floor.

Finny hurries away. Brad looks around and sees a rack holding green Moxie's aprons. He goes to Maggie's office and opens the door.

BRAD

Hey, Maggie, I need my paperwork and Barry isn't here . . .

Dan is behind the desk. He looks up.

DAN

Most people knock before entering someone's office. Or didn't you learn manners on that ranch you grew up on?

BRAD

Oh. Beg your pardon. I was just . . .

DAN

Late for work.

BRAD

Uh, yeah. Sorry. I guess I'm just excited.

DAN

Uh-huh. Here. Fill all this out, get a copy of your license and social security. And uh, I think you'll find Barry at his desk.

BRAD

Sure. Thanks.

Dan gets up, hands the paperwork to Brad and starts to walk out past him.

DAN
Oh, I'm sorry, it was a farm, wasn't it?

BRAD
Huh?

DAN
Thought so.

Dan exits. Brad flips through the paper sheaf.

INT. PRODUCTION ROOM - DAY

Dan walks past Finny, who is on the phone, smiling.

FINNY
I'm sorry about that, ma'am. It was still wrong?

We hear loud French lady on other end. Finny smiles and rolls his eyes.

FINNY
I can not believe that. I do apologize.

DAN
You're sick, Finny.

Finny covers the mouthpiece and whispers "She is SO sexy," then uncovers the phone again.

FINNY
Uh-huh . . . uh-huh. Really, I am sorry
. . .

Darla rushes in the front door from the street.

DARLA
Sorry I'm late, Dan, I over slept.

DAN
Long night again?

DARLA
Ooh . . . and crazy. There are some nasty people walking around out there.

DAN
Then don't invite them to call you at all hours, "Mistress LaSheena."